

# Campaign

## Stop the trade in Death

CND General Secretary **Kate Hudson** writes about her first protest at DSEI – one of the world's largest arms fairs.



**B**BC NEWS has had fantastic coverage of the ongoing protests at DSEI arms fair at the Excel Centre in East London. From interviews with protestors the coverage turned to what we are all protesting about: guns, rockets, missiles – you name it, all types of military kit were being put out on display to be sold. And of course, from sale it's a direct line to use, and then to killing. No wonder it's called a trade in death.

The TV coverage was given a boost by the intervention of Mayor of London Sadiq Khan. He's spoken out against the Fair in the past and now he's saying he doesn't want it back in London next time – scheduled for

2021. Khan is following in the footsteps of the Mayor of Newham (the borough where DSEI is held), Rokhsana Fiaz, whose council passed a resolution condemning the Arms Fair and held their own Peace Event right by the Excel Centre to counter DSEI. This principled stance is an example to all councils who face similar events in their areas and let's hope Khan will be able to stop the arms fair next time round.

CND was one of the organisers – together with Trident Ploughshares – of the No Nuclear Day on Wednesday 4th September. We wanted to raise awareness of the nuclear weapons companies that



exhibit there: BAE Systems – builders of nuclear weapons submarines, Rolls-Royce that makes the nuclear reactors to power the subs and Lockheed Martin that supplies Trident missiles. The key goal was to obstruct the set-up of the fair, and this was very successfully achieved for many hours. Non-violent affinity groups blocked the East and West gates using ingenious lock-ons, one of which included a bright green boat with several protestors attached to it completely obstructing one half of a dual carriageway. The other half was blocked by a van with three activists cemented to the inside.

Other protestors locked

themselves together in various ways, and hundreds more were around to lend moral and other forms of support. The police forced CND organisers away from the West Gate, saying that the road and pavement were private land, threatening arrest for aggravated trespass, but many other protestors were allowed to continue there, supporting the blockaders. The rest of us were at East Gate, where the Stop the Arms Fair camp was located on a grassy bank. Here we were able to support blockaders, hear music and song – a fantastic electronic violin featured playing a repertoire of classical music, and a marvelous choir too – as well as hear from the Mayor of Newham, activists like Angie Zelter and Jane Tallents, Sam Mason from the PCS trade union and Iona with the latest news from Faslane Peace Camp.

It's the first time I've protested at the Arms Fair, and if it goes ahead next time, it certainly won't be the last! The determination of protestors – to stop this murderous trade with its massive profits from killing – was inspirational.

## Spotlight

This month:  
**Greater  
Manchester and  
District CND**



GMDCND is having a very busy month! They joined in the blockading at the No Nuclear Day at the Arms Fair in London and are now arranging CND's bloc at the demonstration outside the Tory Party conference on 29th September. But we're sure this is how the group likes it, as they're among our most active!

If you live in the area, why not get in touch and join the next event? Contact 0161 273 8283 or email [gmdcnd@gn.apc.org](mailto:gmdcnd@gn.apc.org).

**CND Conference 2019**  
**19th-20th October**

St Thomas' Hospital, London SE1 7EH  
Full details: [cnduk.org/cnd-conference-2019/](http://cnduk.org/cnd-conference-2019/)



# Save our planet

CND is supporting the Global Climate Strike called for 20th September. Campaigns Officer **Sara Medi Jones** explains why.

**T**HE WORLD currently faces two existential threats: nuclear weapons and climate change. Urgent action is needed on both but our government continues to prioritise war and weapons over the future of our planet.

The hands of the infamous Doomsday Clock now stand at just two minutes to midnight. They have never been closer. The atomic scientists who set the clock agree that the risk of disaster has never been greater.

CND wholeheartedly supports the movement that is rising up to demand action on climate change, including protesters from Extinction Rebellion and the school strikers such as Swedish student and activist Greta Thunberg. Students across the UK have joined in these actions over the past few months, and now the school strikers have asked for solidarity and called for a Global Climate Strike ahead of an important UN climate summit in New York.

CND is participating in the strike as a Climate not Trident day of action. Events are happening across the country on 20th September, including a



School strikers in Hebden Bridge

national demonstration in London. We will be protesting with the next generation, and CND spoke to one group about why they are involved.

Evie, Clio and Betty (all age 10) are striking because they ‘wanted to be part of something run by children that could save our planet. We wanted to make the government more aware of this problem and make them change their ways.’ They are convinced of the need to protest, having ‘learned from personal experiences that if you keep protesting, people will start to be aware and will try

to change. Protesting prompts action.’

Leela Guha is 13 and got involved after reading about the school strikes in a newspaper. She said: ‘The idea of striking really inspired me. Climate change had always been an issue on my mind, but I hadn’t known what I could do about it.

‘The ultimate goal for all strikes, of course, is for the government to shake off their complacency and treat global warming as the crisis it is. On a local level, we’re trying to raise awareness about lifestyle changes you can make. Also, continuing to strike will ensure the council treat it as a prevalent issue and stick to their emissions reduction target.’

Leela believes that ‘too often, the public are made to feel powerless’ and so protesting has an important role in giving power back to the people.

CND will certainly be standing up for people power – and the future of our planet – on 20th September. Stand with us.

■ For more information see: <https://globalclimastrike.net/>  
Or phone 020 7700 2393 / email [enquiries@cnduk.org](mailto:enquiries@cnduk.org)

New leaflet from CND  
Climate not Trident – order  
your free copies now!

**NFLA and Mayors for Peace seminar**

**September 13th,**

1:30pm-3:30pm, Central Library, St Peter's Square, Manchester M2 5PD

■ Contact 01612 343244 or s.morris4@manchester.gov.uk

**Abingdon Peace Group meeting September 17th,**

8pm, The Northcourt Centre, Northcourt Road, Abingdon

■ Contact 01235 526265 or sallyreynolds@btinternet.com

**Oxford CND meeting**

**September 19th,** 6:45pm Oxford Town Hall, St Aldate's, Oxford, OX1 1BX

■ Contact 01865 248357 or oxfordcnd@phonecoop.coop

**Action for Peace weekend September 21st-22nd**

Braziers Park, Ipsden, Wallingford OX10 6AN

■ Contact trish@braziers.org.uk

**Manual for Survival: Manchester discussion**

**September 21st,** 2pm Blackwell's Bookshop, 146 Oxford Road, Manchester

■ Contact 01612 738283 or gmdcnd@gn.apc.org

**National demo at Tory Party conference**

**September 29th,**

12 noon-5pm, assemble Oxford Road, Manchester

■ Contact 020 7700 2393 or information@cnduk.org

**West London Peace Market September 28th,**

10:30am-4pm, St Michael & All Angels Church Hall, Priory Avenue, London W4 1TX

■ Contact 020 8743 4189 or john.grigg535@btinternet.com

**XR October Rebellion: XR Peace Blockade**  
**October 7th-18th, Central London**

Join XR Peace – a coalition of organisations for peace and justice, including CND – as we hold one of the sites in the October Rebellion. As we block the road, we will have workshops, exhibitions and entertainment, all making the links between nuclear weapons and the climate emergency. Come for a day or the whole two weeks. For any enquiries, please contact [information@cnduk.org](mailto:information@cnduk.org)



**Global Dangers Tour**

We live in increasingly unstable times, where nuclear dangers are growing alarmingly. CND has been highlighting these dangers in a national tour throughout 2019.

There are now only a few dates left, so make sure you get involved if you live near the following areas: Reigate (Sep 12th), Birkenhead (Sep 13th), Oxfordshire (Sep 21st), Stoke-on-Trent (Sep 28th) and Birmingham (Oct 26th).

Contact [information@cnduk.org](mailto:information@cnduk.org) or phone 020 7700 2393 for more information.

**Keep Space for Peace march and rally**

**October 5th,** 12 noon-4pm RAF Croughton, Brackley

■ [oxfordcnd@phonecoop.coop](mailto:oxfordcnd@phonecoop.coop)

**Christian CND conference**

**October 26th,** 10:15am-2:45pm, Brentwood Cathedral, Ingrave Road, Brentwood

■ Contact 020 7700 4200 or [christians@cnduk.org](mailto:christians@cnduk.org)

**Peace Camps**

**Aldermaston Women's Peace Camp** Second weekend of every month.

■ Tel: 07946 676761  
[info@aldermaston.net](mailto:info@aldermaston.net)  
[www.aldermaston.net](http://www.aldermaston.net)  
@Peace\_women\_AWE

**Faslane Peace Camp**

Permanent. A814,

Shandon, Helensburgh, Dumbartonshire G84 8NT.

■ Tel: 07376 188216  
[faslanepeacecamp@protonmail.com](mailto:faslanepeacecamp@protonmail.com)

**Menwith Hill vigil**

The weekly vigil is now switching days – please contact Sarah:

■ Tel: 01765 600928 or [sswift64@gmail.com](mailto:sswift64@gmail.com)