Give the gift of peace

Dear friend of CND,

I’ve been, like you perhaps, in the CND world for a long – and happy – time. Funding has always been a problem.

Perhaps I won’t see the abolition of all nuclear weapons before I depart but I very much want the work we are all engaged in to continue – despite my absence!

Campaigning for a nuclear weapons-free world does not produce much income.

But I will make sure that there will be a slice of whatever I leave in my Will for CND. And I very much hope you will consider doing the same.

Doing so could help ensure the longevity of CND, transform the campaign, and raise greater public awareness.

I doubt if you need much persuading. Do your best!

Warm wishes,

Bruce Kent
In this issue of Campaign Review, we not only have a chance to reflect on the past year but also to consider how we take our campaign forward into the new year and beyond. Our survival is still very much in jeopardy because of the twin threats of climate change and nuclear war.

However, there have also been some encouraging developments. In this magazine, there are wonderful examples of our collective campaigns calling on the government to save £205 billion by scrapping the Trident replacement programme.

CND members and supporters have also been raising awareness of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. At the time of writing, 34 countries had ratified this treaty, and we’re confident it will hit the required 50 next year and enter into force.

Our work in 2019 has included the link between climate change and the military. Weapons production and military exercises are generating huge amounts of CO2 emissions. We protested at the DSEI Arms Fair in London to highlight this connection, point out the exhibiting companies involved in nuclear weapons development and production and make the case for diversification of jobs in the already declining defence industry.

We took a significant step forward in broadening our campaign this year as we joined Extinction Rebellion Peace and participated in the XR October Rebellion. Similar moves to bring together peace, environment and climate change campaigns are being made internationally. Another example of international campaigning collaboration was the protests organised in opposition to the NATO summit in London early in December.

The UK government is set to continue with its extremely dangerous and enormously expensive nuclear power programme. Read about our work to oppose nuclear power production in this magazine.

You will also find in this issue updates on our very important work with parliamentarians and in developing and disseminating peace education material.

Whatever the result of December’s general election, there will be plenty for us to do in 2020 and we look forward to continuing our work together with you, to help realise our vision of a safer, more peaceful and more secure world.

Dane Webb
New nuclear arms race

CND General Secretary Kate Hudson analyses the events that have shaped CND’s work this year.

This year opened with the grim news that once again the Doomsday Clock’s hands were set at two minutes to midnight. They’ve never been closer, not even at the height of the Cold War and the trend of increasing nuclear dangers has continued.

The trend that became so apparent last year – President Trump’s attacks on the treaties and agreements that have curtailed nuclear weapons – has continued and worsened. The Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty finally bit the dust in August this year. There are so many dangers as a result of its cancellation: a new nuclear arms race, US missiles back in Europe – and that includes Britain – trained on Russia, US missiles in Okinawa trained on China, nuclear war.

While other European countries urged the US and Russia to continue with the Treaty, Britain gave craven support to the US. The House of Commons Defence Committee produced a report into the breakdown of the INF which pretty much turned the Committee into a cheerleader for President Trump – far from the actual role designated to it which is essentially scrutiny and accountability.

US withdrawal from the INF treaty also calls into question whether Washington will work with Moscow to renew Obama and Medvedev’s New START treaty in 2021, when it is due to expire. If US hawks get their way, once the Treaty expires there will be no restraints on nuclear weapons left. A grim prospect indeed.

The Iran nuclear deal is verging on extinction following US withdrawal and the failure of the other signatories to sufficiently support the Iranian economy as the wrongly re-imposed US sanctions take their toll. There has been some minor support but not sufficient to prevent serious hardship for ordinary Iranian citizens.

Whilst opposing these negative developments, however, we always work to pose positive alternatives, and it
has been good to watch the progress of the UN’s Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). We have taken a variety of approaches to support it, from pressure on our own government to lobbying embassies in the UK, urging states to sign and congratulating those who have. The number of ratifications is steadily increasing and it’s possible that it will achieve the 50 required to bring it into force during 2020. Our own government still opposes the TPNW and this is one of the biggest challenges we face: breaking the logjam of the nuclear weapons states – and the power they exert over NATO and allied states. 

Indeed, this year NATO celebrated its 70th birthday, meriting an assessment of the nuclear-armed military alliance that came into being to ensure western military superiority during the Cold War. Most strikingly, during its first 40 years of existence – namely the Cold War – NATO embarked on no wars or military campaigns. Yet in the 30 years since the Cold War and the removal of its political and military rival, the Soviet Union, NATO has massively expanded territorially, changed its mission statement from a defensive to an aggressive posture and embarked on a series of wars, of which its intervention in Afghanistan is getting on for two decades long.

These activities have turned the end of the Cold War from a unique opportunity for new diplomacy and peaceful development into a new era of global tension, encircling Russia and China thereby creating the conditions for a new Cold War, tearing up international legal norms, notably around national sovereignty, and introducing bogus notions of ‘humanitarian war’.

A second NATO anniversary fell in March 2019: 20 years since the first former Warsaw Pact states joined NATO. Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic signed up, and just days later they found themselves at war with their neighbour Yugoslavia. The war was illegal and brought devastating human consequences to what remained of Yugoslavia – including the legacy of toxic Depleted Uranium. It was also the first use of Tony Blair’s baseless justification for wars of intervention. We saw how that developed in Iraq and elsewhere.

Combatting the climate emergency has achieved a real sense of urgency with the outstanding work of young activists across the globe. This is an issue that touches us all, not only as individuals but also in wider campaigning terms. It
is one of the twin existential threats identified by the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists – alongside nuclear weapons, and there are key ways in which they contribute to the problem. In the event of nuclear war, nuclear weapons would cause severe damage to the climate and environment on a scale incomparable to any other weapons. Research by the Red Cross shows the effect of a ‘limited’ nuclear war would disrupt the global climate to such an extent that a billion people could face starvation.

Trident uses massive energy and resources in research, production, operation and dismantling and eventual waste storage. Scrapping Trident would be a great way to cut the UK’s footprint and the £205 billion being spent on the replacement could be used to install solar panels in every home or build enough wind turbines to power all households in the UK. We are wholeheartedly supporting the movement that is rising up to demand action on climate change, and we are part of Extinction Rebellion Peace, to make sure we play our part.

Related to that, support for nuclear power has been falling away as renewables provide increasingly cheap energy, while cost overruns, radioactive waste problems and faulty construction dog new build.

Companies are falling over themselves to offload their interests in nuclear power and the UK government itself has shown signs of backing off.

Over the last two decades there has been a concerted effort to suggest that nuclear power is a clean and safe form of energy that can contribute to dealing with the problems of climate change. But this myth has now been thoroughly busted and the reality is that the British public massively subsidises an industry that is not carbon neutral, produces enormous amounts of carcinogenic waste for which no safe storage solution exists, and leads to cancer clusters and periodic catastrophic disasters.

Meanwhile major industrial countries like Germany have abandoned nuclear power and are embracing renewable energy sources. The billions used to subsidise nuclear power can be instead invested in developing renewable technologies, leading to secure and clean energy sources and the creation of thousands of new jobs.

New research has found that almost all nuclear power plants built since the nuclear industry’s inception have generated large financial losses. Indeed, the history of nuclear power is seven decades of economic ruin and
environmental catastrophe. Toshiba’s decision in 2018 to abandon plans to build a reactor at Moorside in Cumbria and Hitachi’s suspension of work in 2019 on the Wylfa Newydd plant in Anglesey simply reflect the economic reality.

Major nuclear disasters take place on a regular if infrequent basis – Chernobyl and Fukushima are the most well-known examples, and there are also Three Mile Island in the US and our own Windscale disaster in 1957. But very large numbers of health and safety breaches take place on a regular basis, putting the workforce and local residents at risk. In truth, nuclear power is too dangerous to use, but thankfully, with renewable energy available, it’s just not needed. Work still needs to be done, however, to get that message over, not least to the Labour Party and TUC who still mistakenly think that nuclear is an important part of the energy mix.

One thing is certain, the British economy has been systematically deprived of the investment it needs to grow and flourish, and our society is being denied the funding it needs to ensure the health, welfare and happiness of its citizens.

It is truly appalling that the government can find money for nuclear weapons and war when it denies that money is available to meet these very real social and human needs. Quite simply, government priorities have been wrong for a very long time.

Over the past ten years, since the collapse of Lehman Brothers and the subsequent financial crisis, every government has pursued brutal austerity policies that have attacked the poorest and most vulnerable in our society. Their narrative has been that we can’t afford to properly fund the NHS or provide proper living levels of welfare payments, yet at the same time the rich continue to get richer.

The ‘super-rich’ are the blight of our time, and it is to the eternal shame of our government that they put these people’s interests above those of the British people. Clearly, the money is there, it is just going to the wrong place.

For a really shocking example of this, we need look no further than the British government’s spending on nuclear weapons. In 2016, one of Theresa May’s first actions as prime minister was to push Trident replacement through parliament – thus allocating £205 billion of tax payers’ money to building and sustaining the Dreadnought class of nuclear submarines and their attendant missiles, warheads and paraphernalia. In short, £205 billion on weapons of mass destruction and not on our NHS, jobs, education, welfare – or meeting the challenge of climate change. This spending is now under way, but the case for cancellation must be won.

There are so many ways in which the nuclear programme is disastrous. Recently the parliamentary Public Accounts Committee revealed the latest catalogue of Ministry of Defence incompetence and negligence. It warned that the infrastructure supporting the Royal Navy’s nuclear submarine fleet is no longer ‘fit for purpose’ and that MoD decisions to delay maintenance at its 13 nuclear sites had created a ‘ticking time bomb’.

This is just a disaster waiting to happen. But what we don’t want is yet more money being poured into this bottomless pit. It really is time for government to step away from nuclear weapons and release the funds to meet the needs of our society and all our communities. No one must be left behind in 21st century Britain. We call on our government to prioritise the lives and wellbeing of all its citizens rather than the production of weapons of mass destruction. It’s time for our government to recognise: People not Trident.
WE LIVE in increasingly unstable times, where nuclear dangers are growing alarmingly. The international rules-based system is collapsing before our eyes.

The Doomsday Clock is currently set at two minutes to midnight. The hands have never been closer, even at the height of the Cold War. And against this backdrop, the British government wants to waste billions of pounds on replacing Trident.

But the good news is that a global majority support our aim of creating a world without nuclear weapons. And with that in mind, CND nations, regions, groups and specialist sections have been working hard this year to create a better and safer world.

One of the main activities we undertook was a national Global Dangers tour, in which tens of groups took part including Crawley CND, which was joined by Lloyd Russell-Moyle MP to discuss climate change and nuclear weapons.

Kent Area CND was proud to host a public talk with guest speaker Victoria Brittain, which tackled pressing issues such as global cooperation crumbling, unstable world leaders in charge of nuclear weapons and more nuclear weapons being produced. The event was well-attended and thought-provoking. Victoria also joined West Midlands CND. This meeting was attended by people from different groups and backgrounds and engendered a wide-ranging discussion.

The dangers facing us all were discussed by Isle of Wight CND and their guest speakers, as part of Ventnor Fringe Festival. There was a full house present for the meeting, which ended up being an inspirational afternoon. A lively discussion was had at South Cheshire and North Staffordshire CND’s (SCANS CND) well-attended stop on the Global Dangers tour. Tavistock Peace Action Group also arranged a meeting.

Norwich CND hosted Commander Robert Forsyth
who spoke about his experiences as a Trident submarine commander, and how his views about nuclear missiles changed. Birkenhead CND’s meeting discussed the dangers of cyber-attacks on nuclear facilities.

Caroline Lucas MP joined Reigate and Redhill CND for their stop, which enjoyed the biggest audience the group has ever had. Following an inspiring talk, the group even gained new members on the night and numerous donations.

London Region CND’s contribution to the tour was to organise a programme of events with Francis Daeoun Lee representing People’s Solidarity for Participatory Democracy, a South Korean peace organisation. Starting in London, he met faith leaders and parliamentarians, including Shadow Minister for Peace and Disarmament Fabian Hamilton MP. Francis spoke at a public meeting with former MEP Glyn Ford, author of Talking to North Korea, before travelling to Scotland and Yorkshire.

Yorkshire CND hosted several meetings as part of the tour. Separately from the tour, CND groups also organised numerous events up and down the country. Aberdeen and District CND started the year with a peace rally with speakers, poetry and music. The group worked closely with Faslane Peace Camp in 2019, including on re-establishing a Friends of Faslane group and arranging a weekend of workshops, and hosted the Scottish Peace History Exhibition. Social events arranged included a New Year party and a tremendously fun, fundraising Ceilidh.

Birkenhead CND promoted CND’s work by displaying an exhibition on ‘60 Years of CND’ in three local libraries and arranging stalls at fairs. Working with Merseyside CND, the group did a lot of work raising awareness of the breakdown of the INF treaty. Wallasey CND started 2019 with a successful AGM and social and carried on the year promoting CND’s campaigns at events such as the Wirral Earth Festival. Merseyside CND participated in the Global Day of Action against Military Spending, highlighting the cost
Youth activism

2019 has undoubtedly been an incredible year for youth activism generally across the world, most notably in the climate movement. Youth and Student CND has continued to grow both online and in university and college campuses across the UK. The group has been present at major events including the IPB Youth Congress in Berlin and the youth climate strikes in London.

London Region CND is focussed on winning support among Britain’s biggest student population. Hereford Peace Council engaged with students by having a stall at an ‘Infofest’ for local colleges. And GMDCND has appointed a University Liaison Officer to boost its student recruitment.

Mid Somerset CND and Peace Group has given talks in local schools and attended the local sixth form college Freshers Fair.

As the next generation continues to inspire us all, CND will continue to focus on engaging more young people in our campaigns.

of Trident replacement.

Together with Wallasey CND and the Merseyside Pensioners Association, the groups hosted a very successful screening of ‘The Plan: That Came From The Bottom Up’, which is about workers developing alternatives to producing military products.

In a similar vein, Greater Manchester & District CND (GMDCND) co-hosted a mini-conference on the film. 2019 was another action-packed year for this region. Other highlights included participating in Yoko Ono’s Bells for Peace event, which opened this year’s Manchester International Festival.

GMDCND activists spoke on anti-university ties to the arms trade campaigns group dED_UCATION’s brilliant new podcast – dED Go DEEP! Other events arranged included one with folk legend Peggy Seeger in conversation with actress Maxine Peake, a public meeting on the arms trade in Manchester, a public meeting on peace campaigning in the Labour Party and a screening of Dr Strangelove, followed by a Q&A with local academics. GMDCND also enjoyed spotting – and taking photographs of – CND’s Stop Trident bus adverts out and about in Manchester.

Kent Area CND took their People’s Budget stall around their region, asking passers-by how they would prefer to spend the money currently committed to Trident replacement. Most wanted the money spent on health, education and housing, with less than 1% choosing nuclear weapons! Kent Area CND had a successful year in general, with plenty of street stalls, demonstrations, a visit to a nuclear bunker and attending
nuclear ‘deterrent’. Derby CND then braved the mud to join another festival, Northern Green Gathering. The group’s main activity of the year is Derby Peace Week, where Derby CND works with many other local organisations and some from Derby’s twin town in Germany – Osnabruck. Highlights of the week included the Peace Concert and a workshop promoting peace with the Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner.

Christian CND had a packed calendar of events throughout the year. Their annual Embassies Walk this year visited NATO member state diplomats to talk about the nuclear ban treaty and included a petition hand-in at 10 Downing Street. Christian CND organised the first Barbara Eggleston Memorial Lecture in 2019 where Bruce Kent gave a rousing speech about changing attitudes on nuclear weapons in the churches. In June, the group re-dedicated the Peace Garden at RAF Molesworth, the scene of long-running anti-cruise

Glastonbury 2019

Glastonbury festival is an important part of CND’s campaigning calendar and we had a fantastic time this year as the sun shone, over a thousand festival-goers signed up as members of CND and Caroline Lucas MP greeted the crowds on our behalf. As well as discussing our campaigns at our stalls at Green Futures field and near the Pyramid stage, we participated in debates at Speakers’ Forum and appeared on the on-site radio station.

Many CND groups campaign at Glastonbury, including Youth and Student CND. GMDCND participated in a climate march at the festival by wearing nuclear waste barrel costumes. Mid Somerset CND and Peace Group talked to many festival-goers and were interviewed by the BBC.

Now we are looking forward more than ever to next year’s special Glastonbury Festival, which will mark the 50th anniversary of the event, where we will be highlighting CND’s role in its history.
CAMPAIGN FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

campaigns in the 1980s.
They were busy again on the Christian festival circuit this year, with a stall at Big Church Day Out and a workshop at the National Justice and Peace Network gathering. Christian CND attended both Church of England Synods in York and London. International efforts by the group included a delegation attending the 2019 Preparatory Committee for the 2020 nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference. CCND also attended and organised a fringe meeting with the UK’s Deputy Disarmament Ambassador and other international guests.

Isle of Wight CND connected with a variety of people, places and ideas during this year. They had their first venture into the annual Brighstone Christmas tree festival, during which beautiful origami cranes drew considerable attention along with the peace messages displayed. The group arranged a very well-received ‘Celebrate Greenham’ exhibition, which felt very relevant in this time of nuclear uncertainty.

Rochdale and Littleborough Peace Group make sure to promote CND and our iconic symbol at all events they attend; which this year included stalls and a vigil and rally to commemorate Peterloo. Members are indefatigable in writing to the press and using social media.

Tavistock Peace Action Group campaigned to raise awareness of the end of the INF treaty with leaflets and a petition calling on the government to commit that the UK will not allow any US missiles to be stationed in Britain. Leicester CND organised a banner drop to draw attention to the end of the INF treaty and the global nuclear ban. Hereford Peace Council also highlighted the ban treaty by visiting their local MP to discuss it, even if he did reiterate his support for nuclear weapons! The group also continues to produce posters with messages of peace, which are sent monthly to members.

Woking Action for Peace tackled a myriad issues by organising public debates and film showings on peace issues throughout the year. South Cheshire and North Staffordshire CND (SCANS CND) held an area-wide members’ meeting.

Trade union work
CND and our groups continued our work with trade unions in 2019, particularly highlighting the cost of Trident and advancing the prospects for a Defence Diversification Agency, as well as its shadow, prior to Labour holding office. CND attended the Trades Union Congress while Merseyside CND ran our stall at the Unison conference. GMDCND attended the Manchester Trades’ Council May Day weekend while Mid Somerset CND and Peace Group represented CND at Tolpuddle festival.
Salisbury CND had an even more active year than usual, which included hosting Southern Region CND’s AGM. The group was involved with the 2019 Salisbury Festival, which included films, talks and discussions on a range of peace, environmental and anti-nuclear issues. Along with a stall during the festival, the group published flyers which were promoted at performances.

Throughout the year, Norwich CND held a monthly peace vigil outside St Peer Mancroft Church in the centre of Norwich. The group had a presence at the Earthcare Summer Fair and at the Burston Strike School annual rally, where many people signed CND’s petitions. A huge success for the group came in September when Norwich City Council voted unanimously to sign the ICAN Cities Appeal, making Norwich a nuclear ban community. This came after Norwich CND had organised a petition calling on the council to do so.

Towns and cities around the world – including Paris, Washington and Berlin to name a few – are becoming nuclear ban communities as they sign up to support the TPNW. CND has encouraged all our groups to work on getting their local councils involved and as well as Norwich, other places to sign up in the UK so far are Edinburgh, Fife, Renfrewshire, Hebden Royd (which was officially first!) and West Dunbartonshire.

Sydenham and Forest Hill CND had an active 2019, working closely with Bromley Borough CND to build up a South East London Peace Network with other organisations and faiths. Their annual peace picnic at Charlton House was attended by over 50 people who made peace cranes, listened to speeches and poetry, and enjoyed food and entertainment.

With the Reigate and Redhill CND banner proudly waving in the sky, the group this year started a programme of regular street stalls. Visitors from Germany attended one of their monthly meetings, giving an interesting perspective on the nuclear issue. Another interesting meeting was with the local Labour party, where Reigate and Redhill CND members spoke about why CND is so important to them.
followed by questions from party members. As in other places across the country, it appears that the local Labour party here is very sympathetic to CND’s aims.

Indeed, Labour CND had a fruitful year, beginning with a conference on the ‘Peace Policies Labour Needs’. A great line-up of speakers including the Shadow Peace and Disarmament Minister Fabian Hamilton MP spoke in depth about the party developing a peace doctrine. A trip to Telford for Labour’s annual women’s conference followed. Committee member and former Greenham peace camper Karen Robinson was able to draw attention to CND when she spoke at a fringe meeting, and many of the 1,300 delegates and visitors signed up for Labour CND news as a result. A few weeks later Labour CND circulated material at Scottish Labour conference.

The Labour CND team was active in Brighton for the Labour Party conference, where CND arranged a stall and fringe meeting. CND also had a presence at The World Transformed, a hugely popular festival running alongside the main conference. Fabian Hamilton hosted a conference report-back meeting in parliament for Labour CND, which attracted a lively audience and a discussion of how to move forward.

GMDCND hosted the CND and peace bloc at the Tory Party conference in Manchester, joined by groups including Rochdale and Littleborough Peace Group and SCANS CND.

Over the last year West Midlands CND has arranged several stalls, including one at the local Moseley Festival. These stalls are useful for collecting signatures for the Scrap Trident petition and to have conversations with the public. The group produces a bimonthly newsletter and has a good presence on social media. West Midlands CND reports that one topic in particular which engages people in discussion is that of the nuclear convoys which regularly use the motorways around Birmingham.

Another group which knows a lot about these convoys is Oxford CND, whose members have spent many hours in 2019 on nukewatch duty, monitoring the vehicles carrying nuclear convoys. Oxford CND also found time to have regular meetings, stalls and events. Two of their most notable events this year was an Action for Peace weekend full of discussion and workshops, and supporting the AWE Burghfield blockaders’ march to court in Reading.

Nottingham CND has displayed the group’s continued presence in its local community this year with fabulous banners and a highly visible tablecloth, including at the city’s May Day Rally. They arranged a fascinating meeting with Commander Robert Forsyth and heard his account of service aboard nuclear submarines and how he is now an anti-Trident campaigner. The group distributed CND leaflets when ‘Dr Strangelove’
was shown at the local cinema, suggesting people get in touch if they were worried about nuclear war. **Nottingham CND** gave a peace talk to a church congregation and followed it up with a question to the Diocese about how to implement their commitment to the global nuclear ban. For the Nottingham Green Festival, the group designed and made new ‘Trees not Trident’ badges.

Winning the prize for the most glamorous campaigning of the year, members of **Nottingham CND** appeared in a film! An Aldermaston march from the 1960s was recreated for ‘Adrift in Soho’. CND staff were also warmly welcomed at the film’s premiere in Leicester Square.

**Southampton CND** had a stall at a Conchord Singers concert, which has now become a regular event, and at the LEFTFEST event. The group also organised a Summer Social.

It has been a busy and exciting year for **East Midlands CND** with national speakers drawing big audiences to many events. The common thread has been working closely with other activists in many other campaigns. The region was also highly effective online, redesigning their website and enhancing their use of Facebook. The traditional May Day Gala in Chesterfield was particularly well-attended with the **East Midlands CND** banner again proudly carried on the march. The petition that day attracted an exceptionally large number of signatures.

During the summer, all the local groups in the region made imaginative use of local fairs and festivals, taking the opportunity to engage with visitors about CND. The CND t-shirts sold out at Stainsby Music festival! A training day was held on effective public speaking, an excellent initiative.

Demonstrating it’s not all work and no play in CND, **London Region CND** took time to welcome in 2019 with a meal and an after-dinner speaker, former CWU general secretary Billy Hayes. The region’s local groups keep CND’s flag flying across the capital. **Peterborough CND** had an anti-Trident stall at the Peterborough Women’s Festival.

**Wimbledon Disarmament Coalition/CND** continued its campaigning in 2019 with a regular newsletter and stalls, including at Mitcham Fair and the Raynes Park Festival. The group sponsored an art exhibition entitled ‘The Art of Peace’, featuring creative work by mainly local artists. This included painted placards by **WDC/CND** member Edwin Cluer, which are a feature of the group’s Friday night Vigils for Peace and have been carried in many a demonstration.

Work continued across the country in 2019 on promoting the TPNW, or global nuclear ban treaty. CND continued work on a diplomatic initiative to build global support for the treaty and co-hosted an event in London on this with the Kazakh Embassy.
Yorkshire CND also highlighted this topic, beginning the year with a series of meetings in towns and cities across the region putting the spotlight on the TPNW. The tour began in Sheffield with a well-attended meeting focusing on actions to support the treaty locally. Energetic meetings in Bradford, Leeds and Hull followed suit. To support all this activity, Yorkshire CND produced a handbook entitled ‘How we’re going to ban nuclear weapons’, outlining ways in which campaigners can take action on the treaty locally. Huge congratulations to the region for getting seven Yorkshire MPs signed up to a parliamentary pledge on the TPNW!

Demonstrations and direct action have featured heavily in 2019 for Yorkshire CND, as well as having a presence at festivals and local fairs, student gatherings, union conferences, plus film showings and fundraising events. Sounds like a hectic and productive year!

Mid Somerset CND and Peace Group has also been busy. The group has been involved in a number of events throughout the year including stalls at local community events, International Women’s Day, International Workers’ Day and Sidcot School Peace Festival. A stall at Street Christmas Cracker Fair and carol singing in Wells

Arms Fair blockade

CND and Trident Ploughshares arranged a No Nuclear Day, as part of a week-long blockade of London’s DSEI arms fair in Newham. DSEI is one of the world’s largest arms fairs and takes place at the Excel centre every two years. CND highlighted the role of exhibitors BAE Systems, Rolls-Royce and Lockheed Martin in the replacement of Britain’s nuclear weapons system. Despite very heavy policing, it was a successful day where entrances to the venue were blocked for many hours with 21 people arrested. Groups taking part in the blockade included GMDCND, Christian CND, Kent Area CND, Salisbury CND, SCANS CND and Yorkshire CND. Rochdale and Littleborough Peace Group even made it to the press! Sydenham and Forest Hill CND was there, and also arranged an accompanying film evening. The Mayor of Newham, Rokhsana Fiaz, was present and is very encouraging of the campaign to stop the arms fair. Newham Council had even passed a motion condemning the fair. Hereford Peace Council had decided to make the arms trade the focus of its work in 2019 and held a public meeting on the subject.
raised money for Safe Passage, a charity which helps refugee children.

**Bristol CND** held a number of stalls across the city, including at the City of Sanctuary festival. **St Albans CND** participated at sustainability festival SusFest for the second year running, handing out leaflets and talking to stallholders. The group also commemorated Stanislav Petrov day and arranged a library exhibition.

As **Campaign Review** was going to press, we were about to find out the result of the general election. CND groups across the country had mobilised for this crucial vote to make sure Trident and nuclear weapons was not swept under the carpet during the campaign. For example, **Woking Action for Peace** partnered with their local paper to host a hustings meeting. When we know which MPs have been elected, CND will be using the data collected by all of the groups to start a new lobbying campaign. Thank you for all your work on this campaign. **Haringey CND** welcomed several high-profile figures to its public meetings this year, including ex-*The Guardian* journalist Richard Norton-Taylor, local MP Catherine West and Sam Mason, a trade unionist.

A new group officially launched in March – welcome **South Lakeland CND**! Kate Hudson addressed around 50 people at the first event and planning is ongoing for future campaigns. The group has already collaborated closely with other local CND groups on a variety of events.

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**Thanksgiving Service**

CND protested against a Royal Navy thanksgiving service to mark 50 years of Britain’s so-called Continuous At Sea Deterrent (CASD) at Westminster Abbey in May. The service was greeted with outrage by people from all walks of society, including 200 Anglican clerics who publicly condemned the service thanks to mobilisation from **Christian CND**. Over 5000 letters of opposition were sent from members of the public to the Dean of Westminster and the Defence Secretary. But the service went ahead with CND joined by Brian Eno and Bruce Kent among others to protest outside.

**Christian CND** organised an alternative witness outside Westminster Abbey during the service. Groups in attendance included **Norwich CND** and **Salisbury CND**. The latter also wrote to their local Church of England Bishop to express the group’s misgivings. **Nottingham CND** held a local demonstration in solidarity with a purpose-made banner.
Hiroshima and Nagasaki events

Aberdeen & District CND enjoyed uplifting music at St Andrews Cathedral while Christian CND took part in a service at Coventry Cathedral. West Midlands CND read poems and prose at Birmingham Cathedral. Despite the torrential rain, Norwicn CND enjoyed a peace picnic. GMDCND also arranged a peace picnic as well as an event with the Lord Mayor. Rochdale and Littleborough Peace Group scattered white flowers on the water.

Leicester CND held a silent vigil, followed by poetry and readings on a peace walk, then a demonstration outside Rolls-Royce in Derby with Derby CND and East Midlands CND. Local dignatories joined Hereford Peace Council.

Bromley Borough CND held a vigil and silent march while Woking Action for Peace floated candles down the River Wey. Salisbury CND read out a letter from the Mayor of Hiroshima before floating candles.

SCANS CND held a CND stall, followed by an evening of music and poetry. As the group was campaigning at Staffordshire Vegan Festival the same week, the group chose to have a Hiroshima and Nagasaki Day theme to the stall, and in honour of the anniversary, the organisers kindly waived their fee. Reigate and Redhill CND marked the day with a ceremony followed by a walk, with banners, to the town centre.

London Region CND’s commemoration began with a song from Raised Voice Peace Choir. A cultural evening followed, Hiroshima to Chernobyl: say no to nuclear. Compered by Bruce Kent, it included a video-link up with CND’s representative at the events in Japan.

Over 65 people joined Southampton CND to light candles in paper boats. Wimbledon Disarmament Coalition/CND battled the wind to float paper lanterns – a small number stayed alight! The singing was led by a local choir. The following weekend, the group arranged a peace picnic.

Linking with other groups locally meant that Yorkshire CND’s annual Hiroshima Day event in Bradford was extra special this year. There was a colourful march through the city and a four-minute warning cabaret at the peace picnic following on from the ceremony.

Mid Somerset CND and Peace Group held their annual candle float vigil at dusk. Bristol CND was joined by Red Notes Choir and the Mayor of Nagasaki’s speech was read out along with a poem from a Hibakusha.

St Albans CND displayed peace doves with members’ messages in the town centre, a photo of which appeared in the local press.
NUCLEAR weapons cause severe damage to the climate and environment on a scale incomparable to any other weapon. Although the UK’s nuclear weapons system, Trident, has never been used, it still uses a massive amount of energy and resources when you take into account the research involved, its production and operation, and the eventual waste storage. Scrapping Trident would be a great way to cut the UK’s carbon footprint.

This is why CND is proud to have increased our involvement with the climate change movement in 2019. We joined Extinction Rebellion as part of XR Peace and supported the school strikers.

Our first action as part of XR Peace was the October Rebellion. Activists kick-started the two weeks of protest by blocking the road near the Ministry of Defence, by locking-on to Yorkshire CND’s giant mock-missile. Other actions included a die-in outside the Ministry of Defence and blockading the entrance to BAE Systems, who manufacture Britain’s nuclear submarines. Groups including Oxford CND joined the Rebellion.

Alongside this direct action, CND organised sessions with speakers and performers, all highlighting the link between nuclear weapons and climate change.

CND groups across the country worked to highlight the Climate not Trident message. Aberdeen and District CND, Merseyside CND, SCANS CND and Nottingham CND spoke at or attended Global Climate Strike rallies. Nottingham CND also report that CND’s Climate not Trident leaflets have been very well-received.

Crawley CND held a public meeting in conjunction with Crawley Extinction Rebellion, to organise locally on the issue. St Albans CND also arranged a meeting with a speaker from...
XR. Leicester CND worked with their local Friends of the Earth group. A lot of this group’s campaigning in 2019 was linked to climate change. At the Riverside Festival, people were queuing to sign their cards to US President Donald Trump, stating climate change and nuclear war were the two major threats to the planet.

Isle of Wight CND created a billboard advert making the connection between climate change and nuclear weapons. This ran for a month and was viewed by thousands of islanders and visitors alike.

Tavistock Peace Action Group arranged a public meeting on 'Rethinking Security in a Time of Climate Crisis'.

East Midlands CND arranged petitions urging local councils to declare a climate emergency and support the TPNW. This pressure has led to Derbyshire declaring a climate emergency.

Urgent action like this is essential as we call on the government to stop prioritising war and weapons over the future of our planet.

No to Trump

US President Donald Trump continued to galvanise campaigners on a wide range of subjects in 2019 and CND was involved in protesting both his visits to the UK during the year.

His disregard for international treaties – including the INF treaty - and the rules-based international order has made the world a much more dangerous place and nuclear war more likely.

Protests took place across the country in June on Trump’s state visit, including a national demonstration in London and one in Portsmouth, where the US President attended a D-Day commemoration.

Groups including Merseyside CND, Kent Area CND and Norwich CND joined the protests. Oxford CND and Peterborough CND spoke at their respective local demonstrations. SCANS CND held a Together Against Trump demonstration which attracted wide interest from the local media, including Radio Stoke and a lead story in the local newspaper.

GMDCND co-organised the Together Against Trump demonstration in Manchester, and produced a new video on ‘The Dangers of Donald Trump’. GMDCND was also represented at a packed seminar for politics students at the University of Manchester on the subject of ‘Trump, INF and Avoiding Apocalypse’.

London Region CND arranged a conference discussing ‘Trump’s finger on the nuclear button’ with a star line-up including Palestinian Ambassador Husam Zomlot, Catherine West MP, and Green Party Co-Leader Jonathan Bartley. The conference also heard from Code Pink’s Medea Benjamin in the USA via video link.
Queen was holding a reception for the Nato leaders. Thousands of demonstrators headed down The Mall as guests arrived. CND groups across the country arranged local action to protest at the summit, including Aberdeen and District CND, East Midlands CND and West Midlands CND.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) marked its 70th anniversary in 2019. When a Heads of State summit was arranged in the UK in December, CND co-organised the protests against this nuclear-armed alliance.

Working with British and international partners, we arranged a counter-summit entitled ‘The New World Disorder’ to present the alternatives to war and global tensions. The conference heard from a series of high-level and informative speakers from across the world.

A range of organisations came together to arrange a ‘No to NATO, No to Trump’ demonstration, marching from Trafalgar Square to Buckingham Palace, where the...
TENSIONS flared between Iran and the US and the UK this year. Many CND groups took action to highlight the growing crisis. Merseyside CND joined a public meeting while GMDCND was represented at a ‘Don’t Attack Iran’ meeting outside the Tory Party conference. The latter initiated an e-mail campaign to local MPs about the threat of war and was interviewed by local and regional media.

Derby CND was also invited to speak at a ‘Don’t Bomb Iran’ public meeting, making the link with the Iran nuclear deal. Both Sydenham and Forest Hill CND and Nottingham CND hosted public meetings on the matter.

In other anti-war campaigning, GMDCND co-hosted the Peace History Lecture 2019, arranged a meeting on the arms race and has organised regular peace vigils outside arms factories in its region. The group also hosted screenings of ‘War School’ – a documentary about military recruitment in schools – across Greater Manchester. Wallasey CND also showed this film at their local library.

Isle of Wight CND reported an excellent take-up of the white peace poppies they were selling. To mark Remembrance Day, Norwich CND, Sydenham and Forest Hill CND, Wallasey CND, Reigate and Redhill CND and Oxford CND laid a wreath of white poppies and/or spoke at events.

Nottingham CND donated over £200 from their white poppy sales to a refugee charity. Wimbledon Disarmament Coalition/CND laid a wreath of white and red poppies at their local official ceremony, followed by their own short service.

Rochdale and Littleborough Peace Group worked with the Friends of Manchester Peace Garden to organise a tribute to conscientious objectors past and present. Hereford CND and Leicester CND also arranged events for International Conscientious Objector Day.

Leicester CND celebrated this year as it has succeeded in its campaign to ban the army from allowing children to handle guns at their city-centre recruitment campaigns. And alongside members from the local Afghan community, the group flew kites not drones to mark the Afghan new year. East Midlands CND also marked the Persian new year by flying kites at RAF Waddington.

Tavistock Peace Action Group’s anti-war work this year included a stall in support of Palestine and a public meeting on Yemen’s civil war. Southampton CND held a meeting on autonomous drones.
THE United States missile defence system is made up of a series of bases around the world, designed to detect and shoot down incoming missiles.

Britain plays an integral role in the US missile defence system. CND has campaigned against the US missile defence programme since the first plans in the 1980s.

But the US military ambitions now go even further, to include space. In January, President Trump announced the USA’s new missile defence policy, which included a space-based layer of sensors as part of an enhanced system in a clear escalation of policy.

CND groups confronted these reckless policies and called on the UK government to refuse to co-operate with Trump’s arms race.

Keep Space for Peace week 2019 in particular highlighted these campaigns. Oxford CND was one of the organisers of the march and rally at USAF Croughton, where they were joined by Southampton CND among others. Merseyside CND arranged a stall to mark the week.

Oxford CND also arranged an event to walk the Path of MADness (Mutual Assured Destruction) up and down the runway to remember Upper Heyford base’s role in the cold war nuclear stand-off.

On a bright but exceptionally cold summer day, East Midlands CND joined the Independence from America demonstration at Menwith Hill, with excellent performances and speeches. Yorkshire CND was also present, as the group continues to focus on US bases in Yorkshire. They are updating their Menwith Hill exposé ‘Lifting the Lid’, alongside the Menwith Hill Accountability Campaign.

Yorkshire CND has also created a new film explaining the role of RAF Fylingdales in a basic and easy to grasp way, featuring a cap-wearing Yorkshireman! It can be watched on their website.
Nuclear power

New research in 2019 found that almost all nuclear power plants built since the nuclear industry’s inception have generated large financial losses. Of course, CND has always maintained that the history of nuclear power is seven decades of economic ruin and environmental catastrophe and we continued to campaign against government plans to build new nuclear power stations.

CND mobilised for a Stop New Nuclear event in which we surrounded the Springfields nuclear fuel production site dressed as nuclear waste barrels with groups including GMDCND, Oxford CND and Yorkshire CND.

Our event at The World Transformed festival this year, which runs alongside the Labour Party conference, focused on designing a non-nuclear energy policy for Labour.

A new TV drama, Chernobyl, became the highest-rated tv show of all time this year, graphically revealing to a new generation how nuclear accidents create human misery and environmental destruction. Many CND groups gathered to mark the anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, including Bromley Borough CND. GMDCND hosted a talk on a new book about Chernobyl – Manual for Survival, and supported a Chernobyl photography exhibition. Isle of Wight CND continues to support the Chernobyl Children’s Project and Sydenham and Forest Hill CND’s May Spring Fair also raised funds for the children of Chernobyl.

And sadly, the Chernobyl disaster is not the only nuclear accident that we commemorated. Many groups joined events to mark the anniversary of the Fukushima nuclear accident, including Merseyside CND and Kent Area CND. Haringey CND arranged a public meeting.

Bromley Borough CND asked questions to their local council on the nuclear waste trains that travel through their area. South Lakeland CND worked with Radiation Free Lakeland to oppose the opening of a new coal mine that’s very close to the Sellafield nuclear power station and its huge stocks of radioactive waste.

Rochdale and Littleborough Peace Group members were almost blown skywards in their nuclear waste costumes at a demonstration at Capenhurst. The group has had letters printed in the national press on nuclear power.

Derby CND arranged a well-attended talk on the link between the civil and military nuclear industries.
NUCLEAR WASTE was the main focus of our activity in the first half of 2019, in response to the Welsh government’s consultation on an underground nuclear waste dump, or a Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) as the authorities like to call it. Planned face-to-face consultation meetings in Swansea and Llandudno were cancelled and replaced by webinars because ‘too many’ people registered to attend!

We also asked county, city, town and community councils in Wales to state that they would oppose any plans to site a GDF in their area – and we included the list of those 82 councils in our submission to the consultation.

We are still waiting for the report on the GDF consultation, the decision on the Wylfa nuclear power station planning application (now delayed until March 2020), and for EDF’s new application for a licence to dump more mud from Hinkley Point into Cardiff Bay.

At the Eisteddfod, and for most of the second half of the year, we’ve been trying to increase knowledge of, and support for, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). We succeeded in getting six further Welsh Assembly Members and another MP to sign the ICAN Parliamentary Pledge supporting the treaty. We showed the new film ‘The Beginning of the End of Nuclear Weapons’ in the Welsh Assembly, and plan to show it across the country in 2020.

Four CND Cymru activists were amongst the ‘Burghfield 8’, arrested for closing the Atomic Weapons Establishment in 2018. After three separate court appearances, four were eventually found to have no case to answer, whilst the other four were found guilty of aggravated trespass, given conditional discharges with £795 costs each. Our crowdfund appeal was very successful, raising enough to cover all those costs in about ten days.

We are planning a nuclear waste speaking tour for 2020, as well as activities to mark the 75th anniversary of the Hiroshima bombing, and – hopefully – the entry into force of the TPNW.
Scottish CND

One of our main areas of work has been a People not Trident campaign. This campaign argues the case that money currently spent on Trident should be diverted into areas such as health, education and dealing with climate change. The People not Trident campaign has used street stalls, leaflets and social media to put its messages across.

Scottish CND has also continued to work with ICAN partners to support the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). Our main work involves helping to raise awareness about the importance of this treaty through public events and lobbying politicians.

Scottish CND also continues to support and provide organisational support to the Scottish Nuclear Disarmament Cross Party Group. We are also represented at Nuclear-Free Local Authority Network meetings.

We play a part in a number of Scottish Peace movement networks such as the Don’t Bank on the Bomb Network Scotland, the Scottish Peace Network, No to War/ No to NATO network Scotland, Scottish CND Trade Union Network and the charity Peace Education Scotland.

The Heritage Lottery-funded Peace of History exhibition has now toured a number of venues across Scotland. This exhibition chronicles the history of Scottish CND and the wider Scottish Peace Movement over the last 60 years and has been very well received by our supporters and the general public. Check it out here: www.banthebomb.org/history

2019 has also been a year when a number of a Scottish CND reports and pamphlets on issues such as NATO have been updated. These resources are available via our website or through making contact with our office.

Given the state of today’s world, Scottish CND are needed now more than ever.
Parliament and parties

WORKING to oppose nuclear weapons in parliament has been a big challenge this year with MPs largely focused on other issues, not to mention the much-anticipated general election which was eventually called for December 12th. Nevertheless, we have worked with Parliamentary CND to raise questions and Early Day Motions to hold the government to account.

The government was forced to admit that work on manufacturing new Astute-class submarines is running significantly behind schedule, meaning there could be further delays to the Trident replacement programme. Evidence given by the Secretary of State for Defence, Ben Wallace, to the Defence Select Committee stated that it will be at least January 2021 before the new boats enter into service, pushed back from August 2019.

On the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, CND – along with representatives from the United Nations Association, the Quakers, Pax Christi and Stop the War, handed in a letter to the Prime Minister at 10 Downing Street. We reminded the government of its responsibility to honour the UK’s commitment to abolishing nuclear weapons and called on it to sign the United Nations’ historic Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

We had a strong presence at the Labour Party conference, at which we welcomed a new poll in The Times newspaper showing that 70% of party members backed scrapping Trident. Our fringe event ‘Securing our survival: nuclear disarmament in a time of crisis’ was extremely popular.

We also held a ‘policy lab’ event at The World Transformed festival, running alongside the conference. Labour is committed to nuclear power against all the evidence, so our very well-attended event aimed to come up with an alternative non-nuclear energy policy to submit to the party. There was great enthusiasm for this project and there were many in-depth contributions from party members and our panel of expert speakers.

Thanks to GMDCND we had a strong Stop Trident presence on the demonstration at the Conservative Party conference in Manchester.

This magazine went to print on the day of the election and so the result is unknown as we write. But we worked hard during the campaign to ensure that Trident was not ignored in the debate. We launched a new lobbying tool, enabling our members and supporters to find out the views of candidates and vote according to candidates’ stance on nuclear weapons.
Peace Education

THIS YEAR has been a record-breaking year for CND’s Peace Education programme. Over the 2018-2019 academic year we delivered more sessions than ever before, and worked with over 7,500 students in schools and colleges across England. 450 trainee teachers received our training in Teaching Controversial Issues. Our sessions have been almost universally well received, with 88% of students, 94% of teachers, and 99% of trainee teachers rating our sessions as either ‘extremely good’ or ‘good’. We also saw continued interest in our free teaching materials, and celebrated reaching 100,000 downloads of our resources on the Times Educational Supplement’s website.

We are delighted that our award-winning teaching pack Truman on Trial received the Association for Citizenship Teaching’s Quality Mark in May, joining our other packs, Under Pressure and The Bomb Factor in gaining the award for its high quality. We also enjoyed speaking to delegates at the National Education Union conference, where hundreds of our free teaching packs were distributed.

Our new pack Critical Mass: Lessons on gender, race and nuclear weapons was published in November after a year of research, development and preparation. It features five cross-curricular lessons exploring topics often considered at the ‘margins’ of nuclear weapons debates, from the art of atomic bomb survivors, to communities affected by uranium mining, and Greenham Common Women’s Peace Camp. (Find out more at http://bit.ly/CNDCriticalMass)

In other news, we re-started the CND Peace Education blog this year. The school speaker network continues to grow and flourish. We came together for a training day in Manchester, with the aim to share best practice, particularly around student engagement. The day also saw volunteer school speakers introduced to workshops from our most recent teaching pack.

We are looking forward to a busy 2020 and hope to build on the success of the past year. If you would like to stay up to date on what we get up to, please follow us on Twitter: @CNDPeaceEd.
Fundraising

From long-term members to brand new ones – including those who signed up at this year’s Glastonbury – thank you so much for supporting CND in 2019. The campaign has had a very busy and active year, and none of this would have been possible without you. Thank you for being part of this large, committed network of people, standing up for a world free from nuclear weapons.

What you’ve helped achieve this year
CND members and supporters fully funded a full-page newspaper advert in January urging the government to support the critical INF treaty between the USA and Russia. In September we launched a bus advert campaign in Manchester, funded by you, to coincide with the Conservative Party conference, taking a crucial anti-Trident message to the heart of the establishment.

In the Spring, with your support we were able to help local groups launch our Global Dangers speaking tour, taking discussion of and opposition to the new nuclear dangers facing the world to a wide audience. Our supporters and members also helped us stage a widely-publicised ‘die-in’ at Westminster Abbey, protesting against the decision to hold a thanksgiving service there for Britain’s nuclear weapons.

Thanks to your help, we were also able to take part in massive protests against Donald Trump’s state visit in the summer and his presence at the NATO Heads of State and Government meeting in December. As the year drew to a close with a snap general election announcement, our members and supporters helped us make Trident impossible to ignore as an election issue. None of these hard-hitting actions would have been possible without your support, so thank you.

Continuing your support in 2020
2020 is set to be a critical year for the campaign. In addition to our continued lobbying to see Trident scrapped, we will be attending the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference in New York in April, and working hard on getting the UK government to live up to its disarmament obligations under the treaty. If you want to help, please donate at cnduk.org/NPTAdvert. Any amount makes a difference.

To help support our work in the long term, please consider switching your membership payments to direct debit, if you haven’t already. This saves us time and money, leaving us more of both to spend on campaigning to get rid of nuclear weapons.

Lastly, we are incredibly grateful to everyone who has pledged a gift in their Will to CND. By doing the same, you can extend your support for the campaign, potentially for decades. To discuss how to do this, please call 020 7700 2393 or email legacies@cnduk.org.

Once again, a massive thank you for being part of the campaign, we could not do it without your support.
At the end of 2018, Trump announced his intention to withdraw the US from the 1987 Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces treaty. We began a 60-day campaign to save it. We regularly featured in the media commenting on the story.

In January 2019, Hitachi indicated it would withdraw from the Wylfa Newydd nuclear plant. We responded: ‘The government’s nuclear energy policy is in tatters. Hitachi appears to have reached the same conclusion as Toshiba, who withdrew from the Moorside plant, that new nuclear isn’t economically viable.’

Later we heard the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists had kept the Doomsday Clock at two minutes to midnight. We said: ‘With Trump’s expected withdrawal from the INF treaty, it sadly comes as no surprise.’

From an exposure point of view, the thanksgiving service for nuclear weapons at Westminster Abbey was the shameful ‘highlight’ of the year. Our condemnation of this ‘morally repugnant’ service was carried on the front page of The Times, BBC News and in a very large number of other media outlets both in Britain and internationally.

We told the media, ‘This service sends out a terrible message about our country. It says that here in Britain we celebrate weapons – in a place of worship – that can kill millions of people.’

When church authorities decided to go ahead with the service, we told the press about 200 Anglican clerics who condemned the service. We also set up op-eds in the New Statesman, Politics Home and Huffington Post for some of the clerics and MPs to express their views.

The Bishop of Colchester’s article was headlined in The Telegraph as a ‘public spat between bishop and dean over Westminster Abbey’s nuclear deterrent commemoration’.

We welcomed good news during Labour Party conference in September. A new poll showed that 70% of Labour Party members support getting rid of Trident.

During the general election, we hit a record on social media. A video we posted condemning the Lib Dem leader for her glib ‘yes’ response to pressing the nuclear button was viewed over one million times. It highlights the very large number of people who agree with us.

Finally, CND achieved a great deal of media exposure during two Trump visits because of our involvement in the protests. In June we highlighted Trump’s nuclear arms race and in December we highlighted the dangerous role of NATO.
At the time of writing we’re about to find out the result of the general election. Nuclear weapons featured heavily in the campaign debates with the media seemingly hell-bent on reducing our national security to a ‘will they/won’t they press the button?’ game of bluff. The idea seemed to be that you have to be willing to kill millions of innocent people to be fit to be prime minister of this country!

This discourse showed the urgent need to have a genuine debate about nuclear weapons, what they are and what their use would mean. We also need politicians to realise that nuclear weapons are not something to posture wildly about – they are indeed weapons of mass destruction. The truth is that there is much ignorance out there about nuclear weapons, as well as wilful posturing and rhetoric for effect. CND took the opportunity of the general election to engage with candidates on the topic. But we must continue this engagement into 2020 and beyond.

It’s down to us, as campaigners for a world without nuclear weapons, to have those conversations with our neighbours, colleagues, friends and family. CND has numerous resources full of facts and arguments against nuclear weapons. We can use these as a basis for discussion, including within more formal settings such as our local trade union branches and within other community groups. We can even try and recruit our friends as CND members! The stronger we are as an organisation, the more we can achieve.

As well as talking about why replacing Trident is a bad idea – the £205 billion cost, the fact that it doesn’t address our real security needs, its purpose of killing millions of innocent civilians – we also have good news to share.

Most of the world is with us. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons – or nuclear ban treaty – is expected to enter into force in 2020 and we’re challenging towns and cities across the UK to become nuclear ban communities to show their support. Paris, Berlin, Washington and Manchester have all already adopted motions declaring their support, along with many others. Who is next?

Together, we can – and will – change minds. And change the world!

Manchester – the first city in the UK to back the nuclear ban treaty
CND personnel

**Officers:** Chair Dave Webb; Vice-Chairs Daniel Blaney, Carol Turner, Tom Unterrainer; Treasurer Linda Hugl; General Secretary Kate Hudson

**Vice-Presidents:** Pat Arrowsmith, Jeremy Corbyn MP, John Cox, Dr Ian Fairlie, Rebecca Johnson, Bruce Kent, Caroline Lucas MP, Alice Mahon, Canon Paul Oestreich

**CND National Council:** Directly elected: Adam Beese, Sophie Bolt, Jenny Clegg, Roslyn Cook, David Cullen, Tom Cuthbert, Rik Garfit-Motttram, Philip Gilligan, Hannah Kemp-Welch, Ellie Kinney, Anna Liddle, Rachel McGrath, Julie Ward, Rebecca Warren, Katy West. Nations, regions and areas: CND Cymru – Sonia Klein, Duncan Rees, Linda Rogers; East Midlands – Diane Lunzer, Lesley Mathews; Kent Area CND – Geoff Meaden; London Region – Gini Bevan, David Leal; North West (Greater Manchester) – Gerard Collier; North West (Merseyside) – Barbara Hardcastle; North West (South Cheshire & North Staffordshire) – Jason Hill; Northern (Cumbria and Lancashire) – Irene Sanderson; Scottish CND – Gordon Dickson, Janet Fenton, Lynn Jamieson; South West (Exeter) – Tom Milburn; South West (Cornwall) – Tony Staunton; South West (Plymouth) – Michal Lovejoy; Southern (Oxford) – Nigel Day; West Midlands – Gillian Cox; Yorkshire – Colin Archer, Hugh Hubbard. Specialist sections: Youth and Student CND – Amber Goneni; Labour CND – Barbara White; Green CND – Amelia Womack; Christian CND – Kelvin Gascoyne.

**Staff** at Holloway Road – General Secretary Kate Hudson; Campaigns Officer (Research and Information) Sara Medi Jones; Campaigns Officer (Parliamentary) (until July 2019) Amy Keegan; Campaigns Officer (Parliamentary) (from September 2019) Rachel Earlington; Press and Communications Officer Ian Chamberlain; Supporter Database Manager Kirsty Stewart; Finance Officer Eve Cuthbert; Fundraising Officer John Asquith; Membership and Fundraising Assistant (until August 2019) Scarlett Gurnham; Designer Sue Longbottom; Peace Education Officer (until August 2019) Owen Everett; Peace Education Worker (until August 2019) / Peace Education Officer (from September 2019) Joe Jukes; Office Manager Rob Wells.

National, regional and specialist section – CND Cymru Jill Gough, Brian Jones, Phil Steele; Scottish CND Cristina Albert, Emma Cockburn, Flavia Tudoreanu; Greater Manchester Jacqui Burke, Andrew Gibson; London Region Hannah Kemp-Welch; Yorkshire Catherine Bann, Matt Fawcett; Christian CND Claire Poyner, Russell Whiting.

**Volunteers** at Holloway Road Maddie Benderschi, Luba Mumford, Jade Owens, Jaynell Park.

**Peace Education Assistant** Magda Gruszczynska

In addition, the Peace Education team would also like to thank all School Speakers for their fantastic work.

While we sadly lost dear friends and long-time National Council members Peter Le Mare, Jim Taggart and Walter Wolfgang this year, we will remember the times we campaigned together fondly and with thanks. In their names, the fight goes on.
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Peace Camps

Aldermaston
Women’s Peace Camp
Second weekend of every month. 07946 676761
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Faslane Peace Camp
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Menwith Hill
The weekly vigil is now switching days – please contact Sarah for
details: 01765 600928 or
swift64@gmail.com
Recruit a member

CND provides a voice to the millions of people who want a world free from nuclear weapons. Our campaigning is made possible entirely thanks to the support of members like you.

However, we urgently need more members so we can continue to be able to campaign effectively in the coming years, particularly with so many challenges ahead.

If you can, please encourage your friends, colleagues, relatives and even complete strangers to join CND. The greater our numbers, the louder our voice and the bigger our impact will be.

Please encourage them to sign up at cnduk.org/join. Alternatively, if you’d like to order membership leaflets, you can do so by calling the office on 020 7700 2393.

When there is so much to do, every single member counts. Every member who signs up makes a real difference. Together, nuclear disarmament is possible!