

CAMPAIGN

February 2025 The magazine of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament



The need to protest has never been greater

In January, CND Vice-President Kate Hudson spoke to a packed meeting of the Palestine coalition, of which CND is a member. Here is an extract.

As we defend our right to protest, at the heart of our message is our continuing solidarity with the Palestinian people in their struggle for justice and sovereignty.

It is to end the genocide that we have taken to the streets, campaigned and lobbied, for over 15 months. Far from the

genocide being over, Israel is intensifying its violence against the Palestinians in the West Bank; it has shifted its focus from Gaza to Jenin. And there can be no doubt of their intention to shift their onslaught back to Gaza. We must step up our work to prevent that.



Campaign
for Nuclear
Disarmament

020 7700 2393
enquiries@cnduk.org
cnduk.org

162 Holloway Rd
London
N7 8DQ

Our work is not over, nor will it ever be until Palestine is free.

Protest is central to the democratic process. Many of the greatest achievements in our history, the expansion of our rights, the overturning of unjust laws, the defence of our peoples, have come through protest, through collective action for change.

And now is the time to step up that protest. Our movement for Palestine is under attack, and we are not alone. The attacks on the climate movement are deeply shocking, the sentencing draconian. And these are the people who are taking action to save our planet, to ensure a future for all forms of life. And what does our government do instead? It's sabotaging the climate and nature bill, destroying the lives and livelihoods of untold numbers. And Labour MPs have been ordered to sink the bill.

But it's not the climate and nature bill that needs to be sunk. It's the Public Order Act.

This Act, as Amnesty has rightly stated, "has ushered in a dark new era for protest rights in the UK. The police have, in effect,

been given licence to close down almost any protest they wish."

And we are now seeing this unfolding.

In a world where the far right has risen exponentially, and the second Trump term is bringing ever-greater abuses, the need to protest has never been greater. We will not be prevented from defending our communities, from exercising our humanity.

The record of the peace movement in Britain is a brave and principled one. We are proud to stand in the tradition of Aldermaston and Greenham, with the hundreds of thousands who have mobilised against nuclear weapons, and the scourge of war, whether in Vietnam, Yugoslavia, Iraq or Palestine.

The attacks on our movement are part of a drift towards authoritarianism. And it won't stop here. They will come for the trade union movement, for disabled people, for people on benefits.

We need to unite in an unstoppable movement. We will protest together, and we will not be defeated.

Spotlight

This month: Wimbledon Disarmament Coalition/CND



Campaigning requires adapting to the times we live in so that we can best communicate our goals to the general population. It occasionally requires us to re-think how we work, and CND groups across the country have adapted many times over the years. To help with this work, Wimbledon Disarmament Coalition/CND has created a group development plan with lots of new ideas for how a CND group can reach out to their communities. They are happy to share a draft with anyone who is interested so please get in touch: information@cnduk.org

And if you live in Wimbledon, why not get involved with the local campaigning! Get in touch with Wimbledon Disarmament Coalition/CND: info@wdc-cnd.org.uk.

JOIN OUR PEACE CAMP THIS APRIL!

With US nuclear weapons on their way to, or possibly having already arrived at, RAF Lakenheath, Zareen Taj from Lakenheath Alliance for Peace invites you to join the protests.

Lakenheath Alliance for Peace (LAP) invites you to participate in our Peace Camp from April 14th to Saturday 26th. Come meet activists from all over Europe, Japan and South Korea in a space created to push back against the threat that nuclear weapons pose to our global society.

RAF Lakenheath in Suffolk is a base run by the US Air Force. The plan is to site B61-12 nuclear bombs here, which we believe may already have arrived. The F-35 bombers are definitely already at the base, ready to deliver the bombs. These deadly aircraft are also polluting our skies, both with noise and by using 22 gallons of fuel every minute.

LAP has a full programme of events for you to participate in during the camp which can be found on our website – www.LakenheathAllianceforPeace.org.uk. There will be a campsite near Mildenhall which will cater for those who are not camping at the base itself. We will provide training in non-violent direct action as well as workshops and special events including Climate Day on Friday 18th, War Crimes and Genocide Day on Monday 21st and our International Peace Conference on Thursday 24th April.

During the two weeks, there will be chances to join protest choirs, street theatre and leafletting in the local area. Talks from activists will cover topics such



as anti-militarisation, the peace movement in Korea, drones, and the arms trade. Crucially we have planned a Blockade for Saturday 26th April and briefings for this will be held on the previous day.

LAP is now a coalition of over 45 groups ranging from local CND and anti-war groups to international peace organisations. Our July 2024 Peace Camp was a fantastic endeavour that brought us together to campaign against the threat of nukes in Suffolk, strengthening the international movement at the same time. So get in touch, share your skills and join us this time! We need as many people as possible to come along to make the action a success.

■ Contact lap@gn.apc.org

Faringdon Peace Group film night 5 February

Catholic Church Hall,
9 Marlborough Street,
Faringdon SN7 7JL

■ Contact
steve.jenny@hotmail.com

'Trump's Second Term' – Yorkshire CND public meeting

8 February 1pm-3pm
Tod College, Burnley Road,
Todmorden OL14 7BX

■ Contact
info@yorkshirecnd.org.uk

GCOMS UK AGM 2025

11 February 1pm-2pm
Online

■ To register contact
information@cnduk.org

'No US Nukes in Britain' – CND webinar 12 February

7pm-8:30pm. Online.

■ To register contact
information@cnduk.org

'Freedom for Palestine' national demo

15 February 12 noon
Assemble on Whitehall

■ Contact 020 7700 2393

'Trump's second term' – international webinar

18 February 6pm. Online.

■ To register contact
information@cnduk.org

West Midlands CND meeting

18 February 7:30pm. Online.

■ To register contact
wmcndall@gmail.com

'Lakenheath – another Greenham?' – Abingdon Peace Group meeting

18 February 8pm. Online.

Meet the staff

This month: Rachel Earlington – Parliamentary Officer

"While millions struggle with the cost of living, billions of pounds are being poured into the nuclear weapons programme, despite the well-documented issues with the current submarines. This year, CND will continue to scrutinise government spending, ensuring that the public is fully aware of the massive financial and moral costs of these weapons.



Engagement in Parliament can be challenging, but we're fortunate to have the support of many MPs who share our vision of a safer, more peaceful world. Together, we will continue to push for transparency, accountability, and a shift in priorities away from nuclear weapons and towards peacebuilding.

I'm truly excited to be working with you all at such a pivotal moment. I'm confident that, together, we can make a real difference in the year ahead. Here's to a successful and impactful 2025!"

■ To register contact
abingdonpeace@gmail.com

Lakenheath Alliance for Peace vigil 22 February

12 noon-2pm, Main Gate, RAF Lakenheath, Suffolk

■ Contact
vigils@lakenheathallianceforpeace.org.uk

'Reflections on Ukraine' – Scottish CND webinar

24 February 7pm. Online.

■ To register contact
scnd@banthebomb.org

Yorkshire CND strategy day

15 March 1pm-4pm
Quaker Meeting House, 188 Woodhouse Lane, Leeds

■ Contact
info@yorkshirecnd.org.uk

'Work for Peace' – demo at Barrow

22 March 12 noon-3pm
High level bridge over Devonshire Dock, Barrow-in-Furness

■ Contact
gilliganphilip@gmail.com