

MAIDENHEAD AND COOKHAM CND

January 2010

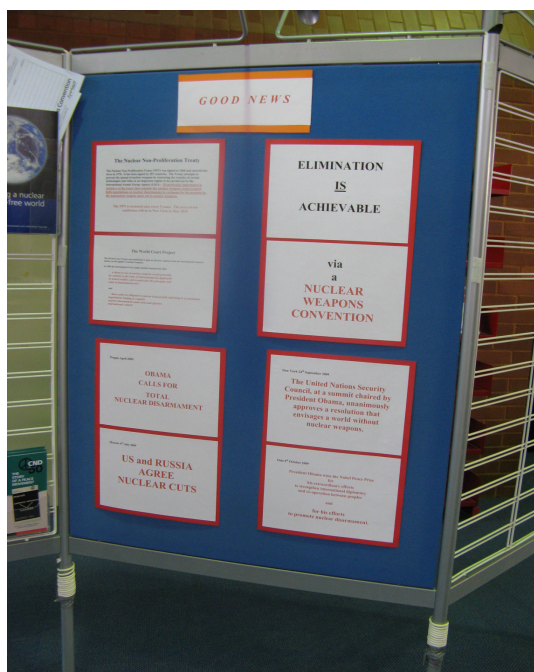
Dear members

A Happy New Year to everyone. We hope you all had a peaceful Christmas and a good break from whatever you normally do! Our only visible activity since our last newsletter was our exhibition in Maidenhead Library. We thought it looked quite effective, but unfortunately we had no feedback, so don't know if anyone else felt the same. Did any of you see it? We also wrote to West Berkshire Council against planning permission for further developments at Aldermaston. Related to this we will have a representative from the Aldermaston Women's Peace Camp(aign) coming to Southern Region's AGM on 6th March in Maidenhead They will talk to us about developments at Aldermaston, what the Peace Camp women actually do and what we could do to help. This year we also hope to have a concert in Lea Barn in aid of CND.

Norman DARLING: We are sad to report the death of Norman Darling from Cookham. Norman and his wife Cosie, have been long term CND members and have always been very supportive of our little group. Norman's funeral was on 18th January. Cosie requested that no flowers be sent, but that donations to CND would be very welcome.



Maidenhead Library Exhibition 16th to 28th November



One of our panels

Our exhibition took place as planned. As there had been several positive moves towards disarmament over the previous few weeks and months, we decided to divide our exhibition into two sections – Good News and Bad News. As we reported in the last newsletter, it was encouraging to see how much movement there has been globally/politically, even although it is mainly words at the moment. Even our own government is taking tentative steps in the right direction, although these steps are tiny. We need to give our politicians a great big push!

Maidenhead and Cookham CND AGM

The dates of our monthly meetings are on Page 4. February 15th is our AGM, when we will look back over the past year and assess what impact our small activities may have had and what we could do better in future years. At this meeting we also elect people to do various jobs during the coming year. As usual we would welcome fresh faces and talents. The upcoming renewal of Trident is such a big issue, we need all the help we can get to publicise what is happening on our doorstep. Aldermaston will play a big part in this renewal/replacement. Please help us to challenge this. See below.

Southern Region AGM Maidenhead Saturday 6th March 2010

This year the Southern Region AGM will be in Maidenhead on Saturday 6th March. All are welcome to come. In fact, we would really like to show hospitality to our guests from around the region by having lots of members there to welcome them. Southern Region is a large area and there will be members coming from as far afield as Portsmouth, Salisbury and the Oxford area. We therefore intend to offer them a snack lunch between 1 and 2 pm. This will be followed by a talk by one of the women from Aldermaston Women's Peace Camp(aign) who have dedicated themselves to keeping a presence at Aldermaston in spite of attempts to have them removed. Maidenhead is only about 25 miles from Aldermaston and we want to support these women as much as we can. The camp takes place once a month. It is women only at night but men are more than welcome during the day. The women do lots of campaigning while not in their camp. It would be great if we could give them an appreciative welcome and perhaps get some publicity for them in the Advertiser. The AGM proper will follow about 3.15 for anyone who wishes to stay. Please try to come to this event if you possibly can. It is always good to get together with others who are working towards the same ends as we are. If you do think you might come, could you please let Hilary (01628 522331) or Anna (01628 635339) know so that we have some idea of how much food to prepare.

TRIDENT REPLACEMENT and AWE ALDERMASTON

AWE Aldermaston has been at the centre of the UK's nuclear weapons production since 1950. From 1958 onwards, under the Mutual Defence Agreement, the UK and the US agreed to exchange information on "atomic weapon design, development and fabrication capability". Since then all of the UK's nuclear weapons have been designed, tested and built (in collaboration with the US) at Aldermaston. The warheads for the current Trident system were built at Aldermaston, are refurbished at AWE Burghfield and transported along our roads between there and Faslane. Since 2002, the government has invested in building new facilities at AWE, and recruited new staff to test, design and build the next generation of nuclear warheads. Aldermaston Women's Peace Camp(aign) will give us much more information on this at our AGM on 6th March (see above). Please come along!



When Parliament voted in March 2007 to replace the current Trident system, they only agreed to new submarines and missiles. They did not vote to replace the warheads. Since this vote, which only just got through, the government has continued to claim that a decision has not yet been made to replace the current warhead system. However, continued building work at Aldermaston and other evidence suggests that this decision **has** already been made.

An "Initial Gate" decision to move forward with the actual manufacture and production of the submarines, etc has been delayed by the government until after the Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty in May 2010. This decision has to be brought before Parliament, so we need to campaign very hard between now and then.



Diary Dates

February 15 th	Meeting: Halldore Corner, High Road, Cookham
February 15 th	Blockade of Aldermaston
March 1 st	Meeting: Salters, School Lane, Cookham
March 6 th	Southern Region AGM: Friends Meeting House, Maidenhead
April 12 th	Meeting: Papageno, Islet Road, Maidenhead
May 3 rd – 26 th	NPT Review Conference, New York
May 10 th	Meeting: Halldore Corner, High Road, Cookham
June 7 th	Meeting: Salters, School Lane, Cookham
July 5 th	Meeting: Papageno, Islet Road, Maidenhead

Please call one of the numbers below for confirmation of meeting venues as these may change.

Contact Telephone Numbers

Hilary	01628 522331
Joyce	01628 622060
Anna	01628 635339

National CND 0207 700 2393
 Email enquiries@cnduk.org
 Website www.cnduk.org

Maidenhead and Cookham CND website: www.cookham.com
 Then click on Clubs and Societies/Pressure Groups

.All present and future national activities are on National CND's website.

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