

ACTION for peace

The Newsletter for

YORKSHIRE CND

Issue 46
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DON'T EXPECT A WARM WELCOME!

BUSH COMES TO TOWN - 18th - 21st November

It isn't hard to come up with reasons to oppose the visit of George W Bush to the UK. Just a quick list of reasons might include:

- *The Iraq War*
- *Developing new nuclear weapons*
- *The Afghanistan War*
- *Creating a star wars system*
- *Taking no steps to disarm the nuclear arsenal*
- *The "War on terrorism"*
- *Demeaning the UN*
- *Developing space weaponry*
- *The "Axis of Evil"*
- *Killing off the Chemical Weapons convention*
- *Destroying the Biological weapons convention*
- *Crushing the Kyoto protocol*

and we might go on and on.

Just as we may oppose the visit of any war criminal to the country, so we can oppose this war criminal. And just as we may want to have our voices heard when the head of a dangerously destabilising and violent regime is on our soil, so we can make them heard when Bush visits.

We can have no doubt that as you read this, plans are being formulated to create a smooth running tour, with few mishaps and plenty of handshakes. You can be equally sure that groups across the country are planning to make their voices heard.

George W Bush will be staying in Buckingham palace during his time here and so will be welcomed with a planned blockade of the palace. During his



time in London he can expect a two public rallies, a day of Non-violent Direct Action, a cavalcade as an alternative state procession, protests, a demonstration in Trafalgar Square and even a trial (though whether he turns up is yet to be seen).

Across the country groups and individuals will be taking part in all sorts of imaginative actions and demonstrations. Bradford will be holding a rally on November 19th in Centenary Square. Sheffield plan an anti-Bush demonstration on 15th November. Leeds will host a protest, a 'Tribunal' and a Candlelit vigil 19th November and Hebden Bridge and York will be holding demonstrations too.

Bush may be just one of many in the current US administration that consider nuclear weapons, star wars systems, wars and the crushing of treaties to be a sensible way to run the world's most powerful country, but he is also the figurehead. His visit provides an opportunity to remind him of how unpopular his policies are, and how much hurt, unrest and destabilisation they are causing across the planet. To find out more about events in the Yorkshire area and to make your voice heard, contact Yorkshire CND or your local CND or Stop the War group.

Meanwhile, on a moor in North Yorkshire

Yorkshire CND joined other members of the Missile Defence Working Group at the Fylingdales Early Warning and Star Wars base for a guided tour and briefing by the base commander in October.

The base is due to be upgraded to work as part of the star wars system over 2004 and early 2005. George Bush plans to have an initial star wars system up and running by next year, although scientists and politicians in the USA are increasingly

concerned at the rate of development of the system, which is not being fully tested.

The destabilising threat of the system is still very much alive, as is UK support. With a US general saying recently "it will not be long before space becomes a battleground" Yorkshire CND will be increasing its efforts over the coming months, to test how far UK government really support goes.

new online membership facility



Yorkshire CND, in collaboration with Securegiving.co.uk, has set up a brand new, secure, online membership and donation facility on the website. If you're not yet a member of Yorkshire CND and you have a credit or debit card, you can join in a matter of minutes, with no postage costs to you and less admin for us. If you are already a member of Yorkshire CND, why not consider moving your membership to the online version. It's simple, secure and easier for everyone involved. The membership rates are the same online, and you won't get a reminder from us until your card expires. With no paperwork and no postage it's a hassle-free way to keep supporting Yorkshire CND.

What's more, the facility means you can also make one-off donations to Yorkshire CND and you'll soon be able to buy t-shirts, pens, badges and more online too. To find out more or join up, visit

www.yorkshirecnd.org.uk and click on the "Join" button

ON THE FRONT-LINES OF CONFLICT

Saturday 6th December 2003

@ Leeds Civic Hall, Leeds

Public meeting - Free and open to all

Yorkshire CND presents first-hand accounts of visits to two of the world's most infamous conflict zones

IRAQ - Mazin Younis

Mazin Younis is Iraqi born and living in Leeds, He has visited Iraq many times, most recently this Summer and has first hand experience of the people, the regimes and the atmosphere before and after war

PALESTINE - Rebecca Allen

Having spent 7 weeks in Palestine in July and August this year, Rebecca will offer an eyewitness account of the struggles and day to day life of the people of Palestine.

Plus, Yorkshire CND's AGM

A chance to have your say on Yorkshire CND's work over the past year, and where we should be going in the future. If you want to present a paper to the AGM, or nominate someone to stand for the a position on co-ord, the paperwork must be with the Yorkshire CND office by November 17th. For more information contact Yorkshire CND (details overleaf)



12pm - 1pm
Yorkshire CND AGM

1pm - 1.30pm
Lunch (Bring something to share)

1.30pm - 3pm
ON THE FRONT LINES OF CONFLICT

Keep space for peace



Saturday 11th October was the last day of 2003's international Keep Space for Peace week and Yorkshire and CAAB held a demonstration at Menwith Hill - Yorkshire's home to espionage, star wars and US militarism - to mark the occasion. Around 160 people came along, many dressed as "celestial bodies" to hear speeches from Dave Webb and Chris Davies MEP, enjoy the music of Sheffield Samba Band, take part in a dumpling workshop by Steve Hill and munch on veggies delicious food.

For once, the tour around the base made it from start to finish without being turned back and those that took part were given a proper guided tour by two of the leading experts on the base - Yorkshire CND's Dave Webb and CAAB's Lindis Percy. The demonstration came just days before the Chinese put their first man in to space. As soon as they did the debate started about the real moives for the conquest. China will be the USA's peer competitor in a decade or two's time. The panic is starting now and the US is keen to secure space before the Chinese can put a stop to the dream of "full spectrum dominance". *Opposition to space weapons and star wars has never been more important.*

Which is why it's good news that, throughout Keep Space for Peace week, there were around 170 events across the globe, including many in the USA. In Britain, there were demonstrations at Molesworth, Croughton, Lakenheath and Devonport as well as Menwith Hill. Watch this space for a special mass demonstration planned at the base for next March!



As ever, North Yorkshire police turn up in numbers to support the event

together for peace

From 4th - 16th November Leeds is hosting a city-wide peace festival to examine the causes of conflict and search for solutions. With scores of events happening across the city it will be a true celebration of peace, and the ways we strive to achieve it. The programme includes films showings, talks,

performaces, music, vigils, demonstrations, exhibitions and even a mock UN General Assembly. Find out more and get hold of a programme at www.togetherforpeace.co.uk by calling or 0113 2751047



Benefit gigs

Over the past couple of yearsm many Yorkshire CND supporters have organised benefits for Yorkshire CND and they have been both highly successul and hugely appreciated. We would like to build on this by producing a planned programme of CND benefits / gigs around the region for 2004 - ideally with the help of supporters. If you think you might be able to book a local venue, secure performers (or perform yourself), organise sound systems, distribute publicity or even put the whole event on yourself please fill in this form and send it back to us, or contact Denise Cragill on 01274 730795 or denise@yorkshirecnd.org.uk

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

I can help by (please tick):

booking a local venue

securing performers

organising sound systems

Distribute publicity

other(please state below)

Please call me to discuss this further

CONTACT YORKSHIRE CND:

Telephone: 01274 730795 fax: 01274 414413 Write to: 22 Edmund Street, Bradford, BD5 0BH
E-mail: information@yorkshirecnd.org.uk Visit: www.yorkshirecnd.org.uk

DIARY

- For a regularly updated diary of peace events in the UK, see www.networkforpeace.org.uk/events.htm
- For an online peace events calendar for Yorkshire, visit <http://my.calendars.net/yorkspeace>
- To find out about campaign events happening in Northern England or to advertise your own events, join up to the Action North e-mail list - send an e-mail to action-north-subscribe@yahoo.com

NOVEMBER

- 1 Friends meeting for worship @ Fylingdales - more info 01482 327574
- 7 LEON ROSSELSON at 9pm, 1 in 12 Club, 21-23 Albion Street, Bradford (tel. 01274734160)
- 9 EVERYWHERE. International Day Against The Wall – groups around the world are protesting against the wall being built across Palestinian communities.
- 4 - 16 Leeds Together for peace festival - see inside for details
- 18 LONDON. Public rally in Friends Meeting House, Euston Road, London Tony Benn, George Galloway and more
- 19 Protests in Leeds about George Bush visit 'Tribunal' at Leeds City Art Gallery @ 12.30, Candlelit vigil Dortmund Square 5pm onwards
- 19 Day of Non-violent Direct Action (NVDA). Cavalcade with cyclists, taxi drivers, scooter clubs etc following open carriage as alternative state procession.
- 20 LONDON. Anti-Bush rally, Trafalgar Square. Details: CND, 020 7700 2393 or
- 21 7.30pm The White Lion in Hebden Bridge, Calderdale Against the War special meeting to discuss Bush visit
- 28 28th November Chapel Allerton Against the War Iraq; what now? A meeting to discuss concerns about Iraq with MP Fabian Hamilton @ Unit 8 Tech North, 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm

DECEMBER

- 6 KETTERING. Advent: Time of Hope, Time of Peace, 10.30 - 5.00pm @ The Eirene Centre, Clopton, Nr. Kettering Cost: £5.00. FoR 01832 720257 or fellowship@gn.apc.org.
- 6 Friends meeting for worship @ Menwith Hill - more info 01943 466405
- 13 – 15 MENWITH HILL. Women's Peace Camp and Blockade. Contact Helen John on 01943 458 593

REGULAR

- Every Tues Demonstration at Menwith Hill main gate - 6pm - 8pm. Organised by CAAB : caab@btclick.com or 01943 466405
- 3rd w/end of month Menwith Hill Women's peace camp at layby on A59: Fri evening - Sunday afternoon - women only, all women welcome. Contact Helen John on 01943 468593

join yorkshire CND

Name

Address.....

Postcode.....

Tel. no..... E-mail.....

PAY BY STANDING ORDER

Monthly Standing Order: Please pay Yorkshire CND £ _____ each month, starting on _____ until further notice.

OR Annual Standing Order: Please pay Yorkshire CND £ _____ each year, starting on _____ until further notice.

Name of my bank _____

Address of my bank _____ Postcode _____

My account number _____

Sort Code _____ - _____ - _____

Signature _____ Date _____ / _____ / _____

To your bank: please pay the sum indicated to Yorkshire CND, Giro Bank Account No. 55839607, Sort Code 72-00-06

OR PAY BY CHEQUE OR POSTAL ORDER

Membership rates (please tick)

* Household = £9 _____ * Individual = £6 _____ * Pensioner / Youth (under 23) / Unwaged / Student = £3 _____

* I enclose an additional donation of £..... to help Yorkshire CND campaigns

**Please complete this form, make any cheque payable to Yorkshire CND and send it to:
Yorkshire CND, FREEPOST BD2869, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD5 7BR.**