

FARINGDON PEACE GROUP NEWSLETTER – SUMMER 2011

www.faringdonpeacegroup.org.uk



30TH GRAND PEACE FETE 2ND JULY, 2.00-5.00PM, CLOCK HOUSE COLESHILL

Yes, it's that time of year again and this year is very special as it's the 30th Grand Peace Fete! Hopefully you all have the date in your diaries and have already offered help of some sort. If not, it's still not too late. If you could relieve a stall holder for an hour or so or do a bit of washing up etc. we'd love to hear from you. We also need to make sure we have something to sell on our stalls so please see below things that you can be making, baking, growing or collecting together. You can drop them off (not white elephant) at 7, Leamington Drive, Faringdon, SN7 7JZ in advance, or we can arrange collection if you are unable to come on the day.

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR STALLS:

Please provide what you can from the following to go on the Faringdon Peace Group stalls:

- **White elephant (not jumble)**
- **Plants - indoor and outdoor, flowers, shrubs and veg.**
- **Jams, chutneys and preserves**
- **Bottles - alcoholic or otherwise, big or small**
- **Cakes for teas - buy homemade from Country Market, Friday mornings in Corn Exchange, if you can't make your own**
- **Raffle/tombola prizes**
- **Books**

Everything but white elephant can be collected, or dropped off at 7, Leamington Drive, Faringdon. Please phone or email to arrange (see below). It would be useful to have bottles and tombola prizes in advance.

HELP NEEDED:

Publicity – Print off a poster from the FPG website (www.faringdonpeacegroup.org) and put it up somewhere. Or print some A5 leaflets and hand them out to friends

Setting up – Friday evening from 7.00pm and Saturday from 10.00

Clearing up - After 5.00 on Saturday and also Sunday

Stalls - Relieving a stallholder for an hour or so

Teas - Preparing, serving, washing up

Raffle – Selling raffle tickets

CONTACT

Please contact Jennie: 01367-710308 or Sjoerd and Karen: 01367 241707 sjoerd@vogt.org.uk , karen@vogt.org.uk

FPG MEETINGS IN 2011

Meeting reports are always included on the 'clubs and societies' page in the 'Faringdon Folly' or you can read them online on

www.faringdonpeacegroup.org.uk .

February - THE UK/USA SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP: WHAT IS IT AND DO WE NEED IT?

**Peter Burt from the Nuclear
Information Service (NIS).**

NIS is a small NGO which researches into the British nuclear weapons programme and challenges some of the myths surrounding the issue. Peter described the three pillars of the UK/USA 'special relationship' as he saw it: nuclear weapons, access to military bases and intelligence sharing.

March - CLIMATE CHANGE – IS IT A PEACE ISSUE?

**Mark Levene, history lecturer, life-long
peace campaigner, and co-founder of 'Crisis
Forum'**

'Crisis Forum' is a group of disgruntled academics who want to look beyond their own disciplines at the bigger picture and analyse crisis and conflict in a more holistic way, helping others to apply global knowledge to local contexts.

April - JESUS AND NON-VIOLENCE

**Rev. David Platt, a local Anglican
minister and veteran peace campaigner with
Christian CND**

David spoke about Jesus' example of non-violent direct action and the parallels with today's peace activists and those like Desmond Tutu and Mo Mowlem who bring about forgiveness and reconciliation.

May - IRAN – FROM REVOLUTION TO RESISTANCE TO REVOLT

Alys Zaerin, a young Iranian living in London.

Alys had just returned from visiting family in Iran and spoke about the history of Western intervention in the country, recent uprisings and her faith in the young people of Iran to bring about reform.

June - 'GLOBAL POWER: HAS THE DEATH OF BIN LADEN SHIFTED THE BALANCE?'

Kate Hudson, General Secretary. CND

Although it would have been better to pursue Bin Laden after 9/11 rather than collectively punish Iraq and Afghanistan, Kate felt encouraged by the popular secular uprisings across the Middle East. She could not see an end to the 'War on Terror' and was watching with interest the emergence of China on the world stage.

FPG AND THE INTERVENTION IN LIBYA

At the February meeting we discussed the military intervention in Libya. Although sadly, as in all wars, innocent people were being killed, we agreed that a military solution was not the best one. Similarly to Iraq and Afghanistan, the motives are questionable and the exit strategy very unclear. Why Libya and not Bahrain for example? Was regime change the plan all along? The real evil behind it is the arms trade - it was pointed out that until a few months ago we were selling arms to Libya and continue to sell to other repressive regimes.

FPG held a vigil in the Market Place in February calling for the cessation of NATO air strikes. For more information about arms sales in the region and ideas for action, see www.caat.org.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat 18 June **Oxford UNA – Summer Garden Party** FMH St Giles

Tues 21 June

'Demand Zero Day'. Film on nuclear weapons at the 'Phoenix' Oxford. 6.30pm

Wed 22 June

Fete Planning mtg. 7.0pm Clock House. All welcome. (Please note change of date)

Sat. 2 July

Our 30th Annual Grand Peace Fete. 2.0pm Clock House, Coleshill, SN6 7PT Can you help, either before, during or after, or all 3. Please don't wait to be asked. Ring one of the numbers above.

Wed 6 July

DVD

Monthly Meeting 8.0pm

16th /17th July

'Bethlehem hidden from view' a thought-provoking account of an open-air prison. Well worth seeing.

Royal International Air Tattoo – Fairford. (BAe systems)

Pincic??? Vigil?? Posters??

Th 28 July -1 Aug

'Peace News' Summer Camp nr. Shrewsbury

<http://peacenewscamp.info/>

Sun 7 Aug

To commemorate Hiroshima and Nagasaki, **Lantern**

Floating on the Thames at Oxford. An event well-worth supporting.

Wed 7 Sept

Harry Verhoeven invited to speak on the situation in Central Africa.

Monthly meeting. TBC.

Tu 13 – Fr 16 Sep

DSEi (Defence and Security Equipment International Arms Fair

Protests by C.A.A.T.

www.caat.org.uk

Tues 13 Sept

Arura-Faringdon

Friendship Association

mtg, 7.30 Friends Meeting House, Lechlade Rd Faringdon

Sat 1 Oct

Demo at 'RAF' Croughton Org. by Ox Peace Campaign

All FPG meetings are in the Friends Meeting House, 4, Lechlade Rd. Faringdon, SN7 8AQ unless otherwise stated.