



# FARINGDON PEACE GROUP

**NEWSLETTER 36**

**JULY-AUG 2024**

"We hope for peace, we pray for peace, we work for peace".

## **FARINGDON PEACE GROUP CONTACTS**

including Speaker info, please contact

**Jennie 01367 710308**

**Karen 01367 241707**

**Dave 01367 240808**

For newsletter items [jennyridd@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jennyridd@yahoo.co.uk)

For the website links  
[faringdonpeacegroup.org.uk](http://faringdonpeacegroup.org.uk)

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## **NEXT MONTHLY MEETING**

WEDNESDAY 3rd JULY at 7.30pm

KATE HUDSON

General Secretary of CND

## **WORLD WAR OR WORLD PEACE**

Via Zoom

All are welcome.

NO MEETING IN AUGUST, but we will  
remember Hiroshima and Nagasaki

*And looking ahead to September..*

WEDNESDAY 4th SEPTEMBER at 7.30p.

GREENHAM WOMEN ARE EVERYWEHERE

Speaker: Ginnie Herbert

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## **PARTY IN THE GARDEN**

**SATURDAY JULY 6th**

At 19 Coxwell Road, Faringdon.  
from 12 midday



Please bring vegetarian food to share.

Tables, chairs, crockery, cutlery and protection  
from the sun(!) are provided.

There is disabled parking onsite, we are on the  
S6 bus route in both directions, and additional  
parking is available at the United Church car  
park just down the road. Sorry, no dogs

Everyone is welcome, so bring your friends.

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## **GENERAL ELECTION HUSTINGS**

For the Witney Constituency, which now  
includes Faringdon

**TUESDAY 25th JUNE**

**6.30 for 7pm start**

Faringdon Corn Exchange

Candidates:

Robert Courts - Conservative

Andrew Prosser -Green

Barry Ingleton - Independent

Antonio Weiss - Labour

Charlie Maynard - Liberal Democrat

Richard Langridge - Reform

Opportunity to meet the candidates  
informally from 9-10pm

Refreshments before and after

*Organised by Churches Together in Faringdon  
and Faringdon Peace group*

Contact Karen Vogt for details  
01367 241707

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## **FARINGDON FOLLY FEST**

Saturday and Sunday 13/14th July

Live music all day

United Service in the Market Place on Sunday

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## **Blessed are the weird**

If you're  
a poet, a misfit,  
a dreamer, a schemer,  
a rebel, a lover, a doer, a thinker

Please,  
for the love of the universe,  
don't change.

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Thank you to Karen who submitted this rather sad story

**Refaat Alareer** was a Palestinian writer, poet, professor, and activist, born in Gaza City in 1979 during the Israeli occupation, which he said had negatively influenced every move and decision he made.

He taught literature and creative writing at the Islamic University of Gaza and co-founded the organisation 'We are not Numbers' which matched experienced authors with young writers in Gaza and promoted the power of storytelling as a means of Palestinian resistance against the Israeli occupation.

On 6 December 2023, Alareer was killed by an Israeli airstrike in northern Gaza, along with his brother, sister, and four of his nephews. The Euro-Med Monitor released a statement saying that Alareer was apparently deliberately targeted, "surgically bombed out of the entire building". It came after weeks of "death threats that Refaat received online and by phone from Israeli accounts." On 26 April 2024, his eldest daughter and his newborn grandchild were killed by an Israeli airstrike on their Gaza City home.

He wrote this poem in 2011.

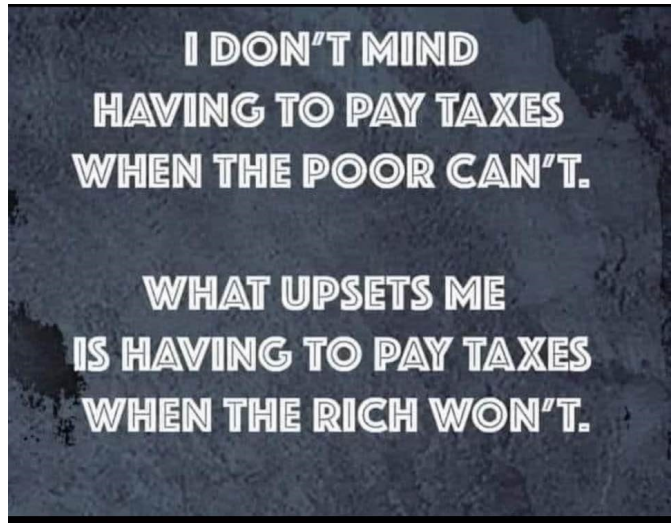
**If I must die**

If I must die,  
you must live  
to tell my story  
to sell my things  
to buy a piece of cloth  
and some strings,  
(make it white with a long tail)  
so that a child, somewhere in Gaza  
while looking heaven in the eye  
awaiting his dad who left in a blaze -  
and bid no one farewell  
not even to his flesh  
not even to himself -  
sees the kite, my kite you made,  
flying up above  
and thinks for a moment an angel is there  
bringing back love

If I must die  
let it bring hope  
let it be a tale.

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Please DO send your contributions for the next newsletter as soon as you like.  
Cut-off copy date 25th August



**A BIT ABOUT MAW**

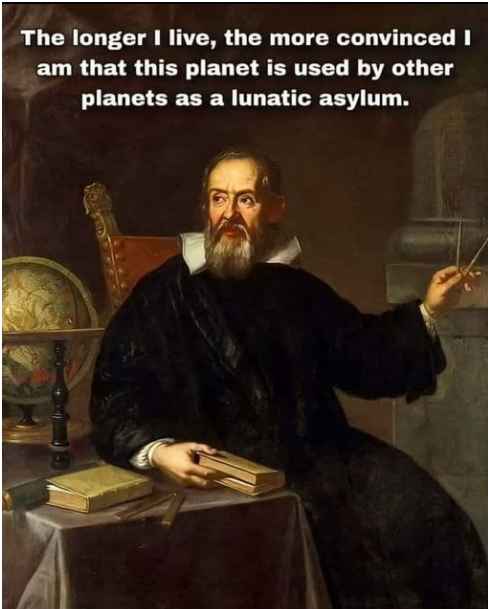
(Movement for the Abolition of War)

War has today become an industry which benefits the rich and powerful, while consuming the impoverished, deprived and marginalised, and inflicting devastation on the planet.

We need to make the connections more strongly – intellectually, politically and practically. The time is right, now, for dreams, for protest, and for radical change. The place is everywhere. Whoever we are, and wherever we live, it is up to all of us to change the political climate to a culture of peace.

MAW organises an Annual Remembrance lecture, supports regular Peace History conferences, and offers simple campaigning tools as well as a vast resource library of essays, reports and book reviews to help YOU get active. What are you waiting for?

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Faringdon Peace Group invites you to a

# Party in the Garden

**Saturday, 6th July, 12.00 - 4.00**

**19, Coxwell Road, Faringdon, SN7 7EB**

**Please bring vegetarian food and drink to share  
(cold and ready to eat main course, salad or dessert)**

**Tea, coffee and cakes for sale**

**A chance to renew friendships and make new ones, enjoy  
food, drink, music and sunshine together**

**With special guest Symon Hill**

**Peace songs from Didcot Red Kites, Ukes not Nukes & Rickety Nelson**

## **Getting there**

Please walk or cycle if you can, or take the bus:

Stagecoach S6 from Oxford or Swindon, opposite or adjoining Highworth Rd stop.

Very close to No. 19

Thames Travel 67 from Wantage via Stanford in the Vale, stops just before Fire Station

## **Parking**

Town Centre car parks for the most able, about half a mile walk, 2 hrs free with ticket

Faringdon United Church car park, Gravel Walk, SN7 7HA, third of a mile walk

No on street parking opposite No19

Drop off at No19. Limited disabled parking places. Phone Jenny to reserve.

## **Groups**

If you are a group who would like a stall – literature, information, displays only, no selling  
please contact Jenny, details below

**Sorry, no dogs**

**Free Entry but donations welcome, card or cash**

For more information contact Jenny Braithwaite: [jennyridd@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jennyridd@yahoo.co.uk) 01367-240929

**We look forward to seeing everyone**

*You are invited to*  
**Faringdon Peace Group's**

**PARTY IN  
THE GARDEN**

**on**

**Saturday 6th July from midday**

**at**

**19 Coxwell Road, Faringdon SN7 7EB**

Please bring vegetarian food and drink to share

Chairs, tables, crockery, cutlery, music and good company  
will all be provided. Sorry, no dogs

Disabled parking only, but arrangements for parking nearby.  
S6 bus both directions (Highworth Rd stop) stops almost outside

RSVP to [jennyridd@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jennyridd@yahoo.co.uk)