Over the next few months Scottish CND will be planning a programme which will involve street stalls and public meetings in towns across the country designed to spread the case for scrapping Trident and using the money saved for decent things such as health, education and jobs. We are asking our members to watch out for these local activities and take part when you can.

Scottish CND are also planning to have a presence at a number of trade union conferences and political party gatherings over the next few months. We start off this process with a stall at the EIS conference in early June.

In the run up to the referendum in 2014 there is a real opportunity for Scottish CND to highlight our case for scrapping Trident as well as the case for a worldwide ban on nuclear weapons - we must ensure that this opportunity is taken. There is now growing evidence from our public work at stalls and meetings that a significant number of the public are questioning the wisdom and humanity of investing money and resources in replacing Trident at a time when cuts in jobs, benefits and public services are being implemented. The recent Scrap Trident weekend of Activity was very successful in making the link between austerity and the scrap trident debate.

It is my clear view that making this link between the brutal austerity policies of the Government with their disgraceful intention of replacing Trident is a very effective way of adding to support for the peace movement in communities across the country.

Arthur West

April was a busy month for Scottish CND. Along with the Scrap Trident Coalition, we held a demonstration of 3,000 people on the streets of Glasgow followed two days later by a blockade of Faslane Naval Base. The theme - Scrap Trident, Fund Human Needs - struck a chord with the people of Scotland who are facing growing austerity and hardship at a time when billions are being squandered on weapons of mass destruction.

We also were heavily involved in hosting the Abolition 2000 Conference in Edinburgh, held fringe meetings at the STUC and Scottish Labour Party Conference and participated as an non-government organisation in the Non-Proliferation Treaty Prep-com in Geneva. All of these activities are reported in this issue of NFS.

CAMERON AT FASLANE

On 4th April David Cameron visited HMS Victorious at Faslane and the Thales factory in Glasgow who make periscopes for the submarines. He chose that moment to argue that there are two reasons why Britain needs to press ahead with Trident replacement. Firstly, because of the threatening noises that were then coming from North Korea and, secondly, because it supports thousands of defence jobs in Scotland.

But neither of these arguments are credible. North Korea’s threats were to the United States and South Korea - not Britain or any other country - at a time when these countries had been conducting a 2-month long series of joint military exercises in disputed waters off the coast of North Korea.

Moreover, there is great doubt about the ability of North Korea to launch a nuclear strike against anyone, far less a country thousands of miles away. It has no long range rocket capacity, dubious short and medium range capacity and almost certainly lacks the technology or know-how to weaponise a warhead.

Scottish CND, of course, opposes North Korean nuclear weapons as much as those of any other country, but it serves no useful purpose to exaggerate that threat or to engage in aggressive and provocative military exercises in such a sensitive region.

And the ‘thousands of jobs’ which David Cameron talked about actually amount to less than six hundred according to the answer to a parliamentary question from Defence Secretary Des Browne in 2009. For a procurement cost of at least £25bn, running costs of £2-3bn a year and a lifetime cost...
of £100bn this must be the most expensive job creation scheme in history. A fraction of the costs of Trident could generate many thousands of jobs in wave and tidal power generation with plenty left over to create new jobs in socially useful areas such as health, education and welfare.

NUCLEAR OR CONVENTIONAL?

Last month former armed forces minister Sir Nick Harvey described Trident as a 'fantastically expensive insurance policy' that no longer made sense. Around the same time the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) reported that by the early 2020s 'submarine deterrent spending is set to account for around 35% of the total core procurement budget' and will come at the expense of major conventional defence capability. The same month the New York Times published an article that suggested that US officials were quietly urging the UK government to drop its expensive plans for the Trident programme: ‘Either they can be a nuclear power and nothing else or a real military partner,’ a senior American official said.

Perhaps mindful of that article, at a recent meeting with his UK counterpart Philip Hammond, US Secretary of Defence Chuck Hagel went out of his way to identify with the UK government position on Trident: ‘I strongly support the UK decision to maintain an independent strategic deterrence’, he said.

So is the US defence establishment divided over Britain’s nuclear role or is it saying one thing in public and another in private? It’s anyone’s guess. But it does seem to question the long held assumption that the United States unreservedly supports the British Government policy to replace Trident.

DIARY FOR SUMMER-AUTUMN 2013

- Tue 25 June 1900 International Disarmament Prospects, Glasgow meeting
- August to 9 Sept – Mail the Peace – envelope competition entries
- 2-3 August Belladrum Festival, CND stall
- Tue 6 Aug Hiroshima anniversary: Glasgow – 1800 Botanic Gardens, walk to Kelvingrove
- Fri 9 Aug Nagasaki anniversary
- Fri 9 Aug 1830 SCND Peace Cruise, departing from Science Museum, Glasgow (see page 13)
- 26 Aug – 7 Sep Burghfield Disarmament Camp
- Sat 7 Sept SCANA Witness for Peace Faslane
- 14-18 Sept UK Lib Dem Conference Glasgow - leafleting
- Thu 19 Sept Scotland’s for Peace event, 5.30, Edinburgh, Scottish Parliament
- Sat 21 Sept - International Peace Day SCND Education Packs Launch
- Sat 26 Oct Deadline for resolutions and nominations for AGM
- Sat 16 Nov Deadline for amendments to resolutions to AGM
- Sat 23 Nov 1000 Scottish CND Annual Conference, St Columba’s by the Castle, Edinburgh.
DRONE WARFARE
Remote assassination now controlled from a UK airbase near you

In April this year, the Royal Air Force began operating unmanned aerial vehicles in Afghanistan from a base in the UK. Known as ‘drones’, these weapons attack targets thousands of miles away from where they are ‘piloted’. The RAF had previously been operating its drones from a US Air Force base in Nevada. In protest, the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, Stop the War Coalition, The Drone Campaign Network and War on Want arranged the first national anti-drone protest at RAF Waddington in Lincolnshire, where the drones are operated. Hundreds of people came along to express their opposition to a military development which is causing international concern.

Ever since drones were first used in Afghanistan in 2001, these remote killing machines have horrified many. The particularly disturbing characteristic of drones - chillingly named Predator and Reaper - is that the previously close-up act of assassination is conducted remotely, as if in a computer game. The danger is that those making the decisions become removed from the human element of a conflict. War becomes what it should never be – a routine exercise. The fact that drones do not require an on-board flight crew makes the operation less risky for the attacking force, both in terms of threat to human life and political risk for the government at war. Making the decision to kill a target, begin a war or prolong the violence is taken a step away from the war zone.

In the last 10 years, the UK and the United States have launched over 1,500 drone strikes in Afghanistan alone, on top of strikes in Pakistan, Yemen and Somalia. Countless innocent people have been killed in these strikes.

War Crime
The United Nations’ Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions has suggested that using drone raids for targeted killings may constitute a war crime. One of the reasons for this is that it involves the use of force on the territory of another state without its consent. This particular point is causing deep tension between the United States and Pakistan. A Pakistani Court has recently declared drone strikes to be illegal.

The US is by far the most prolific user of drones. After years of growing criticism of the US drone programme, President Barack Obama has spoken at length for the first time about his government’s drone programme, setting out the conditions under which the US administration believes it is acceptable to order a targeted killing. While no American can be killed on US soil ‘without due process’, he incredibly does not believe the same rights should be extended to Americans on foreign soil. As for non US nationals, the administration believes that it is acceptable to approve a strike on a designated target should no other ‘reasonable’ alternatives be available. In a recent speech, Obama claimed that drones are effective at fighting terrorists, while presumably ignoring the fact that innocent civilians are losing their lives. Pakistani sources believe that over the last three years, 700 civilians have been killed by drone strikes.

Extrajudicial Killings
The UN rapporteur praised Obama’s speech for setting out more clearly than ever before the legal justification for drone attacks. I do not feel reassured however, as one of Obama’s guidelines is that there should be ‘near-certainty’ of no civilians being killed. Not one innocent civilian should become a victim of
the US’ so-called ‘war on terror’. And this is the intrinsic problem with drones: targets - people - are killed without trial, without it being proved that they are guilty. In other words, these are extrajudicial killings. The rule of law and basic human rights should always be applied – anyone accused of crimes should face a trial, not an arbitrary execution. It is astounding that the British government is now expanding its drone programme with the minimum of public and parliamentary debate on their use. The UK will soon increase their squadron from five Reaper drones to 10. We must take action to bring this scandalous weapon to public attention. There will be more demonstrations and we have to make sure that our MPs are engaged on the issue. The government cannot make these decisions behind closed door. It’s time to end this barbaric form of high tech killing.

Sara Medi Jones
At a time like this you would expect international peace activists to gather in Scotland, and in April 2013 they did.

Edinburgh was the venue for the AGM of Abolition 2000, a network of over 2000 organisations in more than 90 countries worldwide working for a global treaty to eliminate nuclear weapons. We had participants from Germany, France, the Netherlands, Switzerland, USA, Canada, Austria, New Zealand, Australia, Slovenia and the Czech Republic.

Besides conducting the business of the AGM there was a social event in a pub at the Haymarket, a reception at Parliament, a bus trip to Faslane and a New Zealand Nuclear-free party.

The uniqueness of the Scottish situation, with nuclear weapons placed in a country where the people and parliament do not want them, was central to most of the discussions; as were the opportunities offered by campaigning in the forthcoming referendum.

The variety of events offered plenty of opportunity for Scottish activists to meet international visitors and exchange information. Scots saw how what we do at the gates of Faslane fits into the international picture while we were also able to explain the detail of the Scottish political situation to those coming from abroad.

The spirit of conference came over clearly in the meeting we had at parliament where a large number of parliamentarians, and supporters joined us. Speakers included Tadatoshi Akiba, a former Mayor of Hiroshima and Humza Yousaf, The Minister for External Affairs and International Development. Statements of support were read out from every country represented. It was clear that the world is watching us with interest and willing us onwards to a nuclear free status.

At the end of the week everyone enjoyed a bus trip to Faslane which was organised by SCND, picking up Scottish activists along the way. By the time we got to the peace camp to pick up a couple of residents as guides the bus was buzzing with conversation between locals and visitors.

We arrived at the North Gate at the same time as a shift change. Arrangements had been made for delivery of a declaration form the conference (see Abolition 2000 website for full declaration). To my surprise there was a lengthy session with the officer who came out to receive it when everyone who wanted to had a chance to speak to him. Many had their picture taken with him too. Once the shift change was over we were also offered a photo call across the main gate. Many of our delegates had never been to Faslane. The Americans expressed surprise at how small the entrance and the approach road are. By sheer good fortune we had the bus driver whose bus had blockaded the south gate earlier in the week. He took us on to the north side of the loch where we enjoyed a fantastic view down onto the base before taking a wee trip round the Coulport peninsula and returning to the peace camp for tea. The sun shone and a submarine was thoughtfully provided sailing up the loch as we passed.

Ex-Mayor Akiba of Hiroshima addressed the meeting at the Scottish Parliament
The week’s activities ended with the Kiwi Anti-nuclear party. The kiwis were determined to show us how its done and wore kilts to do so. We enjoyed birthday cakes (two birthdays!) singing, and a video about the how New Zealand became nuclear free. We saw footage of the struggle to end nuclear testing on nearby islands and protests against nuclear shops sailing into NZ harbours, followed by footage of a party to celebrate the nuclear free status. It was heartening to see how things can change and

I look forward to seeing a similar video in Scotland, celebrating our freedom form nuclear weapons and showing much younger versions of ourselves demonstrating for a Nuclear Free Scotland.

Many thanks to each one of the Scottish activists who helped it all run so smoothly.

Veronika Tudhope
www.abolition2000.org

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STUC FRINGE

Scottish CND held two successful fringe meetings in April at both the STUC and Labour Party conferences.

Our STUC Fringe meeting was a well attended event with people from a range of trade unions attending. The speakers at the meeting were Martin Keenan former STUC president and Alan MacKinnon former chair of Scottish CND.

Both speakers spoke about the implications for jobs if Trident was scrapped. During their contributions the speakers outlined quite clearly that there are a small number of civilian jobs which are dependant on Trident and that these are expensive to maintain.

However the really positive aspect of the meeting was the information which emerged from the speakers which showed that scrapping Trident would free up resources to create jobs in areas such as renewables, the care sector and education.

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LABOUR FRINGE

Following our meeting at the STUC we held a breakfast fringe meeting at the Scottish Labour Party Conference in Inverness. This meeting was addressed by Katy Clark MP and Jenny Marra MSP who both made first class contributions to the meeting.

Katy Clark spoke about some of the work going on at Westminster to counter the pro Trident replacement views of both the Conservatives and Labour Front bench teams. It was also good to welcome Jenny Marra MSP to the meeting who spoke about the need to argue the case against Trident replacement within the Labour Party. There was also a commitment from the meeting to look into re-activating Labour CND in Scotland as a means of raising the profile of the case against Trident replacement within the Labour Party.

Arthur West
In late April 2013 I attended the Non-Proliferation Treaty Preparatory Committee in Geneva. This is an annual event which reviews the progress made since the last Review Conference in May 2010.

Just to recap, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) was signed in 1970 as an attempt to halt the spread of nuclear weapons. The non-nuclear weapons states agreed not to acquire nuclear weapons and, in return, the existing nuclear weapons states (the US, Russia, Britain, France and China) agreed to enter serious negotiations with a view to getting rid of theirs. Generally speaking the non-nuclear weapons states have kept their side of the bargain while the nuclear weapons states have not. In the meantime a number of countries who did not sign the treaty - India, Pakistan and Israel - have since acquired nuclear weapons. North Korea withdrew from the treaty in 2003 and is now also believed to possess nuclear weapons. The NPT, therefore, has been largely successful in slowing, if not stopping, the spread of these weapons. But the central problem has been the failure of the nuclear weapons states to keep their promises and enter into a process leading to abolition.

The British representatives remind us that since 2010 they have been reducing the number of warheads from 225 to 180. Any reduction is welcome, but this is really a housekeeping exercise which involves getting rid of spare warheads. It has only marginally reduced the offensive capacity of the system. They emphasise a ‘pragmatic step-by-step process’ and the need for ‘confidence building’ and ‘transparency’. They criticise new forums such as the Oslo Conference which they cannot easily control. At the same time they are proceeding with their Trident renewal programme.

The US representatives read from the same script. They point to the New Start treaty between the US and Russia which reduced the numbers of warheads and launchers on each side to an agreed ceiling but remain silent on their massive modernisation programme (see page 10) which will increase their offensive threat and trigger a new round in the arms race. Instead of scrapping tactical nuclear weapons based in Europe as requested by the national parliaments of Germany, Holland and Belgium, they are planning to fit new guidance systems to enhance their accuracy. What credibility does either country have in calling for North Korea or Iran not to develop nuclear weapons, when Britain and the US are in clear breach of the spirit and letter of the treaty themselves.

The frustration and anger of the great majority of states was palpable in many of the speeches to the conference. The overwhelming majority of states support a global ban on nuclear weapons but the nuclear weapons states refuse to give up their monopoly and resist any attempt to corral them into a binding process or timetable.
Moreover, at the 2010 conference the United States and Britain agreed to support the convening of a conference to establish a Nuclear-Free Middle East to which all regional states would be invited. The United States was charged with co-convening this conference by the end of 2012 but so far nothing has happened. Such a process would force Israel to place its nuclear weapons under international supervision with a view to phasing them out but, of course, Israel, as the only nuclear armed state in the region, would fiercely resist such a step. At the beginning of the second week of the conference the Egyptian delegates walked out of the conference in disgust.

The nuclear weapons states are determined to do everything to protect their power advantage. But the world is changing. US power is being eroded and the anti-nuclear majority is growing stronger every year. That’s why we need to keep up the pressure on the UK government to honour its promises under the NPT and enter, in good faith, into a clear process and timetable for abolishing these terrible weapons.

Alen Mackinnon

PEACE TREES & PLAQUES

Scottish CND are putting out a call to members and supporters who have knowledge of Peace Trees and Plaques which we think are probably situated in parks and possibly Town and City Centres across the country. For example Ayrshire CND has recently been made aware of a Peace Garden which is situated just off Stewarton Centre. Plans are now afoot to use this facility as a base to organise events to raise awareness of the work of CND and the wider Peace Movement. In Glasgow, CND activist Marion McMillan has identified several existing peace trees, most of which need work to spruce them up and clean or replace plaques.

It be really appreciated if members or supporters who know about any Peace Trees or Plaques in their area could contact the office with details of their location. We are hoping to compile a register of where the Peace Trees and Peace Plaques are as they are important landmarks for the Peace Movement in Scotland.

Flavia Tudoreanu

New Staff Member

Scottish CND now have another member of staff in post. She is Flavia Tudoreanu who in the short time she has been with us has worked hard in supporting the many facets of our work.

Despite only being in post since March Flavia has been involved in the organisation of a number of events as well as working with our Education Committee. She has represented Scottish CND at a recent conference in Belfast as well as supporting the Abolition 2000 conference in Edinburgh in April. She is also contributing to the day to day running and organisation of the Scottish CND office in conjunction with our co-ordinator John Ainslie. We are pleased to welcome Flavia as a member of staff.
Nuclear Free Scotland

NUCLEAR ABOLITION OR ‘MODERNISATION’

Actions speak louder than words

In Glasgow parlance, President Barack Obama talks a good game. In his Prague speech in 2009, he effortlessly seduced millions with his soaring rhetoric and his vision of a nuclear-free world. Since then there was the New Start treaty with Russia but otherwise the momentum for nuclear disarmament seems to have petered out. In February he was reported in the Guardian newspaper as being willing to cut strategic nuclear weapons by another third as an extension to New Start. A US interagency review has apparently found that such a cut would not affect ‘national security’ and would save billions of dollars. The report suggested that the US could downsize its nuclear-armed submarine fleet from the present 12 down to 10 or even 8. All this sounds good.

But look at the small print. As the Republicans’ price for ratifying Start in Congress, the administration has agreed to a 10-year programme of nuclear weapons ‘modernisation’ - spending $88bn on bombs, warheads and supporting infrastructure and about $125 billion for delivery systems over a ten year period.

In other words, the US government is committed to modernising its nuclear bombs and warheads, the submarines, missiles, and aircraft that carry them, and the laboratories and plants that design, maintain, and manufacture nuclear weapons. It includes:

- Upgrading nuclear weapons design and production facilities at 8 sites which include the production of plutonium pits (the core of a nuclear warhead), a uranium processing facility and non-nuclear components for nuclear weapons
- Life Extension programmes for 3 warhead types, including the W87, the W88 and a new $10.6bn guidance system for the B61 bomb (US tactical nuclear bombs deployed in 5 countries in Europe)
- Modernisation of all three legs of the strategic triad of nuclear weapons delivery systems including a programme for replacing the Trident submarine fleet, research and development of a new air launched cruise missile and a $6.3bn programme for 80 new nuclear-capable strategic long range bombers which can be remotely piloted.

But in the Nuclear Posture Review Obama stated that he would not develop new nuclear warheads or pursue new military missions for nuclear weapons. But the plans to fit a tailfin to the B61 tactical bomb will give it enhanced targeting capability. It will be carried by a new aircraft - the F-35 - with new stealth capabilities. The implications of these developments is not captured by the term ‘modernisation’. This is a qualitative change in the capability and, therefore, the threat that such weapons pose to a potential enemy. Similarly the ‘life extension’ for the W76 submarine-based warhead adds to its capacity to hit hardened targets. Obama may call this modernisation. Russia and China will see it as escalation. And non-nuclear states or ‘wanna-be’ nuclear states will see it as hypocrisy.

Perhaps more importantly, planning for new nuclear weapons systems that will bind the United States into possession of WMDs well into the 2080s does not sound like the actions of an administration that is leading the world to a nuclear-free future. And, despite Obama’s fine words about no new warhead developments, spending billions upgrading the US facilities for making new plutonium pits and uranium processing will send a different message across the world. As always, actions speak louder than words.

Alan Mackinnon

CND GROUP REPORTS

Ayrshire
Ayrshire CND continues to meet on the 3rd Monday of the month at 7.30p.m. in the Vineburgh Community Centre Quarry Road Irvine. New members and supporters are very welcome. The group organises regular street stalls and recently had a discussion on Drones led by Scottish CND vice chair Veronika Tudhope.

The Ayrshire CND banner was also present at the recent Irvine May Day March and there was also an input from Bruce Kent at the May Day Rally which followed the March. Thanks are also due to the CND members who staffed the stall at the May Day Rally. The group will be organising a number of activities in the coming months including events to mark the Hiroshima and Nagasaki anniversaries. For more information on getting involved in Ayrshire CND -phone Arthur West on 07826127759 or e-mail arthur-west7@hotmail.co.uk

Edinburgh
Edinburgh CND spent some of the winter months undertaking street events and petitioning on Drones and Depleted Uranium (DU). These activities were a follow-up to the Public Meeting on Drones/DU at the Edinburgh World Justice Festival (which we held with other Edinburgh Peace Groups) and a meeting in which we showed a film on DU. Otherwise we were busy with the No to Nato Campaign.

We spoke with Maina Kiai, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, when he visited the United Kingdom from 14 to 23 January 2013, at the invitation of the Government.

From early this year we were busy building for the April Scrap Trident events, with many successful street activities. We made a short film on ‘Why we should Scrap Trident’. Find it on youtube! We played our usual role at the Edinburgh May Day events: with singing from Penny Stone, a workshop and a stall (as well as a presence on the demonstration). Our next event will be meeting the Iona Pilgrimage when it is in Edinburgh on the 2nd and 3rd June. Catch us on facebook or twitter.

Aberdeen
Aberdeen and District CND put a great effort into building for the 13th-15th April anti-Trident, pro-peace actions in Glasgow and Faslane. We held a rally to develop local support in the City centre on 30th March with speakers who included a local MSP, Kevin Stewart, and Aberdeen Trade Union Council secretary, Brian Carroll. We also organised a coach to the Glasgow action which attracted 32 people. For some this was their first demonstration! Although the action incurred substantial costs all these were covered by ticket sales, donations and a subsidy from SCND.

In May Nick, one of our members, gave a most interesting talk to a full room entitled “Oil, Nukes and Ayatollahs - the Confrontation with Iran in Regional and Historical Context”. Nick received a hearty round of applause followed by another for Christian Allard, a staunch supporter of our group who announced that we was going to be sworn in at the Holyrood the following day as Scotland’s first French MSP.

Glasgow
Glasgow CND had its first meeting in May 2013. The new group will incorporate Glasgow West CND but will also cover the whole of the city. Around 15 people attended the inaugural meeting. We took decisions to participate in the forthcoming West End Festival with a presence on the parade as well as a stall, agreed on plans for a Hioshima Day event and are planning a public meeting on the crucial issue of a Nuclear Free Middle East in the near future.

We continue to hold a Saturday street stall every fortnight alternating between Byres Road and Buchanan Street in Glasgow city centre.
My name is Grant, I’m a 23 year-old Glaswegian, and I first became aware of the Scrap Trident campaign when it was brought to my attention through a massive graffiti painting, showing the date of the Faslane blockade, which had appeared overnight on the roof of a building in Glasgow overlooking the M8. At this point, I knew very little about the opposition to nuclear weapons at Faslane apart from seeing the Peace Camp when passing through that area.

I am a graffiti artist myself, so it was interesting to me on a sort of underground level. Just like the graffiti scene in Glasgow, it seemed all rather anonymous – but when you open your eyes to something like that it suddenly becomes apparent about how organised or structured it actually is. This graffiti art, which the general public might dismiss as mindless vandalism, was obviously just one part of a larger co-ordinated effort.

I decided to find out more, and started by visiting the Scrap Trident Facebook page etc. There I began to discover exactly what the campaign was all about, and I was impressed with the sheer enthusiasm that these people, who I knew nothing about, had to make a change in the way Scotland is governed. My eyes were also opened to just how messed up this country’s priorities are with regards to cuts to the NHS and disability allowances, and how much money was being spent on replacing Trident. When I realised that the Trident replacement would cost around £97 billion I couldn’t believe it. I was completely shocked at the government’s caveman-like way of thinking that went: “We have big weapons, you can’t mess with us!”

What a stupid argument – almost funny if it wasn’t so dangerous.

So, with my newly-discovered, not ideology exactly, but outlook on things in general, I decided to give it a go and get involved. After getting in touch with the Scrap Trident organisers, I spent the night in the Kinning Park complex – the day before the big blockade, and it wasn’t at all what I had expected.

I suppose that, beforehand, I was sort of half-expecting to feel a bit uncomfortable. This was mainly because I was turning up by myself – as a friend who was to go with me, and who had expressed big ideas about changing things, let me down by showing that his “big ideas” were just that, and didn’t turn up. However, once I arrived at Kinning Park, I felt really welcome, and met people from all walks of life. I met people who were interested in similar kinds of music, and also people seemed genuinely interested in me and my views. As I’ve said, it was all a bit new to me and I was a bit overwhelmed at first, because I don’t know a lot about the ins-and-outs of all the politics, but by the end of the night I had a head full of new ideas and a stomach full of good food!

The next morning, everyone was awoken bright and early. It was still dark outside, but there was a definite buzz of excitement around the big table at breakfast, and there was plenty of food on offer to keep everyone going throughout the day. On the bus, the excitement was growing the closer we got to the action. As we approached the gates, and the final preparations (organising lock-ons etc) took place, I was buzzing with anticipation to see what the overall turnout was going to be like. I wondered too about the size of the police presence etc.

As we stepped off the bus, and people rushed quickly to their places and sat in front of the gates, there was a bit of confusion. You could tell a few of the police officers didn’t know what to do at first (obviously community police that had been brought in to help). However,
most understood and kept their cool and didn’t overreact – we were there for non-violent direct action, after all.

As the day progressed, more and more people were arrested as more lock-ons were cut away to separate people. All of those who were arrested remained calm and did not resist in anyway. There were cheers from the crowd at every arrest, showing appreciation for how dedicated these people were to supporting the cause.

I didn’t get arrested myself but, as a first-timer, it felt good to just be part of the team providing support and encouragement to those who had volunteered to be ‘arrestables’. I was also glad to be able to provide the graffiti art to make sure that the lock-on tubes carried a clear political message – a message that went all around the world via the press photographers’ photos. As I watched and chanted and cheered, along with all the other activists in support roles, I admired the commitment of those who were willing to be arrested, and I realised that if I was going to be arrested for something then this would be a worthy cause.

Mail it as it is or in another envelope and write the name of the little artist, parent/teacher name and an address to send the prizes to. The envelope should not be larger than A5, has to have our address on it and should not have any 3D elements.

We will be giving away gift tokens, books and tickets to the theatre. The winner will also receive a Peace Trophy.

The competition is organised to mark the International Day of Peace, celebrated early on 21st of September.

More details will be published on the website by 1st of July.
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Fellowship of
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I would like to join Scottish CND
Membership rates: Adult £24 ☐ Youth £10 ☐ Household £36 ☐ Low waged £16 ☐ Unwaged £10 ☐
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Sort Code ____________________________
Account name ____________________________
Signature ____________________________
(Bank: Pay to Scottish CND, Ac No 00970363, Code 80-07-67)

Alternatively, I enclose a cheque of £ _ for my annual membership fee / as a donation to Scottish CND (delete as appropriate). Make cheques out to Scottish CND and return this form to: Scottish CND, 77 Southpark Ave., Glasgow G12 8LE. Tel: 0141 3571529.
You can also join Scottish CND online at www.banthebomb.org

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Old address ____________________________
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Alternatively, I enclose a cheque of £ _ for my annual membership fee / as a donation to Scottish CND (delete as appropriate). Make cheques out to Scottish CND and return this form to: Scottish CND, 77 Southpark Ave., Glasgow G12 8LE. Tel: 0141 3571529.
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