

Scottish CND

Year in Review 2026

Annual Report of Scottish Campaign
for Nuclear Disarmament



Scottish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament – scottishcnd.org

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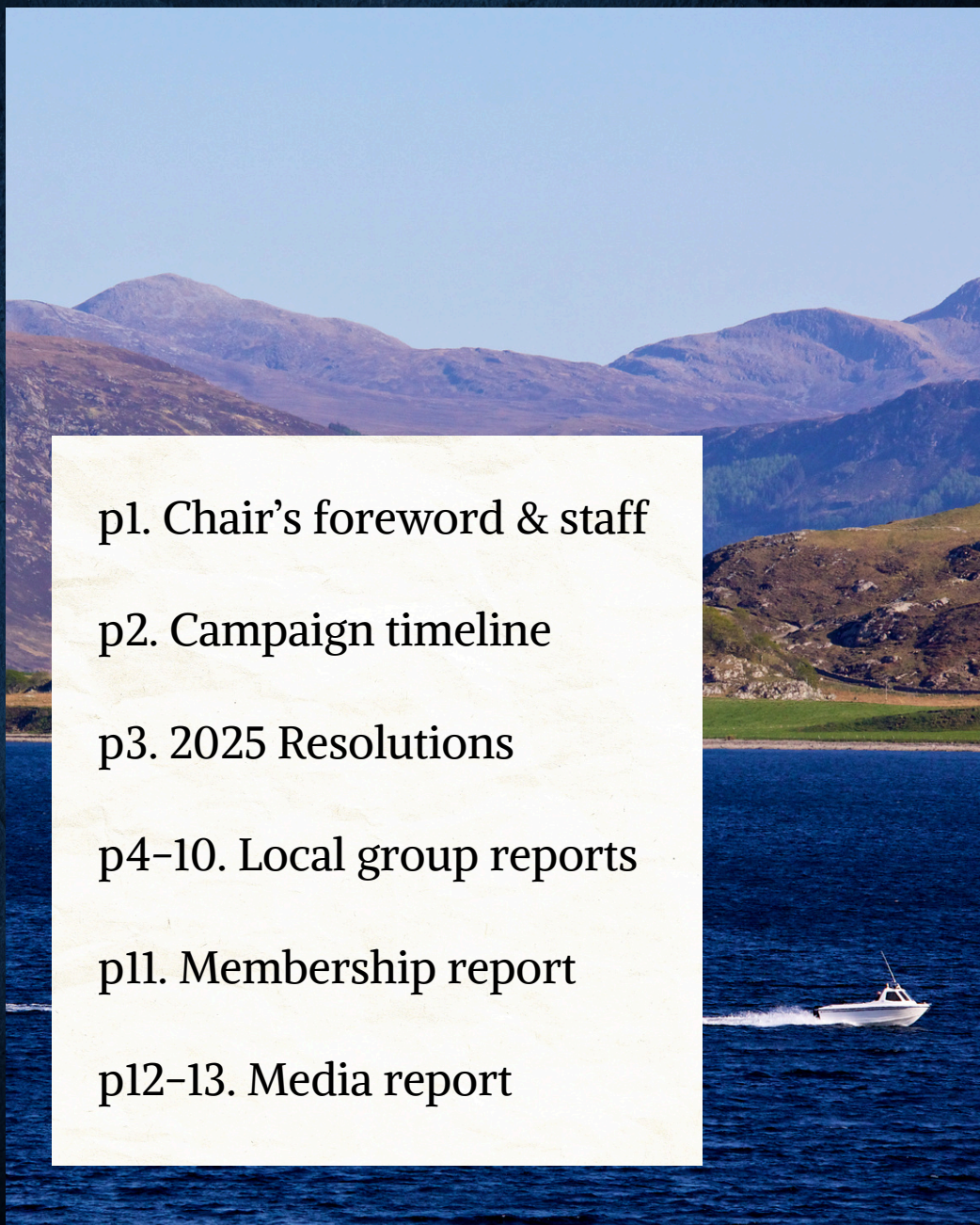
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Chairperson's Foreword

and meet the team!

Thank you for being with us. Whether reading our weekly newsletter, staying informed and talking to others, following our Facebook posts, reposting our tweets, attending our events, wearing a badge, displaying a sign, standing or acting with like-minded others, writing to your political representatives to raise the immorality, costs or dangerous insanity of nuclear weapons or just sending us a membership fee.

Scottish CND is its members. We have again elected a parliament dominated by politicians opposed to nuclear weapons and filled buses to Faslane, renewing our commitment and making our concerns visible. Please stay with us and never give up.



Scottish CND
Chair, Lynn
Jamieson

Simon Barrow is a freelance consultant and researcher for Scottish CND. He is a writer and journalist, a committed trade unionist, the former director of a think tank on ethics, politics and beliefs, and a long-term activist for peace and social change.



Cristina Tofan has been the Administration Manager at Scottish CND since 2017. She manages finances, the members' database, merchandise, events, and day-to-day administration, making sure everything runs smoothly behind the scenes. Outside of work, she enjoys cooking, travelling, and spending time with family and friends.



Samuel started as Scottish CND Communications Officer in December 2024. He manages the SCND social media accounts to promote the campaign and nuclear issues, writes the weekly newsletter, designs and edits our annual publications, writes and edits SCND newspaper contributions and helps organise and promote campaign events. Outside of work, Samuel is an (amateur) musician, organises music events and loves cinema.



January

22nd: TPNW Anniversary
25th: Burns Peace Poetry Event

February

23rd: Local day of action against military bases (Edinburgh)
24th: 4th anniversary of Ukraine War Scottish CND Webinar
28th: RAF Marham UK CND national demonstration

March

1st: Marshall Islands Remembrance Day
14th: Scottish CND "Stop the Nuclear Nightmare" National Demonstration at Faslane
26th: Scottish CND National Election Hustings

April

11th: Stop the War / SCND "Break with Trump" demonstration
14th-25th: Lakenheath Peace Camp
20th-22nd: SCND attending STUC 2026
23rd: SCND False Promise of Nuclear Power Webinar
26th: Chornobyl Disaster anniversary

May

27th April - 22nd May: NPT Review Conference - Scottish CND affiliates present

SCND Nuclear Free Scotland Spring Magazine Published

June

12th: Faslane Peace Camp Anniversary

Mid-June: Paisley Peace Garden Event, Renfrewshire CND

2026 Campaign Timeline

July

28th: Anniversary of TPNW negotiated.

August

6th: Hiroshima 81st anniversary (Events in Glasgow, Paisley, Ayrshire, Edinburgh)
9th: Nagasaki 81st anniversary (SCND Vigil at Faslane) / Aberdeen Vigil (Marischall College)

September

Year in Review Magazine Published
14th: SCND Pre-AGM Campaign Agenda-setting meeting
19th: SCND workshop at Justice & Peace conference.
21st: International Peace Day
24th: Scottish CND AUKUS Webinar
26th: International Day for Elimination of Nuclear Weapons

October

3rd: First UK Nuclear Test Anniversary
4th: UK CND National Conference (online)
6th: Keep Space for Peace Vigil (Scottish Parliament)
24th: UK CND Menwith Hill Demonstration

November

14th: Scottish CND AGM (Online)

December

30th Nov - 4th Dec: TPNW Review Conference, UNHQ New York, SCND delegation TBC

Annual Christmas Appeal

2025 SCND AGM Resolutions

Resolution 1 (Passed)

Develop a policy document on how to message and confront the escalation of war in Ukraine / Taiwan and the potential use of nuclear weapons in these scenarios.

Resolution 2 (Passed)

The Scottish Trade Union Peace Network welcomes Framing Statement produced by Scottish CND for discussion at AGM. The Scottish Trade Union Peace Network particularly welcomes reference to Just Transition away from nuclear weapons related areas into socially useful areas of the economy.

The Scottish Trade Union Peace Network notes that the Alternative Defence Review report outlines how spending in areas of the economy such as health and education would generate substantially more jobs than spending equivalent amounts of money on military related expenditure.

Scottish Trade Union Peace Network also agrees with the priority given in the Framing Statement to highlighting the work which signatory country TPNW are taking to further its aims.

Scottish Trade Union Peace Network proposes the following actions in support of the Framing Statement:

1. Scottish CND and partner organisations should make a commitment to a monthly messaging programme to discredit the Deterrence arguments used to support the presence of nuclear weapons in Scotland. This messaging could take place via social media , letters and articles to newspapers.
2. Encourage local SCND groups to run public meetings on the Alternative Defence Review.
3. Support work to raise the profile of the TPNW within the Scottish Trade Union movement.

Local Group Reports

Edinburgh CND



Edinburgh CND Hiroshima Day Vigil 2026

Edinburgh CND held their summer “Plants for Peace” initiative at the Meadows Festival in Edinburgh in June this year. We donated £400 to Scottish CND from the profits.

After some degree of planning because of the partial closure of Princes Street caused by the fire at the old Debenham building about a month ago, some people from Edinburgh CND assembled – as is now customary – at the junction of Princes Street and Castle Street on the 81st anniversary of Hiroshima Day, 6th August 2026.

We took advantage of the road being closed to actually move out into the road, instead of being confined to the pavement as in normal years. The numbers of those attending were considerably swelled by the excellent voices of Protest in Harmony. They led the singing on either side of an inspiring address by Edinburgh CND's most distinguished member, Chairperson of Scottish CND Lynn Jamieson. Other members of Edinburgh CND handed out new and older leaflets to passing members of the public. The whole event lasted an hour.

Two days later four members of Edinburgh CND made their way by public transport to Coulport, the North Gate of the naval base. They and about six others observed a two-hour vigil from noon to 2pm, and about half of the passing cars tooted their horns in support of the small demonstration.

Ken Benjamin & Malcolm Bruce, Edinburgh CND

Edinburgh CND can be contacted at edinburghcnd@yahoo.com

North-East Scotland CND



North-East Scotland CND Hiroshima & Nagasaki Commemoration

The world has rarely more dangerous, and we have been doing are bit to combat this madness. We have supported SPSC Aberdeen's protests, including those at Barclays Bank, the army recruitment office, Dana Petroleum and anti-imperialist protests concerning Iran, Sudan, Venezuela and Armed Forces Day. Providing speakers at these protests. We are part of a local Hebron in Palestine twinning group. We have also provided speakers at events organised by ATUC i.e. the May Day Rally and St Andrews Day rally.

We are also part of the local ant-fascist alliance which has been very active in combatting the anti-refugee protests in the Northeast.

We have had four public meetings on the Alternative Defence review, Venezuela and two on making use of social media We have a very informative Facebook page CND Northeast Scotland and we intend to get active on X.

During the winter have held several stalls at University of Aberdeen and one at Robert Gordons University both to promote our work but also to try to...

recruit students to go to the national protest at Faslane. We provided a speaker at a protest against the development of the Rosebank oil field. We co organised a public meeting along with Aberdeen Climate Actions Climate Café on the growth of the military and related carbon emissions. We also had a stall at the Envirolution event in Aberdeen.

We are part of a Welfare not Warfare group in Aberdeen along with ATUC and DPAC a local disability group which organised our first protest on the 'Ending of the Energy cap' where we provided a speaker. More protests are planned. We received funding from an ex-University of Aberdeen CND group who raised money for us at Glastonbury.

We have organised our yearly Hiroshima and Nagasaki memorial. We have had less contact with Faslane Peace Camp this year but given its recent revival have provided funding for two skips and one of our activists has visited.

One of our members attended the International Ant-war conference in London this summer and two of our activists took part in protests at Lakenheath. Nationally we have two of our local activists on the Scottish CND National Executive and we organised a coach down to the national protest at Faslane in March. We attend SCND local groups meetings and occasional UK CND local groups meetings.

As well as Scottish CND we are affiliated to Stop the War, UK CND, CATT, Scientists for Global Responsibility, World Beyond War, Aberdeen Social Centre and the Venezuela Solidarity Campaign.

Jonathan Russell & Mike Martin, North-East Scotland CND

North-East Scotland CND can be contacted at jhamiltonrussell@hotmail.co.uk

North-East Scotland CND Members at SCND National Conference, November 2025



Stirling CND

Stirling CND has seen a continued decline in 'active' members. However, we seek to maintain (as much as possible) a public presence in the Stirling area and our continued support of the campaigning work of Scottish CND. We maintain a social media presence through our Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/StirlingCND>

The group continues to engage with local political representatives in Stirling Council, the Scottish Parliament and Westminster in relation to subjects such as the Nuclear Weapons Convoys (which travel on Stirling District's roads), Trident renewal, the conflicts associated with the aggressive global geopolitical situation, and support of ICAN's actions on the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

We are always keen to engage with other peace focused groups in the Stirling Area and at the University of Stirling. We welcome new members to the group for information on the group contact the Chair of Stirling CND, Kenneth Wardrop.

Kenneth Wardrop, Stirling CND



Chair

Stirling CND

Tel: +44 (0)7557735531

Email: kennethmwardrop@gmail.com



Glasgow CND



Glasgow CND Hiroshima Day commemoration at Glasgow Botanic
Peace Garden, 6th August 2026

Greetings to Glasgow CND and to all Scottish CND members!

We gathered together on the 6th August to remember Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The annual event was again held in the new Peace Garden in the Botanic. There was a good turn out as you can see from the pictures.

Protest in Harmony Glasgow sang for us and we heard moving short talks from the Lord Provost Jacqueline McLaren, Bill Kidd, Samuel Rafanell-Williams and David Peutherer.

The event was made more special by the planting of a ginkgo bilboa sapling by the Botanics Curator Dr Hiro Shimai and the Lord Provost. The wee tree was grown from a seed of the 'Survivor Tree' of Hiroshima, sent to Glasgow by Mayors for Peace.

We'd love to hear from you with suggestions of other events we could have. Do get in touch though our Facebook page, @GlasgowBranchCND, or by email to glasgowcnd0@gmail.com.

Jean Anderson, Chair of Glasgow CND



Ayrshire CND

Ayrshire CND meet every 2 months via zoom.

The group organises a monthly Peace Vigil in Irvine Town Centre in conjunction with Scottish Peace Network. We also organise a Peace Vigil every 2 months in the town of Ayr.

We attend the regular Scottish CND Local groups meetings to report on our initiatives to the national organisation, as well as contributing ideas for national campaigning.

Our group have a Peace Pole located in Dean Country Park Kilmarnock and the photo below is of some Ayrshire CND members at one of our 2026 events marking the anniversary of nuclear bombs being dropped on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945.

We also organised a street stall in Irvine to highlight both of these sad anniversaries.

**Arthur West, Secretary
Ayrshire CND**

Contact Ayrshire CND on arthurwest7@hotmail.co.uk for our Zoom meeting link.



**Ayrshire CND Hiroshima & Nagasaki commemoration at
Kilmarnock Country Park, August 2026**

Renfrewshire CND



We concentrate on Paisley as we have found footfall in other town centres very low. There are two main opportunities in the year to reaching a good number of people in Paisley; these are the Sma' Shot Day parade in July when we carried our CND banner and leafleted hundreds of by-stander, and the Hiroshima-Nagasaki commemoration in the peace garden in Barshaw Park. Both were well attended by CND supporters.

The 40th anniversary of its re-opening as a Peace Garden by Bruce Kent is being marked with some special events there. This volunteer maintained flower garden also provides an alternative setting on Armistice Sunday for an Interfaith gathering focussing on peace and remembering all victims of war, distinct from the militaristic Cenotaph events. In the weeks preceding the November event we find the public, especially women, keen to buy white PPU poppies.

At the Workers' Memorial Day on 28th March I spoke about the deaths and injuries suffered by armed forces. We continue having a CND stall at the Paisley Farmers' market once a month, and to keep some 100 supporters informed of peace petitions and Glasgow events they can support.

Duncan Macintosh, Renfrewshire CND

Renfrewshire CND can be contacted at duncanmac2609@gmail.com

Membership Report

Cristina Tofan, Administration Manager

Over the past year, Scottish CND has continued to rely on the commitment and support of its members to keep our campaigning work moving forward. From those who have been members for many years to those who have joined more recently, each membership helps us maintain a strong and active campaign for a world free from nuclear weapons.

We currently have 1,576 contributing members. Our members continue to represent a wide range of ages and circumstances, united by a shared commitment to nuclear disarmament.

This is how our membership is currently distributed across the different categories:

Adult members: 605
Household memberships: 434
Pensioner members: 232
Unwaged members: 189
Low-waged members: 75
Student members: 35
Youth members: 6



Membership has continued to decline, with a 6% decrease compared with the previous year. Growing and strengthening our membership therefore remains an important part of our work, as we continue to encourage more people to join and stay involved in the campaign.

There are also encouraging signs of growing engagement. 53 new members joined Scottish CND during the year, while 10 former members renewed their membership after gaps of between four and eleven years. Every new and returning member helps to keep our campaign moving forward.

We are grateful to all our members whose continued support makes the work of Scottish CND possible, and we thank everyone who has given their time, energy and commitment to strengthening our movement over the past year.

Looking ahead, we hope to welcome more members and continue growing the movement for a safer, nuclear-free future.

Media Report

Samuel Rafanell-Williams, Campaigns & Communications Officer

Social Media

The adjacent graphics compare social media (SM) statistic over the first 8 months of 2026 with the same period a year ago.

Overall reach (impressions) and engagement (likes, reactions, comments) across all platforms is up in the first half of 2026, compared to the first half of 2025. This follows a 2025 year which saw huge increases in engagement compared to 2024 (documented in Annual Review 2025)

However this growth is not even across all platforms.

Note that the frequency of posting on Facebook and Instagram has declined, and the frequency of posting on X/Twitter has increased. This is due to additional time demands of posting on IG (image design on Canva, whereas X/Twitter is predominantly text platform with much lower barrier to posting).

Metric on X/Twitter are stronger than on other platforms, as higher usage of X/Twitter is easier to balance alongside other work responsibilities.

All platforms require their own distinct form of consistent maintenance. There are capacity challenges in producing lots of visual social media content for IG when accounting for new responsibilities of "Campaigns & Communications" role since end of 2025.

Posts	Post impressions	Post engagement	Post reactions & likes
1,252 posts ↗ 4.2% from 1,202	991,164 impressions ↗ 44.3% from 686,534	57,101 engagements ↗ 68% from 33,987	23,809 reactions ↗ 80.2% from 13,215
Posts	Post impressions	Post engagement	Post reactions & likes
X +87.5% 800	Facebook ... +57.7% 509,411	X +131% 29,414	X +221% 15,636
Instagram Busi... +44.3% 791	X +48.1% 438,549	Facebook P... +37.5% 25,147	Facebook Page +11.5% 7,077
Facebook Page +12.9% 271	Instagram B... +33.5% 46,162	Instagram Be... +34.1% 1,540	Instagram Bu... +44.6% 1,096
TikTok Business -100% 0	TikTok Business -100% 0	TikTok Business -100% 0	TikTok Business -100% 0
Followers	Post comments & repl...	Post shares	Average post engage...
28,268 followers ↗ 1.2% from 27,926	1,305 comments ↗ 35.2% from 965	8,712 shares ↗ 43.3% from 6,078	6.89% engagement rate ↘ 1.9% from 7.62%
Followers	Post comments & repl...	Post shares	Average post engage...
Facebook Page +1% 16,148	Facebook Page +13.6% 769	X +128% 6,638	Instagram B... +28.1% 9.42%
X -0.5% 9,978	X +108% 486	Facebook Page -36.4% 1,897	Facebook Page -9.4% 6.69%
Instagram B... +14.6% 1,047	Instagram Business +4.2% 50	Instagram Business -1.7% 177	X -5.4% 5.9%
TikTok Business +2.4% 255	TikTok Business -100% 0	TikTok Business -100% 0	TikTok Business -100% 0%

Facebook: 16,132 followers

Twitter: 10,011 followers

Instagram: 1,314 followers

Bluesky: 166 followers

YouTube: 572 subscribers

TikTok: 257

I still endeavour to post on IG around 5 times per week, and intend to improve time-management to increase output & reach on Instagram. This is important as IG has the youngest audience of socials platforms. More frequent video material (YouTube, IG & Tok Tok) remains an ambition.

Weekly Newsletter

Currently 6,300 subscribers, including 1,440 members.

Engagement is poor, averages at 10–15% open rate for general list and 15–25% for members list. Still very effective way of conducting fundraisers (raised over £1,000 via newsletter call-outs for Faslane buses).

Initiative to ameliorate this: contacting members via direct email (not Mailchimp), so that they receive a notification to move SCND correspondence to main inbox (instead of spam or “updates”). This should hopefully improve open-rate and responsiveness, at least amongst members.

Publications & Substack

39 articles published across various outlets, mainly *The National*, since December 2024.

All articles being uploaded to and ‘retrospectively’ published on Substack, which will serve as archive and platform for future articles to be publicly legible.

We continue to maintain our fortnightly column in *The National* and publish in other independent outlets like *Morning Star*, *Scottish Left Review*, *Common Weal* and *Bella Caledonia*. We are making efforts to break into publishing in other Scottish outlets like *The Herald*.

Nuclear Free Scotland

Our annual SCND campaign magazine with written contributions from myself, SCND members and executive members was published in print and online earlier this summer.

Printed version is posted to members without email addresses and those who request it, the digital version is freely available on the ‘publications’ part of our website.

UK Nuclear Spending Spirals

UK now third largest spender on nuclear weapons worldwide

12.06.2025

Dear Friend of SCND,

Firstly, my apologies for the shorter newsletter this week, as I have been unwell (and well on the way to recovery now).

But this week's message from Scottish CND is short and simple: we are being fleeced!

You have likely heard lots in the news this week about how impoverished the British military is, how they are in need of regulations more cash (despite already having the 6th largest military budget in the world), and about the ever-present Russian threat.

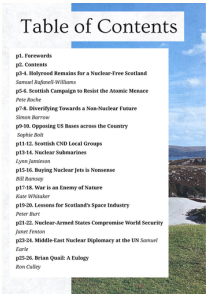
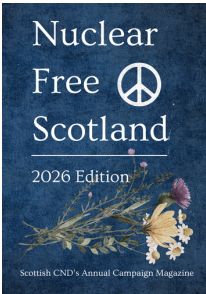
But you will likely NOT have heard very much in the news about the new figures published by the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), which show that UK spending on nuclear weapons has increased by 17% between 2024-2025. This succeeds an increase of 26% between 2023-2024.

The UK now spends more on nuclear weapons annually than Russia, (the former Cold War superpower in possession of over 40% of the world's nuclear arsenal). The UK is the third highest spender on nuclear weapons in the world (second in per-capita terms), spending nearly as much as China in real terms, and country with 20th our population.

COUNTRY	SPENDING	PER-CAPITA
United States	\$60.5 billion (£20.5 billion)	32%
China	\$5.6 billion (£2.0 billion)	7%
United Kingdom	\$12.4 billion (£4.5 billion)	1%
Russia	\$5.5 billion (£2.0 billion)	1%
France	\$17 billion (£6.3 billion)	8%

The full ICAN report is available [here](#)

MEANWHILE, the Royal Navy's 5 nuclear-power submarines are all



Buy your peace merch now
at the Scottish CND Shop:
scottishcndshop.org



Let's have a blether!
Get in touch with Scottish CND:

PO Box 3620, Glasgow G73 9FQ

0141 357 1529

www.scottishcnd.org

scnd@banthebomb.org

[@scottishcnd](https://www.instagram.com/scottishcnd)

