

NON-VIOLENT RESISTANCE NETWORK NEWSLETTER

Published on behalf of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament

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GAZA: THE ENDGAME?

First the bad news, in figures (mainly up to first week of April and mainly figures either reported by the Gaza health ministry or the Israeli government)

Number of Palestinians killed in Gaza since October 7 2024: 33,596., including 13,800 children (The Palestinian Red Cross Society reports that about 1000 children have lost one or both legs.)

More than 8000 people have been reported missing.

Number of Palestinians injured: 75,815

This means that some 12% of the population of Gaza had been killed or injured so far

Number of people have died of starvation: 27, including 25 children.

Number of aid workers killed: 224

Number of health workers killed: 484

Number of journalists killed: 95.

Proportion of Gaza population displaced from their homes: over 80%

Proportion of homes in Gaza destroyed or partially destroyed: 62%

Number of hospitals continuing to function partially: 10 out of 36

Proportion of schools destroyed or damaged: 80%

Number of Israeli soldiers killed in attack on Gaza: 600.

Number of Hamas terrorists killed in October 7 attack: hundreds.

Number of such terrorists killed in Gaza since October 7: no reliable figures,

but some must be included in the total of Palestinians killed in Gaza

Number of Israeli civilians and soldiers and other civilians killed during Hamas attack on October 7: 1,139 (Israeli revised figures) These included at least 29 children.

Number of civilians injured in Israel by Hamas attack: 8,570.

Number of Israeli hostages taken: 240-250.

Humanitarian situation: Cogat, the Israeli body that co-ordinates humanitarian aid to Gaza, said on April 1 that an average of 140 food trucks a day were entering Gaza. (500 aid trucks a day entered Gaza before the war.) Gaza, a large and poor population besieged in a small area, has few resources of its own and is heavily dependent on outside aid.

But military operations and the breakdown of social order have severely hampered aid distribution, while Gaza's food production has also been reduced to almost nothing, with farming land, bakeries and factories destroyed or inaccessible.

Israel has also banned the *United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees* (UNRWA) from delivering aid to northern Gaza over allegations it has made that some UNRWA operatives had taken part in

Amidst all this slaughter is there any grounds for hope?

The following I think constitute possible such grounds:

Israeli war cabinet member Benny Gantz warned in February that unless Hamas freed all hostages held in Gaza by March 10 a ground offensive would be launched in Rafah in southern Gaza, previously



Victims of war in Gaza, 2024

the October 7 Hamas attack, Though Israel published no evidence for this claim, 16 countries, including the UK, US, Germany, Australia, Canada, Italy, Sweden and Japan, stopped funding UNRWA, by far the main relief organisation working in Gaza. Some countries, including Sweden, Canada Japan, but not the UK or US, have subsequently resumed funding UNRWA.

Following international pressure after the attack on an aid convoy on April 1st (reported below), Israel agreed to open a new aid route to northern Gaza, via the Israeli port of Ashdod and the nearby Eretz crossing into northern Gaza, previously closed to aid. It remains to be seen whether this yields sufficient aid getting into northern Gaza. Israel had previously given permission for aid to be delivered direct to the Gaza coast by sea from Cyprus. The seven aid workers killed on April 1 were transporting aid brought by this route.

designated a "safe zone" by Israel. Netanyahu has continued to insist on this plan in spite of strong opposition from the US and other states supportive of Israel. However no such invasion has yet occurred,

though the area has continued to be bombed. Netanyahu's argument is that without invading Rafah he can't fulfil his pledge to destroy Hamas since some of Hamas's battalions are situated there.

On 7th April Israel announced that it was withdrawing its troops from southern Gaza in order to prepare for an attack on Rafah and that Palestinians sheltering in Rafah could return to Khan Yunis, north of Rafah. This may possibly be a hopeful sign, given that the next day Israel confirmed it would send a delegation to Cairo to join in talks alongside a Hamas one to discuss a possible ceasefire and the release of hostages. However, a day later Netanyahu said he had already set a date for an attack on Rafah.

There are about 1.4 million Palestinians sheltering in Rafah in a very small area as a result of Israel earlier in the war declaring it a safe zone. The idea of the Israeli army entering Rafah and acting with their previously-shown willingness to cause mass civilian casualties in their hunt for Hamas activists is quite horrendous, except to the extremists in the Israeli government who have called for the killing, or at least expulsion of, all Palestinians in Gaza.

The second reasons for optimism are legal, with various actions against Israel taking place. First of all is the case brought by South Africa (later joined by Ireland) against Israel before the International Court of Justice alleging Israel is committing genocide as defined by the UN

A third is the growing public and political opposition to the war and the growing support for an immediate ceasefire. In the UK this has involved large demonstrations up and down the country, direct action against arms companies, councillors switching from Labour to Independent because of Starmer's support for Israel in the war and people putting themselves forward as Independent candidates in the coming national elections to work for an end to the war in coming council and national elections.

The incident in which seven aid workers, were, it seems, deliberately targeted by Israeli drones when delivering aid in Gaza, seems to have changed the political climate.

As listed above, over 200 other aid workers have been killed during the war, but almost all of these have been Palestinians. Following this recent attack, many aid groups halted supplying aid to Gaza fearing for the safety of their workers in Gaza. What seem to have made the difference is that six of the aid workers killed were not Palestinians, but one was American, one Australian, one Polish and, and three Britons. That this should be so is an awful reflection on the scope of our humanity, but it has helped to galvanise western opposition to the Israeli campaign in Gaza.

On this occasion Israel apologised for the loss of life, setting up its own enquiry, which came to the conclusion that the incident was the result of a series of "accidents", even though the convoy was clearly marked with the name of the charity, *World Central Kitchen*, and had its route had been cleared with the IDF.

UK Foreign Secretary Lord Cameron said that the deaths of aid workers in Gaza are "completely

Convention 1948, in Gaza. I reported on this in the February/March NVRN newsletter, so suffice it to say that the court left the decision as whether Israel was committing genocide in Gaza to a later court hearing. However it clearly considered that Israel might well commit genocide in Gaza and on January 25 in an interim judgement it issued directions to Israel as to what it must do to avoid committing genocide. Israel does not seem to have changed its military tactics in line with these directions and the Court has no way to enforce them being carried out.

A more momentous decision was taken on March 25 by the UN Security Council, when it passed a resolution demanding an immediate ceasefire for the month of Ramadan, the immediate and unconditional release of hostages and "the urgent need to expand the flow" of aid into Gaza. Three previous similar resolutions at the UN the UN for a ceasefire had been vetoed by the US. This time it chose to abstain, leaving the resolution to pass 14-0 (The UK, which had abstained on such a resolution previously, voted for it this time.)

Resolutions passed by the Security Council (unlike by the General Assembly) are legally binding, but it is not clear that the Security Council is to take action to enforce this resolution. However it is a significant blow to Israel and signs that it can no longer count on the US for the unconditional support it and the UK promised Israel at the beginning of its attack on Gaza.



On a march in London for Palestinians

unacceptable", and called on Israel to explain what happened in the airstrike. On April 6 the government ordered The Royal Navy to protect a maritime corridor for aid convoys from Cyprus to Gaza.

As long ago as March 13th the Conservative chair of the UK government House of Commons select committee on foreign affairs, Alicia Kearns, revealed at a public event that the government had received advice from its lawyers that Israel has breached international humanitarian law in Gaza. This has been supported by leaked documents seen by newspapers, but the government has refused publication of the advice on grounds of confidentiality. But the government would have surely trumpeted the advice if it had cleared Israel of breaching international law.

On 3rd April a letter signed by 600 of the UK's top lawyers and sent to government ministers and officials warned them that they could be charged with the crimes of "complicity to genocide" and "aiding and abetting

genocide” unless the government stopped selling arms to Israel.

The same day the Public and Commercial Services Union, which represents civil servants, requested a meeting with the Ministry of Defence to discuss “the legal jeopardy faced by civil servants who are continuing to work on this policy [of selling arms to Israel]”. Apparently civil servants have been asking to stop being given tasks related to export licences to Israel or other work related to Israel’s war in Gaza. None of this stopped Oliver Dowden, on 7th April, while saying that the UK would stop selling arms to Israel *if* it was found to be in breach of international law in its attack on Gaza, denied that it was doing so, and also refused to disclose the government’s legal advice on the matter.

In the US, Joe Baden called for an immediate ceasefire and told Benjamin Netanyahu that future support would

depend on Israel taking steps to protect civilians and relief workers.

Not that either the US or UK seem willing to bring pressure on Israel by halting arms sales.

Countries that have stopped selling arms to Israel since the present attack on Gaza started include Canada, the Netherlands, Japan, Spain and Belgium.

In April, Nicaragua brought a case at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) at The Hague against Germany claiming that it was aiding genocide in Gaza by continuing to supply arms to Israel. Germany is the second biggest supplier of arms to Israel after the US. Nicaragua told the ICJ it was “pathetic” for Germany to provide Palestinians with humanitarian aid while supplying the arms that killed them. Germany replied that Israel is acting in self-defence and it supplied arms to it only after “detailed scrutiny”.



Israel Demo. calling for ceasefire for hostage release

A final hopeful sign is the growing unpopularity of the current Israeli government and especially of Netanyahu. This has many reasons: the failure of the army to prevent the Hamas attack on Israel on October 7, the failure to secure a second ceasefire to allow the release of some 134 Israeli hostages still held by Hamas (Israel says over 30 of these hostages have died, while Hamas claims 70. Presumably such deaths are the result of Israel’s military action; Hamas has every interest in keeping such hostages alive); opposition to the idea that the continuing war on Gaza is the best way of securing the safety and release of these hostages, and the failure so far to defeat Hamas. And a bill to make Strictly Orthodox Jews (“Haredi” Jews) – some 13.6% of the population of Israel – liable for military service, from which they’ve always been exempted, has been met with strong opposition from this community. All this discontent has

resulted in continuing large demonstrations against the Israeli government. A poll in early April found that 57% of voters rate Netanyahu’s performance as wartime leader as “poor” or “very poor” and that 51% want early elections.

Nevertheless, the war remains extremely popular: a January poll of Jewish Israelis found that 88% said that the increasing death toll in Gaza (then 25,000) was justified in pursuit of the war; a majority even rated the force being used by the IDF in Gaza as wither only “adequate” or “too little”. This must be helped by the reported non-presentation of photos or film of the death and destruction in Gaza on screens or in newspapers in Israel.

David Polden.

NEW SUCCESS IN PA’S CAMPAIGN AGAINST ELBIT

Palestine Action (PA)’s campaign against Israeli’s largest arms company, Elbit Systems’s, factories and offices claimed another scalp on March 28 when Elbit was forced to sell its “Elite KL” factory in Tamworth.

The company manufactured cooling and power management systems for military vehicles, but was sold after stating that it faced falling profits and increased security costs resulting from PA’s efforts.

Moreover the company taking over the factory took the trouble of informing PA by email that they had nothing to do with Elbit and had discontinued any arms manufacturing.

Getting Elbit to abandon its Tamworth factory follows three other successes by PA in its campaign against Elbit and associated companies, all in 2022. These involved Elbit selling its Ferranti factory in Oldham, which produced essential equipment for Israel’s military drones, to an electronics company on January 10, Elbit

shutting down its offices in Kingsway, London, on June 20 and on August 16, Elbit’s landlords, Fisher-German shutting down their offices in Birmingham, all four successes after sustained campaigns of direct action by PA against the four sites..

Another success was in a magistrates’ court on February 16, where District Judge Grace Leong found seven activists not guilty of breaching a section 14 notice during Palestine Action’s long siege of Leicester’s Elbit weapons factory, UAV Tactical Systems. Section 14 notices were brought in by the Public Order Act 1986 allowing the police to make conditions on static protests.

The district judge found there was no case to answer after the prosecution had given evidence and the defence had made submissions that there was no legal certainty about the section 14 conditions, that the prosecution had given no evidence that the seven knew or ought to have known about the notice and that they weren’t arrested

during a public assembly. The seven were among 26 people who were rounded up and arrested on the second day of the PA siege.. They were camping in woods by the factory when they were woken by police and arrested. By the third day of the siege, 33 had been arrested. All of those arrested were bailed on condition

On February 14, PA activists locked-on across the entrance of Elbit's Bristol HQ, preventing access.

The same day, PA activists drenched the Bank of New York's premises in Manchester in red paint, to symbolise its complicity in Palestinian bloodshed through investing £10 million in Elbit, and also sprayed a message calling for Elbit to be shut down. On the 29th activists returned to the premises and covered its front elevation with red paint. Two activists climbed onto the offices' front doors and another two blocked the entrance to the offices' car park by locking on across it..

On the 27th, PA activists blockaded the Elbit-owned UAV Engines factory in Shenstone, Staffordshire, which produces engines for Israeli military drones being used in Gaza. The activists locked themselves to the gates of the factory preventing access.

On March 4, PA Activists targeted Smith Metals's headquarters in Bedfordshire over their complicity in the Gaza genocide. Windows were cracked and red paint was sprayed across the building, symbolising the bloodshed of the Palestinian people. Smith Metals's website confirms that they supply components for the F-35 fighter jet, which Israel uses in their bombardments of Gaza.

On the 8th, activists slashed and sprayed with red paint a 1914 painting of Lord Arthur Balfour inside Trinity College, Cambridge. Balfour was colonial administrator of Palestine and signatory of the 1917 "Balfour Declaration" which awarded a "national home" to the

of not returning to the factory. The section 14 notice issued included conditions preventing people from erecting any structure in the area including tents. This led to many people sleeping without shelter.

Meanwhile PA continued their campaign:



Sitting on top of front revolving doors during Feb.29 BNY blockade

Jewish people in Palestine, without consulting its then mostly Palestinian population.

On the 12th, PA activists covered the ADS group's London office in red paint to symbolise their complicity in Palestinian bloodshed. This was done a few hours before the ADS-organised "Security & Policing" arms fair, attended by Elbit, BAE Systems and other known suppliers for the Israeli military began.

On the 18th PA activists covered the premises of Somerset Council, the landlords of Elbit's Bristol HQ, with red paint, hand prints and spray-painted messages which read 'Elbit Out', 'Evict Elbit' and 'Blood on your Hands'.

RWANDA BILL STILL STUCK IN PARLIAMENT

The UK's plan to resettle some "illegal" migrants 4000 miles away in Rwanda was first announced by Boris Johnson in April 2022. Two years later exactly zero migrants have been sent to Rwanda. On November 15 2023, the UK Supreme Court upheld an Appeal Court ruling that the plan was illegal, mainly on the grounds that the UK government could not guarantee that Rwanda would uphold the migrants human rights and that they would be safe.

The government responded to this ruling by introducing on December 9th a Bill entitled, *The Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Bill* which simply declares that Rwanda is a safe country.

This Bill passed through the Commons unamended, in spite of opposition and amendments introduced by right-wing Tories who argued that the bill was not tough enough in that it didn't stop migrants scheduled to be sent to Rwanda appealing to the European Court of Human Rights.

However when it came before the Lords it suffered five serious amendments by majorities of about 100 after the Archbishop of Canterbury and former Conservative ministers joined forces with the opposition to oppose the bill. The five amendments included removing the statement in the Bill that Rwanda is "safe".

The Bill was then sent back to the Commons who voted down all amendments. Sent back to the Lords, seven amendments were voted for, including again removing the statement that Rwanda is a safe country.

Surprisingly the Bill was not returned again to the Commons immediately where the expectation would be that the Commons would have again voted down the Lords's amendments, after which the bill would have gone for Royal Assent.. The return of the Bill was instead postponed till after Easter.

It's possible the government are afraid that after the Bill is passed the Supreme Court will still find that Rwanda

is not a safe country and that the new “safeguards” written into the treaty will not make it so.

On March 29, in another blow to the Rwanda plan it was reported that a paper from the UK Foreign Office found stagnated since 2014.

Meanwhile the UK is paying enormous sums to Rwanda in return for its agreement to the plan. The *Guardian* reported that the UK’s National Audit Office (NAA) has disclosed that the plan would cost taxpayers £1.8m each for the first 300 people the government deports to Rwanda, if the UK ever manages to send that number.

All this is absurd when most refugees arriving in small boats are fit young people who could fill the many job vacancies currently existing in the UK in the health service, education, hospitality, farm work, and their being paid wages would stop them being a financial burden on the state. Also, having their claims for asylum assessed much more rapidly would help bring this about, since currently asylum claimants are not allowed to do paid work. Figures show that when asylum seekers do get assessed for asylum in the UK some 69% are awarded it.

Meanwhile some 4,644 migrants have crossed the Channel to the UK in the first three months of 2024, more than in the first three months of any previous year, according to Home Office figures.

PUNISHING THE HOMELESS

Largely due to government policies on welfare and the treatment of asylum seekers and other migrants the number of rough sleepers on the UK’s streets has increased under the present government.

How to deal with this problem of what a recent Home Secretary, Suella Braverman, absurdly called a “lifestyle choice”?

In February 2022 Parliament repealed the *Vagrancy Act 1824* which made begging and vagrancy criminal offences. However the government chose not to enact this repeal and instead, introduced changes in the

that more than half the population, 56.5%, lived on less than £1.50 a day, and that poverty reduction there had



A Royal National Lifeboat picking up refugees in the Channel, 2024

Criminal Justice Bill, 2023-4 going through Parliament to replace the *Vagrancy Act* with something even worse in some ways. While making “vagrancy” no longer a crime, it stigmatises rough sleeping by making what it called “nuisance rough sleeping” a criminal offence. The Bill says someone could be considered a “nuisance” if they are sleeping in a doorway, if they have an “excessive smell”, or even if they simply look like they are intending to sleep on the streets.

This leaves the door open for anyone sleeping rough to be arrested and charged by police based on a judgement about how they look or act.

VICTORY FOR CAMPAIGNERS AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE

On April 9, the European Court of Human Rights ruled Switzerland had failed to comply with its duty to stop climate change, in particular violating fundamental human rights, including the right to family life of a group of older Swiss women who had brought the case. The court also set out a path for organisations to bring similar cases, which opens the possibility of like cases being brought against all 46 countries that are members of the Council of Europe.

Meanwhile Just Stop Oil (JSO) continued its campaign against government plans for new fossil fuel production.

JSO has been focussing on a campaign to get Labour Party MPs to undertake to quit Labour if, within six months of becoming the government, it fails to revoke oil licences granted by the Tory government since 2021. Actions to forward this policy have included disrupting a fundraising dinner held by Labour front-bencher Anneliese Dodds by shouting out the demand.

When a JSO activist delivered a letter on March 14 to Emily Thornberry MP making the demand, the activist was arrested for breach of her bail conditions to not to go near MPs’ homes. Five days later JSO supporters disrupted a Thornberry public meeting when she failed to reply to the letter.

On March 15, activists held a demonstration at a meeting held by Tory MP Mark Jenkinson to make the demand. Jenkinson is a vocal supporter of plans for a new Cumbrian coal mine.

On March 25, two activists fly-posted Exeter Labour Party HQ with copies and posters of a letter making the demand sent to Labour candidate Steve Race.

On March 28, activists disrupted by making the demand, a Labour fundraiser featuring Labour MPs Peter Mandelson, Ed Milliband and Louise Haigh as speakers

Among JSO other actions, on March 1, some 1200 JSO and Extinction Rebellion supporters occupied a building

in Birmingham, home to three insurance companies, demanding the companies immediately stop insuring new coal, oil, and gas production.

JSO inside and outside court



Marcus, released on bail after 490 days but facing deportation

On the 5th February, at Isleworth Crown Court, the jury found Chrissie Gethin guilty by a 10-2 verdict of the new statutory crime of “causing a nuisance” by, with two others, climbing on gantries over the Dartford Crossing and displaying Just Stop Oil banners, causing traffic to be held up. Cressie is to be sentenced on May 3 with two others. They face possible ten-year sentences. One of the two on the gantries with Chrissie, Marcus Decker, who had been sentenced much earlier, was released on bail the following day after serving 490 days for the same “crime”. As a German citizen he is facing a legal battle against automatic deportation, to remain in the UK with his partner and two step-children. The other man charged for public nuisance over the incident, Morgan Trowland, had been released earlier having served half his 3-year sentence.

On March 5th: two JSO activists glued themselves to the gates at the entrance to the High Court. The action came after 18 JSO activists had appeared at the High Court over the previous two days charged with an alleged breach of a civil injunction taken out by National Highways Ltd in 2022 preventing obstruction of the highway. One of the two was held in custody till March 14 when a court remanded him to prison

On March 19 JSO activist Rev. Mark Coleman was arrested outside his Rochdale home and taken to Bury custody suite where he was questioned over a claim in the *Daily Mail* that JSO planned to occupy the homes and offices of MPs. Next day activist Rosa Hicks was arrested in the street and held at Islington police station on suspicion of conspiracy to commit burglary.

On March 21 four JSO activists were found guilty at Basildon Court (probably of) “causing a public nuisance“ by occupying tunnels dug under the road

leading to an oil terminal at Thurrock in Essex for 13 days obstructing oil tankers leaving the terminal.

On April 6 XR and JSO’s co-founder Roger Hallam, and Dr. Larch Maxey were found guilty of conspiracy to cause public nuisance by flying a drone near the airport in August and September last year. A third man, Mike Lynch, pleaded guilty to the charge over his involvement. They avoided being sent to prison, in spite of the maximum sentence for the offence being life. Roger and Larch were sentenced to 18 months’ imprisonment, suspended for two years and Mike to 17 months, suspended for 18 months.

ASSANGE WINS EXTRADITION REPRIEVE

On March 27, Assange applied to make a fresh appeal to the High Court against extradition to the US. Two judges hearing his application found that he had real prospects of success on three of the nine grounds he had presented, but adjourned a decision on whether to grant the application for 3 weeks to give time to the US to provide assurances that Assange would not be prejudiced during trial and sentencing in the US for his Australian nationality, that he would be afforded the same first amendment protections as a US citizen, and that the death penalty would not be imposed.



Julian Assange

COMING EVENTS

April

13-21: Defend Our Juries week of action outside Crown courts over the country, including an action taking place on April 18 at the High Court in the Strand for Trudi Warner, charged with “Contempt of Court “ for holding up a sign outside court informing jurors that they have an absolute right to acquit defendants according their consciences.

14, London: Day of Action in support of Julian Assange: 10.30-11.30 am outside the Ecuadorian Embassy, 3 Hans Crescent SW1; 12-1pm outside Westminster Magistrates

14, London, 5.30pm: Gaza Benefit Variety Show. Proceeds to Medical Aid for Palestine. Anyone can perform. Bring veggie item for buffet. Children’s corner. At Wanstead Quaker Meeting House, Bush Road, Leytonstone E11

16, Bristol, 6pm: “Defend the Right to Protest; Palestine, Islamophobia and Civil Liberties.”

18, London, 6pm: Celebration of life of Pat Arrowsmith. Speakers include Kate Hudson, Steve Bell and Lindsey German . At LSE Library, 10 Portugal Street WC2. Drinks after with viewing of current Pat Arrowsmith library exhibition. If you want to attend, phone CND on 020 7700 2393 or e-mail: information@cnduk.org

26, London, noon: Chernobyl Day anti-nuclear stall in Bromley Market Square. Org. by Bromley CND. Info: annegarrett@yahoo.com

30, London, 10.30am: “A nuclear-free future.” A day in Parliament with Youth and Student CND (YSCND) Tour of Parliament, lunch and workshops with Corbyn and other MPs. Free, but must be member of YSCND. information@cnduk.org

May

1, London, assemble noon in Clerkenwell Green EC1 for annual TUC march and rally celebrating International Workers’ Day. Organised by Greater London Association of Trade Unions. Info: <http://www.londonmayday.org/>

9, London, 7.30pm: Concert for Peace by *Musicians for Peace and Disarmament* performing works by *Les Six*, the group of French composers active in 1920s Paris. At Lauderdale House, Waterlow Park, Highgate Hill N6. £20/£15. Tickets from: www.lauderdalehouse.org.uk. Proceeds to peace movement.

11, Countrywide, “Don’t put Britain on the Nuclear Front Line.” Join CND day of action against US nuclear weapons coming to Britain. Info: CND, 020 7700 2393 or information@cnduk.org

11, London, (time tbc) As part of CND day of action, CND and London CND will be holding a protest outside the US Embassy at 33, Nine Elms Lane SW11, with speakers and entertainment.

Queries: information@cnduk.org or phone 020 7700 2393.

15, Countrywide: Conscientious Objectors’ (COs) Day events. See: <https://www.ppu.org.uk/events>

15, London, 1-2pm: the annual ceremony in Tavistock Square WC1. This year the ceremony will pay tribute to the struggles of COs in Israel, Russia and Ukraine and many

other countries. Speakers include Or, an Israeli CO and member of anti-militarist group New Profile. Organised by: Peace Pledge Union, www.ppu.org.uk

June

3, 7pm, Online: “Singing Louder Than The Guns.” Singer Penny Stone, *Peace News* columnist, talks about her experiences singing in Edinburgh radical peace choir “Protest in Harmony”. Zoom registration: www.tinyurl.com/PennyStonePN

6, London, 2pm: 39th Annual Celebration of construction of London Peace Pagoda at the Pagoda in Battersea Park. See: <https://londonpeacepagoda.wordpress.com/>

8, London, 8pm: “Britain and the Legacy of Slavery.” Keith McClelland examines British slave-ownership in the Caribbean c.1763-1838 & how it helped shape modern British society. Preceded by buffet at 7.30pm. Bring veggie food for it. Free and open to all. Venue: St John’s Church Hall, High Road, Leytonstone E11. To confirm talk roskane@btinternet.com

Regular events

Every Saturday, Thamesmead. noon-2pm: Vigil and leafletting for Assange outside Belmarsh Prison (244 or 380 buses from Woolwich Arsenal station. Organised *Don’t Extradite Assange*, www.dontextraditeassange.com

Every Saturday, Oxford, 2-3pm: Women in Black silent Peace Vigil at the Martyrs’ Memorial, bottom of St Giles, Contact: oxfordwib@gmail.com to go on our WhatsApp group for up to date information about forthcoming vigils.

Every Tuesday, Menwith Hill, 6-7pm: outside main gate of US spy base on A59 road. Org. Menwith Accountability Campaign, <https://www.themhac.uk>. Contact: Sarah Swift, sswift64@gmail.com

Every Wednesday, London, 6-7pm: Women in Black silent vigil against militarism and war by the Edith Cavell statue in St. Martin’s Place, London WC2. Wear black. www.london.womeninblack.org

Every Wednesday, Faslane, 3.10pm walk from Faslane Peace Camp to base for vigil from 4-5pm. (Bus from Helensburgh passes peac camp at 3pm.)

Every third Thursday of month, 6.30pm. ZOOM meeting of London Campaign Against the Arms Trade.

Every Friday, Brighton, 1-2pm: Women in Black vigil at the War Memorial, Old Steine, Brighton. Contact: brightonwib@11qp.co.uk

Third Thursday of month, London. 6.30pm, online: London CAAT meeting to organise against the arms trade. Info: londoncaat@riseup.net

Last Friday of month: “No Fukushimas Here.” 11am-12.30pm: Vigil outside Japanese Embassy, 101-104 Piccadilly; 1-1.30pm: vigil outside Tokyo Electric Power Company, 15-16, Holborn EC1. Org. Kick Nuclear. Info: Shigeo: shigeokobayashi80@msn.com