

Press release

# Salisbury Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND)

## Hiroshima and Nagasaki Commemorative Candle Float

August 6th 2021



In 1945, the first atomic bomb ever to be used was dropped on Hiroshima. Three days later, a second bomb was dropped on Nagasaki. The human carnage was beyond imagining, hundreds of thousands of civilians died and the effects of those bombs are still evident today. The legacy of those events majorly influences our modern world, with huge resources devoted to ever more powerful nuclear arsenals, the use of which would end the world as we know it.

Each year, in Hiroshima, candle lanterns are floated to commemorate those dreadful times and remember all who have been affected by nuclear weapons.

Since the early 80's, Salisbury CND has been conducting an annual Candle Float of its own on the River Avon as it runs through the city.

We are fortunate to have developed links with groups in Hiroshima over the years and, this year, we were honoured to receive a letter from Matsui Kazumi, the Mayor of Hiroshima. We were also sent five lanterns from Hiroshima to join with our own in this year's Candle Float.

Due to worries about the rapid spread of Covid-19, we decided that rather than run our usual public event, we would make a film. The film represents the coming together of so much warm human spirit, and we are very grateful to Catrin Finch and Seckou Keita for allowing us to use their beautiful music to complement our images.

A spokesperson from Salisbury CND said:

*"We hope that people will appreciate this meditative film and reflect on whether they wish to join us, as we strive to eliminate the absolute evil of nuclear weapons"*

The film is available via the link below:

[https://www.cndsalisbury.org.uk/news\\_items/1677-hiroshima-and-nagasaki-commemorative-candle-float-2021](https://www.cndsalisbury.org.uk/news_items/1677-hiroshima-and-nagasaki-commemorative-candle-float-2021)

For more information on Salisbury CND's activities, do visit our website.

<https://www.cndsalisbury.org.uk>

**Photo Caption:** *One of the lanterns sent from Hiroshima, hand painted on paper recycled from the paper cranes used in Hiroshima last year*

**For more information, please contact**

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**Embargo Date: For immediate use**