

A little light music

Voices from Darkness, the first Clun Valley Music Festival, will take place from November 9 - 11, focusing on music from around the time of the First World War. The festival will take place in three venues in the pretty Shropshire village of Clun and will include works by George Butterworth, killed at the Battle of the Somme in 1916. Works by Elgar, Ravel and Vaughan Williams will also be featured plus a 1921 piano trio by Rebecca Clark. For more details visit www.clunvalleymusic.co.uk or call 01588 640 162.

■ **The US *World Beyond War* group will hold an international gathering about NATO in Dublin from November 16 - 18. See <https://worldbeyondwar.org>**

Get festive with CND

Greater Manchester CND will hold its popular Christmas Peace & Craft Fair on Saturday, November 17, from 11am - 4pm at the Birch Community Association, Brighton Grove, Longsight, with all proceeds going to local good causes and charities.

The Peace Cafe will serve yummy hot and cold food and the resident band will provide a festive atmosphere. Entry is free the venue is fully accessible.

For an electronic version of the newsletter email Gillian Hurle, gill.hurle@abolishwar.org.uk

The next edition of *Abolish War* will be out on February 1, 2019



■ **A LOT ON OUR PLATES:** Members of the MAW committee enjoyed a summer weekend 'think-tank' and get together - look out for the results of their deliberations over the next few weeks and months!

Would you like to join us? MAW is looking for new members and new committee members as we look towards 2019 with this mission statement: "The Movement for the Abolition of War is a group based in the UK which challenges the acceptability of war. We are run by volunteers who campaign for constructive alternatives to war." If you would like to know more, contact gill.hurle@abolishwar.org.uk

Many ways to mark 100 years since the end of WW1

A reminder that Caroline Lucas, MP, will give the 2018 MAW Remembrance Lecture on Saturday, November 3 at 2pm, speaking on *Active Remembrance and Waging Peace Together*. Join us at St John's Waterloo,

London SE1 8TY. Our AGM is at 11am at the same venue and again, all are welcome.

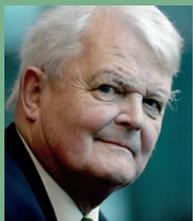
The following weekend, the First World War Peace Forum will host key Remembrance events on Sunday, November 11. MAW member Hilary Evans will make a MAW wreath

using white poppies for a ceremony in Tavistock Square at 1pm. Sally Reynolds and Gill Hurle will run a stall at Friends House, Euston, for an event from 2 - 5pm involving 20 other peace organisations, children's activities, music and films. Everyone welcome.



Key meeting with a Welsh flavour

Bruce Kent reports from the very successful Peace History Conference in Cardiff



This inspiring event took place in the Temple of Peace and University, Cardiff. Alpha plus plus to all the organisers and especially to Mererid Hopwood, chair of the Fellowship of Reconciliation in Wales.

The conference offered us cultural richness of which we in London would hardly dream including a wonderful performance by prizewinning choirs, a new peace trail through Cardiff, the launch of a book about conscientious objection, plus many episodes from the poetic peace tradition of Wales that were new to me. It was great to learn from young researchers documenting activism at the Brawdy base, and the massive 1926 Petition from Welsh women to the women of the United States which was aimed at getting the USA into the League of Nations. We also heard about some welcome new Assembly legislation which requires every department to consider the impact of new policy on future generations - including its impact on peace. To MAW readers - if you hear anything about another peace conference in Wales, don't waste time, book your ticket.

MAW deeply saddened at death of our vice-chair Becky Garnault

All at MAW have been deeply saddened by the recent death of our vice-chair and member of our Youth Group, Becky Garnault, pictured, at the age of 27.

Becky joined MAW in 2014 and, on our behalf, attended a Peace Camp in Sarajevo to mark 100 years since the beginning of WWI and a peace conference in Berlin, together with other members of MAW Youth.

MAW Chair Tim Devereux paid tribute to Becky saying: "We will all miss her energy, enthusiasm and drive. Her spirit shone through and informed everything she did."

MAW committee members attended Becky's funeral in her home town of Liverpool and offered her family their deepest condolences. As well as her work for MAW, in recent years Becky had completed a degree in Criminology and Sociology, an MSc. in Humanitarian Studies, was an Overseer at Liverpool Quaker Meeting, Co-Clerk of Quakers' Central Nominations Committee and worked for the British Lung Foundation.

MAW youth member Jen Harrison said: "In her 27 years, Becky managed to discover what she believed in. This takes some of us years to discover and a lifetime to find the courage to stand for what we believe. This is one lesson of Becky's legacy. MAW Youth will continue to work for a sustainable future, a more peaceful future, a future touched by Becky."



Hereford group on the road (and rail) for peace

On Wednesday, 24 October - United Nations Day and part of Disarmament Week - members of Hereford Peace Council travelled by train from the Hope/Chester/Wrexham areas first to Newport, collecting letters and petitions demanding that the UK sign the Nuclear Ban treaty.

The group then boarded a train to London and delivered the letters and petitions to the House of Commons. Follow the group's lead - start planning your own road trip.

■ Longstanding MAW members may not have had an email address when they joined up. If you are willing for us to contact you by email, please let us know at gill.hurle@abolishhwar.org.uk (You will still be able to get a paper copy of *Abolish War*).

I wear both a red poppy and a white poppy to remember ALL the victims

MAW Committee member Heather Speight (pictured) on why she wears both a white and a red poppy.

“I know and understand the various other ‘positions’ which all have their pros and cons. A red poppy is traditional, with military associations beyond simple remembrance whereas a white poppy makes a statement of peace. Some people don’t wear a poppy at all, perhaps to avoid conflict...

Personally, I feel that wearing both red and white together is the best option. It is sometimes suggested that the white poppy somehow dishonours the red



poppy, but this is certainly not the intention. The white poppy complements and extends the symbolism of the red poppy to include the victims of all wars, past and present, all who continue to suffer and die in conflict - soldiers and civilians.

It also symbolises a commitment to seeking alternatives to violent conflict. I think that the best way to honour all that suffering and sacrifice is to work for a more peaceful world, a world with less war!

Worn together, a red poppy and white emphasise that the two ‘camps’ don’t need to be in opposition to each other. Instead they can be a splendid example of nonviolent conflict resolution at grassroots level!”



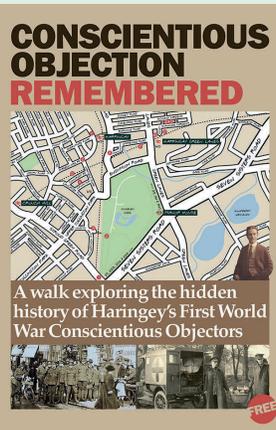
North hears MAW message of hope

To mark the UN International Peace Day and also 100 years since the end of WW1, Horsforth Town Council (near Leeds) put on *1918 - 2018: Celebrating Peace* on September 22 at the Emmanuel Baptist Church. The busy programme included children’s activities, choirs, speakers, exhibitions, stalls, an art display, a Peace Tree and a poppy-making workshop run by the Peace Museum, Bradford. MAW chair Tim Devereux was there with a MAW stall - our booklet of quotes *From War to Peace* proved very popular. MAW Vice-President, Colin Archer, retired Secretary-General of the International Peace Bureau, also attended and gave a wide-ranging and thought-provoking talk. Our ‘friends in the north’ said the whole event went very well and praised the varied contributors for all playing their part.

Walk in the footsteps of COs

Haringey First World War Peace Forum has published a new walk booklet, *Conscientious Objection Remembered - a walk exploring the hidden history of Haringey's First World War Conscientious Objectors*.

The North London walk from Finsbury Park to the Salisbury Hotel in Green Lanes, N4, takes people past houses where COs lived, marks meeting places and points out organisations actively opposed to war from 1914 - 18. Along the way you will find the Stroud Green house where the five Walker brothers lived, all at one time or another arrested, court-martialled or given prison sentences, visit the hall where Sylvia



Pankhurst spoke against conscription in February 1916 and end the walk at the Salisbury Hotel where anti-war protest meetings were held more than 100 years ago. The walk covers about two miles in all and is easily reachable by local transport. The illustrated booklet is free - thanks to a Heritage Lottery Fund grant - and is available from libraries across Haringey

and the Hornsey Historical Society. Download it at <https://conscientiousobjectionremembered.wordpress.com/peace-walks/>

Have pram, will protest! Follow Bath group's decades of activism

Nick and Dina Francis tell us about 40 years of campaigning in Bath.

Bath Stop the War's current presence outside Bath Abbey had its origins more than 40 years ago. In 1975, the revived Bath CND group decided it should have a weekly stall in Bath and started with a folding wallpaper table, leaflets and petitions in the main shopping street in Bath. We were soon told by the Council that we would need a street trading licence and would be allocated a position. This turned out to be a slightly obscure place (although handy for the public convenience!) and, although we by then had a

very fancy folding, covered, aluminium stall, we felt we were sidelined. So we acquired a pram, which made us mobile and we could keep on the move, negating the need for a licence and allowing us to choose where we wanted to be. We carried on in this usually on Saturdays, until the beginning of the Second Gulf War in 2003. At that point we decided a bigger and more visual demonstration was needed and so we moved to people with placards and a table with information and petitions at a vigil outside the main door of Bath Abbey for the busiest hour on Saturday mornings.

And that's what we have done ever since. Now we'd like to encourage other groups to have a go in their home towns. Once the equipment has been acquired - picnic table, hand-written placards on flipchart paper backed by cardboard, and perhaps a pull-out banner, all it needs is a core rota of people to get the stuff out, plus a place to store it (the local Quaker Meeting kindly give us space). It's easy to organise, is effective and

uplifting for outreach and publicising a cause. Make it regular so everyone knows you're there and can join in when motivated, for example on significant days, such as the anniversary of the nuclear attacks on Hiroshima/Nagasaki or the occasion of some new crisis.



The Movement for the Abolition of War – join us, or renew your membership

We aim to create a world where war is no longer seen as a way to solve a problem; where it has ceased to be an option; where conflict resolution means resolution. Working through education and dialogue, nationally and locally, we have the tools, skills and laws that we need, but we also need you - ordinary people can help us realise our goal, the abolition of war.

To join MAW or renew your membership, complete this form or download the membership and standing order forms from our website at <http://www.abolishwar.org.uk/join.html>.

Send the completed form (and cheque if applicable) to: Movement for the Abolition of War, 1 Old Mill Place, Haslemere, GU27 1NE

Membership application / renewal

Name

Address

..... Postcode

Tel no.

Email

Type of membership (please tick):

Life £100 Individual £15 Unwaged £5

Household (2 or more at same address) £20 Group or organisation £25

I enclose: Membership £
 Donation £
 Total £

Please make cheque payable to Movement for the Abolition of War
 OR Please send me a standing order form

Membership subscriptions: If you received this newsletter by post the label on the envelope shows your membership status: the date to which you are paid up, eg 2018; 'Life', if you are a life member; 'SO' if you pay by standing order or 'Comp' if you receive a complimentary copy.

To join or renew your membership complete the form in this newsletter or download the forms from our website at <http://www.abolishwar.org.uk/join.html>. If you would like to receive email notification of the newsletter availability, instead of a hard copy, please email gill.hurle@abolishwar.org.uk

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Have a heart

MAW member Helen Riley contributed a 'heart' to the *1,568 Sawdust Hearts* Exhibition. Sawdust heart pin cushions were made by invalided WW1 service personnel to pass the time and re-learn skills.

"Peace" is Latin for "in peace" and Helen envisaged the heart being created by a CO whose girlfriend was a suffragette, hence the white poppy plus the purple, white and green stripes. The exhibition runs from November 3 - 30 at Woodend, The Crescent, Scarborough YO11 2PW and entry is free. More details can be seen at www.ww1hearts.co.uk