

## Lecture is online

A recording of the MAW Remembrance Lecture given by Asad Rehman, Executive Director of War on Want, and which was warmly received can be viewed online.



See <https://abolishwar.net/2021-remembrance-lecture/>

## Report the UK

CND is reporting the UK government to the United Nations for breaking international law.

This is because the UK government has announced it will increase the number of nuclear warheads in its arsenal for the first time since the Cold War.

A legal opinion, which was commissioned by CND, has confirmed this is a breach of international law. Read more about the campaign here - [cnduk.org/report-the-uk-to-the-un](http://cnduk.org/report-the-uk-to-the-un)

To receive an electronic version of the newsletter email

[gill.hurle@abolishwar.org.uk](mailto:gill.hurle@abolishwar.org.uk)

*Abolish War* will next be published in February 2022. Please like our Facebook page and share our posts - [facebook.com/abolishwar](http://facebook.com/abolishwar)



**Spreading the word at COP26:** Tim Devereux, Sally Reynolds, David Collins and Hilary Evans (L-R) Read all about it on Page Three

## How MAW will make the most of opportunities in 2022 - join us!

MAW will enter 2022 taking up the opportunity imposed by the climate emergency and the pandemic to highlight ways of doing things differently.

As reported in *AW* (June 2021) the Ministry of Defence now takes the climate crisis very seriously, recognises MAW's contention that war causes climate change, and climate change causes war and sets out its plans to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions in the report *Climate Change and Sustainability Strategic Approach*.

NATO too, in its *Climate Change and Security Action Plan* published in June, shows similar awareness.

So can we rejoice that we are all now singing from the same hymn sheet? Sadly, no. There is no mention of reducing warfare in the MoD listed plans.

MAW's message, then, in the coming year needs to show clearly where we diverge from the military: that the most sustainable way of reducing military emissions, best for both humanity and the planet, is by reducing warfare.

### Five places to start

- Stop believing that war is inevitable. Redefine what really makes us secure.

- Use existing regulations to properly control the arms trade: worldwide armed conflict would shrink.

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## MAW AGM - the new line-up

**Chair:** Tim Devereux  
**Vice-chair:** Hilary Evans  
**Treasurer:** John Dowbekin  
**Secretary:** Sally Reynolds  
**Membership Secretary:** Gill Hurle

**Executive members:**  
David Collins, Sue Gilmurray, Helen Horton

**President Emeritus:** Bruce Kent

**President:** Paul Rogers  
**Vice Presidents:** Colin Archer, Martin Bell, Christine Blower, Diana Francis and Mererid Hopwood

**Abolish War editor:**  
Helen Riley

## Our priorities for the year ahead

**COP27:** Seek accreditation, campaign to get military emissions on the agenda and to bar fossil fuel lobbyists.

**Peace Education:** Helen Horton now represents MAW on the Peace Education Network. It hasn't been possible to go into schools during the pandemic but hopefully this will change.

**Intergenerational working:** Connecting with engaged young people.

**Nuclear weapons:** Getting local authorities to sign up to the TPNW. The First Meeting of the States Parties on the TPNW will take place in Vienna in March. MAW will work with ICAN UK partners.



## Women re-enact the Greenham march - and spark new ideas

In 1981, a group of women walked from Cardiff to Greenham Common to protest the US siting of Cruise nuclear weapons on British soil. The Greenham Women's Camp stayed for 19 years until the Cruise missiles left and the Common was returned to the people. It was the largest women-led women's protest since the Suffrage campaign and it radicalised a generation.

In September 2021 women of all ages once again marched from Cardiff to Greenham. Together we asked each other "What Next?" COP26 was coming up so we quickly decided to walk from Faslane Trident nuclear base to Glasgow. We first stayed at Faslane Peace Camp, occupied since 1982 and then, over four days, 12 women walked the 36 miles to the start of

COP26. Our banners proclaimed **Count the Military Carbon Boot Print and Pollution.**

We handed out leaflets about the military emissions contribution to climate change and talked to people en route and then on the streets of Glasgow during the two weeks of COP26.

Together with the myriad of other organisations we joined in protests and actions to raise awareness about the connections between the military and climate change.

It was wonderfully heartening to experience the passion for change on the streets of Glasgow and the real feeling of coming together and the willingness to join the endless dots which need connecting to make real change. We are now planning for the next "What Next."

**Alison Lochhead**

### From Page 1 -

- Insist that some of the \$2 trillion of global military spending is diverted into climate mitigation and transition needs, and into strengthening nonviolent techniques of conflict avoidance and resolution.
- Give proper support and funding to the United Nations

and recognise its achievements. Promote the UN's ideals within schools and to the public.

- Read Kate Raworth's *Doughnut Economics* - an economic model which helps all people thrive in a healthy planet.

What do YOU think - email

[info@abolishwar.org.uk](mailto:info@abolishwar.org.uk)

**Hilary Evans**

# Fresh hope on climate as MAW joins Glasgow peace campaigners

## MAW at COP26

### Climate Change Conference.

MAW made its presence felt in Glasgow even though our accreditation application was rejected, so not for us the elite delights of the delegates' Blue Zone! On most mornings, we were busy outside the Scottish Event Campus, greeting delegates and the public with our banners and leaflets - we gave out over 2000. Our message that "War causes climate change, climate change causes war" is gradually being recognised At COP27 in Egypt next year, it must be discussed **inside** the conference, not merely at the gates!

"We" consisted of Hilary Evans, Ali Lochhead, David Collins, Sally Reynolds, Mary Holmes, Helen Horton, George Paxton, Arthur West and Tim Devereux on various days and in various places.

During the first week of COP26, David and Ali spoke at a Stop the War Coalition event on the Buchanan Steps. We all joined the Global Day of Action for Climate Justice March on Saturday, 6 November, probably the coldest, wettest windiest day of COP. David describes the day: "I have never before felt such passion and power generated by a protest

march. Wave after wave of young and older people surged through the streets...so many, who had thought that they were powerless - now they could see that there were thousands more of the same mind and together fresh hope was generated."

We took an active part in the programme set up by the People's Summit for Climate Justice from 7-10 November as part of the COP26 Coalition. David, as MAW and Veterans for Peace, spoke in Veterans for Peace USA's online presentation, *US Militarism, Space Tech and the Climate Crisis*. Hilary was one of the panel for *Challenging the Military Carbon Footprint* on 8 November, where Stuart Parkinson of Scientists for Global Responsibility gave the main presentation.

**Tim Devereux**



**COP26 in pictures:** MAW chair Tim Devereux (top) brought his trusty trike to Glasgow and took the *Climate not Trident* message around the city. Vice-chair Hilary Evans (above right) and Executive Committee member Helen Horton spread the word with leaflets and banners and executive member David Collins (left) spoke at an outdoor event.

## Bruce honoured by Coventry with a Doctorate

**Bruce Kent, MAW's President Emeritus, and also Vice President at CND and Pax Christi has been awarded an Honorary Doctorate by Coventry University.**



Accepting the award Bruce, pictured, said: "The ruins of the old

Cathedral are still here as a reminder of what must never happen again. Sadly it has and IS happening again. At the interfaith Remembrance service at my church, we remembered places where there is war today...Democratic Republic of Congo, Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Libya, Ethiopia, Mexico, Yemen,

Saudi Arabia, Myanmar, South Sudan, Somalia - and more.

"Perhaps, with the new awareness of the dangers of climate change, there will be some new thinking.

"We have a long way to go. In the official Glasgow statements from COP26 the climate effects of militarisation get no mention.

As a world we spend nearly \$2 trillion a year on war and preparations for war. War produces a lot of CO2 - and wastes a huge budget which could be spent on real human needs.

"Young people - please think for yourselves. Don't be swept along by whatever happens to be the propaganda of the day. Ask your own critical questions. Why are people risking their lives trying to cross the Channel in small boats?

Why freezing in woods, facing Polish barbed wire? Why is it OK for charities to raise money for the war victims in Yemen, but not OK for them to ask why Britain is selling bombs to Saudi Arabia? "

**See Bruce on YouTube**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LriVhtuoRR4>

**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/support-us/join-us/>  
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**

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Type of membership (please tick):  
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I enclose: Membership £ .....  
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Please make cheque payable to Movement for the Abolition of War  
OR Please send me a standing order form

**Subscriptions for 2022 are now due:** 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 2021; '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, you can complete the form above, or go to [www.abolishwar.org.uk/support-us/join-us/](http://www.abolishwar.org.uk/support-us/join-us/) and complete the form there, either online or by download.

**Abolish War** is published by the Movement for the Abolition of War, 11 Venetia Road, London N4 1EJ

### Were you unhappy in the Armed Forces?

Do you have a relation or friend who was or is unhappy in the Armed Forces?

If so, you can understand why the AT EASE independent, confidential, free information, advice and counselling service is needed.

All the work of AT EASE is undertaken by its members who are all volunteers. More are needed.

If you would consider joining AT EASE, or would like more information, please email

[info@atease.org.uk](mailto:info@atease.org.uk)