



# HEDDWCH

Number 77 > April 2021 > CND Cymru > Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament



## SIGN THE TREATY!

Spring is here and the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) is up and running at the UN. It is a global, multilateral endeavour. It still needs to be endorsed by the people you vote for, so tell them to scrap Trident replacement and focus on saving lives instead of mass murder.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

The Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) passed into international law on 22 January 2021. We're still at the starting line rather than breasting the tape, but this remains a historic moment.

On p4 Brian Jones looks at how we can best take the Treaty forwards and on p6 Thomas Pitt takes an overview of the current disarmament stakes. Our Wales news diary on p12 records how the TPNW was welcomed in Wales.

### Coups: home or away?

He's gone – for now! On 6 January 2021 Trump incited his followers to storm the Capitol itself to thwart the outcome of a legitimate election. Five people died and 140 were injured. Vice-President Mike Pence was forced to flee the mob – along with an airforce officer clutching that briefcase which

contains the nuclear missile launch codes. Many recalled how the USA has in the past backed coups to overthrow democratically elected politicians around the world (Iran 1953 and Chile 1973, to name but two). Now at last the USA had finally decided to stage a coup against itself! And this time the earthquake was at the Capitol, the epicentre of the empire.

### Room for hope?

Fair play to Joe Biden, he has re-engaged with global institutions and diplomacy, slammed environmental vandalism into reverse, eased unjust travel bans and immigration issues, set about addressing a dire Covid legacy and rejoined the cause of global climate action.

### The Age of Precarious

However geopolitical concerns still nag. In *The Observer* in March 2021 John Naughton

diagnosed the USA as suffering from 'hegemony anxiety' disorder, as it did in the 1950s. To cure this condition the military-industrial complex would prescribe a new Cold War with China. If Biden is seeking to revert to the 'leader of the free world' role, that world has moved on while he's been away – and the pre-Trump status quo was already deeply flawed.

### Tell it like it is

Today authoritarians, liars, populists and genuine fascists strut the stage with impunity. Any leader who wishes to criticise the undemocratic practices of others must speak from the moral high ground or lose credibility. One cannot criticise Dictator A whilst cosying up with Dictator B. One cannot accuse another country of nuclear proliferation if you or your allies are yourselves buiding new missiles.

One cannot call for the rule of law without closing Guantanamo, or complain about war crimes without signing up to the International Criminal Court.

Amidst the slough of proxy wars and crises it's time for politics of principle. Sign the TPNW! Note that the 2021 re-set of the Doomsday Clock, by the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists, is stuck at just 100 seconds to midnight...

*Aberystwyth welcomes in the TPNW,  
with Liz Screen, Ramsey White and Mary Millington*

**Philip Steele**



# THE SENEDD GOES TO THE POLLS

***Voting takes place on 6 May 2021. Come on 16- and 17- year olds, you can turn out for the first time! Make history...***

In Wales we shall be electing our 60 Senedd members on Thursday 6 May 2021. Everyone in Wales – including for the first time 16- and 17-year olds, and legally resident foreign nationals – will have two votes: one vote for their individual constituency Senedd Member (MS), and a second vote for a party to select regional Senedd Members. Remember, some parties may be only standing candidates on the regional list.

For notes on how the electoral system works and for some background, go to

***<https://senedd.wales/election/>***

Election campaigning is likely to be completely different this time around due to the Covid-19 situation, with probably no door-to-door canvassing, and public meetings being switched online. You should be able to get contact details for all your candidates from your local council's website: you can email them, phone them, or you could ask for an online video discussion.

The candidates will want your vote – so make sure that they know what you want! CND Cymru draws its members from a wide political spectrum, and does not endorse particular candidates. However we share with you our campaigning priorities: nuclear weapons and disarmament, nuclear power, nuclear waste, peace and the environment.

***CND Cymru will be sending a short questionnaire to all candidates standing in this election, asking the candidates five questions:***

**(A) NUCLEAR WEAPONS** – although not a devolved issue, Senedd Members can sign the ICAN Parliamentary Pledge supporting the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Would you sign this if elected?

**(B) NUCLEAR WEAPONS** – would you support a Senedd policy of divesting its pension fund

from companies involved in nuclear weapon programmes?

**(C) NUCLEAR WEAPONS** – would you support a Senedd policy of prohibiting the transporting, stationing or deploying nuclear weapons in Wales, in Welsh air space, and in Welsh coastal waters?

**(D) NUCLEAR POWER** – as Wales currently generates more electricity than it uses, how would you react to any proposal for new nuclear power generation in Wales?

**(E) NUCLEAR WASTE** – although nuclear power is not a devolved issue, nuclear waste is a devolved matter. How would you react to any proposal for storing nuclear waste in Wales?

We will publicise the responses on our website [www.cndcymru.org](http://www.cndcymru.org) and facebook page from mid-April onwards.



# TAKING THE TREATY FORWARD

On 22 January 2021 the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) officially entered into force. A motion welcoming the treaty was supported by 130 states at the United Nations. CND Vice-Chair **Brian Jones** asks, 'What next?'

## The global campaign

The priorities for the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear weapons (ICAN), are:

- to encourage the 36 states who have already signed the treaty to complete their ratification processes, and
- to encourage the 44 states who voted to welcome the treaty to now sign the treaty.

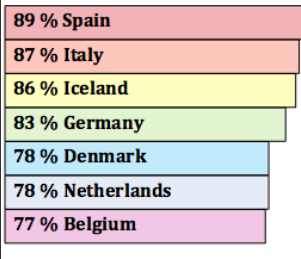
ICAN hopes that states will be motivated to act in order to be able to take part in the first meeting of states party to the TPNW. This will take place, probably, in Austria towards the end of 2021.

## NATO – what does the public think?

Polls conducted in late 2020 in six NATO countries – Belgium, Denmark, Iceland, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain – show very high levels of public support

for their countries to join the TPNW:

**Percentage of respondents who answered “yes” to the question: “Do you think your country should join the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons?”**



Support for the current government's position – not to join the treaty – was in the single digits in most countries. Notably, those polled still overwhelmingly supported joining the TPNW even if their country would be the first NATO country to do so, and in the face of US pressure

not to. In Belgium, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands, the polls also found popular support for removing U.S. nuclear weapons from their territory. These polls show how out of touch NATO policy on nuclear weapons is with the democratic support for the TPNW. Now that the treaty has entered into force, global support for the TPNW, including within NATO, will only continue to grow.

The German government's research department have just published a report, *On the legal relationship between the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and the Non-Proliferation Treaty*, which concluded that there is no conflict between the TPNW and the NPT (nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty), as is often argued by NATO governments (including the UK).





## MEANWHILE IN WALES...

CND Cymru wants to contribute to this momentum by convincing politicians and people that we, and the world, would be safer without nuclear weapons.

With Senedd elections coming up, we will be asking all candidates for their opinions on the TPNW (see p3).

We are also hoping to get to reach faith communities in Wales, through the:

### **Faith Leaders' Pledge of support for the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons**

*As a faith leader, I welcome the entry into force of the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons on 22 January 2021 as a significant step towards the realisation of a nuclear weapon free-world. I share the deep concern expressed in the treaty's preamble about the catastrophic humanitarian consequences that would result from any use of nuclear weapons, and consequently believe that we need to eliminate these inhumane, abhorrent weapons. I promise to make the moral case for the TPNW and to call on the UK government to sign and ratify this treaty.*

### **heddwch>action:**

Please help us by contacting any faith groups in your area, asking them to support the TPNW by getting their leadership to sign up to the pledge.

The full wording is available online here

<https://www.cndcymru.org/information/tpnw/faith>

We hope that we will get significant publicity when the list of supporters is released to the press later this year.

### **Wales welcomes in the TPNW** (Right & Below)

Since **Heddwch 76**, 4 states have ratified the TPNW: Benin, Cambodia, Comoros, and the Philippines, meaning that 54 states have now signed and ratified the treaty. In addition, 2 states (Niger and Zimbabwe) have now signed the treaty and, like 34 other states, are in the process of ratifying.



CND Cymru



## PICKING UP THE PIECES

**Thomas Pitt**, from Cardiff, attended ICAN's Paris Conference for CND Cymru in 2020. A lot has changed since then.

On 26 January 2021, Presidents Joe Biden and Vladimir Putin held their first phone call since the former's inauguration. Many of the headlines focused on their discussion of election meddling and the arrest of Alexei Navalny, but no less important was the agreement of both parties to extend **New START** until 2026, a decision that subsequently received formal ratification.

Had the treaty been allowed to expire on 5 February, neither state would have been under any substantive limits on the number of nuclear arms possessed or deployed. That this highly dangerous state of affairs, not seen since the height of the Cold War, has been avoided is a welcome development. With New START extended, a new occupant of the White House, the delayed **NPT Review Conference (RevCon)** now scheduled for August and, of course, the TPNW now in force, it is not unrealistic to ask if 2021 could be a landmark year for global disarmament efforts.

It goes without saying, however, that many obstacles remain. Starting with the NPT, it is to be hoped that this year's RevCon is more successful than in 2015, when talks ended without agreement. The coronavirus-induced postponement does offer Biden the opportunity to

use the RevCon to recommit the US to multilateralism, but settling on a consensus final document involving all 191 state parties will, as ever, not be straightforward.

This is especially the case in light of the present Middle East context. Prime amongst the many concerns is Iran's nuclear programme, with the country announcing in January that it is increasing its uranium enrichment to 20%, a significant step towards nuclear weapon capability. Furthermore, whilst Iran has previously maintained that its programme is for peaceful purposes only, in early February Iranian intelligence minister Mahmoud Alavi was reported as saying that his country could pursue the development of nukes if sanctions are not lifted.

Reviving the moribund **JCOA (Joint Comprehensive**

**Plan of Action)**, from which the US withdrew in 2018, is therefore imperative. Biden has pledged to do just this, but as we go to press, it is proving to be easier said than done. With Iranian elections in June, it is likely that hardliners will try to exert their influence. The assassination of Iran's top nuclear scientist, allegedly by the Israeli intelligence service, has also not eased relations in the region.

The current global disarmament situation is thus something of a mixed picture, replete with both dangers and opportunities. But there is cause for renewed hope and, so far, Biden has made encouraging statements about his intentions for disarmament and non-proliferation. The next twelve months should give us a much clearer idea of to what extent these words will translate into concrete action.



*US air power: a Stealth bomber.*

# YEMEN IN CRISIS

*Yemen is facing a major humanitarian crisis. A devastating conflict has left children and families in urgent need of food, water and medical supplies. Currently, 1.71 million children are internally displaced.*

**No place in Yemen is safe for children.**

40% of the UK's weapons sales between 2010 and 2019 went to Saudi Arabia who are major contributors to the crisis.

An Early Day Motion (EDM) calling upon the Government to end all support for the war and suspend all arms sales to Saudi Arabia immediately, has been tabled in the house of Commons: <https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/58001>

Only 4 of the 40 Welsh MPS have signed this EDM (all 3 Plaid Cymru members plus the independent Jonathan Edwards).

***Please write to your MP and ask her or him to sign it.***

Unicef is concerned that the spread of coronavirus in Yemen is likely to be devastating. Only one in three people have access to running water, very few people have soap, and many healthcare facilities are closed or only able to provide a very basic service. Any outbreak will place even greater demands on medical staff and already scarce hospital resources such as gloves, soap and ventilators.

***80% of Yemen's population are in need of humanitarian aid and protection.***

Six years of fighting has already pushed Yemen and its health system to the brink of collapse. Millions of children lack access to clean water and sanitation facilities and are in desperate need of basic healthcare. Malnutrition is also at an all-time high. 2 million children are acutely malnourished and over 368,000 children under 5 are suffering from severe acute malnutrition and urgently need life-saving food to survive.



Ahmed Jahof

**heddwch>action:**

**Donate:**

<https://www.unicef.org.uk/donate/yemen/>

**Two good articles in the Guardian:**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/feb/01/yemen-arab-spring-ten-years-war-cholera-coronavirus-famine>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/jan/03/lethal-airstrikes-in-yemen-left-off-confidential-uk-record>

**Associated Press website:** UN: Over 2 million Yemeni children may starve in 2021

**Stop the War website:**

<https://www.stopwar.org.uk/article/british-training-of-saudi-pilots-continues-amid-bombing-of-yemen/>

**Twitter containing a letter to Dominic Raab**

<https://twitter.com/KimJohnsonMP/status/1361734124445306880/photo/1>

***In March Oxfam warned Boris Johnson that a cut in Britain's aid to Yemen could cost tens of thousands of Yemeni lives. £200 million promised in 2019 has been reduced to £87 million, a figure which shocked the public and even some Tory MPs.***

***Remember that Wales has been complicit in the war in Yemen by training Saudi combat pilots at RAF Valley, Ynys Môn.***

# THE LANGUAGE OF RADIATION

**Richard Bramhall** from *Llandrindod* is founder of the Low-Level Radiation Campaign and Chair of the Welsh Anti-Nuclear Alliance.

In her book *No Immediate Danger* the late Rosalie Bertell quoted a press report showing that, in the 1950s, the US President Eisenhower wanted to keep the public confused about the effects of testing nuclear bombs. This strategy is still in use and can be analysed in terms of confusing terminology and a false concept of radiation dose.

## One word, two meanings

In discussing radio-protection (protection against radiation hazards), the word "particle" has two meanings – particles smaller than atoms ("subatomic particles") and fragments of radioactive matter composed of billions of atoms.

Subatomic particles are ejected from an atom when it undergoes radioactive decay. We are generally concerned with three types:

**GAMMA RAYS** (or photons) have no electric charge and virtually no mass, so they interact with matter relatively rarely, which explains why they are highly penetrating.

**BETA PARTICLES** are negatively charged high energy electrons; bigger than gammas and less penetrating.

**ALPHAS** are the nuclei of helium atoms. Compared with gammas and betas they are

very large and have massive momentum. They therefore interact with matter intensely, giving up their energy in the form of large numbers of ionisations, and slowing down so rapidly that they cannot penetrate the layer of dead cells on human skin. All the initial damage from alpha decays is done within a few cell diameters. Most of the affected cells die but health effects can be caused by damage that is survivable but misrepaired.

## Dust particles

The word "particle" is also used to refer to fragments of material like uranium oxide or plutonium from nuclear reactors or bombs. Even a one micron particle (one thousandth of a millimetre diameter) is several billions of times bigger than an alpha particle – more than the difference in size between an amoeba and a Great White shark.

The most worrying dust particles are a few microns across. They are highly mobile in the environment. An inhaled 5 micron particle can pass

through the lung wall and be transported anywhere in the body.

## Eyes closed: the fatal limitation of spectrometry

In 2018 EDF dredged over 100,000 tonnes of mud from Hinkley Point and, despite a large protest campaign, dumped it close to Cardiff under a licence granted by Wales in 2014. EDF wants to dump far more – reportedly nearly a million tonnes in all. But the old licence has expired. The mud is known to be contaminated with radioactivity so new tests were done last year by the Westminster-owned laboratory CEFAS. The bad news is that CEFAS used spectrometry both times. Spectrometry is like studying a rainbow to see the component wavelengths of sunlight – it depends on separating the different radiation frequencies of the radio-elements. To achieve that, the samples have to be rigorously homogenised. So alpha spectrometry may sound reassuring but homogenising the samples means the dust particles were excluded.





## Eyes open: a more suitable technique

Fortunately, the Low Level Radiation Campaign can detect the actual impact of alpha-emitting particles using CR39 plastic. You will have used CR39 if you ever bought a kit to test your house for the natural alpha-emitter radon gas. The difference between radon tests and the image below is that radon is a gas so it doesn't cluster.

As data from the United Nations<sup>[1]</sup> has shown, all operating nuclear power stations emit radioactive particles. Particles in the sea are known to migrate onto the land. They are highly mobile in light winds and research by UKAEA in the 1980s found no limit to the extent of inland migration. The slide on which the particle imaged right was found contained seven similar clusters. There was no cherry-picking to find the most contaminated parts of the filter (to do so would be dangerous and very difficult) so we must assume it's loaded with uranium dust. LLRC still has the rest of the filter.

## The "Geiger Bay" campaign

Welsh opposition to the second licence has included a credible threat of legal action. EDF has recently applied for an alternative licence to dump at Portishead on the north coast

of Somerset, possibly to avoid scrutiny by Wales' parliament, the Senedd, and environmental agency. The bad news is that the powerful tides and currents in the Severn Estuary would distribute the uranium from Portishead just as effectively. Geiger Bay opposes dumping at any location.

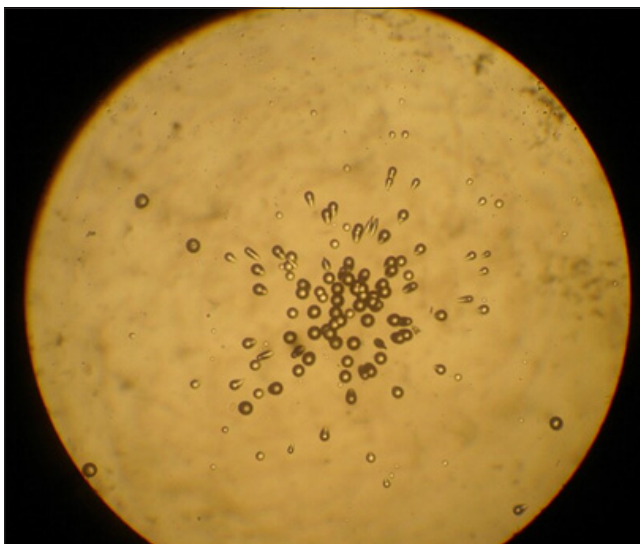
## Average radiation dose; a false concept

The final element in the radiation risk charade is the official pretence that doses from alpha-emitting dust fragments can be averaged across the whole body. It's as if

the police let a gunman into the Narendra Modi Stadium (the world's largest cricket stadium) because he says his bullets will be shared by all 132,000 people. The history and the science are explained in accessible language in a new report commissioned by the charity Children with Cancer UK.<sup>[2]</sup>

[1] [http://www.unscear.org/docs/publications/2000/UNSCEAR\\_2000\\_Annex-C-CORR.pdf](http://www.unscear.org/docs/publications/2000/UNSCEAR_2000_Annex-C-CORR.pdf) Table 34

[2] *Radiation and reason: The impact of science on a culture of confusion* <http://www.llrc.org/children.htm/>



Alpha radiation tracks from a fragment of uranium oxide found in the engine air filter of a car used exclusively in the vicinity of Hinkley Point. Each round mark shows the damage caused by a single alpha track hitting the plastic. The oval marks are made by tracks travelling aslant the surface. The clustering shows that the uranium source was roughly rectangular, and between 5 - 10 microns.

## NEITHER CARDIFF NOR PORTISHEAD

In order for EdF to apply for further dredging at the Hinkley Point C construction site, they have to say where they will “dispose” of the dredged material. EdF have submitted an application to dump dredged material at the Portishead marine dispersal sites. This application, under the English planning system, apparently doesn't require an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) – unlike the Welsh system, where the requirement for an EIA was proved when EdF were taken to court in 2018.

As EdF are conducting an EIA, we are expecting EdF to also put in an application to dump at the Cardiff Grounds site, as soon as the EIA has been completed. They're putting in two applications in case one of them gets refused.

Tim Deere -Jones will be making submissions opposing both applications to dump on behalf of CND Cymru against the dumping of sediment containing radioactive particles at sea at either site, when a properly managed site on land would be far safer for the environment. Tim discovered that in 2011-2012, the English Environment Agency proposed that EdF should use the Holm Deep for the dredge waste dumping – but EdF turned that proposal down, stating that this would mean that EdF would have to do baseline research at the site

on what would happen to the sediment after dumping ... which is something we asked that EdF should have done before any dumping off Cardiff Bay!

### **Nuclear outreach**

United we zoom! The new norm has made it possible for PAWB, CADNO, Wylfa Ni, CND Cymru, WANA and Geiger Bay to share regular discussions and compare notes with fellow anti-nuclear campaigners from TASC (Together Against Sizewell C), Stop Hinkley and the Bradwell group BANNG, as well as with

our ever supportive friends from Beyond Nuclear in the USA.

### **Early closing?**

Hinkley B, just across the water from South Wales, is set to ‘close early’ in 2022, it has been announced. When it started up in 1979, it was given a ‘use-by’ date of about 25 years. So this has been pushed to 42 years, a high-risk gamble. If the nuclear industry thinks 17 years too late is actually early, that might explain their habitual overruns in construction estimates.

**Brian Jones**

## REMEMBERING FUKUSHIMA

The date 11 March 2021 marked exactly 10 years since the explosion of nuclear reactors at Fukushima, in Japan. The Japanese government and supporters of the nuclear industry would like us to forget the disaster and concentrate on the Olympic Games which are due to be held in Japan this year. The reality is that this disaster is still going on for the thousands forced to leave their homes in the Fukushima region. The environmental tragedy continues with radioactive water still flowing from the site into the sea. We stand in solidarity with our fellow anti-nuclear campaigners in Japan and demand that no new nuclear reactors, large or small, are built anywhere in the world.

**Dylan Morgan, PAWB**



**PAWB in Japan, 2018. Linda Rogers, Robat Idris and Meilyr Tomos, with Ayumi Fukakusa of FOE Japan, hand in an anti-nuclear petition.**

# WYLFA: SHOCKS, SURPRISES, SCANDALS

*Since the withdrawal last September of Hitachi from the project to build a new nuclear plant, developments have revealed the desperation of the forces behind the continued push for nuclear new-build on the Wylfa site. Linda Rogers brings us up to date.*

The middle of January 2021 heralded the announcement that Shearwater Energy had signed an understanding with US power firm NuScale, to build a hybrid plant of 12 Small Modular Nuclear Reactors (SMNRs) and a windfarm, on a site separate to that of the planned nuclear plant.

It transpired that Shearwater's founder is a payday loans tycoon, and as Robat Idris of PAWB pointed out, Welsh Government should be carrying out due diligence on any company seeking to exploit nuclear power for commercial gain. NuScale, meanwhile, is leading the push for SMNRs in the US, backed by Biden. NuScale now predict that 12 SMNRs can produce 924MWe, which is in the MW range of large plants. Not so small!

Meanwhile, back on the hunt for Wylfa Newydd, at the end of January Horizon Nuclear Power pulled the request to approve reactor designs on the site, blaming UK government funding options as one reason. The BBC announced it was "all over" for the project. Horizon said they had been unable to find anyone to take up the new development and Hitachi was winding up Horizon by 31 March 2021.

This raised questions about the status of the Development Consent Order (DCO) for the proposed plant, which had been under consideration since June 2018. A decision on the DCO had been twice delayed and put back to the end of April 2021, at the request of Horizon. The resolution to this question came as a surprise to us all.

***In February it was announced that the Planning Inspectorate (PI) recommended refusal of the DCO. The PI was concerned about the project's impact on the local economy, housing stock and the Welsh language, as well as failure to meet United Nations biodiversity standards.***

This was now surely the end of the road for any new nuclear build? But, no. As news came

that one of Britain's biggest investors, Aviva, were refusing to back new nuclear projects because of concerns over their environmental, social and corporate governance, and following the PI decision on the DCO, Welsh Government stepped in with ideas of buying up the land, stating, "We remain convinced that Wylfa Newydd is one of the best sites for nuclear development in Europe and continue to discuss potential ways forward with both Hitachi and Horizon."

So, our money is potentially being used to buy a site until a developer can be found, for a project that is illegal and in which nobody else wants to invest. Reports have it that Hitachi want a lot of money. Would Welsh Government care to tell us how much?



*The DCO bid failed to account for biodiversity and language impacts*

# WALES IN LOCKDOWN CYMRU DAN GLO



## Celebrating TPNW

With the world still in pandemic lockdown, celebrations of the TPNW enactment at the UN on 22 January 2021 were never going to include public festivals or big marches. However we all enjoyed seeing imaginative events from around the world rolling in through the day, from the Scots' ICAN can-can to the Australian 'Treaty Compliance Inspectors' checking up on foreign embassies. In Wales the social media filled up with pictures of masked and distanced supporters of all ages holding up banners and placards on windy seafronts and muddy fields, putting up posters or ringing bells.

## Music & tales from the heart

Contributions from Wales included an inspiring online session. It was introduced by CND Cymru chair **Jill Evans**, who explained the importance of the TPNW.

**Shara Atashi** told the sad story of the little girl from Hiroshima, the paper cranes, and the Peace Memorial Park. Shara recited the poem *Zhuravli* ('Cranes') by the Dagestani writer Rasul Gamzatov. This went on to become a famous Russian song which remains popular to this day.

Next, **Rhun Dafydd**, the new chair of Cymdeithas y Cymod (the Fellowship of

Reconciliation in Wales), called for support of the TPNW.

The musician and composer **Owen Shiers** also urged people to lobby their MPs. He sang a fine old ballad from the National Library collection in Aberystwyth, which called for peace and fraternity and an end to war. His second song, inspired by the Clettwr valley where he grew up, celebrated the peace of the natural world.

**Kizzy Crawford** from Merthyr, one of Wales's new generation of singing stars, performed a musically inventive set, crystal clear and enchanting.

**Mared Edwards** followed

for the Urdd, with an account of the youth movement's longstanding commitment to peace and disarmament.

The final performer was the amazing vocalist and peace activist **Frankie Armstrong**, who sang with power and passion. She concluded with a song dedicated to her Newport-born grandmother and inspired by both the Welsh Women's Peace Petition of 1923-24 and the march from Wales to Greenham by Women for Life on Earth in 1981.

The session may still be viewed on the CND Cymru Facebook page.



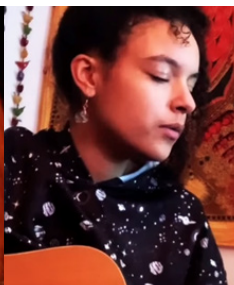
Shara Atashi



Owen Shiers



Frankie Armstrong



Kizzy Crawford



# WALES IN LOCKDOWN CYMRU DAN GLO



## Climate Cymru

CND Cymru is pleased to have signed up to the Climate Cymru campaign to take 10,000 voices from the people of Wales to the UN Climate Conference in Glasgow in November 2021.

Please support this initiative: it's now or never.

<https://climate.cymru/coming-soon/index.php>

## NHS not Trident

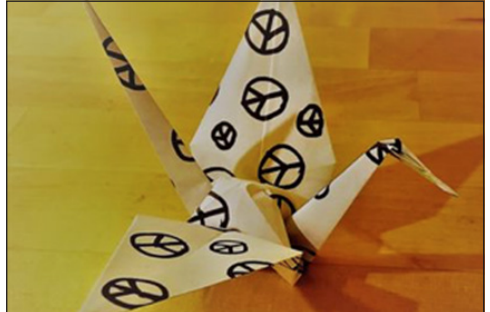
The strain on NHS workers and carers has only increased during the second surge of infections and deaths. They cannot live on clapping alone.

Yet again we are confronted by the moral obscenity of billions being spent on developing new weapons of mass destruction at a time when the total number of fatalities in the UK has exceeded 125,000.

It is thanks to the NHS and the many volunteers that the vaccination programme has so far been successful and is offering hope at last. However it is short-sighted and a great injustice that roll-out has been delayed in Africa and poorer parts of the world. All too often vaccination has been used for geopolitical leverage, economic advantage and national trumpet-blowing.



Caernarfon welcomes TPNW



## Paper cranes in Aberystwyth

As congregating to sing or otherwise celebrate together was impossible due to the lockdown, Aberystwyth's Côr Gobaith opted to celebrate TPNW with a Facebook tribute event.

Individual acts of folding and placing peace cranes in various places were photographed and posted on the event page. A great deal of thought and innovation went into the contributions and the page also included many posts from past events involving peace cranes, notably thousands of cranes folded and brought to Faslane to be woven into the main gate and the fence around the base

<https://youtu.be/0xjbMJXEKmc>

Musical contributions were posted in the form of videos, including Côr Gobaith's Hiroshima day commemoration 2020

<https://youtu.be/8uV09thFCRU>

Choir member Lotte Reimer who volunteers at Siop y Parc Blaenplwyf community shop reported that she "had a lovely time folding peace cranes and handing them out to customers, spreading the word about TPNW".

## NFLA Wales Forum

The Spring 2021 forum of the Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA) will take the form of a webinar, to be held on 9 April. On the agenda will be Small Modular Nuclear Reactors, Hinkley mud and green local energy. For more details, go to:

<https://www.nuclearpolicy.info/>

**Film: The Atom – A Love Affair****Director: Vicki Lesley,****Dartmouth Films**

<https://theatomfilm.com/host-a-screening>

<https://vimeo.com/ondemand/theatomloveaffair>

This excellent documentary records the passion, belief, betrayal and hope between politicians, bankers, the military, ambitious scientists, and gamblers. It tells of an amorous entanglement involving the development, acceptance, promotion and rejection of nuclear power. International media of all textures and types are used to illustrate this highly dangerous liaison, as perpetrators lie and

change their minds to suit their purposes.

Ninety minutes of film could never be enough to examine the complete relationship between the nuclear power machinery, politics and the public. Omissions (uranium mining, the toxic legacy of radioactive contamination and wastes, the close connection with military use) are inevitable. It is a story of the nuclear affair, perceived romance, fantasies and dreams of power, money and of scientific idealism as witnessed from all sides. Some anti-nuclear campaigns and protests, comrades and fellow campaigners are included alongside politicians and many

who supported and worked in the industry.

This story of an abusive, coercive relationship is something that some of us might recognise. Anyone interested in the issues surrounding nuclear power and its current lifespan, will find this an engaging film, which continues at a cracking pace and is brilliantly edited with focus and no repetition.

Don't miss it – you will be wiser for it – and well entertained. We were moved to see that the film is dedicated to the memory of our dear friend and fellow activist Crispin Aubrey of the Stop Hinkley Campaign.

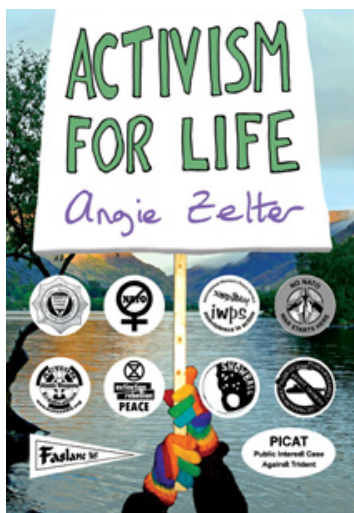
**Jill Gough****Activism for Life by Angie Zelter**

Luath Press 2021, £12.99 Pbk  
ISBN 978-1-910022-39-9

Angie Zelter has lived at Knighton since 2009, but is a true citizen of the world. She has protested against logging in the forests of the Amazon, Canada and Sarawak, against the construction of the naval base at Jeju island in South Korea, and against the Israeli occupation of Palestine.

This book leaps straight into the action and takes the reader on an exhilarating raft ride through many of the great protests since the 1970s. Arrested at Greenham Common, Angie founded the Snowball campaign in 1984. Campaign Against the Arms Trade, Trident Ploughshares, Menwith Hill,

Hinkley Point, 'No to Trident in Wales', Faslane 365, AWE Aldermaston and Burghfield, Extinction Rebellion, XR Peace... Angie has always been at the forefront. Even when in jail she



campaigns for prisoners' rights. Angie seems fearless, facing down the military, scaling walls, jumping into boats. She seizes the moment, bolt-cutters in hand. However she is always aware that everyone contributes in their own way and as best they can. Her planning is meticulous. As a dedicated believer in Non-Violent Direct Action, Angie is principled to the core. She may be a law-breaker but is a champion of justice and international law. Useful tips for NVDA organisers abound. Appendices of key documents and legal defences offer further perspectives. 'We should never give up hope!' Indeed.

**Philip Steele**

## W R (Bill) Davies, OBE 1936-2021

Bill Davies, who died in mid-February, was Secretary of the United Nations Association, Wales (1963-96) and founding Director of the Welsh Centre for International Affairs (WCIA: 1973-96), fulfilling those roles from the iconic Temple of Peace and Health in Cardiff's civic centre.

Educated at Bridgend Boys' Grammar School and Christ's College, Cambridge, and following National Service, he dedicated almost his entire career to the internationalist work of those bodies and their schools' arm, CEWC. Many fondly remember its Model UN gatherings for young people held throughout Wales and its annual residential 6th Form conferences at Coleg Harlech. Bill was certainly no unilateralist; but he was a great upholder of the importance

of multilateral agreements and the role of international institutions in bringing about a safer, fairer world. This was reflected in the array of public events organised during his tenure, involving a wide range of statesmen, diplomats, politicians and academics. The solid foundations laid by him for the Temple of Peace's global bodies ensured that they continue to undertake crucial educational, campaigning and peace-related activities amongst the citizens of Wales and beyond to this day. The number of publications produced by the WCIA during his time which concern UN peacekeeping, disarmament and security matters, détente or the ending of the Cold War is striking. One of his most notable written legacies is as editor of *The United Nations at Fifty: the Welsh Contribution* (1995;



WCIA

University of Wales Press). This covers the lives of the first Lord Davies of Llandinam and of 4 other Welshmen who made significant contributions in shaping particular UN agencies – UNESCO, the UN Development Programme, the International Labour Organization and World Meteorological Organization. Bill is survived by his daughter, Lisa.

**Stephen Thomas**

(W R Davies's successor at the Temple of Peace)

## BOOK REVIEW

**Other Girls Like Me**  
by **Stephanie Davies**

Bedazzled Ink, £10.99 2020  
Pbk ISBN 978-1-949290-38-7  
*Other Girls* is the memoir of a committed activist and an insightful reflection of the experiences that shaped her world view. The book traces Stephanie Davies's activism: her early campaigning in the anti-apartheid movement; her long-term commitment to the peace movement; her fight for women's equality and LGBTQ rights.

Her role in the Greenham Common protest is central. Anyone who was at Greenham, wanted to be at Greenham or who is just camp-curious, will enjoy the descriptions of camp life and actions. She captures the energy and enthusiasm of her days there with an array of vibrant characters dancing, shouting and laughing through the pages. I found her honesty very engaging. No spoilers, but one action, that lands her in trouble, is the result of accidental decisions.

Whether against herself or others, Davies confronts prejudice and injustice with determination. I found her experiences of sexism in her youth jaw-dropping (stockings and suspenders for her sixteenth birthday!). *Other Girls* is moving, exciting, funny and finally uplifting. Concluding, she writes a highly relevant message for today, 'when faced with nuclear war we had humour, and hope and love.'

**Denise Macguire**

## CND CYMRU

*CND Cymru campaigns alongside organisations in Wales and internationally for peace, environmental and social justice, and to rid Britain and the world of all weapons of mass destruction.*



**website:** [www.cndcymru.org](http://www.cndcymru.org)

**e-mail:** [heddwch@cndcymru.org](mailto:heddwch@cndcymru.org)

**twitter:** @cndcymru

**instagram:** @cndcymru

**facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/cndcymru/>

## CONTACTS:

**CHAIR:** *Jill Evans* [Rhondda]

[jillrhondda@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jillrhondda@yahoo.co.uk)

07803 902 401

**NATIONAL SECRETARY:**

*Bethan Siân* [Aberystwyth]

[bsj11@outlook.com](mailto:bsj11@outlook.com)

07933 791 207

**TREASURER AND MEMBERSHIP:**

*Michael Freeman*

[michael.freeman9@btinternet.com](mailto:michael.freeman9@btinternet.com)

CND Cymru,

9 Primrose Hill, Llanbadarn Fawr,

Aberystwyth SY23 3SE

*John Cox* [Abersychan]

[drjohncox121@gmail.com](mailto:drjohncox121@gmail.com)

01495 773 495

*Brian Jones* [Pontardawe]

[brian.jones@phonecoop.coop](mailto:brian.jones@phonecoop.coop)

01792 830 330

*Duncan Rees* [Deeside]

[Duncan.rees01@gmail.com](mailto:Duncan.rees01@gmail.com)

07534 975 461

*Philip Steele* [Ynys Môn]

[phil\\_steele@btinternet.com](mailto:phil_steele@btinternet.com)

01248 490 715

## HEDDWCH

*Heddwch* is the magazine of the Wales Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND Cymru). The content does not necessarily reflect the opinion or policies of CND Cymru. We welcome debate and discussion. Please send any comments, contributions or dates of forthcoming events to the editor.

**Editor:** Philip Steele

[phil\\_steele@btinternet.com](mailto:phil_steele@btinternet.com) 01248 490715

**Translator:** Siân Edwards

[sian@siandefynnog.cymru](mailto:sian@siandefynnog.cymru)

**Production and mailing:**

Redkite Print

[jon@thefreeflyer.com](mailto:jon@thefreeflyer.com)

The next issue of *HEDDWCH* will be published in August 2021.

**JOIN CND CYMRU  
NOW!**

[https://www.cndcymru.org/  
take-part/membership](https://www.cndcymru.org/take-part/membership)



*Dove of St David*