

HEDDWCH

Due to illness, the printing of *Heddwach* (issue 82 , December 2022) has been delayed. We apologise for this and hope to print and distribute it in the normal way as soon as possible. In the meantime, we are reproducing the contents in the form of a digital newsletter. January 2023.



Ry'n ni yma o hyd! Governments are here today and gone tomorrow, it seems. But we're staying the course.

1 IN THIS ISSUE

In this issue, we comment on COP 27 and climate action (*p12*) , and the Ukraine War (*p.3*). We consider the recent nuclear treaty reviews (*p4*). We report on the Trades Union Congress debate on jobs in arms manufacture and 'defence' (*p6-7*) and the return of nuclear weapons to RAF Lakenheath (*p.3*).

Welsh news includes the Caernarfon nuclear conference in July and the latest nuclear proposals for Wylfa and Trawsfynydd (*see p8*). We hear of the final leg of the Nuclear Free Wales at 40 exhibition (*see p5*), as well as all the news of the eisteddfod and actions we have taken.

2 INTRODUCTION

“The war in Ukraine has resurrected ghosts of the Cold War and brought home to all of us again the threat from nuclear weapons and nuclear accidents, at a time when both Russia and the USA have been modernising their weapons of mass destruction and the UK is also proposing to increase its nuclear arsenal, contrary to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

We need strong civil society movements in the UK and elsewhere to push the UK Government and others to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and I am proud of the leadership being given by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament in Wales, of which I am a member.”

Beth Winter MP, Cynon Valley (Labour)

GOVERNMENT BY MYOPIA

Current global problems proliferate: the climate crisis, the soaring cost of living, the Ukraine impasse, the energy crisis and escalation of nuclear risk. All these problems are knotted together. Few governments around the world are facing up to hard truths, and the constantly mutating governments at Westminster vary from the needlessly cruel to the hopelessly inadequate. They neither see the bigger picture nor read the small print.

A LONG MARCH

The walk of younger members of CND Cymru from Trawsfynydd to Wylfa in September 2022, to protest against Small Modular Nuclear Reactors, was timely and inspiring: it linked up our supporters across the communities of Northwest Wales, and it challenged both the County Councils’ policies and Bangor University’s ‘Nuclear Futures’ programme. It also sparked a new determination. *Bethan Siân’s report follows on p9.*



Phew! CND Cymru marchers reach the Wylfa site, September 2022 photo: Elfed Jones

3 ESCALATION OF WAR

NO TO US BOMBS AT LAKENHEATH



*Gwynfor Roberts from Ynys Môn joins the 19 November Lakenheath protest
photo: Anne-Marie Le Gall*

On 19 November, activists came to RAF Lakenheath to protest against the return of US nuclear weapons to the base. Although owned by the MoD, RAF Lakenheath is run by the US army. Its infrastructure has recently been upgraded to receive the new B61 range of nuclear bombs. This has happened without any public consultation or democratic process. Another protest is planned for Spring 2023.

Anne-Marie Le Gall

‘AS LONG AS IT TAKES’?

So what did cause the Ukraine War? NATO overreach? Latterday Russian imperialism? A war of resources in the race for rare earth metals needed for digital technologies? Ukraine’s reserves of these are estimated at \$3-11.5 trillion, located mostly in the east and south. The world’s biggest source of rare earth metals is China. Russia wants to be the second biggest. Which might explain current geopolitical strategies.

For now, we have to leave that verdict to historians. Russia’s brutal attacks on civilians and infrastructure continue every day. Young, poorly trained Russian conscripts lie dead in the streets. Putin’s campaign has faltered and then flared; opposition to his war seems to be growing in Russia. A bleak winter looms.

The USA seems intent on a policy of ‘as long as it takes’. This approach was enthusiastically backed by Boris Johnson, who actively dissuaded Ukraine’s

Volodymyr Zelenskyy from seeking peace, and also by Liz Truss and Rishi Sunak. But 'As long as it takes' should be qualified by 'Be careful what you wish for...' The USA's Vietnam War was escalated over 20 years and ended in defeat. So did the last Afghanistan War.

War cannot be ended without diplomatic channels being kept open and exit options being traded. Let's hope that November's long overdue US-China summit signals more awareness. Ukraine needs peace, Russia needs peace... and the world does not need the risk of nuclear war on top of its other existential problems. In the end it's up to ordinary/extraordinary people to call for peace: the generals have their own agendas. NATO, being predicated on an ongoing balance of terror rather than an enduring peace, is not the answer.

Philip Steele

4 INTERNATIONAL DISARMAMENT

WHERE THERE'S A WILL THERE'S A WAY

Two international nuclear disarmament conferences held in the summer of 2022 had very different approaches and outcomes.

The nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) review conference met in August. This is the treaty that our government, and all nuclear weapon states, claim is the most important treaty on nuclear weapons, and the only one that can lead to nuclear disarmament. The only problem with that argument is that once again the conference failed to agree on anything – not even the suggestion that attacks on nuclear power stations should be made illegal!

In contrast to the above, the first meeting of the states which have ratified the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) was a much more optimistic affair, as reported by Thomas Pitt in the last issue of *Heddwch*. Although none of the nuclear armed states took part, countries where nuclear weapons were tested (Marshall Islands, Kazakhstan) and the only former nuclear weapon state (South Africa) discussed compensation for nuclear test victims, environmental remediation, and encouraging more countries to sign up to the treaty.

Since the spring, nine more countries – Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guatemala, Malawi, and Timor-Leste – have ratified the TPNW, with several more countries (Ghana, Indonesia, Mozambique, Nepal and Niger) aiming to complete ratification in the next few months. Five further countries (Barbados, Burkina Faso, Equatorial Guinea, Haiti and Sierra Leone) have signed the treaty. So five years after the TPNW was adopted by the UN, and less than two years since it entered into force, 68 countries – more than a

third of the world – have ratified it. Although there's a long way to go, the TPNW continues to gain diplomatic influence as more countries join up.

Brian Jones



© Michael Leunig

5 NUCLEAR FREE WALES AT 40

The Nuclear Free Wales exhibition continues to inspire and promote support for Nuclear Ban Communities across Wales. In October the City and County of Swansea passed a motion in support of TPNW. Lobbying continues for support in Rhondda Cynon Taf, Cardiff and other communities.

The exhibition went down well at the Eisteddfod: Jill Evans, Chair of CND Cymru, welcomes Beth Winter MP to the Peace Tent.



SWANSEA APPROVES THE TPNW

This motion was passed by 56 votes for and just 4 against: “Swansea Council notes 2022 marks 40 years since Wales was declared “nuclear free” when all the then County Councils, including West Glamorgan, passed resolutions declaring themselves “nuclear free zones”. Swansea Council declares its support for the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), a historic treaty which prohibits its signatories from developing, testing and using nuclear weapons. Swansea Council recognises the necessity of creating a nuclear weapons-free world and as such denounces the United Kingdom government’s refusal to sign or ratify this landmark treaty. Swansea Council calls on the United Kingdom government to work for global de-nuclearisation by:

- Signing and ratifying the TPNW, thereby joining the global majority of countries opposed to nuclear weapons, and
- Utilising all diplomatic avenues possible to work towards a nuclear-weapon free world.”



Swansea celebrates TPNW motion with Jeff Baker and the Granchas!

DESTINATION CARDIFF BAY

The exhibition made its final appearance of 2022 at the Pierhead Building, Cardiff Bay, on 6 December, for an event sponsored by Mike Hedges MS and organised by CND Cymru in partnership with the NFLA (Nuclear Free Local Authorities). Speakers included Jill Evans (Chair, CND Cymru), Dr Rebecca Johnson (British CND Vice-Chair/ ICAN Steering Group), Mick Antoniw MS, Jane Dodds MS, and Mabon ap Gwynfor MS. Côr Cochion Caerdydd sang Songs for Peace. The second session heard from Cllr Sue Lent (Chair, NFLA Welsh Forum/Cardiff Council), Dr Bethan Siân Jones (National Secretary, CND Cymru) and Richard Outram (NFLA).



Sioned Williams, Mabon ap Gwynfor, Jill Evans and Brian Jones in Cardiff

Mary Jones

Heddwch action >>> If you haven't yet had a chance to hold an event to call for 'Nuclear Free Wales' and promote TPNW please get in touch as the material is still very relevant and available for events in 2023.

6-7 TRADES UNION NEWS



Photo: Campaign Against the Arms Trade (CAAT)

FROM ARMS TO RENEWABLES

Jobs or bombs? UK and Welsh governments still invest vast sums in 'defence' related jobs in Wales. Retraining workers in renewable energy skills should be the priority. But in TUC Congress 2022, battle lines were drawn over a motion to increase defence spending.

At 2022's Trades Union Congress in October, the GMB union moved a motion, which was successfully carried by a narrow margin, in support of defence spending in the UK. The motion also demanded a 30-year pipeline of defence work across sectors, including delivery in full of the Astute and Dreadnought programmes. This motion was under the general heading of Economic Recovery and Manufacturing Jobs.

To the surprise of many, the General Council supported the motion, using the war in Ukraine as a reason for the need for a return to a strong manufacturing base in the UK, whilst also stating that the struggle for peace and the struggle for social justice are inseparable and that the Trade Union movement would continue to fight for an economy that puts that principle first – but evidently not yet. By supporting this motion, the General Council was leading the opposition, hand in hand with the GMB, against the support for defence diversification that had been passed by the TUC five years earlier.

In speaking to the motion for the GMB, Nigel Warn started by thanking the General Secretary of the TUC for making his speech for him. He stated that because jobs were at stake, it threatened UK security, and that defence manufacturing must be at the heart of defending the wider manufacturing sector. He claimed that the defence diversification motion previously passed was “not fit for the world we now live in.” We were witness to the shameful spectacle of a trade union representative pitting the importance of unionised jobs against the lives of innocent people and world security in general. This theme was taken up powerfully by many speakers to the debate.

Jon Reddiford of the NEU (National Education Union) pointed out the many successful moves that had taken place in the manufacturing industry towards a just transition, away from defence. These included Babcock (towards marine repair) and Lucas Aerospace. He said that just transition is what we should fight for, “not investment in pointless, unproductive, murderous weapons”. He highlighted the role of UK government in selling arms to countries that the Foreign Office lists as human rights abusers. He highlighted the role of UK government in selling arms to countries that the Foreign Office lists as human rights abusers.

This point was taken up by Rob Witherspoon of the CWU (Communications Workers' Union), who reminded us that the largest purchaser of UK made arms is Saudi Arabia. He stated movingly, “When the arms industry tries new products it means children without mothers and fathers, mothers and fathers without children.” He said that the TUC should not be backing increased arms

spending when the world stands closer to nuclear Armageddon than at anytime since the 1960s.



NEU and CWU delegates to TUC called for an end to the arms trade with Saudi Arabia. In December CND Cymru supporters from North Wales joined a CAAT protest at RAF Valley, where Saudi pilots have been trained for the war in Yemen. photo: Sioned Huws

Martin Cavanagh of PCS (Public and Commercial Services Union) said that the trade union movement is a critical part of the peace movement and that during war it is the working classes who suffer the most. In a powerful speech he pointed out that only China and the US spend more on defence than the UK and said, "We understand the need for jobs but also understand we can't throw away our responsibility for wider society either." Fliss Premru of TSSA (the Transport Salaried Staffs' Association) pointed out that raising arms spending made a mockery of Congress commitments to reducing Britain's carbon footprint.

The CND Trade Union Advisory Group (TUAG) had prepared and distributed a leaflet at the conference opposing the motion. It reflected many of the points made by speakers, that money for weapons meant less money for healthcare, for homes, for education, for public transport and for renewable energy. It will mean more money for arms companies, not better wages across all our industrial sectors.

TUAG has also submitted to British CND Council a motion that was passed, to reverse the pro- nuclear resolutions passed by industrial trade unions and to work with union representatives at local and national level to achieve this. We

would also encourage branches regional and national to affiliate to CND and build direct action against nuclear weapons and nuclear power alongside climate activists.

The debate that took place in the TUC reflected the great need for our movements to work together to focus on world peace, underlined by the current threats of the use of nuclear weapons coming from the war in Ukraine. CND Cymru asks for your support in this movement.

Linda Rogers

8 NUCLEAR NEWS



Wylfa protest, September 2022 photo: Abby Poulson

CAERNARFON WAKE-UP CALL

Members of CADNO, WANA (the Welsh Anti-Nuclear Alliance), Cymdeithas yr Iaith, CND Cymru, PAWB and the NFLA (Nuclear-Free Local Authorities) gathered in Caernarfon on 21 July for a 'hybrid' conference.

Various contributions included: 'Why Wales does not need nuclear power', from NFLA Secretary Richard Outram; 'Political developments at Westminster' from PAWB's Neil Crumpton; 'An analysis of Regulated Asset Based financing of new nuclear reactors' from Linda Rogers (PAWB), and 'Nuclear contamination of land from wind-borne marine particles' from Tim Deere-Jones. Dr Stephen Thomas gave us snapshots of possible modular reactors, and Mabon ap Gwynfor MS (Plaid Cymru) outlined his opposition to any new nuclear development in Wales. Linda Pentz Gunter of Beyond Nuclear International told us of Westinghouse's troubles in the USA and how nuclear energy was unsuitable anywhere in the world. The conference closed with Bethan Siân and Sam Bannon of CND Cymru announcing the walk from Trawsfynydd to Wylfa.

Between the conference and the walk, there was heavy lobbying of northwest Wales politicians at the levels of Westminster, Senedd and County Councils. Some of the new councillors for Ynys Môn and Gwynedd, and a few of the more experienced ones too, declared their opposition to nuclear energy, and thanks to this new support we find ourselves in a stronger position. It was encouraging to hear about the strong leadership of Councillors Delyth Griffiths and Linda Jones at a meeting of the Merioneth Forum of Gwynedd addressed by Alan Raimant, formerly of Horizon/Wylfa and now CEO of Eginco (the company which is trying to attract nuclear investment to Trawsfynydd).

PAWB's campaigning continued into mid-October with Linda Rogers, Neil Crumpton and Doug Parr (Chief Scientist and Policy Director of Greenpeace) giving evidence to the Welsh Affairs Committee at Westminster, by answering various questions from Conservative, Labour and Plaid Cymru MPs.

We need to keep a close eye on Rolls Royce since they have now prioritised four sites for their LARGE modular reactors, namely Oldbury, Sellafield, Trawsfynydd and Wylfa. We need to counter this dangerous and wasteful folly by stepping up our campaign.

Dylan Morgan

9 TRAWS-WYLFA MARCH



NUKE-TO-NUKE MARCH TARGETS SMR PLANS

Between 4 and 10 September, young members from CND Cymru walked from Trawsfynydd Nuclear Power Station to Wylfa Nuclear Power Station in protest at the Westminster government's proposals to recommission them using Small

Modular Nuclear Reactors. The youth cohort were joined by activists of all ages, making a core group of twelve marchers who walked the whole distance. Marchers were supported by very dedicated members of PAWB and CADNO who formed themselves into working groups which became known as the *Brigâd Brechdanau* (Sandwich Brigade) who very kindly provided meals for the walkers each day, and the *Tîm Trafnidiaeth* (Transport Team) who were responsible for transporting sleeping bags and belongings from one place to the other, as well as meeting marchers en route.

The rallies held either side of the march, at the nuclear power stations, drew crowds of a hundred people. Each day, the march varied in its size with local people joining at different stages. Some days had 35 people walking, others had 20. Marchers would sleep on the floors of community and village halls and, by night, hold social evenings that included discussions, performances and musical entertainment. Along the route, signed copies of the Caernarfon Declaration, that calls for an anti-nuclear Wales, were presented by the marchers to Cyngor Gwynedd, Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Bangor University, Professor Oliver Turnbull.

The march not only demonstrated the strength of activism in Wales, but also its wealth. People, communities and movements came together to see the campaign succeed. The march also received messages of support and endorsement from the Public and Commercial Services Union (PCS), Nuclear-Free Local Authorities (NFLA), Cymdeithas yr Iaith, Cymdeithas y Cymod, XR Cymru, People's Assembly Wales, Radiation Free Lakeland, Youth Fusion and Mabon ap Gwynfor (MS). Two senior staff of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) thought the efforts of the marchers most impressive!

Bethan Siân



10-13 WALES NEWS: HERE, THERE AND EVERYWHERE



The Peace Tent at the National Eisteddfod 2022 photos: Brian and Jan Jones

TREGARON – AT LAST!

Brian Jones reports: The CND Cymru stall, with the “Nuclear Free Wales at 40” exhibition, was very successful at the National Eisteddfod in Ceredigion (after two years without an Eisteddfod due to Covid-19). The highlight was undoubtedly the Hiroshima Day event, with British CND Vice President Jeremy Corbyn MP. Jeremy's speech, delivered in Welsh by Meic Birtwhistle, is available to read on our website www.cndcymru.org. Many thanks to everyone who helped on the stall.

Heddwch action >>> Next year, the Llŷn and Eifionydd National Eisteddfod 2023 is being held at Boduan, near Pwllheli – if you can help us, please email heddwch@cndcymru.org

CND CYMRU IN ABERYSTWYTH

CND Cymru Council met in the Arad Goch Theatre centre in Aberystwyth on 19 November, the first face-to-face get-together since the Covid lockdowns. Members also joined us online. It was good to meet again in person, and some fresh faces were welcome. The focus of the lively afternoon session was on the direction of our future actions, and how to follow up on the success of the Trawsfynydd to Wylfa march. Many good ideas were suggested, which will need further development in 2023.

GETTING OUT THE MESSAGE

Our Treasurer Michael Freeman reports that over 700 copies of *Heddwch* no 81 were sent out to CND Cymru and British CND members living in Wales, with a further 100 opting to receive it electronically. It can of course be viewed for free on our website in English or Welsh <https://www.cndcymru.org/>.

CND Cymru membership is now free for those under 25, so please join and encourage others to do so, in order to help and participate.

Many thanks to Jill Gough for her great social media work, with Facebook hits on the CND Cymru page clocking up 3,000 per week in November.

WELCOME TO THE TEAM

We are pleased to welcome two new members to the CND Cymru team.

Dylan Lewis-Rowlands will be handling the Press. From Cwm Cynon originally, Dylan now lives in Aberystwyth, where he has been studying International Politics. He is an Aberystwyth town councillor for Welsh Labour, and is co-chair of Labour for Independence. He is a trade union activist with Uno'r Undeb/Unite the Union. Dylan was also voted in as a CND Cymru delegate to British CND.

Elizabeth Nakielny has joined us in the role of Lobbyist. She grew up in Talylychau, Carmarthenshire, on the family farm where she now resides. Elizabeth has worked with the Physicians for Social Responsibility, lobbying in the Mayors for Peace campaign. In 2019, she moved to Geneva to pursue a master's in International Affairs, specialising in Global Security.

During this time, she worked with ICAN, carrying out research into the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons. She also completed a Capstone project with the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR). Elizabeth is looking forward to pushing forward with CND Cymru's opposition to both nuclear power and nuclear weapons. She has set up a WhatsApp group for lobbying.

JAPAN'S PEACE GIFT RESTORED

Mary Winter: "A big thank you to CND Cymru for initiating this [Nuclear Free Wales at 40] exhibition and for letting us have it in Cynon Valley. We have thoroughly enjoyed hosting it... because of the exhibition coming here, our

Peace Pole, presented to Cynon Valley by the people of Japan back in the 1980s, is being restored to its former glory. The Parks Department has been busy and have unearthed the original plinth which has the words in Welsh calling for peace to prevail on Earth, and peace roses will be planted to blossom there again. So we are over the moon."

WHITE POPPIES

White poppies become better understood and embraced by the public year by year. Bangor and Ynys Môn Peace and Justice Group reported a good response to their stall by Bangor Clock on 4 November, and Côr Gobaith were among those laying white poppy wreaths on Remembrance Sunday in Aberystwyth.



*Climate criminals came to the Eisteddfod, courtesy of Cardigan XR
– but none of them had a clue where the Amazon even was!
Photo: Bim Mason*

CLIMATE ACTION ACROSS WALES

The climate crisis encourages wars over land and resources, and wars in turn contribute to the climate crisis, or exacerbate its problems.

Climate protests were held during the week of the 2022 National Eisteddfod (*see above*). Large protests calling for climate justice were also held to coincide with COP 27. Bethan Siân spoke for CND Cymru in at the Cardiff rally. In Caernarfon, a 'funeral of the promises' was held on the Maes, and there were speakers from Climate Action Cymru, the North Wales Africa Society and Gwyrdd Ni. On 13 November the temperature in Porthmadog reached an unprecedented autumn record of 21.2°C...

COP 27 will be remembered for unfulfilled promises, for fossil fuel and nuclear lobbying and shameless greenwashing. (And, please, for the appalling human rights record of Egypt.) Important progress was made

towards a 'Loss and Damage' fund, but no urgent action on cutting emissions was forthcoming. In Egypt, the ostriches still kept their heads buried in the sand.



CND Cymru supporters at the Cardiff climate rally during COP 27

Photo: : CND Cymru

NEVER AGAIN!

The annual commemoration of the first use of atomic bombs in 1945 was marked at the National Eisteddfod and also by peace groups in Wales. Liz Screen and friends met up in Cardigan on 9 August, to commemorate the US attack on Nagasaki, which killed between 50,000 and 100,000 people.

HYWEL WILLIAMS MP

In November Hywel Williams announced that he will be standing down as Plaid Cymru MP for Arfon at the next election, after 19 years. The news was met with regret. Hywel has been that rarity these days, a politician of principle prepared to work hard for his constituents and for social justice. He was an outspoken opponent of Blair's wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and of the oppression of the Palestinians. He would offer his support at protests and peace festivals before even being asked. And if you were seeking support for a worthwhile Early Day Motion at Westminster, you could be sure that Hywel would have already signed it – or proposed it in the first place! Many thanks, Hywel, for a job well done.

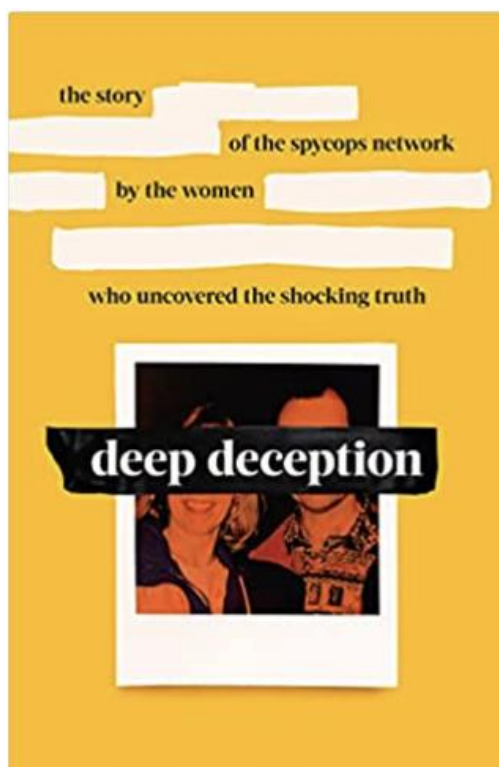
PEACE MALA

Pam Evans reports that on 20 September this Morriston-based charity celebrated 20 years of its work promoting friendship, respect and peace between people of all cultures, lifestyles, faith and beliefs. An Interfaith Liturgy for World Peace was held at St Mary's Collegiate Church in Swansea. There was music and dance from Sarita Sood, the Vasda Punjab Dance Group, Lee Michael Walton and Steve Balsamo, and Fr Tim Ardouin's Celtic musicians.



*Peace Mala: candles were lit by pupils from local primary schools.
photo:Matthew Eynon*

14-15 BOOK REVIEWS, OBITUARY



Deep Deception: The Story of the Spycop Network, by the
Women Who Uncovered the Shocking Truth
By Helen Steel, Alison, Lisa, Naomi, Belinda
Ebury Press 2022 400p
ISBN: 9781529108316 Hdbk £20

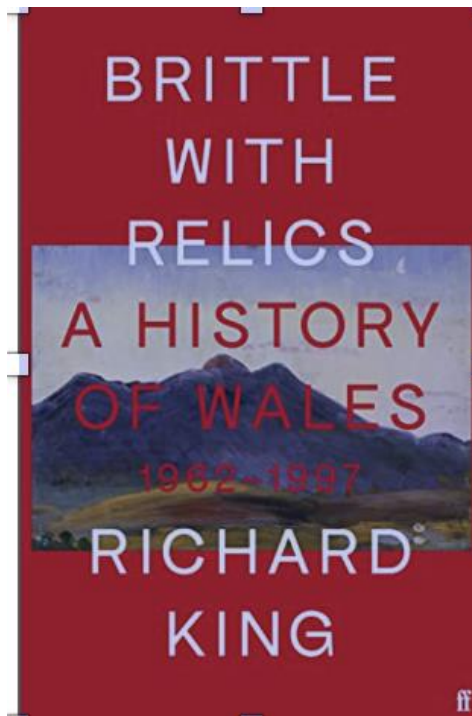
Most people in CND and many other groups considered 'subversive' by the state will have heard or read of the appalling cases of undercover police officers who insinuated themselves into groups in the 80s and 90s. The police, since this was uncovered, have tried to explain it away by insisting that it was the work of one or two 'rogue officers'. This book gives chapter and verse of why this is patently untrue and how deeply embedded the practice was.

Helen Steel, one of the two defendants in the McDonald's libel case, was one of the many women who were deceived into a long-term relationship with an undercover police officer planted in the London Greenpeace group. When she became aware of how she had been duped by him, and then met others who had also been abused, she determined to tell her story. She managed to convince four of the other women to join her, albeit under pseudonyms. This book is their story. There will undoubtedly be academic books on this subject, but none will have the immediacy that this book, written in their own words, conveys.

Reading this book opened my eyes to the depths to which the police are prepared

to go. I can heartily recommend this book as both a good read and a source of information for all people in any protest movement.

Jan Jones



Brittle with Relics: A History of Wales 1962-97

Richard King Faber & Faber 2022 627pp

ISBN 978-0571295647 Hdbk £25

The rather sobering title is taken from the poem *Welsh Landscape* by RS Thomas – ‘There is no present in Wales, And no future; There is only the Past, Brittle with relics.’ However this book shows how the people of Wales dealt with those relics from the 1960s to the devolution settlement of 1997. It is an inspiring story, more in keeping with Gwyn Alf Williams’s narrative of a dynamic Wales constantly reinventing itself. This history in itself is not at all dry, being a collection of verbatim accounts from those at the centre of the action.

King’s voices discuss their takes on the main events and movements of the day: Women for Life on Earth and the Greenham Common march have a well deserved chapter of contributions from Rosemary Butler, Menna Elfyn, Meri Huws, Siân James, Sue Lent, Mary Millington, Ann Pettit, Karmen Thomas and Angharad Tomos.

The years covered were often a bumpy ride. Progress has been made in the years between 1997 and today. The political problems remain depressingly familiar, but a growing coherence in the self-view of a progressive Wales bodes well. If there is to be a sequel, I look forward to it.

Philip Steele



Ian Campbell

1936 - 2022

As we walked into Ian's funeral in Narberth, Pembrokeshire, the appropriate accompaniment was "You Don't Get Me, I'm Part of the Union" by the Strawbs. He was always part of the struggle for social justice, nuclear disarmament and peace.

Ian was raised in Pembroke. Following National Service in the Navy, he went to university, became a teacher and he and Thalia had four children and moved the family to Wales from England. Banner making began, mixing art and politics; firstly for Aberystwyth Labour Party, another to celebrate the aspiration for a Nuclear Free Wales, a beautiful banner still used in our campaigns.

The hundreds of professional and community banners Ian and Thalia made together and with other helpers while living at Ynyslas, Ceredigion, for over 30 years, became famous at demonstrations, national and international political events, conferences and exhibitions, the Miners' Strike and Greenham Common Peace Camp.

A lifelong Labour Party member and trade unionist, Ian stood for parliament in Clwyd North Wales (1983), and the European election (1984). He was a founder member of Arts for Labour and part of the Aberystwyth environmental coalition of groups, an anti-nuclear peace activist, a member of the NUT and branch secretary of the TGWU.

Ian was warm, passionate, challenging, engaged and effective, a fighter for peace and social justice, and human and civil rights. He will be missed.

Jill Gough

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.

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Under 25? You can join for free!

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We welcome debate and
discussion. Please send any
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dates of forthcoming events to
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Aberystwyth



Trawsfynydd