No nuclear weapons, no nuclear power...

CND Cymru members are working with fellow campaigners around the world to ban all nuclear weapons by implementing the UN Treaty agreed last year.

CND Cymru also opposes the politicians’ obsession with nuclear power, which from the start has been linked with military use. No to Wylfa B, no to Hinkley C just across the water, and no to Small Modulator Reactors at Trawsfynydd.

*Only a ZERO NUCLEAR FUTURE ensures the safety of future generations.*

‘Radioactive!’ Cian Ciarán of the Super Furry Animals takes anti-nuclear protest to the Senedd in Cardiff Bay.
Time to make some good news happen

A year has now passed since 122 countries voted to adopt a Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons at the United Nations. This Treaty is timely in a world that is increasingly volatile.

The year 2018 has seen the mud-slinging between Donald Trump and North Korea’s Kim Jong-Un turn to warm embraces. These were put on show at the (cancelled and then hastily reconvened) Singapore summit this June. Any supporter of disarmament has to welcome détente and the avowed denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula, but the proof of that pudding will be in the eating, depending upon substance and small print. Trump’s unilateral withdrawal from the nuclear agreement with Iran in May set a bad precedent. Disarmament has to take place in the context of international law and agreements that are binding and durable. That is why this new UN Treaty is so vital.

From MAD to bad

It is hard to imagine a situation more dangerous than the nuclear arms race of the Cold War years (1945-1991) and its aptly named premise of MAD (Mutually Assured Destruction). However the current world order, or disorder, sets alarms bells ringing. Major nuclear stockpiles remain unregulated by the 50 year-old Non-Proliferation Treaty, which is now more honoured in the breach than in the observance. Belligerents such as ISIS/Daesh operate outside international treaties and law. Battlefield nuclear weapons, cyber warfare and military drones are diversifying the weapons of state terror. Trump calls for the (further) militarisation of space, while his supporters mindlessly chant ‘Space Force! Space Force!’

Turbulent times

The static stand-off of the Cold War has been replaced by trade wars and a breakdown of old alliances, by a revival of fascism and racism around the world, by an escalation of hostility between Russia and a divided west, by proxy wars in Western Asia, by refugee crises, by the destruction of social cohesion by ruthless economic policies, and by changing climate.

Say it again: ban those bombs!

Despite all these gloomy prognoses, goodwill can and must prevail. Zero tolerance of nuclear weapons is part of a much larger struggle, but it is an important part and it really is winnable. The more we achieve, the better the news will be.

How deadly is a modern nuclear missile?

A single Trident warhead is eight times more powerful than the Hiroshima bomb of 1945.

Nuclear arsenals worldwide June 2018

- Russian Fed. 6,850*
- U. S. A. 6,550*
- France 300
- China 280
- U. K. 215
- Pakistan 145
- India 135
- Israel 80
- North Korea 15 X

* The Russian Federation’s active missiles number 4,350.
* The USA’s active missiles number 4,000.
✓ Non-Proliferation Treaty
X Withdrawn 2003

Source: Arms Control Association

Neil Conroy

Llandudno says No to Trident, while the Mad Hatter looks on.
Tell May to sign up now!

Members of CND Cymru and many other peace activists came to Westminster on 20 June 2018. They urged the government to sign the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Forty people chained themselves to the iron railings which stretch from Big Ben to Parliament Square, with banners saying "Denuclearise the World – Sign the Treaty." Sixty other activists talked to the internationally diverse passers-by, gave out leaflets, and sang peace songs. Five MPs, including three Plaid Cymru MPs, came out from Parliament to talk to the protestors and the press.

Angie Zelter from Knighton, Powys, said: “Since the end of the Cold War the world has largely forgotten about nuclear weapons. The use of a fraction of the nuclear weapons deployed around the world would cause a famine and the deaths of billions of people, quite apart from the immediate destruction and the spreading of radioactivity.

“The situation is urgent. As long as the UK and other countries continue to rely on nuclear weapons to project power, then countries like North Korea will want to have them too, increasing the risk that someday they will be used.

"Let's choose real security, sign the Treaty, and work for the total elimination of nuclear weapons”.

Of course, the treaty will only apply to countries that sign and ratify the treaty. But international law has an impact also on the states that haven’t signed up: as a comparison, the United States, Russia and China haven’t signed the land mines treaty, yet none of them use land mines anymore.

heddwch>action:
If you want to know about a specific country’s attitude to the treaty, or if you’re willing to write to different countries about the treaty, please contact brian.jones@phonecoop.coop

• If you want join the ‘Peace Train’ Treaty protest, see details on p13.

One year on, how is the ‘global ban’ Treaty shaping up?
50 countries need to sign and ratify before it comes into force. So far:

• 12 countries have now signed and ratified the treaty;
• 36 countries have signed the treaty and are in the process of ratification: about 15 of these are likely to complete ratification in 2018, and perhaps another 20 should ratify the treaty in 2019.
• 11 countries have signed the treaty but haven’t started to ratify;
• 44 countries are actively considering signing the treaty: about 30 of these will probably sign the treaty in 2018, most of the rest in 2019;
• 20 further countries voted to establish the treaty but haven’t yet considered signing the treaty.
One of the advantages of CND being 60 years old is that there is a wealth of experience from activists who remember the Cold War struggles at first hand.

However to most young people this is distant history, accessed, if at all, through school study modules which reduce complex issues to dates and treaties, filleted of ethical considerations or humanity.

Getting the next generation on board

Amelia Womack, raised in Newport, became Deputy Leader of the Green Party four years ago, at the age of 29. She says we need the next generation to move things forwards.

Re-energise!
The anti-nuclear movement arose out of the Cold War, as people made their voices heard against the biggest threat to life the world had ever seen. We now live in a different world, one where the threat of nuclear war appears much smaller.

Connecting issues
A whole generation has grown up with other causes to take up. Austerity, climate change, drone strikes: these are all issues that often resonate more with today's youth than the need to decommission our nuclear arms. It is vital, though, that we re-engage Britain's youth.

Here's why: The Conservatives are happy to renew Trident, the Labour Party will renew it but feel bad about it. As welcome as it is that Jeremy Corbyn has made it clear that he will always adopt a second use policy, we are still going to be paying for Weapons of Mass Destruction solely for the purpose of making ourselves feel relevant on the world stage. Meanwhile, the news cycle is moving on.

Educate
Erin Connolly and Kate Howell wrote in the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists (11 June 2018) of their work with college and high school students in the USA. They found widespread ignorance of the reality of nuclear weapons today, of their deployment, cost and capabilities. They call for this to be rectified. 'For the public to be engaged in nuclear policy debates, education is critical'.

Activate
Scottish CND's Peace Education Scotland has come up with an interesting initiative. They are inviting 18-30 year olds to get together in a 'Youth Peace Academy', offering three days of information and training in anti-nuclear activism. In Wales we too need to engage with young people, in and outside the classroom. They don't need propaganda: they need the plain facts, which speak for themselves.

We need new energy and new ideas. So many people have been fighting the good fight for decades, and that is inspiring. But there's no point being inspirational if you have nobody to inspire. New, younger activists bring with them new campaigning techniques.

Media-savvy
Today's teenagers seem to know their way around social media better than the investors of those very companies, so it is vital that we use their fluency with the medium to reach new people.

Movements like that behind Bernie Sanders in the USA have shown that a good message with the right digital plan can inspire a nation. The fight against nuclear escalation is not over: we need to get the next generation on board to carry on that fight.
Brexit fallout raises many questions. Should we quit the Euratom treaty as the Westminster government proposes?

Jill Evans MEP (Plaid Cymru) looks at the implications.

We are living in a time of great uncertainty. The dangers for Wales of leaving the European Union are becoming clearer by the day, in stark contrast to the still unknown UK government plans. As I write, there is yet another Cabinet meeting taking place to try and reach agreement within the Conservative Party. So it is difficult to report on progress when there has been so little. There is clear frustration on the part of the Brussels negotiators that major issues are not being addressed.

Why does the government wish to leave?

The government was clear in the letter triggering Article 50 that it would be leaving the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) as well as the EU. Euratom was set up in 1957 by treaty so it is legally distinct from the EU, but relies on the European Court of Justice (ECJ) to function. That is why the government wants to leave, ending any authority of the ECJ in the UK.

The role of regulator

Euratom promotes and supports nuclear power. It also regulates the transportation and use of radioactive materials, including safety and health standards, and it carries out research. Euratom was created to achieve a nuclear common market with free movement of nuclear materials, scientists and workers.

The UK relies on Euratom in relation to safety at nuclear power plants, the supply of nuclear fuels and non-proliferation – ensuring that nuclear materials are not diverted from their intended purpose.

Replicating standards

The Euratom Supplies Agency has rights over materials produced in the EU and the exclusive right to agree contracts for materials from inside or outside the EU. Outside Euratom the UK would have to replicate all these rules and agree them with the International Atomic Energy Authority. As Linda Rogers wrote in the last Heddwch, the proposed UK Nuclear Safeguards Bill falls far short of what is required.

Medical use

A very worrying aspect is that the paper published by the Department for Exiting the European Union, setting out the UK’s aims on nuclear materials, did not mention medical isotopes. Most of the nuclear material we rely on in the field of medicine cannot be produced in Wales, or even the UK, so they are imported from France, Belgium and the Netherlands.

Despite warnings from the medical and scientific community about the impact on cancer patients who depend on an unhindered supply of these treatments, the government dismissed the concerns. It is not good enough. Relevant agreements and cross-border transport arrangements must be put in place as a matter of urgency.

Time’s running out

The June 2018 report from the EU negotiators included Euratom in nine fields where there had been some progress. This is not good enough. There is too much at stake and the clock is ticking. There are increasing calls from politicians and many other sectors for the UK to remain within Euratom, even if it leaves the EU.

It is time that the government gives serious consideration to this. In addition there should be at least an extension of the Article 50 deadline to ensure there is enough time to address these issues properly.

In my view, the best option of all would be to revoke Article 50 completely and remain in the EU.
Wylfa – Deal or No Deal?

Back in 2012 Japanese mega-corporation Hitachi purchased Horizon Nuclear, the prospective developer of the Wylfa B nuclear power project on the Isle of Anglesey.

By 2016 Hitachi boss Hiroaki Nakanishi was already getting cold feet about what the company had taken on. Nuclear costs were soaring and renewable costs were falling. Nakanishi began talking about seeking direct financial support from the Westminster government, an idea that had always been anathema to the Tories.

We pay, they profit
In May 2018 the Hitachi board, despite the misgivings of some directors, voted to stay in negotiations with Westminster – for the time being. Initial talks resulted in Theresa May conceding the principle of UK taxpayers funding the project to the tune of about £5 billion, according to press estimates. The Japanese government and other companies and institutions would also plough in money. The strike price (the guaranteed price at which electricity is sold to the consumer) would be lower than that of the infamous Hinkley C deal, but according to some nuclear experts this figure was in reality being ‘massaged’ to mislead. Even this price compares unfavourably with offshore wind.

Never-never land?
After the meeting between May and Hitachi, Tory Energy Minister Greg Clark finally made his much awaited announcement. He was vague and underwhelming, to say the least. Negotiations would be initiated, but as yet there was no done deal as far as either side was concerned. The reported funding plan was slated in the UK press. The minority British government is unstable, rocked by Brexit. The Japanese political scene is also fluid, and there is a very active campaign in Japan against exporting nuclear technology. Anything could happen.

Together we stand

With the future of the Wylfa B project still in the balance, Friends of the Earth Japan generously invited three Welsh anti-nuclear activists from PAWB (People Against Wylfa B) to campaign with them in the land of Hitachi this summer, from May to June 2018. It was a remarkable experience.

Heddwch de-briefed the delegates:

What did the PAWB team actually do in Japan?
Robat Idris: We had a very full schedule! We visited Tomioka town and Iitate village to see the still shocking effects of the Fukushima disaster. In Tokyo we met with three ministries, two financial institutions, anti-nuclear MPs, held a press conference and met former Premier Naoto Kan. We also held three public seminars.

What attitudes to nuclear did you encounter in Japan?
Linda Rogers: There is a massive gap between the stated claim of government ministers, that they wish to “show off “Japanese technology (and we in PAWB say that technology connected with the disaster that is Fukushima is a strange way of doing so), and the feelings of the people that we met, described commonly as “shame”, that their government should be considering exporting this disastrous technology to us, in Wales.
You visited Fukushima prefecture. What were your impressions?

Meilyr Tomos: It’s the small details that stay in the mind – seeing weeds growing out of the bags of topsoil that had been scraped from the contaminated land, and placed in ‘interim storage’ – 7 years on. In Tomioka there are parts of the town still uninhabitable. Leaves blow across imaginary lines that denote ‘safe’ and ‘not safe’.

What problems are faced by the Fukushima evacuees today?

L R: There is a constant pressure to carry on as if nothing has occurred, whilst the levels of childhood thyroid cancer continue to rise and farmers continue to wait for their land to be fit to farm. A veil is being drawn over the disaster. A journalist told me that the Government owns these institutions. Like civil servants worldwide, their observations were very careful. Many words were used to say, in the end, that the Japanese Government has yet to make a decision to invest in Wylfa.

You met financial and insurance officials in Japan. What was their assessment of the situation with Hitachi?

R I: Difficult to say! Remember that the Government owns these institutions. Like civil servants worldwide, their observations were very careful. Many words were used to say, in the end, that the Japanese Government has yet to make a decision to invest in Wylfa.

What was your impression of current political attitudes to nuclear in Japan?

L R: There is a clear political split between the MPs of the Constitutional Democratic Party, with whom we were lucky to meet, and the ruling party, on the question of exporting nuclear technology. We held a very positive meeting with MPs from the Nuclear Zero Commission, who were most supportive of us when we explained that we have no democratic debate or parliamentary scrutiny of the proposed public subsidy of Wylfa B by British taxpayers, and all that at a time of austerity when money for basic services was being cut.

The Japanese media gave you good coverage. Are there lessons to be learned back home?

M T: There was a basic level of respect that just doesn’t exist here. It does help when you’ve got two FoE Japan professionals running the show! I guess we have to have material ready to go across all platforms – they were extremely effective with their use of social media, and grassroots publications.

Was the Japanese visit useful to the campaign in Wales?

R I: Certainly! We formed a much clearer picture of the situation in Fukushima, and of the political situation in Japan. Our exceptional partnership with FoE Japan was strengthened, and many new contacts were made. Further visits are expected by friends from Japan. PAWB’s profile at home has risen considerably following the visit.

Will PAWB be working with Japanese groups in the future?

M T: I feel we’ve made friends for life. There’s e-mails, PDFs, Powerpoints and films flying back and forth through the ether. There’s two trips to Wales planned already!
Hinkley protest stuck in the mud

On Wednesday 23 May 2018, the Welsh Assembly discussed the licence issued to EdF, the company building Hinkley Point C, to dump sediment off Cardiff Bay for "tidal dispersal".

The mud will be dredged up from Bridgwater Bay, where the outflow pipes of Hinkley Point A and B nuclear power stations have discharged liquid wastes for 50 years, to allow EdF to construct the inflow and outflow pipes for Hinkley Point C, as well as to build a jetty to allow components to be delivered to the site by sea.

CND Cymru organised a rally outside the Senedd. As a highlight, Cian Ciarán of the Super Furry Animals tried to present every Assembly Member with a mud-covered CD in a radiation hazard bag. Inside the chamber, Welsh Environment Minister Lesley Griffiths defended the decision regarding the dumping, which was then "noted" by the Assembly. Of the nine Assembly Members who spoke in the debate, eight were opposed to the decision. These included all the members of the Assembly's Petitions Committee, who had been considering Tim Deere-Jones's petition, which asked for the licence to be suspended pending a full, open, scientific investigation into the potential environmental consequences of the proposal.

CND Cymru is considering what else it can do to stop the dumping. The Low Level Radiation Campaign, fellow members of the Welsh Anti-Nuclear Alliance, has issued a new critical report and presented it to Natural Resources Wales, as well as alerting Sophie Howe, the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales.

NO to Swansea lagoon...

On 25 June 2018 UK Energy Secretary Greg Clark turned down the innovative £1.3 billion tidal lagoon energy scheme planned for Swansea, on the grounds that it was poor value for money (despite a hefty offer of Welsh government funding). A collective intake of breath could be heard across the nation as people recalled the nuclear 'mathematics' of Hinkley C and Wylfa B. The lagoon refusal was criticised right across the political divides in Wales.

...but YES to nuking Northwest Wales

Three days later the UK government launched –at Trawsfynydd – a £200 million plan to fund development of ‘Advanced Modular Reactors’, research into fusion and into ways of cutting costs. £40 million of this sum was earmarked to turn North Wales into a nuclear industrial ‘cluster’ linking Trawsfynydd, Wylfa, Bangor University and the Menai Science Park at Gaerwen. The announcement was greeted with scepticism. It was speculative, short on substance and heading in the opposite direction to global trends. It would tie Wales yet again into a centralised military-industrial union with England.

Cian Ciarán’s CD, 20 Millisieverts, is the music that he composed to accompany Lis Fields’s Fukushima photographic exhibition in 2017.
Community energy versus big nukes

The switch from monolithic nuclear power giants to renewable resources, generating on a small scale within the community, is creating a new energy revolution, reports Brian Jones.

Renewable energy, renewable communities

Community-owned renewable energy schemes offer many benefits. They support the local economy through jobs and investment. They create greater community cohesion and greater awareness of energy consumption. They can help to address fuel poverty. Wealth is retained within the community and within Wales, without profits being siphoned off to corporate power bases in London, Paris or Tokyo.

Up and running

Here in Wales we already have many successful schemes which are generating clean energy and investing in the community:

• **Awel Wind Farm** is a Community Benefit Society which owns two 2.35MW wind turbines on Mynydd y Gwrhyd, 20 miles north of Swansea, generating enough electricity to supply over 2,500 homes. Profits from the scheme will be used to support Awel Aman Tawe in tackling fuel poverty and developing other renewable energy projects.

• **Hydro Ogwen** is a 100kW hydro scheme south of Bethesda on the Afon Ogwen, which will generate sufficient electricity to power more than 100 homes. Profits from the scheme will be invested back into the local community.

• **The Gower Regeneration** 1MW solar farm generates enough electricity to power over 300 homes.

• **Carmarthenshire Energy Ynni Sir Gâr** is a social enterprise whose 500kW wind turbine has been generating electricity since 2016. Profits from the scheme have been invested in Salem, the village where the turbine is located, and have been used to install solar panels, battery storage, and a heat pump at the Salem Community Hall, to effectively eradicate energy bills for much of the year.

• **SCEES** (Swansea Community Energy and Enterprise Scheme) has installed solar PV systems on ten community buildings. Profits from the scheme will be used to support local projects that help people develop skills, enterprise, economic growth and job creation.

How to set up?

These schemes have all benefited from early stage funding and support, including from the Welsh Government, which helped to develop business plans, cover the cost of feasibility and technical studies, or fund the build and early generating stage of the scheme. Over the last two years, through its Local Energy support service, the Welsh Government has provided £6.4million of grants and loans and supported 15 projects with 8.47MW of renewable energy capacity.

This support seems likely to continue with a target for one Gigawatt of renewable electricity capacity in Wales to be locally owned by 2030 and an expectation that all new renewable energy projects to have at least an element of local ownership by 2020.

The sector in Wales works collaboratively to help community groups identify feasible schemes and business plans. Although not all schemes are able to get off the ground, there is still significant growth. At the heart of this support are the skills, enthusiasm and commitment of local communities, and the need to address the impact of climate change and the needs of future generations.

Heddwch action:

Help community renewables beat big nukes: more information on the Welsh Government Local Energy service is available here - http://localenergy.gov.wales
Army crashes fifth drone

The Watchkeeper drones at Aberporth may not be effective at spying on enemy positions, but they are certainly scaring the locals – and terrifying taxpayers. Jill Gough reports from West Wales.

It was a balmy June afternoon in South Ceredigion. Around 200 parents and pupils of Penparc Primary School in were gathered in the school field for their annual School Sports Day. Small children raced and cheered with their parents and, as commonly happened, an Army Watchkeeper drone from ParcAberporth airfield noisily circled overhead. In a Portacabin on the playground was a class of nursery-age children.

The school sports ended and the drone remained in the sky. Just a mile or so away, a local 17 year old was having his first driving lesson. As he drove down the road a Watchkeeper drone from ParcAberporth airfield flew low across the road narrowly missing the roof of his car and crashing into some trees about 10 metres from a farmhouse. It was simple good fortune that no human was hurt that afternoon.

The project which started in 2005 has been beset by problems. The drones are known to have crashed five times, and the entire scheme has cost at least £1.2 billion so far, despite not being fully operational. European Grants and Welsh Government monies of over £26 million went towards upgrading the privately owned airfield so that Qinetiq and possibly other drone businesses could develop a “UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) Centre of Excellence”. Such a Centre has not manifested itself as yet and it is believed that fewer than 20 of the 1000 promised jobs have been “created”.

Security for whom?

Those who live locally are fearful that another of these accident-prone drones will crash into a primary school, a family home or a busy road. Locals who have complained to the MoD, report that they have been made to feel stupid and their concerns dismissed. Some parents had previously been told by the MoD that “Drones don’t fly over Penparc School”.

A parent speaking for many commented: “Had it crashed at the sports day, it could have killed entire families, which would have devastated the whole community.”

Another parent, on learning that firefighters were dealing with fuel spills from the crashed drone, said that she had just realised that a fuelled-up Watchkeeper is itself more or less a “flying bomb”.

The MoD commented: “Safety remains our primary concern and we have paused flying whilst we conduct an initial investigation into what happened.”

Public money into private purses

ParcAberporth, situated on a hill nearby, has been the main base for 54 Army Watchkeeper drones since 2009. They can be controlled by ground-based troops using radio signals, and are intended to aid reconnaissance, target identification and missile guidance. The drones are of a modified French/Israeli Elbit Hermes 450 design built by Thales and maintained at ParcAberporth by Thales-Elbit. Each Watchkeeper has cost £22 million in total, including infrastructure.

Watchkeeper Accidents

1 November 2014 - Crash landing at ParcAberporth (“Master Override” malfunction)
2 November 2015 - Crash on Boscombe Down – (Onboard Computer System Malfunction)
3 & 4 September 2017 - 2 Watchkeepers crash in Irish Sea – never found
5 June 2018 - Watchkeeper crash near Penparc School
Actions & reactions

• The politically troubled spring of 2018 brought protests about international conflict from peace and justice groups around Wales, from Llangollen to Bangor. One major concern was the bombing of Syria by the USA, Britain and France, following seven years of civil and proxy war and bombing by Syrian and Russian aircraft. Another was the brutal massacre and injuring of Palestinian protestors and medics in Gaza by Israeli troops.

• On 14 April 2018 Owain Glyndŵr’s Parliament House in Machynlleth was packed for a Green, Nuclear-Free Wales event organised by WANA, the Welsh Anti-Nuclear Alliance (supported by CND Cymru, the Nuclear-Free Authorities Association, Greenpeace, Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg and groups opposing nuclear power). Richard Bramhall was in the chair. Speakers included Cllr Elywn Vaughan (Powys), Cllr Sue Lent (NFLA), Dr Carl Clowes (PAWB), nuclear researcher Tim Deere-Jones, Deilwen Evans (CADNO), Sean Morris (NFLA) and Tim Richards (WANA). The energy was all there – and perhaps the spirit of that old visionary, Owain Glyndŵr.

• There is growing concern in Wales about a new surge of militarism and public events which glorify war. Wrexham Councillor Marc Jones received a furious response in the council chamber when in May he criticised plans to honour the RAF with a civic ceremony and parade. Said Cllr Jones: “If we look on the streets today in Wrexham, we’ve got homeless ex-service people struggling with mental health, drink, drugs and PTSD. That is something we should be centring our attention on, rather than having a march.... We shouldn’t be glorifying war, we should be stopping war.”

• Scottish art-activist Ailie Rutherford had an Arts Council supported residency with Culture Action Llandudno (CALL) in 2017-18. She worked energetically with many local groups, but resigned when CALL’s sponsors and funders refused to support peaceful protests against Armed Forces Day as part of her activities.

• Llandudno, festooned in Union Jacks, was the centre of a massive Armed Forces Day jamboree at the end of June, with over 100,000 visitors, including that charismatic pair Princess Anne and Theresa May. A meeting was held at Craig y Don the evening before with speakers from Armed Forces Watch and Veterans for Peace. On the day art-activists and Conwy County Peace Group protested as aircraft flew overhead and small children were shown how deadly weapons are fired.

Donald Saunders, aged 93, a lifetime conscientious objector like his father before him, made it clear that the group respected members of the forces and the memory of the fallen, but abhorred all war, and the treatment of war as family entertainment.

At 93, Quaker peace campaigner Donald Saunders is still a tireless activist.
The advancement of women’s political rights and women’s impact as campaigners for peace have gone hand in hand over the last century. Lotte Reimer went to Cardiff, to celebrate and reflect.

On Sunday 10 June 2018 I was part of a group of Aberystwyth/Borth women who joined an estimated 10,000 women at the Cardiff celebration of 100 years of women voting. We marched and sang as we carried our magnificent banner, created by some of the group during a number of workshops with artist Becky Knight, and featuring, among other images, portraits of the participating women, their mothers and other prominent Welsh women.

We reflected on how the suffragettes are celebrated today when, during the height of their struggle, they were considered terrorists, causing enormous damage to property. We likened them to the peace campaigners today who destroy objects of warfare and wondered if in 100 years’ time they were likely to be celebrated in similar fashion? Sadly, we thought probably not.

All change at the Assembly

As we go to press in early July 2018, the political landscape of Wales can expect to experience tremors, if not earthquakes, in the near future.

Welsh Labour’s Carwyn Jones is set to stand down as First Minister in the autumn and his would-be successors are lining up.

Leader of the Welsh Conservatives Andrew RT Davies has just stood down under pressure from colleagues in Westminster.

Plaid Cymru leader Leanne Wood faces opposition in some constituencies and two of her fellow AMs have decided to challenge her leadership.

In the meantime the Green Party, which has no representation in the Assembly, has voted to remain conjoined with the party in England instead of being an independent Welsh party. Interesting times.

Whichever party you are in – or not – please be active in setting an agenda for disarmament and peace.
NOTICEBOARD

NOTICE 1

Croeso!
The National Eisteddfod comes to Cardiff this year from 3-11 August. Remember to call in at the Peace Tent and say hello, talk about campaigns, share ideas and join up with CND Cymru.

NOTICE 2

All aboard the Peace Train!
The Hereford Peace Council invites you to join our Peace Train campaign along the North to South Wales line. Whether you wave us on from the platform or join us on the train, we welcome your support. Put this date in your diaries: Wednesday 24 October 2018. It’s time to get Peace back on track.

On 7 July last year, 122 countries signed up to make nuclear weapons illegal and begin the diplomatic process to eradicate them universally. However, the UK did not sign this Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and it does not intend to.

So travelling on a regularly scheduled train from the Hope/ Chester/ Wrexham area, the Hereford Peace Council will collect letters and petitions at every stop along the North to South Wales line down to Newport – demanding that the UK sign this nuclear ban treaty. We will then board a fast train to London and personally deliver your letters and petitions to the House of Commons. Wednesday 24 October is United Nations Day and part of Disarmament Week – a perfect day to campaign for ridding the world of nuclear weapons. We intend that all actions carried out on this campaign will be peaceful, respectful, and dignified.

To join us on the day or offer other support, please contact Kim Holroyd of the Hereford Peace Council
kimholroyd@hotmail.com or phone 07843 105 323

NOTICE 3

Labour CND Cymru
Campaigning for Peace and Disarmament

Join us now: Labour CND in Wales is open to all Labour Party members who are also members of CND Cymru. Our purpose is to build support for nuclear disarmament and a peaceful foreign policy within the Labour party.

As well as individual members we also welcome support from constituency parties and other Branches and affiliates within the Labour Party in Wales.

For more information on how you can actively support Labour CND Cymru within your local Party contact
mary.jones17@outlook.com

Last year the TUC, strongly supported by Unite, passed a resolution calling on the Labour Party to establish a Shadow Defence Diversification Agency (DDA) as a priority. This is supported by Labour’s Shadow Minister for Peace and Disarmament Fabian Hamilton MP, who is very clear that the establishment of a DDA will be a major element towards achieving key foreign policy goals as set out in the Labour Party 2017 Manifesto:

- Controlling the export of arms, especially to countries with poor humanitarian records
- UK taking the lead on multi-lateral nuclear disarmament
- Shifting the focus from military to human security

We need a Shadow DDA now, to work with other Shadow departments on the development of an industrial strategy that can help deliver an ethical foreign policy, nuclear disarmament through support of the UN ban on nuclear weapons and secure sustainable jobs.

Let’s keep this debate alive and kicking within Party and Trade Union movement in Wales.

NOTICE 4

CND@60

The CND anniversary installation which started its grand tour at Caernarfon in February will be reaching Cardiff on Saturday 1 September 2018. CND Cymru will be at the Nye Bevan statue in Queen Street from 11am to 3pm – please come along and help spread the message! For further details contact Brian Jones
brian.jones@phonecoop.coop
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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Please send any comments, contributions, or dates of events to the editor.

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Cardiff Bay dumping:
public fears are not allayed.