



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
WARRINGTON GROUP
 NEWS SHEET APRIL 2016

Diary Date

Sat. 16th April 9.00 to 16.00

Street Collection – Stockton Heath

Thursday 21st April 2016 – 7.30 to 9.30

Group Meeting - Nora Street Community House,
 15-17 Nora Street, Howley, WA1 2JG

Culcheth Community Day
Monday 2nd May 12 noon to 4 pm

We are again having a stall at this event. If you are free come along to enjoy the afternoon and support our stall. The whole village turns out for this day. Come rain or shine, May Bank Holiday Monday is Culcheth Community Day on the Village Green. We hope to sell plants, have a children's hoopla game and a space age quiz sheet and possibly a petition for the public to sign.

Human Rights Act

Amnesty's week of action - 9th and 16th April.
 We will try to promote the HRA during our collection in Stockton Heath and offer anyone interested a small leaflet setting out the benefits.

INDIVIDUAL AT RISK - Kamal Foroughi - IRAN

Kamal Faoughi was working in Iran for an oil and gas company when he was arrested in May 2011. He is a 76-year-old British-Iranian now serving an 8-year prison sentence in Evin Prison on charges of espionage and alcohol possession after an unfair trial. He has been given only limited legal advice, no written contact with his family in the UK. His health is at risk, and medical test results have not been followed up.



Please send the attached letter to the Iranian Embassy in London.



REPLIES

Replies were received from Mexico about Yesenia Armenta and from David Mowat about UK arms sales.

GOOD NEWS



BAHRAIN

After five long years in prison, school teacher Mahdi Abu Deeb is finally free.

AIUK MONTHLY ACTION



In March 2015, an international coalition led by Saudi Arabia – including the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Morocco, Jordan and Sudan – launched air strikes against the Huthi armed group in Yemen.

The bloody conflict has been raging for a year – but largely ignored by the rest of the world. Devastating air strikes, led by Saudi Arabia, have killed thousands of Yemeni civilians and destroyed homes, schools and hospitals. Meanwhile, the UK government has been providing weapons to those committing these horrific war crimes even though Phillip Hammond stated that 'The UK has the most stringent arms controls in the world.'

Members signed a petition re Stopping UK arms transfers to Saudi Arabia
 Evelyn had a letter published in the Warrington Guardian about British-made bombs sold to Saudi Arabia being dropped in Yemen.

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@AmnestyWarrngtn



www.facebook.com/AmnestyWarrington

International Women's Day



Information about women human rights defenders went on the group's Facebook page and Twitter feed each day for a week around International Women's Day.

New Group Leaflet

Sue has produced a new group leaflet, which members liked. She will make some changes to font sizes for members to approve at the next meeting.

Burkina Faso



Things are starting to change

The government announced its commitment to eradicating early and forced marriage in the country – an abusive practice where girls are married either before they're 16, or made to marry against their will.

Members wrote messages of solidarity on pieces of bunting which will form part of decoration at shelters for young women who have fled from child / forced marriages etc.

SYRIA

15th March was the anniversary of the start of the Syrian civil war. Members sent letters to our MPs outlining AI's suggestions for the forthcoming peace negotiations.

www.360syria.com is worth looking at.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Sat. 30th MAY
Town Centre Stall and collection

Israel & the Palestinian Territories



Mohammad Faisal Abu Saakha, the circus performer teaching children with learning difficulties is still in detention.



Members signed a letter on behalf of Israeli teenager **Tair Kaminer** who has been given a 2nd term of detention for refusing to serve in the army.

Mohammad al-Hashlamoun – 17 year old



The judge ordered him to be detained under house arrest and then released but instead he is facing indefinite detention without charge.

Burma



Naw Ohn Hla is serving a six-year prison sentence for protesting outside the Chinese Embassy in Rangoon. Members signed a solidarity card to send to her in prison.

SAUDI ARABIA

New Internationalist statistics: 30,000 political prisoners. 151 executions in 2015

Central America



We contacted several officials about Berta Cáceres, the Honduran indigenous and environmental rights campaigner murdered for opposing a hydroelectric project. Gustavo Castro Soto, who witnessed her killing and is not being allowed to return to Mexico and is therefore in danger.

