



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
WARRINGTON GROUP
NEWS SHEET MAY 2017

DATES

GROUP MEETING

Thurs. **15th JUNE** 2017 – 7.30 to 9.30 Nora St.
Community House, Howley, WA1 2JG
18th to 25th June: Refugee Display in the Gateway
Sat. 1st July stall @ Croft Carnival
Friday 4th Aug Collection at TESCO: Altrincham
Friday 15th Sept. 7.00pm Quaker Meeting_House -
Journeymen Theatre 'The Bundle'.



Manifesto for Human Rights

We collected signatures on a manifesto for Human Rights asking our next MPs to try to ensure that 5 human rights objectives were kept at the heart of the work of parliament.

MANIFESTO for HUMAN RIGHTS

1. Ensure human rights are prioritised and protected throughout and after the process of leaving the EU
2. Defend the Human Rights Act and our membership of the European Convention on Human Rights.
3. Protect the rights of people seeking asylum in the UK and elsewhere.
4. Promote a UK foreign policy that champions human rights.
5. Ensure responsible UK arms controls which protect human rights.

PLANT SALE – BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY



At short notice Gill organised a plant sale from her drive. After the dry weather the Bank Holiday Monday started wet but improved. The Gazebo helped to keep everything dry.. Gill and Evelyn were delighted with the £95.50 their plants raised and they would like to thank members who supported the sale: Miriam, John, Angela, Su and Pat.

50 years of campaigning



The Warrington Amnesty Group was launched in August 1966 and continued for 25 years until 1991. It was relaunched in September 1991 and has continued for another 25 years!

TOWN CENTRE STALL 3RD JUNE

We gave passers-by birthday cake and encouraged them to sign a card to Teodora del Carmen Vasquez expressing sympathy with her and hoping she will soon be home. Many people said that compared with others in the world we are fortunate. We collected £82 in donations. Well done everyone!

Individual at Risk - KYRGYSTAN



Azimjan Askarov, founder of a human rights organisation, worked to investigate and report cases of police abuse and poor prison conditions. In September 2010 he was sentenced to life imprisonment following an unfair trial. He was accused of being an accomplice to the murder of a police officer during disturbances between ethnic Uzbeks and Kyrgs. Amnesty believes the charges were fabricated and politically motivated, and considers him a prisoner of conscience. Askarov was arbitrarily detained, held in inhumane conditions, tortured, mistreated, denied proper treatment for his medical conditions and he was not allowed to speak to his lawyer in private.

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NEWS FROM NABI SALIH – WEST BANK VILLAGE



An 8 year-old girl living in Nabi Salih has over 20,000 Facebook followers for her videos and reports. She uses her cell phone to film all that happens in her Palestinian village. The villagers have regular peaceful marches to the centre of the village which is out of bounds now including the village well which has been taken over by settlers.

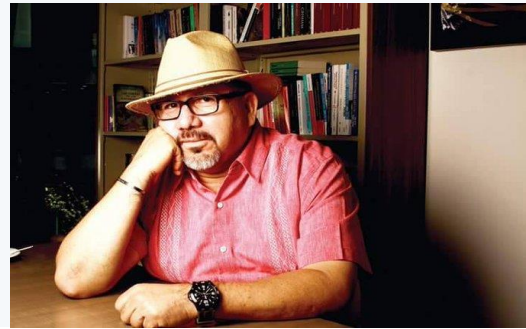
Ein al-Qaws Spring

Near the village there is a natural spring named Ein al-Qaws ("the Bow Spring") which is owned by an individual of the village, Bashir Tamimi. In 2009 settlers from the nearby illegal Israeli settlement of [Halamish](#) took control over the spring and its surroundings and prevented Palestinian access to their land. Subsequently, people of Nabi Salih and the nearby village of [Dir Nizam](#) began regular Friday peaceful protests for the spring, and against the Israeli occupation in genera



Nabi Salih's residents have hosted weekly demonstrations for three years in protest at the confiscation of the village's lands and the takeover of their spring by the nearby Israeli settlement

MEXICO



The Guardian reported the murder of another Journalist, **Javier Valdez**. Javier was shot 12 times at 12 o'clock on MAY 20TH outside his work place. The gunman used a silencer. Javier was left lying on the street in Culiacán with his signature panama hat still on his head. His murder was an act of terror in the battle for power that has followed the extradition to the US of Joaquín Guzmán, the head of the Sinaloa cartel, in January. There have been six other journalists killed in Mexico this year, joining more than 100 murdered since the turn of the century, but few as prominent as Javier. His killing tells us that no one is untouchable in Mexico.

Javier was 50, the co-founder of the newspaper *Ríodoce* in 2003, the only remotely independent paper in Culiacán. Culiacán is the heartland of the Sinaloa cartel and the centre of much of the murderous drugs wars that have swept Mexico over the past decades. Other newspapers have largely withdrawn from reporting the war going on around them, intimidated into silence.



If possible please send the enclosed letter to The Embassy of Mexico in London.

August 4th - Collection at TESCO in Altrincham

Just a reminder that we have been offered a collection in Tesco Altrincham. We have had 8 provisional offers of help from: Gill, Jo, Sue, Roger, Harold, Evelyn, Heather and Pat.

If you are able to support this collection phone 01925 268871 or email benkin64@talktalk.net