

Amnesty International Southend Group



amnestysouthend@googlemail.com
www.amnesty.org.uk/groups/southend/

JUNE 2017 NEWSLETTER

The next Group meeting is at 7:30pm on Thursday 13th July
at The Balmoral Centre, Salisbury Avenue, Westcliff-on-Sea SS0 7AU



Martin and Andrew have an Amnesty stall in
Leigh Library Car Park on Saturday 24th June
at Leigh Folk Festival. Please go and support
them – if only to give them a break!

Lots to do at Leigh Folk Festival <http://leighfolkfestival.com/>

DATES

13th – 19th September Display and Letter-writing at The Forum
Southend-on-Sea. Volunteers needed to keep an occasional eye on
things

Tuesday 19th September - Fundraising Meal at “East”, Alexandra
Street, Southend-on-Sea. 6:30pm for 7:00pm, £15 per head. E-mail
amnestysouthend@gmail.com or clarehillman131@hotmail.co.uk to book. Display the
attached poster or give a flyer to a friend

ACTIONS – see the attached case sheets or visit the Group Website

Write a card or letter of support to **Hakan Yaman**, an “Individual at Risk” in Turkey. Hakam was severely beaten by security forces at a demonstration in 2013. He suffered life changing injuries and lost an eye.

Send an appeal **before 28th June** on behalf of **Esmail Abdi**, a trade unionist Prisoner of Conscience in Iran serving a 6 year sentence for peaceful trade union activities.

Amnesty International Southend Group

Notes of meeting on 1st June, 2017

Present: Martin, Heidrun, Audrey, Andrew, Clare, Muriel and Mike

Apologies: Tricia, Steve and Maureen, Doug and David

Anything from the last meeting?

- We'll sort out the details of The Forum event nearer the day (Wednesday 13th to Tuesday 19th September). Mike is still waiting for a response from AI UK about a display, posters and leaflets.
- The Meal at "East" is booked for 19th September. The cost has changed - £9 if more than 35 of us, 15% off if less. We agreed to go ahead with the price at £15. Mike to send out a poster and flyer with the Newsletter, Martin to Tweet, put it in the Echo, etc.
- Martin and Andrew have an Amnesty stall in Leigh Library Car Park on Saturday 24th June at Leigh Folk Festival. Please go and support them – if only to give them a loo break! They will try to make use of the Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe and Kamal Foroughi "make a tulip" campaign.

Letters and Petitions

- We sent cards in support of the Group's IaR, **Hakan Yaman**
- We also wrote on behalf of Esmail Abdi, a trade unionist imprisoned in Iran

SEE FRONT PAGE FOR MORE DETAILS.

Secretary

- AI UK's monthly mailing
 - 2017 General Election campaign will morph into a campaign to keep human rights in the minds of new MPs and the new government, focussing on Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe and Kamal Foroughi
 - A new campaign about human rights defenders "Brave" is under way. Cases to work on will be available towards the end of July and campaign material at the end of August.

Treasurer. We have £579.32 in the bank. Heidrun hasn't had a bank statement since March and hasn't received a cheque book that she ordered. Mike will contact the Co-op Bank

Fundraising We've still not got a date for an Amnestea but Audrey and Andrew are still thinking about it. We decided not to have a sponsored walk this year.

AOB Andrew hasn't been receiving the Newsletter e-mail – Mike will check the Gmail contacts list.

Next Meeting

Thursday 13th July 7:30pm at the Balmoral Centre.

Mike Pregnall

Group Secretary
01702 204748