



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
W A R R I N G T O N G R O U P
NEWS SHEET AUGUST 2017

DATES

GROUP MEETING

August – No Meeting

Next Meeting

Thurs. 21st Sept 7.30 – 9.30 pm

Nora St. Community House, Howley, WA1 2JG

Friday 15th Sept

7.30pm Quaker Meeting House
Journeymen Theatre 'The Bundle'.

Saturday 7th October

Amnesty Skillshare on the human rights defenders (BRAVE) campaign in Manchester

FINANCES

After sending the £72 affiliation fee and a £200 donation to AIUK we have £306.60 in the account.

Friday 4th Aug

We raised £201 from our collection in Tesco Altrincham.

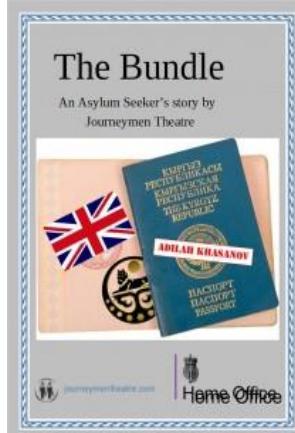


OCTOBER FUND-RAISING EVENT



It was suggested we hold an **AMNESTEAL** event serving tea, coffee and cakes. We considered the Friends Meeting House but unfortunately there is a regular booking on a Saturday afternoon already so we will have to try to find somewhere else available in the afternoon of Saturday 14th or 21st October. We would be grateful for any suggestions.

THE JOURNEYMAN THEATRE



Journeymen Theatre's latest production 'The Bundle' will take place at The Friends Meeting House in Academy Way @ 7.30pm on Friday 15th September. There is no charge for this and we are not issuing tickets. If you are planning to come it

would be helpful if you could let me know so I can ensure that we will have enough space for everyone wishing to attend. Parking is available nearby. For further details email: benkin64@talktalk.net

INDIVIDUAL at RISK – GUATEMALA

Pedro Rafael Maldonado Flores



On 3 April 2017, unidentified men driving a motorcycle fired eight to twelve gun shots at a vehicle parked in front of the home of human rights defender [Pedro Rafael Maldonado Flores](#)

[Flores](#), in Guatemala City. This incident has left Pedro fearing for his safety.

Pedro Rafael Maldonado Flores is the Director of the Legal Department at CALAS, a human rights organisation working to promote environmental issues, community participation and respect for the collective rights of indigenous communities. CALAS has been active in denouncing human rights abuses committed by mining companies in the region, in particular Tahoe Resources Inc. and its Guatemalan subsidiary.

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MARIO LUNA ROMERO - MEXICO



Mario Luna Romero is a tribal secretary of the Yaqui tribe and spokesperson for the Yaqui action group opposed to the Aqueduct planned in their territory in Sonora State. The community has been working to prevent the diversion of water from the Yaqui River, over which the tribe has 50% ownership.

Intruders entered the residence of Mario Luna Romero and set fire to his partner's car. To date, no protection measures have been provided at the defender's house and investigations are advancing slowly. Mario Luna and his family remain at risk.

If you are able please send the letter to the Embassy in London



PALESTINIAN NEWS

Khalida Jarrar (Palestine Legislative Member)



On 13th July an Israeli military court sentenced Palestinian politician and human rights activist Khalida Jarrar to six months of administrative detention. She was arrested in a pre-dawn raid at the beginning of the July by Israeli forces in the West Bank city of Ramallah.

She was previously imprisoned for 15 months charged with offences relating to her activism and membership of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine – which Israel considers a "terrorist organisation" – and had accused her of inciting violence.

MISSING ISRAELIS



Israeli civilians **Avera Mangistu**, 31, and **Hisham al-Sayed**, 29, have been missing for more than two years after crossing separately into the Gaza Strip. On 7 September 2014.

Avera Mangistu, who is of Ethiopian descent, left his home in Ashkelon in southern Israel, and entered the Gaza Strip without authorization by crossing a barbed wire fence near the beach.



Hisham al-Sayed appears to have crossed into the Gaza Strip on foot on 20 April 2015, after leaving his family home in al-Sayed Bedouin village in the Negev/Naqab desert in southern Israel.

Both men suffer from mental health conditions. Avera Mangistu's family told Amnesty International that he has been suffering from a serious mental health condition since his brother's death on 11 November 2012.

Amnesty International reviewed hospital documents issued by the Israeli Ministry of Health's mental health services stating that Avera Mangistu was admitted to psychiatric hospitals on two separate occasions in January 2013 and according to Hisham al-Sayed's medical records he was diagnosed with schizophrenia and personality disorder and needs regular medication.

Amnesty International fears that the two men are being held as hostages by Hamas' military wing for a potential prisoner exchange