Amnesty International Southend Group

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



AUGUST 2017 NEWSLETTER

STOP PRESS

AmnesTea at Audrey's Saturday 19th August, 647 High Road (front door in Gleneagles), **Benfleet SS7 5SF** 2.30 - 5.00 pm.

Next Group Meeting - Thursday 14th September, 7:30pm at The Balmoral Centre, Salisbury Avenue, Westcliff-on-Sea SS0 7AU

Display and Letter-writing at The Forum, Elmer Square, Southend-on-Sea A display of posters and leaflets in the fover of The Forum from Wednesday 13th-Tuesday 19th September If you can spare an hour on Saturday 16th September to help with card and letter-writing, phone 01702 204748 or e-mail amnestysouthend@googlemail.com



JOIN US FOR A FUNDRAISING MEAL at

East Alexandra Street, Southend-on-Sea SS1 1BW Tuesday 19th September 6:30pm for 7:00pm £15 per head.

E-mail amnestysouthend@gmail.com or clarehillman131@hotmail.co.uk or phone 01702 204748 to book - or just turn up on the night.

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

Write a letter or e-mail on behalf of Thayyib Shaheem, an activist in the Maldives, detained solely for peacefully exercising his right to freedom of expression

Send an appeal before 19th September on behalf of Kyaw Min Swe & Kyaw Zwar Naing, journalists in Myanmar on trial for writing a satirical article mocking the Myanmar Army.

Go to the Group Website for more details, addresses, etc.

PROTECT THE **HUMAN** www.amnesty.org.uk

Southend Group meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30pm, at The Balmoral Centre, Salisbury Avenue, Westcliff-on-Sea SS0 7AU

Amnesty International Southend Group

Notes of meeting on 10th August 2017

Present

Martin, Heidrun, Andrew, Vicky, David, Muriel and Mike

Apologies

Tricia, Clare, Doug and Audrey

Anything from the last meeting?

The stall in Leigh Library Car Park on Saturday 24th June at Leigh Folk Festival was a success and enjoyable. Thanks to Martin and Andrew for setting it up and everybody who supported them. The organisers had let them use a gazebo, balloons were very poular and £28 was donated.

Letters and Petitions

We wrote letters (6) and e-mails (2) on behalf of Thayyib Shaheem, an activist in the Maldives, and letters (3) on behalf of Kyaw Min Swe & Kyaw Zwar Naing, journalists in Myanmar. **SEE FRONT PAGE FOR MORE DETAILS**.

Secretary

No AI UK monthly mailing in August but we'd had a n update from the AI UK Chair which amongst other things referred to the plight of AI members in Turkey – an e-mail was sent on their behalf.

No new information about "Brave", the campaign about human rights defenders - cases to work were to be available towards the end of July and campaign material at the end of August.

Treasurer.

We have £519.32 in the bank allowing for the £88 annual affiliation fee to AI UK, the room booking at the Balmoral Centre and the £28 collected at Leigh Folk Festival

The Forum

Mike will send a PowerPoint slide to the Forum in readiness for our display; we will use the AI UK Refugee exhibition a part of the display. We'll have a petition and cards/standard letters to use on the Saturday when we hope to have members there to help. If you can help on Saturday 16th September please phone 01702 204748 or e-mail amnestysouthend@googlemail.com

Fundraising

Audrey is holding an AmnesTea on Saturday 19th August, 2.30 - 5.00 pm at 647 High Road (front door in Gleneagles), Benfleet SS7 5SF. **No mad rush yet for the meal at East - we need to tell all our friends!**

AOB

Regional Conference 23rd September at Chelmsford – Martin will try to go. The large room at the Balmoral Centre is booked for Write for Rights on 9th December

Next Meeting

Thursday 14th September 7:30pm at the Balmoral Centre.

Mike Pregnall

Group Secretary 01702 204748

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