

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
Bromley & Orpington Group
Christmas & New Year
Newsletter 2017/18



COME TO OUR NEXT MEETINGS

Tuesday 9th January

Tuesday 13th February

Tuesday 13th March

Campaign Meeting

Speaker: Labour Rights in the Medical Supply Chain

22nd Bromley & Orpington Group AGM

Our thanks to Chris Purnell of Orpington for sponsoring this month's Newsletter

We raised £2,700 for Amnesty in 2017 – Thank you!

The Nick Beston Quartet

With special guest vocalist

Sue Rivers

**Present a concert of popular jazz standards in aid of
Amnesty International Bromley & Orpington Group**

Friday 9th February 2018 at 7.30pm

Orpington Methodist Church, Sevenoaks Road, Orpington

Tickets: £12 in advance; £13 on the door. Discount under 16s

From David Howkins 01689 823793 or davidhowkins@virginmedia.com

Tickets on sale now and we welcome any offers of help on the night!



Amnesty: The Need Just Gets More Urgent

Throughout 2017 your local Amnesty Group has brought you monthly campaign letters and actions that show a deteriorating environment for human rights protection almost everywhere. 2017 saw ethnic genocide in Burma with nearly 7,000 Rohingya murdered and over 650,000 fleeing to neighbouring Bangladesh. 2017 saw the forced deportation of North Korean refugees from China back to North Korea to face almost certain execution. 2017 saw 23 executions in the USA – three more than in 2016. There were 2,817 defendants on death row in the US. Journalists remain at acute risk: 65 journalists were murdered in 2017, a significant number 'collateral damage' in pursuit of their reporting from war zones. Syria remains the most dangerous place on Earth for journalists.

War and conflict has led to there being 65 million refugees in the world – the highest ever recorded. Through all this Amnesty remains a beacon committed to protesting and protecting the human rights of all. As a Group we have been doing this since 1962 – and it seems we may be needed for some-time to come.

AMNESTY SOCIAL

"Café Medi"

332 Orpington High Street
Tuesday 23rd January 2018 at 7.30pm

Please reserve your place(s) with Neville

Amnesty International UK

Write for Rights 2017



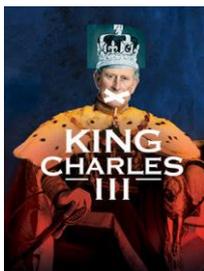
Our traditional Christmas meeting includes sending a 'Message of Hope'. We remember those suffering human rights abuses by writing a simple greetings message in support and solidarity. We collectively wrote 43 cards from this year's campaign and we ask you take a moment also to send a message of hope this Christmas season.

'Letters from Amnesty supporters...were really powerful and helped me to stay strong. They protected us because the authorities knew thousands of people were watching.' Fred Bauma, pro-democracy activist in Democratic Republic of Congo.

In 2016 Amnesty's "Write for Rights" Campaign led to over 1.7 million actions being sent from 200 countries. The campaign led to improvement in the situations of several of the individuals profiled. This year 10 cases are featured across the world. Go to <https://www.amnesty.org.uk/write-rights-2017> to find out about this year's cases.

Save The Date: Thursday 11th October 2018:

Bromley Little Theatre Charity Premiere



We are delighted to announce that Amnesty has been given the October 2018 Charity Preview of "Charles III" by Mike Bartlett. As Charles III ascends the throne, the regime is thrown into crisis by the Monarch's refusal to sign into law a Bill restricting press freedom. Premiered in 2014 with the late Tim Piggott-Smith in the title role, it became an instant classic, was filmed by the BBC and won Best Play in the 2015 Olivier Awards. Save the date...not to be missed!

"Season's Greetings for a very Happy and peaceful New Year to all our supporters"

Present on 12th December: Vivien Glanz; David Howkins; Vivienne Andrews; Patsy & John Paine; Gladys Edmonds; Wendy Simmons. **Apologies:** Margaret Coppard; Neville White; Peter Martin.

Meetings are held in the Wesley Room, Orpington Methodist Church, Sevenoaks Road, Orpington commencing at 7.30pm. **E-mail** amnestybromley@gmail.com **Website:** www.amnesty.org.uk/bromley

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