

# Amnesty International Southend Group

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[www.amnesty.org.uk/groups/southend/](http://www.amnesty.org.uk/groups/southend/)



## MARCH 2018 NEWSLETTER

### Next Group Meeting

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2018, 7:30pm

at The Balmoral Centre, Salisbury Avenue,  
Westcliff-on-Sea SS0 7AU

### BRAVE Campaign

This is a global campaign calling for the recognition and protection of Human Rights Defenders. As a Group we're writing each month on behalf of one of the featured cases and we've written to our MPs.

To find out more about this campaign follow this [link](#).

We have cards to send to governments in Egypt, Finland, Cambodia and Chile on behalf of Human Rights Defenders there – e-mail [amnestysouthend@gmail.com](mailto:amnestysouthend@gmail.com) if you'd like to be sent these cards



### Please write to:

The Chilean Ambassador in London on behalf of BRAVE Human Rights Defender Rodrigo Mundaca and MODITAMA, who campaign to protect people's rights to water and have been subjected to legal action, death threats and attacks. You can also write to Rodrigo to give him your support. Details on the Group website

## Amnesty International Southend Group

### Notes of meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018

**Present** Andrew, Dave, Steve, Linda, Muriel and Mike

**Apologies** Tricia, Heidrun, Audrey, Helene, and Erika. Joy has now moved away.

#### **A.G.M.**

1. **Last Year:** we felt that the W4R event, The Forum display, the Leigh Folk Festival stall had been successful, along with our two fundraising events. We need to have some more fundraising this year and had already discussed changes to the format of the Forum display.
2. **Funds** in the Bank Account - £407.58.
3. **Officers:** Mike will continue as **Secretary** for another year but will look to pass the job on in 2019; Heidrun has resigned as **Treasurer** because of ill-health – Andrew volunteered to take over; Mike will ask Tricia to continue doing the **Publicity** and Mu will continue looking after **Membership**. Mike will write and thank Heidrun and Tricia for their support.
4. **Next year:** We had agreed to carry on with our **laR case** and to get involved in the **BRAVE Campaign**. We need to improve **attendance at meetings** and consider asking for donations instead of subs (after a discussion about monthly subs for those attending it was agreed that the burden of costs should be spread wider over our supporters); “Bring a Friend”, publicity/a stall at the freshers’ week at the university and a specific appeal to past “regulars” were mentioned. Dave offered to visit interested parties to follow up expressions of interest. Steve will **audit** the Group’s accounts. The new AI UK display has been booked for **The Forum** and Mike will speak to Heidrun about the booking of the Forum itself. Martin is waiting for confirmation of the booking for the **Leigh Folk Festival** (Dave queried whether it would take place this year; Mike will speak to Martin). We’ll discuss another **Jamnesty** at the next meeting.
5. **A.O.B:**
  - Andrew will try to attend the **Citizens UK** meeting aiming at setting up a community organisation in Southend
  - The draft of a new **greeting card** was agreed and Mike will get prices
  - **General Data Protection Regulations** – Andrew had looked at the info from AI UK: it seems that we will have to ask everybody on our address to “sign up” again and with an agreement to how we use their data; have a “policy statement” about how we store and use data; and have a “Fair Processing Note” on letters, forms, website, etc summarising this.
  - **AI UK Monthly Mailing:** Amongst other things mentions BRAVE human rights defender **Rodrigo Mundaca** of Chile (see front page for details); Refugee Week 18<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> June; the “Football Welcomes” Campaign and the Data Protection Guidance already mentioned.
  - Martin, Muriel and Mike are going to the AI UK AGM and National Conference in Swansea.
  - Andrew will try to sell on line the original paintings donated to the Group a couple of years ago

**Letters and Petitions.** We sent cards (6) to the Minister of the Interior and letters (5) to the Chilean Ambassador on behalf of Rodrigo Mundaca. **SEE FRONT PAGE FOR DETAILS.**

**Next Meetings** 12<sup>th</sup> April at the Balmoral Centre at 7:30pm.

*Mike Pregnall*

Group Secretary  
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