

# Amnesty International Southend Group

[amnestysouthend@googlemail.com](mailto:amnestysouthend@googlemail.com)  
[www.amnesty.org.uk/groups/southend/](http://www.amnesty.org.uk/groups/southend/)



## APRIL 2018 NEWSLETTER

### Next Group Meeting

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2018, 7:30pm

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

### FUNDRAISING EVENTS

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> August** - Sponsored  
Walk – route to be agreed.

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> August** - AMNESTEA  
at 50 Merryfield Approach, Leigh-on-  
Sea

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> July** - Caribbean  
Evening (or maybe afternoon!) at 36  
Orchard Avenue, Hockley

**More details soon – please put  
the dates in your diary**

### The General Data Protection Regulations

The Group will be taking steps to ensure  
any personal data we have is held and  
used in accordance with these  
Regulations, which come into effect on  
25<sup>th</sup> May. We'll be asking for permission to  
keep contacting you and give you access  
to our Privacy Statement.

**PLEASE RESPOND WHEN YOU GET  
THIS REQUEST, OR WE WILL HAVE  
TO TAKE YOU OFF OUR LIST  
OF CONTACTS**

**Please write to:** The Head of the Judiciary in Iran on behalf of Esmail Abdi, a  
teacher and trade unionist in Iran. You could also send a greeting card to Azza  
Soliman, a lawyer in Egypt or write on her behalf to the President of Egypt. **Details  
on the [Group website](http://www.amnesty.org.uk)**

## **Amnesty International Southend Group**

### **Notes of meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

**Present** Andrew, Dave, Martin, Muriel and Mike

**Apologies** Tricia, Heidrun, Audrey & Steve.

**Last Meeting** The Forum is booked 12<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> September and a display ordered from AI UK; the replacement greeting card and envelopes has been supplied; the Co-op Bank has been informed of the change of Group Treasurer; Andrew had been unable to attend the Citizens UK meeting.

**Letters and Petitions.** We sent 5 coloured cards to Azza Soliman ; 4 letters on behalf of Esmail Abdi in Iran and one letter to his family. **SEE FRONT PAGE FOR DETAILS.**

**Report from AI UK AGM and National Conference** – Martin, Muriel and Mike had been to Swansea and agreed the Conference had been useful and informative. It had also been quite slick though a bit quieter socially than in previous years. The strength of the Youth Groups had been encouraging. Martin had been to a Working Party on Brexit which had highlighted the risks it posed to human rights; Muriel had been to one attracting and keeping new members – we need to adopt some new approaches; Mike had been to one on BRAVE out of which some new guidance on lobbying MPs should appear; and we had also attended a working party on a new Stop the Death Penalty Campaign which will be getting under way soon.

**General data Protection Regulations** – these regulations are a further attempt to protect individuals' privacy by restricting how personal information (which includes addresses and photos) may be used. They come into effect on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018. The main implications for the Group are that we need to be more careful how we keep and use address details and to have a statement detailing how those details will be kept and used. Andrew and Mike had prepared a note about the implications and a draft Privacy Statement, which were circulated. After some discussion the Privacy Statement was agreed; it will be put on the Group's website, everybody on our address list(s?) would be contacted and asked to agree to continue to be contacted on the basis set out in the Statement; Mike will check to ensure that no contact details or photographs are stored other than on a secure website; and access to that website will be limited to the elected officers of the Group.

**Secretary** – No letter-writing activities in the AI UK Monthly Mailing – details of Refugee Week activities 18<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> June and the Toxic Twitter action. Postage has gone up (again) so airmail up to 10gm is now £1.25 and surface mail prices have also gone up.

**Treasurer** – Balmoral Centre paid up to December, leaving £297 in the bank but bills for The Forum and the greeting cards to be paid.

**Fundraising/Publicity** – nothing from Leigh Festival about our stall booking – Martin will chase. He will also ask if we can sell a few things but if that meant we had to pay more for the stall it wouldn't be worth it. Andrew agreed to hold an Amnestea on 18<sup>th</sup> August and we'll have a sponsored walk on 11<sup>th</sup> August (taking in The Pier?). Muriel and Mike will look at holding a Caribbean evening. An Amnesty Bake-off and another Jamnesty were also mentioned.

**AOB** – We signed "Thank you" and "Hope You're Feeling Better" cards for Heidrun and Tricia.

**Next Meeting** 10<sup>th</sup> May at the Balmoral Centre at 7:30pm.

*Mike Pregnall*

Group Secretary  
01702 204748