

Amnesty International Southend Group

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www.amnesty.org.uk/groups/southend/



JUNE 2018 NEWSLETTER

Please write: to or on behalf of **Tep Vanny**, a Cambodian Human Rights Defender and **Esmail Abdi** a teacher and trade unionist on hunger strike in Iran. You could also write a letter to Ayatollah Khamenei on behalf of **Nazanin Zarghari-Ratcliffe** and send her a card. Details including addresses and guidance on what to say on the [Group website](http://www.amnesty.org.uk/groups/southend/).

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Saturday 21st July - Caribbean Happy Hour(s) at 36 Orchard Avenue, Hockley (to be confirmed - may need to be re-arranged). **Watch this space!**

Saturday 18th August – AMNESTEA, pool party & barbeque at 50 Merryfield Approach, Leigh-on-Sea from 4:00pm. Cake contributions welcome. Please invite a friend. Flyers attached.

Sunday 26th August - Sponsored Walk – start at 2:00pm at the East Beach Kiosk please sponsor Martin or Andrew or come along yourself. Sponsorship form attached

If you haven't yet replied to the e-mail about the General Data Protection Regulations, please do so or we can't contact you. You can see the Group's privacy statement at.

<https://www.amnesty.org.uk/node/54948>

Next Group Meeting
Thursday 12th July 2018,
7:30pm at The Balmoral
Centre, Salisbury Avenue,
Westcliff-on-Sea SS0 7AU

Amnesty International Southend Group

Notes of meeting on 14th June 2018

at The Balmoral Centre Westcliff

Present Andrew, Martin, Steve, David, Muriel & Mike

Apologies: Heidrun, Tricia. Doug

Letters and Petitions. We wrote cards (5) to **Tep Vanny**, a Cambodian Human Rights Defender and sent emails (4) on his behalf; we sent cards (2) to and letters (2) on behalf of **Esmail Abdi** a teacher and trade unionist on hunger strike in Iran and signed a petition on his behalf; and wrote letters to Ayatollah Khamenei on behalf of **Nazanin Zarghari-Ratcliffe** and sent her cards (5). **SEE FRONT PAGE FOR DETAILS.** We also decided that I would write on to Sir David Amess MP as he sent an e-mail on behalf of **Nazanin Zarghari-Ratcliffe** at our WfR event and ask what the government is doing about her case.

Secretary – the AI UK Local Groups June Mailing included a link to a blog about BRAVE case **Sakris Kupila**; items about the Death Penalty Campaign Report, Refugee Week and Brexit and human rights. The Summer Amnesty Magazine and “Real Lives” are now available; and the GDPR e-mails had resulted in a lot of “supporters” falling off our contact list – we now have 22 “legitimate” members and a couple of outstanding replies still likely.

Treasurer – Andrew reported that we have £181.50 in the bank; the Co-op had been asked (again) to send correspondence to Andrew instead of Heidrun; and Steve reported that last years accounts had been satisfactorily audited, and the Annual Return form could be sent to AI UK.

Fundraising/Publicity

- Martin and Andrew will set up the stall at the Leigh Festival on **Saturday 23rd June**. There will be BRAVE cards and a petition to sign and Richard/Dave's and Martin's old books will be given away but with a request for a donation
- The **Caribbean Happy Hour(s)** planned for 21st July may need to be re-arranged – too many people away or otherwise engaged
- Andrew and Pushpa's **Amnestea on 18th August** seems to be morphing into a pool party and BBQ. Cake contributions appreciated.
- The **Sponsored Walk on Sunday 26th August** will start at 2:00pm at the East Beach Kiosk please sponsor Martin or Andrew or come along yourself. Sponsorship form attached

Next Meeting Thursday 12th July at the Balmoral Centre at 7:30pm.

Mike Pregnall

Group Secretary
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