

# Newsletter: September 2018

## Bognor Regis, Chichester & District Group



<b>Dates for your diary</b>	<b>Wed 26/09/2018 1200 - 1300.</b> Curator's talk - <i>Conflicting views: Pacifist artists</i> at the Otter Gallery, University of Chichester <b>Wed 26/09/2018 1630 - 1830.</b> <i>Taking Action for a Better World</i> at The Vicar's Hall, Chichester Cathedral <b>Wed 10/10/2018 1930.</b> Letter-writing evening, Barnham for <i>World Day against the Death Penalty</i>
-----------------------------	---

Dear writers,

Many thanks to those who walked the PUMBLE and to Peter James for organising it

## Local events

### Live Better Together 2018

A series of events organised by Chichester Cathedral starting on 21 September, *International Day of Peace*. Events include:

- Candle Lighting, Prayers and Peace Trail (including the Amnesty candle)
- **Taking Action for a Better World, Wednesday 26 September** 4.30-6.30pm
- For more details of the full programme of events, please see the Cathedral website

<https://www.chichestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/peace-day.shtml>

If you would like to help staff our Amnesty stall at the **Taking Action for a Better World** event in the Vicar's Hall on 26 September, please contact Bob on 01243 823016 or Kath on 01243 552131. This event is intended to share local volunteering opportunities that relate to the themes of social justice, peace and reconciliation. We will be joined by colleagues from Children on the Edge, Sanctuary in Chichester, Stonepillow, UK Harvest and Voluntary Action Arun and Chichester.

**Wednesday 10/10/2018, 19:30:** letter-writing event hosted by Margaret Robertson, at 20 Stempwood Way, Barnham, PO22 0LA. Please contact Margaret on 01243 552113. 10 October is ***World Day Against the Death Penalty***.

## Other events

- **Conflicting views: pacifist artists**, Otter Gallery, University of Chichester, 25/06/2018 - 07/10/2018

Marking the centenary of the ending of the First World War, *Conflicting Views: Pacifist Artists* examines the experiences of British painters and sculptors, both well and lesser-known, who were Conscientious Objectors and pacifists in the First and Second World Wars. The highlight is the Curator's Talk on **Wednesday 26 September 2018, 12.00 – 13.00:** curator and Visiting Professor, Dr Gill Clarke, will lead a tour of the exhibition and discuss a range of subjects within the exhibition providing insights into the artists' varied experiences and motivations.

<https://www.chi.ac.uk/about-us/otter-gallery/current-exhibitions>

- **Bosham Concert in aid of Sanctuary in Chichester**, Sunday 7 October, 6:00 pm

Soprano (and Amnesty committee member) Rebecca Grove and mezzo-soprano Stephanie Peat will sing to the accompaniment of harpist Frances Kelly, at Holy Trinity Church. Money raised will go towards Sanctuary in Chichester. The programme will be a selection of solos and duets including English folk music, German Lieder and French Art Song. This is part of the Music in Bosham series organised by Ben Lathbury. Further details here:

<https://sanctuaryinchichester.org/forthcoming-events/>

Carry on writing!

*Bob Dewick, Amnesty*

If you no longer wish to receive information about this Group, please reply to this newsletter with a request to **Unsubscribe**.

Please let us know if there have been any changes in your personal information

For more information about this Group, go to: <https://www.amnesty.org.uk/groups/bognor-chichester-and-district>

# Newsletter: September 2018

## Bognor Regis, Chichester & District Group



### Amnesty action: campaigns & letter-writing

#### Azza Soliman: Egyptian lawyer fighting for women's rights



Lawyer Azza Soliman defends victims of torture, arbitrary detention, domestic abuse, and rape in Egypt. Despite almost 20 years of arrests, harassment, surveillance and smear campaigns by pro-government outlets, she refuses to be intimidated.

Because she defends human rights, Azza now faces three trumped up charges: tax evasion, operating a civil society organisation without proper registration, and slandering the country by claiming Egyptian women face rape. Her assets have been frozen, and she has been banned from travel. If convicted, she could be jailed for 25 years.

The charges are part of Case 173, in which Egyptian judges have imprisoned 43 people working for non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and shut down several international NGOs. It is part of an orchestrated campaign to dismantle Egypt's human rights movement and crush dissent.

If you would like to read more about Azza: <https://www.amnesty.org.uk/azza-soliman-raised-justice-and-kindness>

#### What you can do:

We as a Group have written a number of times to support Azza and about the human rights situation in Egypt: please do so again. Please write to President al-Sisi (copied to the Ambassador in the UK), calling on him to:

- drop the charges and lift the travel ban and asset freeze orders against Azza Soliman immediately and unconditionally.
- drop case 173 and lift the travel ban and asset freeze orders against human rights defenders and human rights organisations
- drop the draconian NGO bill and amend the current law so that it is in line with Egypt's international and constitutional commitments to preserve the right to freedom of association.

President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi  
Office of the President  
Al Ittihadia Palace  
Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt  
Email: [p.spokesman@op.gov.eg](mailto:p.spokesman@op.gov.eg)  
Twitter: @AlsisiOfficial

His Excellency Mr Nasser Ahmed Kamel  
Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt  
26 South Street  
London W1K 1DW

#### Salutation: Your Excellency

If you would prefer to take the action online and add your name to a petition:

<https://www.amnesty.org.uk/actions/azza-soliman>

#### Further actions in support of Azza

We will be asking people who come along to the **Taking Action for a Better World** event in the Vicar's Hall on 26 September (see page 1 of this Newsletter) to write to Azza in support of her work. Please pop in to this event if you would like to do so. We will be using the postcards created by volunteers at the **Print for Peace** event which is taking place in the Guildhall, Priory Park, on Saturday 22 September.

If you no longer wish to receive information about this Group, please reply to this newsletter with a request to **Unsubscribe**.

Please let us know if there have been any changes in your personal information

For more information about this Group, go to: <https://www.amnesty.org.uk/groups/bognor-chichester-and-district>

# Newsletter: September 2018

## Bognor Regis, Chichester & District Group



### EGYPT : HANAN BADR el-DIN

**Please take urgent action on behalf of Hanan Badr el-Din before 18 September.**

#### Who is she?

**Hanan Badr el-Din** is a human rights defender who has been in pre-trial detention since 6 May 2017

#### What are the charges against her?

She has been detained on fabricated charges of 'membership of a banned group'

#### What is her current situation?

She is on hunger strike in protest against the renewal of her detention for a further 45 days on 5 August  
She suffers from a painful genetic disorder (Familial Mediterranean Fever) and is not being allowed adequate health care or regular medication

#### What can you do?

**Please write to the authorities named below to :**

- Urge them to release her immediately and unconditionally and to drop all charges against her
- Call upon them to ensure that she has adequate and regular access to qualified health professionals and receives appropriate medication in accordance with medical ethics, including confidentiality

#### Public Prosecutor

Nabil Sadek  
Office of the Public Prosecutor  
Dar al-Qada al-Ali  
Down Town Cairo  
Arab Republic of Egypt

(Dear Counsellor)

#### Minister of Interior

Mahmoud Tawfiq  
Ministry of the Interior  
25 El Sheikh Rihan Street  
Bab al-Louk, Cairo  
Arab Republic of Egypt  
email : [center@iscmi.gov.eg](mailto:center@iscmi.gov.eg) or [E.HumanRightsSector@moi.gov.eg](mailto:E.HumanRightsSector@moi.gov.eg)  
(Dear Minister)

#### Copies to :

##### Deputy Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs

Ahmed Ihab Gamal-Eldin  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Corniche el-Nile, Cairo, Egypt  
Email: [contact.us@mfa.gov.eg](mailto:contact.us@mfa.gov.eg)

##### His Excellency Mr Nasser Ahmed Kamel Ali

Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt  
26 South Street  
London W1K 1DW  
[eg.emb\\_london@mfa.gov.eg](mailto:eg.emb_london@mfa.gov.eg)  
[etembuk@hotmail.com](mailto:etembuk@hotmail.com)

Further information about Hanan's case can be found here:

[https://www.amnesty.org.uk/files/2018-08/FI12917\\_2.pdf?PdfTb3dXBys8Qpn\\_2ptWbkrovnuXQPfD=](https://www.amnesty.org.uk/files/2018-08/FI12917_2.pdf?PdfTb3dXBys8Qpn_2ptWbkrovnuXQPfD=)

If you no longer wish to receive information about this Group, please reply to this newsletter with a request to **Unsubscribe**.

Please let us know if there have been any changes in your personal information

For more information about this Group, go to: <https://www.amnesty.org.uk/groups/bognor-chichester-and-district>