

# Amnesty International Southend Group

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



## September 2018 NEWSLETTER

**Next Group Meeting**  
**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October,**  
The Balmoral Centre,  
Salisbury Avenue,  
Westcliff-on-Sea SS0 7AU



*Write for Rights*

*Make a difference!*

**SATURDAY 15<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**  
**10:00am – 1:00pm**

**Balmoral Community Centre**  
**Salisbury Ave, Westcliff SS0 7AU**

**Send a message on behalf of  
somebody whose human  
rights are abused or denied**

### LETTER-WRITING ACTIONS

Please write to the President of Sri Lanka on behalf of Sandhya and Prageeth Ekmaligoda - Sandhya is being threatened for campaigning against enforced disappearances including that of Prageeth; to the Russian Prosecutor on behalf of Rasul Kudaev, alleged victim of torture and in need of medical care; and to the President of Cuba on behalf of Eduardo Concepcion, a Prisoner of Conscience.

**Details including addresses and guidance on what to say on the [Group website](http://www.amnesty.org.uk).**

You could also e-mail Microsoft about the employment of children to mine the cobalt that powers some of their products. Go to:

<https://www.amnesty.org.uk/actions/microsoft-child-labour>

# **Amnesty International Southend Group**

## **Notes of meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

### **at The Balmoral Centre Westcliff**

#### **Present**

Martin, Doug, Dave, Muriel & Mike

#### **Apologies:**

Steve and Tricia.

#### **From the last meeting:**

The sponsored walk on 26<sup>th</sup> August raised over £200 – final figure at the next meeting.

Thanks to all who walked or paid up! The Forum Exhibition was in place (it was removed on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September).

#### **Letters and Petitions.**

We wrote letters (5) to the President of Sri Lanka and the Sri Lankan High Commissioner on behalf of Sandhya and Prageeth Eknaligoda; letters (5) to the Russian Prosecutor General and the Russian Ambassador on behalf of Rasul Kudaev; and letters (4) to the President of Cuba and the Cuban Ambassador on behalf of Eduardo Concepcion. More details of these cases can be found on the front page of the Newsletter and on the Group website. We also sent 3 e-mails to Microsoft about the employment of children to mine the cobalt that powers some of their products.

#### **Secretary**

The AI UK Local Groups mailing included the news that Tep Vanny (a Cambodian land rights activist and BRAVE Campaign case on whose behalf we have written) has been released; an order form for Rights for Rights materials – Mike will order the same amount as last year; a new Public Liability Insurance Certificate; and the latest edition of “Real Lives”. There is also a promise of revised fundraising guidance in November.

#### **Treasurer**

The annual AI UK affiliation fee of £72 has been paid. The bank account stands at £449.72.

#### **Fundraising/Publicity**

Joyce Harris is planning to hold an Amnesteas early in November – details later – otherwise we have no more events planned until the Write for Rights meeting on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December.

#### **AOB**

Mike and Mu gave notice that some of the Group equipment and materials they store in their spare room will have to be found a new home or homes as the room will have to revert to a bedroom. There are the display boards, two banner displays, two large bags of leaflets, leaflet holders and posters, a digital projector and speakers, the famous “Audrey’s Bag” and several boxes of leaflets, and many more! **This will become urgent in a month or so!**

#### **Next Meeting**

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October at the Balmoral Centre at 7:30pm.

*Mike Pregnall*

Group Secretary  
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