



DERBY AMNESTY

Amnesty International (AI) Derby and District Group Newsletter

<http://www2.amnesty.org.uk/groups/derby-and-district>

October 2016

Secretary: Steffi Hahn
Chair: James Lam
Editor: Alison Simcock

01332 370469 @ derbyamnesty@gmail.com
01332 606937 @ dr_j_lam@hotmail.com
01332 349405 @ alison.simcock1@outlook.com

Flag Day

Saturday 15 October!

Can you give an hour of your time?



Please give an hour or so of your time to hold a tin in the town centre. *We know that the more helpers we have, the more money we make.*

As usual the centre for distributing cans will be the Central URC church office in Becketwell Lane.

This is down the side of the old Debenham's building, between Debenham's and Boots. Donations are also welcome.

To offer help or a donation, please see the slip below, or phone or email Anne Feist on 01332 766536 or anne.feist@ntlworld.com

Diary Dates . . . Diary DatesDiary Dates .

Group Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm in the Friends Meeting House

Tue 10 Oct Group Meeting 7.30pm FMH

Sat 15 Oct Flag Day—please join us to help us raise as much as possible for Amnesty.

Tue 8 Nov Group Meeting 7.30pm FMH

Sat 10 Dec Greetings Card Campaign. St Peter's Church

Greeting Card Campaign

Saturday 10 December

St Peter's Church

10am –3pm

Come and join us to write a card or two to show solidarity with human rights defenders around the world.



Reply Slip Amnesty International Flag Day, Saturday 15th Oct 2014 9 am – 4.00 pm.

Meet at Central URC church office, Becketwell Lane

I am able to help with the Flag Day and can help between and

I am unable to help at the Flag Day but enclose donation of (Cheques to Amnesty International)

Name.....Address.....

Email Phone

Please return to Anne Feist (or email or phone) by October 4th. 3 Willson Ave, Littleover DE23 2BD. anne.feist@ntlworld.com



News in Brief

Conflict and Refugees

A wide variety of groups who are concerned about the welfare of refugees in Derby & Derbyshire have started to meet. Two inspiring meetings have been held so far and approximately 30 people have attended each.

Groups represented include Amnesty, Derbyshire Refugee Solidarity (formerly DE Solidarity), City of Sanctuary, Red Cross, Student Action for Refugees (Derby University), Derby Refugee Advice Centre, Global Justice Now, EMCND, Derby CC Fostering Service, Worldwide Education Project.

The groups have agreed to share information (through Derby People's Diary) and to hold a public meeting in Derby on Fri 14 Oct at 7pm at the City Council Offices.

Imti Choonara

Derby Book Festival



The Amnesty stall at the Derby Book Festival in June was a great success! We took about £150 in book sales and donations, got children to sign messages of hope to our new prisoner of conscience Eskinder Nega and letters signed. Thanks to Ruth again for kindly providing the materials.

James Lam

A Story to Tell

A powerful evening of direct witness accounts of the refugee crisis was held in Wirksworth on September 14th.

A Story to Tell, through poetry, readings and responses from refugees fleeing conflict, presented first hand accounts of people who have stood on

the shores of the Mediterranean, who have saved lives, who have worked in the Calais Jungle.

These testaments bear witness to the dilemmas of us all having to do something. An evening of powerful, honest and uplifting accounts. Truly inspiring.

Imti Choonara

Child Refugees

A recent report in the Derby Evening Telegraph stated that plans to accommodate up to 97 unaccompanied asylum-seeking and refugee children in the county are to be considered by Derbyshire County Council in response to a Government request for help.

The council has formed a partnership to prepare to respond to the Government's new national transfer scheme introduced this summer. It is designed to ensure an equal distribution of unaccompanied asylum-seeking and refugee children across the country from areas including Syria, Afghanistan and Eritrea. Options for looking after the children in Derbyshire could include county council foster carers, independent fostering agencies and independent accommodation with support from agencies such as Barnardos.

Syrian Meeting

At our recent Derby meeting we were delighted that Catriona Harris, Amnesty International's Syria Coordinator gave a presentation on the situation in Syria. The presentation included Amnesty's campaign for human rights to be protected and calling those who violate these rights to be held accountable. There was also a presentation on Amnesty's People on the Move campaign.

The meeting was very well attended. Many in the audience were already well informed about the crisis in Syria and the refugees arriving in Europe.

The photograph below shows us with Amnesty's "Stands with Refugees" poster asking people to sign in solidarity with refugees.

Many thanks to Catriona and those who provided the delicious food.

James Lam

