

June 2012
AMNESTY

Wandsworth
INTERNATIONAL



WANDSWORTH AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL GROUP

next meets at
The Exhibit

WEDNESDAY 13 JUNE

-- -- 19:30 -- --

We will be focussing on the
Control Arms Trade Campaign

ready for the London Group action on Saturday 16 June (- see below). We have Ingrid, our local trainer, to lead a discussion on the campaign. And then we will be decorating white vests which will be used in the action on the Saturday so please bring a vest if you can and any paints, ribbons, pens etc to help the decoration!

THE BANANA SHOOTOUT AND THE ARMS TRADE TREATY

Saturday 16 June

12-2pm

Parliament Square



David Cameron has yet to publicly commit to the UK supporting a robust Arms Trade Treaty. Amnesty London Region is going to encourage him by going to the heart of Parliament and having a banana shootout. We would like group members to come along and wear bullet proof vests and take part in a little bit of theatre. All London will provide the bananas and give instructions about what to do with them! (eg, posing for photos and acting out short scenes). We hope to engage members of the public and make a film of the event that will go viral.



Why a shootout? Because there are international treaties governing the sale of bananas but not arms. Let's tell David Cameron and the general public that this isn't acceptable. This event is open to all and you don't have to have a vest to come – or a banana.

You can sign the petition to David Cameron calling for a bulletproof Arms Trade Treaty here:

http://protectthehuman.amnesty.org.uk/petition_actions/disarm-dictators



WANDSWORTH

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
GROUP
presents
QUIZ NITE

We like to hold this fun fundraiser once a year. As to dates, it looks like Thursday 27 September should go in your diary now.

The Exhibit provides quiz space free of charge but expects a minimum spend level of £200 through the bar and food.

Would you like to help with this event?

Contact Sara at
wandsworthai@yahoo.co.uk

WANDSWORTH

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
GROUP
presents
EMBASSY CRAWL

Each year the Wandsworth Group organises a walk with a difference. We call on embassies featured in a current Amnesty campaign – so, for example, last year we went to the embassies of countries involved in the Arab Spring. I can also recommend the walk as an afternoon's good, healthy exercise around London's interesting embassy quarter and across the capital's green, open spaces. There is always a tea stop on route – usually by the Serpentine. As to dates, it looks like Saturday 6 October.

Would you like to help with this event?

Contact Jon at
j.leyshon@btinternet.com

URGENT ACCESS SUCCESS

"The men told Amnesty International that they very much appreciated the efforts and support of the Amnesty International membership and would like to thank everyone who has written to the Syrian authorities on their behalf."

Reporter Adem Ozkose and cameraman Hamit Coskun crossed the Turkish border into Syria on 5 March. They confirmed to Amnesty International that they were captured by members of Shabiha (armed gangs supporting the Syrian authorities) who held them captive in different houses until 17 March. During this time they were repeatedly threatened at gunpoint. They were then taken to the police station in Idlib and from there to an unidentified detention facility in the capital, Damascus, where they were each held in a small cell in solitary confinement. Adem Ozkose told Amnesty International that his cell only had a very small window and he was unable to see the sun. Although not physically tortured themselves, they regularly heard crying and screaming. Both men were forced to sleep on the floor with few blankets and had to eat with their hands. They were allowed to make brief use of the toilet at three scheduled times each day.

Despite repeated requests, the Syrian authorities did not give any information to the two men about the reasons for their arrest or their continuing detention. Their release was negotiated by the Iranian authorities and the two men travelled back to Turkey via Iran.

THE EXHIBIT

12 BALHAM STATION ROAD

Northern Line tube / 2 rail stops from Clapham Junction /

249, 315, 155 and 355 buses / just by the entrance to Sainsbury's car park

Head up the stairs to the 1st floor for our meeting place at the side of the restaurant – unless we have been elevated to the space by the cinema on the next floor up!

THANKS to all those who have signed up - and made a donation. If you haven't yet, please see the membership form below.

Wandsworth AI

Secretary

Sara Mason

wandsworthai@yahoo.co.uk

SIGN UP FOR 2012

Every month we send out a newsletter with information about our meetings and news about our current activities and as often as possible we enclose a letter to be signed in connection with an action or campaign. This is a very important way of keeping in touch with people who cannot make every meeting.

Unfortunately, this costs money, as does running the local group and the national organisation. Therefore, we are asking local supporters to Sign Up for 2012.



I enclose £5 [£2 unwaged] as my membership of Wandsworth Amnesty group for 2012.

Name

Address

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Tel: Em@il:

Send to: Peter Martin/ 6 Manville Road/ Tooting Bec/ SW17 8JN

Cheques to: Amnesty International/Wandsworth please.

Thanks!

*many thanks to those who have already sent me money
and those who have also made a donation*