



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL Bromley & Orpington Group December 2012 Newsletter



Our thanks to Joan Norris of Shortlands for sponsoring this month's Newsletter

COME TO OUR NEXT MEETINGS

Tuesday 11th December

Tuesday 8th January

Tuesday 12th February

Greetings Card Campaign: 'Send a Message of Hope'

Activity to be confirmed

Activity to be confirmed

The Nick Beston Quartet

With special guest vocalist

Sue Rivers

Present a concert of popular jazz standards in aid of
Amnesty International Bromley & Orpington Group

Friday 1 February 2013 at 7.30pm

Orpington Methodist Church Sevenoaks Road, Orpington

Tickets £10 in advance; £11 on the door

From David Howkins 01689 823793

Campaigning: Japan, Pakistan and Rwanda

We signed a Group letter to the President of **Pakistan** following the shooting of Malala Yousafzai. We called on the Pakistan authorities to uphold the right to education for women and girls and to bring to justice those responsible for her shooting. We wrote to the **Japanese** Prime Minister regarding the case of **Iwao Hakamada**, believed to be the world's longest serving death row prisoner, having served 44 years for a crime he may not have committed. There is a strong chance that his case may now be reviewed. We sent a letter to the President of **Rwanda** calling on him to honour international obligations under the UN Convention on Disappearances following military intervention that has led to many individuals being arrested by armed personnel with no information of their whereabouts. Amnesty believes that Rwanda can be influenced by UK activists as the country has close ties to the UK through aid and trade. We also contacted our three MPs regarding the forthcoming **Security Bill** which begins its passage through the House of Lords this month. The Bill provides draconian powers to allow court hearings to be heard in private if national security is cited. Amnesty fears this will erode civil liberties and the right to fair and open trials. Our MPs are being urged to vote for amendments to water down these proposals.



GREETINGS CARD CAMPAIGN

"Send a Message of Hope" this Christmas

Join us on Tuesday 11th December at 7.30pm

***Mince Pies* *Refreshments* booklet enclosed or www.amnesty.org.uk**

Group Finance

Balance brought forward	£622.83
Income	£692.02
Expenditure	£124.25
Balance at 13 th November	£1,190.60
CHANGE	£567.77

The street collection raised a terrific £614.47, and we thank all those who took part and especially to Margaret for masterminding our collection at four sites. Sainsbury West Wickham proved the most generous of our four supermarket pitches! We are spot on budget to hit our target of £2,350 donated to Amnesty by 31 December, however, we have been notified that there will be no BLT premiere in 2013.

Last chance to buy Amnesty Christmas Cards at our Dec meeting. Only 4 packs left!

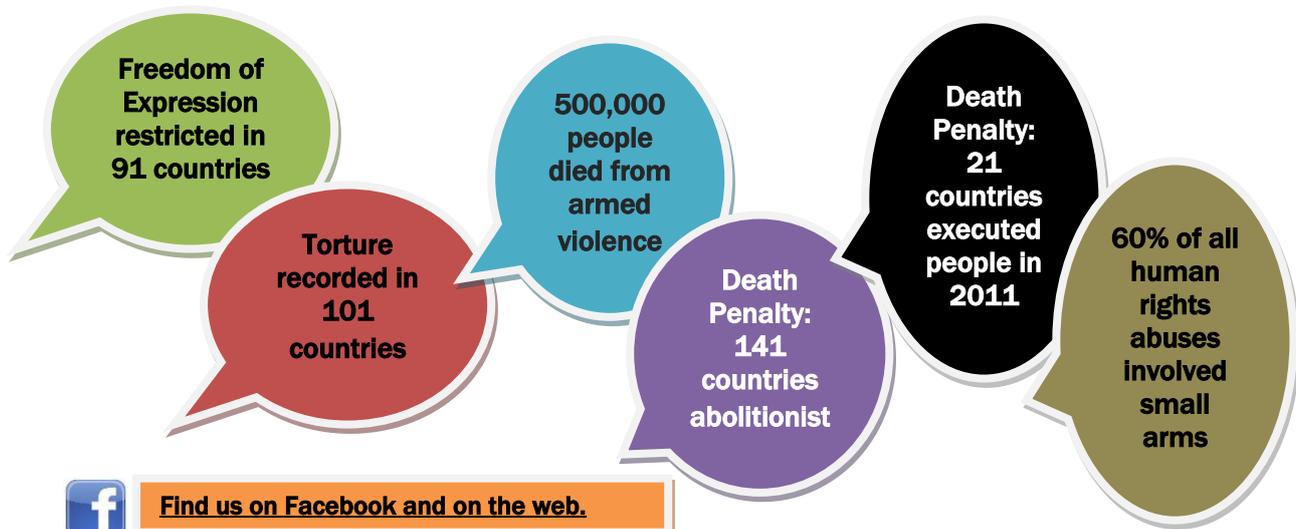
Monthly Letter: Brazil

Our monthly letter is in support of an indigenous cassava planter from Brazil, who has been intimidated, harassed and subjected to death threats as a result of speaking out against illegal loggers. Such has been the intimidation that she has suffered beatings and gone into hiding. The letter urges the Brazilian authorities to look into the allegations of intimidation and to offer protection to human rights workers where they are threatened, and to bring those responsible to justice. Please address, sign and post the attached letter which will cost 87p to post.



The State of Human Rights in the World: 2011

Amnesty recorded the following tally of human rights concerns in 2011, making our work as pressing as ever:



Present on 13th November: David Howkins, Neville White, Shirley Henderson, Joan Williams, Margaret Coppard, Ted Burke, Eleanor Ivens, Gladys Edmonds, Patsy Paine, Vivien Glanz, Patrick Nield, Waltraut Gilchrist, Wendy Simmons, Eve Fisher, Chris Purnell, Patrick McDonnell, Clare Ellis and Peter Martin who was welcomed to the meeting. Apologies: Rene Eastwood, Patricia Eastaugh, Pamela Smith.

Meetings are held in the Wesley Room, Orpington Methodist Church, Sevenoaks Road, Orpington commencing at 7.30pm. **E-mail** aibromley@btinternet.com **website:** www.amnesty.org.uk/bromley

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