

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
Bromley & Orpington Group



Christmas & New Year
Newsletter 2015/16

COME TO OUR NEXT MEETINGS

Tuesday 12th January

Tuesday 9th February

Tuesday 8th March

Campaign Meeting

Campaign Meeting

20th Bromley & Orpington Group AGM

We raised £2,572 for Amnesty in 2015 – Thank you!

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 12th February 2016 at 7.30pm

Orpington Methodist Church, Sevenoaks Road, Orpington

Tickets £10 in advance; £11 on the door

From David Howkins 01689 823793 or davidhowkins@virginmedia.com

Monthly Action: Burkina Faso: My Body – My Rights

In Burkina Faso, many young people struggle to access contraception and other sexual health services. Religious and cultural norms, gender-based discrimination, and practices such as early marriage combine with poverty to hamper women's and girls' ability to make decisions about their sexual and reproductive lives. Only 64% of girls in Burkina Faso are able to go to school, and many leave to get married or take on domestic work. Even the most basic information on sexual and reproductive health is inaccessible to most girls.

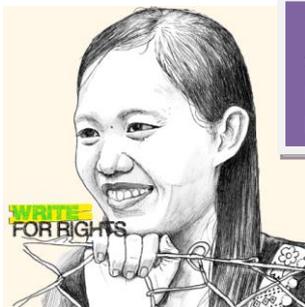
Burkina Faso has one of the highest rates of maternal mortality in the world. One in every 22 women will die simply from getting pregnant. With education and healthcare programmes in place, these deaths could be dramatically reduced. We wrote to the President of Burkina Faso urging the improvement of women's and girls' access to sexual and reproductive health services and health information.



***"Season's Greetings for a very Happy
Christmas and a peaceful New Year to
all our supporters"***

Finance

Balance brought forward	£540.37
Income	£37.50
Expenditure	£81.00
Balance at 8 th December	£496.87
CHANGE	-£43.50



"I cannot describe my feeling to wake up one day and find that the whole world is talking about Raif's case. It is a very beautiful thing."

Ensaf Heidar wife of imprisoned Saudi blogger Raif Badawi sentenced to 1,000 lashes.

"I've never met these people but they used their time, money and energy and I received thousands of letters and cards. They are the reason I am free; they are my heroes."

Moses Akatugba – pardoned and freed in 2015

"I am so grateful for all the incredible and heartfelt support from the tens of thousands of people out there, who took the time to write to me. The cards and letters literally flooded the mail room and my cell."

Chelsea Manning, US Whistle-blower

Our traditional Christmas meeting includes sending a 'Message of Hope'. We remember all those suffering human rights abuses by writing a simple greetings message in support and solidarity.

In 2014 Amnesty's "Write for Rights" Campaign led to almost 3 million actions being sent from 200 countries. The campaign led to improvement in the situations of several of the individuals profiled. This year another 12 cases are featured across the world.

Please join us: Go to www.amnesty.org.uk to find out more about this year's 12 cases.

Ending the Year with a Message of Hope: Shaker Aamer

I can't tell you how much I want to speak to all of you and stand with all of you, carrying on the struggle for justice for everybody who has been oppressed and needs our help. If there is one thing we can do to save the whole world it is to fight for justice. We will work hard together to close Guantánamo and every unlawful facility run by any government worldwide. Justice has no colour or religion or race.

*I promise all of you good people -- those whose names I know, and those whose names I do not know -- that my heart and my spirit feel your thoughts of justice. I care for you all. **Shaker Aamer***

Present on 8th December: David Howkins, Neville White, Gladys Edmonds, Patsy Paine, Waltraut Gilchrist, Wendy Simmons, Vivien Glanz, Vivienne Andrews and Peter Martin. **Apologies:** Shirley Henderson, Joan Williams, Rene Eastwood, Eleanor Ivens, Margaret Coppard.

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

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