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## Amnesty International Hillingdon Group Newsletter No 138. Apr – May 2015

**#SOSEUROPE** For all tweeters out there. It seems that finally European leaders are being shocked into taking seriously the ongoing tragedy of the ever increasing death toll of people drowning in the Mediterranean. The immediate priority must be to stop people drowning. Take action: <https://www.amnesty.org.uk/actions/dont-let-them-drown-mediterranean?from=issues>

Diary - \*indicates local event

**\*Mon 27 Apr:** Group meeting. Quaker meeting Hall, Uxbridge. Near Sainsbury's. Doors open 7:45 for 8pm start. Refreshments available.

**Fri 30 Apr:** Demonstration to stop the eviction of 160 Roma families in Miskolc, Hungary. Hungarian Embassy, 35 Eaton Place, London, SW1X 8BY. 18:00-19:00. Contact: Ulrike Schmidt. 07984729321

**\*Sun 10 May 2pm.** Sponsored walk. Meet Ickenham Station carpark. Finish Uxbridge station (train/bus back to starting point). Stop for AmnesTEA at Janet's house en route.

**Fri 15 May:** Roma Rights are Human Rights, 19:00-21:00 . New campaign and festival event. Find out about Amnesty's new report and campaign against segregation of Romani children in Czech Republic, and Amnesty's ongoing campaigns against evictions and racist violence. There will be speakers, poetry, live music and film. Entry: Free but donations welcome. Human Rights Action Centre, 17-25 New Inn Yard, London, EC2A 3EA. Info: 07984729321 (Ulrike).

**\*Mon 18 May (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday):** Group meeting. Quaker meeting Hall, Uxbridge. Doors open 7:45 for 8pm start. Refreshments available.

**\*Sat 6 June:** Eastcote House fair. Group stall – check your diary, helpers needed please.

**\*Sun 5 July:** Garden Party (predominantly social event) at Sally's house near Ickenham station. Bring and share lunch. Please let Sally know at a group meeting if you can attend.

**\*Sat 11 July:** Hayes Carnival. Group stall - check your diary, helpers needed please.

**Future Meeting Dates (Mondays):** 18 May (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday), 22 June. (no meetings July and August) then 28 Sep, 26 Oct, 23 Nov.

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**Group Meeting: 27 April** Feedback from AIUK Conference/AGM. A brief written report will appear in the next newsletter. Monthly Action & other actions.

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**Subscriptions:** Thank you to those who have already paid their annual subscriptions, which remain unchanged at £7.50 single/£10 joint. Subscriptions are optional for fully paid up members of AIUK and members of sister organisations are exempt. Thank you for your support.

**Royal Mail Prices...** have gone up again. A European or International letter now costs £1 to send, and at that price it must be less than 10 grams. Full price guide available via <http://www.royalmail.com/sites/default/files/Royal-Mail-UK-and-international-parcel-and-letter-prices-30-March-2015.pdf>

**General Election/Human Rights Act:** The Human Rights Act is under threat. Amnesty is always very careful to avoid party political bias, but we always take a pro Human Rights stance! The Human Rights Act provides vital protection all of us. If you speak to any candidates or canvassers, please mention to them the importance of keeping the Human Rights Act. Depending on the outcome of the general election, we may have an urgent need to campaign to keep the Human Rights Act and to oppose any watering down of its protections that would result from the replacement of the Human Rights Act with any new legislation. Please read more so you can fully understand the issues: <http://www.amnesty.org.uk/issues/Human-Rights-Act>

**What is Pocket Protest?** Pocket Protest is the Amnesty UK SMS Action Network. Sign up and you'll get the chance to be a Pocket Protestor - defending free speech and standing up for human rights simply by using your mobile phone. <http://www.amnesty.org.uk/issues/Pocket-Protest>

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AIUK Headquarters	17-25 New Inn Yard, London EC2A 3EY (Human Rights Action Centre, aka HRAC) <a href="http://www.amnesty.org.uk">http://www.amnesty.org.uk</a>

Items for the next newsletter to ([Amnestyhillington@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Amnestyhillington@hotmail.co.uk)) by early June.