



## **Aylesbury Amnesty International Group**

**Monthly Group Meeting, 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015, 7.30pm**

**Friends Meeting House, 9 Rickfords Hill, Aylesbury, HP20 2RT**

### **Present:**

Carol Tarrant  
Bob Corn  
Katherine Danflous

Sallyann Thilthorpe  
Henry Mayer-Gross

**Apologies:** Bronwen Lee, Gwyn Jenkins, David Barnard, Annelies Varsey, Frances Booth

**Carol welcomed everyone to the meeting, hoping that everyone had had an enjoyable summer!**

### **1.0 Previous Minutes – Agreed**

### **2.0 Urgent Actions and Post:**

- 2.1 Bob had prepared a letter in support of an Iranian Cartoonist, and a letter in support of an Iranian Human Rights Activist – Katherine had prepared letters in support of two Ukrainians resident in Chechnya – all were signed by everyone present, Bob to post.
- 2.2 Noted that we have received a letter back from the Ukraine in response to one of our earlier letters – written in Ukrainian! Katherine will copy it to the Amnesty International UK (AIUK) Country Coordinator for information and guidance.

### **3.0 Summary of Years Activism so far, and anticipated:**

- 3.1 Carol gave a brief report of activism to date this year, and the meeting reflected on the October actions suggested by AIUK – also on the 'My Body, My Rights' campaign.
- 3.2 Noted that is 'World Human Rights Day' on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2015 – this would be an excellent day to bring Human Rights concerns to our MPs – individuals to act as they wish!

### **4.0 Kate Allen's Intro to Amnesty Magazine:**

Carol read the introduction to the latest Amnesty Magazine which had been written by Director of AIUK – Kate Allen – on the theme of, and a good summary of, AIUK's position on 'Our Rights'. Material surrounding the topic had been included in the AIUK October Activism mailing, which can be accessed on-line.

### **5.0 TAPOL Seminar at AIUK Headquarters, New Inn Yard:**

- 5.1 Carol and Bob had both attended this seminar on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2015 which had been arranged to commemorate the commencement of mass Genocide in Indonesia 50 years ago, when upwards of 1,000,000 people had been murdered by state sponsored action. At the seminar there had been a showing of a video entitled 'Carmel' which was an appreciation of the life of Carmel Budiardjo, who was present – Carmel had been taken prisoner at the time of the Genocide, only being released when the authorities discovered that she was British. She was able to give an account of her experiences, these experiences leading her to establish the 'TAPOL' group, which now is an advocate organisation for Human Rights in Indonesia.
- 5.2 After showing the 'Carmel' video, a full panel discussion ensued – the panel comprising a member of AIUK, a member of TAPOL, a BBC Journalist, a University of London Professor and a Human Rights writer deeply involved with Indonesia.
- 5.3 Our Group discussed Indonesian Human Rights abuses, which embraced the Genocide of 1965, Aceh, East Timor and the ongoing slow Genocide in West Papua.
- 5.4 The meeting decided that our next meeting will include a showing of the film 'Balibo' which references the disappearance of five Australian Journalists who were reporting on the Indonesian invasion of East Timor in 1975.

### **6.0 Any Other Business:** There was no other business.

7.0 **NEXT MEETING: 28<sup>th</sup> October 2015** at 7.30pm, Friends Meeting House, 9 Rickfords Hill, Aylesbury, HP20 2RT – we will be showing the film 'Balibo'.

Bob Corn, Minutes Secretary,  
26<sup>th</sup> October 2015

