



Amnesty International Guildford Group

January 2010

Summary Report of Activities 2009

Monthly Meetings

Second Monday of every month, 7.30 pm, St Nicholas Church Rooms, Bury Street.

January **Report on Implementation of Resolutions adopted by AIUK 2009 Annual Conference.** *Speaker:* Colum McAndrew, AIUK Board Member

February **Business and Planning Meeting**

March **International Women's Day.** Video and audio presentations on different aspects of Women's Rights

April **Report on AIUK 2009 Annual Conference and AGM**

May **Guildford Group AGM**

June **Refugee Week.** *Speaker:* Marilyn Bonzo, asylum seeker from Zimbabwe

July **Guildford Group garden party, with special campaign action for the "Disappeared"** ▶▶



September **Demand Dignity campaign.**
Workshop on the new campaign led by Philip Strudwick

October **China: 20 years after Tiananmen Square.** *Speaker:* Shao Jiang, exiled dissident and former student leader

November **Stop Violence Against Women.**
Speaker: Heather Harvey, Manager of AIUK's SVAW campaign



December **Greetings Card Event** ▶▶
(see next page)

Sessions with speakers, video presentations etc are always followed by a business and planning meeting.

Other Events: see next page

Monthly Letter-Writing Sessions

*Last Saturday of every month (except August and December),
Café-Bar of the Electric Theatre.*

Members and friends met together to write letters in support of political prisoners and other individuals at risk.

Other Events

January 24 **AIUK South East Regional Conference**, Tunbridge Wells

April 3-5 **AIUK National Conference and AGM**, Swansea

April 28 **The Struggle for Human Rights in Occupied Palestine.**
Anna Seiffert, recently returned from 3 months as an ‘ecumenical accompanier’ in Palestine, spoke of her experiences

May 8 **In Prison My Whole Life.**
Film at the Electric Theatre about Will Francome’s investigation of the case of Mumia Abu-Jamal, former journalist and Black Panther, on death row in Pennsylvania since 1981. Followed by discussion with Will Francome

May 9 **Street Collection** in Guildford town centre

June 6 **Tiananmen Square - 20 Years After.**
Demonstration in Guildford High Street



October 22 **Beijing Coma.**
Author Ma Jian presented his new novel, based on his experience of the 1989 Tiananmen Square demonstration and massacre. Guildford Book Festival Event

November 26 **Hurried Steps.** Play by Dacia Maraini to mark the UN International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and support Amnesty’s “Stop Violence against Women” campaign. Followed by discussion. The Mill Studio at the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre

December 12 **Shell – Clean Up Your Act.**
We joined other AI groups across the country in demonstrations outside petrol stations, demanding that Shell end the pollution in the Niger delta which so violates the local people’s rights to clean air, clean water and clean environment generally.



December **Annual Greetings Card Event.**
This year at the Electric Theatre, in conjunction with a reading of Ariel Dorfman’s play ‘Speak Truth to Power’ by the LynchPin Theatre Company. 373 cards were written and sent to political prisoners and others at risk around the world.