



West Midlands

CAMPAIGN FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

Mailing

September/October 2025



Peace NOT WAR

Tour with
Lakenheath Alliance for Peace

Monday 8th September 2025
5.30 for a 6pm start. Finishes at 8.30pm
The Old Print Works, 498-506 Mosely Rd,
Birmingham, B129AH
Free entrance. Donations welcome to cover costs

Speakers
Angie Zelter from LAP, Kate Hudson from CND,
Rob Horsfield from Birmingham Stop the War.
Plus a speaker from West Midlands Palestine Solidarity Campaign

US nuclear weapons have arrived at the
Lakenheath NATO base in Suffolk.
There will be a National demonstration
during Trump's visit to the UK:
Saturday 20th September 1pm
Main Gate, RAF Lakenheath.

Come join the discussion to find out how we can
work together to end the threat of nuclear weapons,
increased militarisation of our state and endless wars.

www.LakenheathAllianceforPeace.org.uk

For information about travel to Lakenheath from Birmingham on 20th September, please see details below.

WMCND, 54, Allison Street, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 5TH
e-mail: wmcndall@gmail.com; website: www.wmcnd.org.uk
Follow us on Twitter: @westmidlandscnd

BITS FROM ABROAD

Reformers urge an end to uranium enrichment as crisis grips Iran. The Reform Front, which is loyal to the president, calls on regime to abandon nuclear programme as economy teeters and power and water supplies fail. Iranian reformers who back the country's president have called on the government to suspend uranium enrichment in order to reach a deal with the US, as the country faces widespread power and water shortages. The Reform Front has made the appeal in the middle of an economic crisis that resulted from nuclear-related sanctions and has been exacerbated by water and electricity shortages, as well as an Israeli-US military offensive in June that heavily damaged Iran's nuclear facilities.

Times 19th Aug 2025

<https://tinyurl.com/3dns2wc4>

Ukraine claims to have pulled off a major hacking operation, obtaining classified data on a new Russian nuclear submarine and revealing potential vulnerabilities as Moscow intensifies its military presence in the Arctic.

Times 3rd Aug 2025

<https://tinyurl.com/2hw3hcyd>

An Uzbek court has convicted a group of individuals who sought to sell 120 grams of natural uranium, the heavy metal element required in the making of a nuclear bomb. While the amount they were attempting to sell, at a price of \$2,000 per gram, would only make up a tiny fraction of the uranium volume a nuclear bomb maker would need for enrichment, national security officials the world over are wary of such black market sales reaching a frequency that would enable terrorist, or other malign actors, to source the volume of material needed for an atomic weapon from an assortment of sellers.

Intellinews 29th July 2025

<https://tinyurl.com/5e248fy9>

On 26 July 2025 in Geelong, Australia, the Honourable Richard Marles MP, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence, Australia and the Right Honourable John Healey MP, Secretary of State for Defence, United Kingdom (UK) signed the bilateral Nuclear-Powered Submarine Partnership and Collaboration Treaty (the Geelong Treaty) at the UK-Australia Defence Ministers' Meeting in Geelong, Victoria.

MoD 26th July 2025

<https://tinyurl.com/ms6uc5n2>

The inside story of how America sent nuclear weapons to Britain. Nukewatch UK explains how it tracked the bombs being flown across the Atlantic. American nuclear weapons with three times the power of the Hiroshima bomb were transported to England last week, new evidence suggests. The arsenal is under the control of president Donald Trump and could be used without British approval. Our team at Nukewatch UK observed a special flight carrying the bombs as it landed at RAF Lakenheath in Suffolk on 17 July, having tracked its journey and monitored radio messages. The transport plane, a giant C-17 Globemaster (flight number RCH4574 or Reach 4574) had taken off from Lewis-McChord base in Washington state two days earlier.

Declassified UK 22nd July 2025

<https://tinyurl.com/3sbdtyf2>

FROM THE MEDIA

The SNP have demanded urgent answers in a letter to the Ministry of Defence (MoD) after the UK Government confirmed a serious nuclear incident took place at Faslane earlier this year. Figures released to The Herald last week revealed that a Category A event – the most serious category – took place between January 1 and April 22 this year. The MoD have since claimed it posed no risk to the public. It came a week after it was also forced to admit that Loch Long, which is next to the UK's nuclear bomb store at Coulport, is now contaminated with radioactive tritium following years of infrastructure decay. Bill Kidd, a longtime campaigner against nuclear weapons and SNP MSP, has condemned these revelations as a "damning indictment of Westminster's disregard for Scotland's safety and environment" and said it was proof that nuclear weapons are "dangerous, immoral, and completely incompatible with the values of the people of Scotland".

The National 18th Aug 2025

<https://tinyurl.com/3vhzhzxf>

Ross Greer: Nuclear weapons aren't just a deadly money pit, they also make for extremely unsafe neighbours. This was proven once again last weekend with the Ferret, The National and others exposing the scale of the threat posed to those of my constituents who have the bases at Faslane and Coulport on their doorsteps.... Far from an isolated event, we now know that Faslane also saw over 100

reported safety incidents over the last 12 months, including a Category A event earlier this year, the most serious category and one that the Royal Navy says carries an “actual or high potential for radioactive release to the environment”.

The National 15th Aug 2025

<https://tinyurl.com/2s435hws>

Four wasp nests contaminated with radioactive material have sparked concern that new or old radioactive contamination is coming to the surface at the old site. An unusual discovery at a former Cold War nuclear weapons facility in South Carolina has triggered alarm bells, with scientists warning it could mean contaminants are leaking. Four wasp nests contaminated with radioactive material at the Savannah River Site (SRS), a sprawling, 310-square-mile complex near Aiken, South Carolina, have been discovered.

Mirror 4th Aug 2025

<https://tinyurl.com/bndra4en>

Flimsy fence protects air base set for Britain's new nuclear-armed jets. The flimsy barrier is 300 metres from the runway at RAF Marham, Norfolk. Our revelation comes just weeks after protesters were arrested for causing £7million of damage to aircraft at RAF Brize Norton in Oxfordshire.

Mirror 26th July 2025

<https://tinyurl.com/mtwhcpwu>

Civil nuclear power is thought to be about providing a low carbon energy alternative to fossil fuels and is seldom connected to nuclear weapons. But the closer you look these two industries are intrinsically linked for nuclear-armed countries. Josh Toussaint-Strauss investigates how the connection between civil nuclear power and nuclear weapons spans decades and continents as well as exposes siphoning of public money and the origins of the Iran nuclear program.

Guardian 24th July 2025

<https://tinyurl.com/mremvu3j>

TRIDENT AND RELATED NEWS

A detailed new report on the British nuclear submarine experience should ring alarm bells across Australia. The report has been written for Friends of the Earth Australia by British scientist Tim Deere-Jones, who has a B.Sc. degree in Maritime Studies and has operated a Marine Pollution Research Consultancy since the 1980s. The report, ‘The British experience with nuclear-powered submarines: lessons for

Australia’, is online at

<https://nuclear.foe.org.au/nuclear-subs> or direct download PDF. Mr. Deere-Jones said:

“The British experience with nuclear submarines reveals a litany of safety risks, cost blowouts and delays. It can confidently be predicted that these problems will beset the AUKUS submarine programme.”

Jim Green's Blog 15th Aug 2025

<https://tinyurl.com/mw8c69j5>

A serious nuclear incident took place at the Faslane naval base in Scotland earlier this year, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) has admitted. A “category A” event took place at HMNB Clyde, on Gare Loch, between January and April. Category A events are defined as those which carry “actual or high potential for radioactive release to the environment”. The revelation will raise serious concerns about how the Trident nuclear submarines in Scotland are being maintained. It is also likely to prompt questions over transparency and why the incident was not known about until now. HMNB Clyde houses every Royal Navy submarine, including the Vanguard-class vessels which are armed with Trident missiles.

Telegraph 14th Aug 2025

<https://tinyurl.com/4b5njpx4>

Radioactive water 'leaked into' loch from Faslane nuclear base. The investigation uncovered SEPA files revealing that the Navy neglected proper maintenance. The Guardian, and The Ferret uncovered the release of radioactive material into Loch Long, Argyll and Bute, following a six-year fight to access the files, which involved Scotland's Information Commissioner.

Daily Record 10th Aug 2025

<https://tinyurl.com/mr56pwd4>

Replacing the UK's Nuclear Deterrent: Progress of the Dreadnought Class. This briefing paper examines the Dreadnought programme as it advances. It does not examine the Government's overall nuclear policies, the synergies between the civil and military nuclear sectors, broader programmes within the defence nuclear enterprise that support the deterrent, or the UK's position on disarmament. Nor does it set out in detail the arguments for and against nuclear weapons.

House of Commons Library 5th Aug 2025

<https://tinyurl.com/2f6e6mah>

What's On

September/October 2025

The next **Mailing** is due to be sent out at the beginning of November 2025

The next meeting will be online on **Tuesday 2nd September, 19.30**. Please e-mail wmcndall@gmail.com for the zoom link.

Hereford Peace Council – Meetings at 10 – 11.30 on the second Monday of the months of January, April, June and September, at Friends Meeting House, King Street, Hereford.

Malvern Churches Justice and Peace group Prayers for Peace, 12 noon on 2nd and 4th Monday of the month (except Bank Holidays), Lyttleton Well Prayer Room, Church Street, Great Malvern.

Latest report from BASIC: Envisioning the future of nuclear security



<https://tinyurl.com/yc7vx9av>

**Global Network 33rd Annual
Space Conference**
Keynote Speaker K. J. Noh
'NATO-US prepare for war on China'
Registration required:
<https://tinyurl.com/5t4zxs7d>
In the UK, the conference will start at 13.00 on Sunday 14th September

Noticeboard

Peace posters: Hereford Peace Council produces monthly posters on peace topics, to be displayed as widely as possible. The posters are not dated.

The current posters are:

September: "To remain silent while atrocities are committed is not neutrality; it is complicity".

Based on words of Mary Robinson, former Irish President

October: "Just as ripples spread out when a single pebble is dropped into water, the actions of individuals can have far-reaching effects."

Dalai Lama

Please contact jennywmcnd@gp.apc.org if you would like to use these posters.

Book Review: Destroyer of Worlds: The Deep History of the Nuclear Age

Frank Close Basic (2025)

First, let's clear up some potential

confusion: in Destroyer of

Worlds: The Deep

History of the Nuclear

Age, 'deep' in the subtitle

means, not the minutiae

of historic events, but

'scientific'. Physicist

Frank Close's latest book

discusses the physics

and chemistry behind

nuclear weapons — that

is, the understanding of

the atom and the energy

it holds. The story begins with the

discovery of electric currents that couldn't

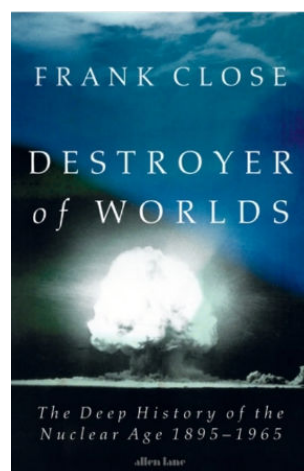
be blocked by solid materials and ends

with the technological ability to blow cities

off the map.

Nature, 28th July 2025

<https://tinyurl.com/y6zh6js5>



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