

# Diary Dates

## Friday 9 January

5.30 to 7 pm

WPJF invites you to  
**'Send a Message of Hope'**  
**Amnesty International**  
**Greetings Card Campaign**  
Quaker Meeting House, Holt  
Road, Wrexham  
(More info opposite).

## Saturday 10 January

midday

**Rally and vigil for Gaza**  
Queens Square, Wrexham.  
Bring banners, placards etc. to  
express how you feel about  
Israel's continued assault on the  
people of Gaza.

## Friday 16 January evening

**A celebration of 50 years of  
the Cuban Revolution**  
'Y Delyn' wine bar, Mold.  
**Wine bar, live music,  
speaker, tapas.**  
Tickets £10.  
**Contact 07817 860735**  
for more details.

## Thursday 22 January 7 pm

**Guantanamo -  
Two Sides of One Story**  
Great Hall, Cornerstone Theatre,  
Hope University, Haigh Street,  
Liverpool.  
**Speakers: Chris Arendt,  
former Guantanamo guard;  
Moazzam Begg & Sami al Haj,  
former Guantanamo prisoners**

## Saturday 24 January

11 am to 5 pm

**Climate Camp Cymru**  
**National Gathering to plan 2009**  
**Climate Camp in Wales**  
Quaker Meeting House,  
43 Charles St, Cardiff.  
For more information, see below  
or contact:  
**info@climatecampcymru.org**  
**Phone: 07886 719 873**

## Monday 26 January

7 to 9 pm

**'Does non-violence work in this  
century?'**  
**Speaker: Gene Stoltzfus**  
Bishop Lloyd's Palace,  
51-3 Watergate Row, Chester.  
Free entry. Donations to the tour  
cost welcome.  
For more information, see below or  
contact **Keith: 07590 031388.**

## Friday 30 January

8 pm

**AGM of Cymru-Cuba Campaign**  
Canolfan Iaith Clwyd Centre,  
Denbigh.  
Film, talk by Embassy  
representative, cocktails.  
Entry free.

## **Dates of Peace Group Meetings**

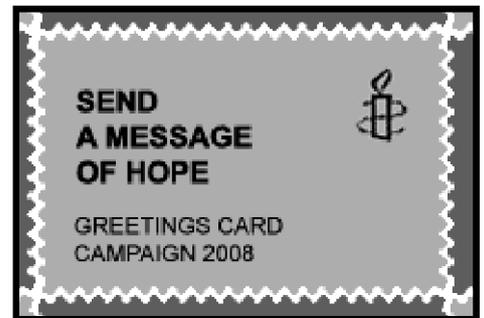
Please let us know if you would  
like to be kept informed of dates of  
future WPJF meetings.  
You can call us, email or write  
using the number below or the  
contact details on the back page  
of this newsletter.

# Please support WPJN

Wrexham Peace & Justice News  
is a free publication funded  
entirely by donations, which are  
used to cover printing and  
postage costs. If you enjoy  
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like it to continue to appear four  
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making a donation if you can.

Use the form on pages 13-14 to  
send a donation on your own  
behalf or to 'recommend a friend'  
who would like to receive the  
newsletter regularly.

Thanks!



Join us to take part in Amnesty  
International's Annual Greetings  
Card Campaign.

The campaign sends cards with  
messages of goodwill and  
solidarity to people whose rights  
have been abused and to those in  
danger for defending human  
rights.

Come prepared to read and write -  
we will provide cards and  
information about each prisoner  
so that all you need to do is to  
write your greeting.

### **When?**

Friday 9 January, any time  
between 5.30 and 7 pm.

### **Where?**

Wrexham Quaker Meeting House,  
Holt Road, Wrexham  
(by the pedestrian crossing next to  
the rear entrance to ASDA).

**Hope to see you there.**

## **Climate Camp Cymru Gathering. 24 January, Cardiff**

We urgently need to have some idea of how much energy there is to make  
Climate Camp Cymru happen, so please do one of the following:

- Turn-up to the meeting in Cardiff on 24 January.
- If you can't make the meeting, let us know if you'd like to help by mid-January (contact details above).
- Subscribe to the ClimateCampCymru email list to show your support:  
**lists.riseup.net/www/subscribe/climatecampcymru**

## **Does non-violence work in this century? 26 January, Chester**

Gene Stoltzfus, a pioneering Christian peace activist, was until 2004  
Director of the Christian Peacemaker Teams that actively place their people  
into dangerous high conflict situations like Iraq, Columbia, Haiti and the  
West Bank, their aims being human rights protection, nonviolent action and  
peacemaking. Gene's commitment to peacemaking is rooted in his personal  
experience as a conscientious objector in the International Voluntary  
Service during the Vietnam War.

# Protests at Gaza massacre

Andrew McCoy  
& Genny Bove

Here are a couple of short reports and some photos from demonstrations held in Manchester and Shrewsbury on Saturday 3 January. See also pages 8-9 for more on Gaza.



Well over 600 people braved sub-zero temperatures in Manchester on Saturday, as part of a national demonstration against Israel's attacks on Gaza.

Despite the freezing weather, demonstrators gathered en-masse at All Saints Park, Oxford Road, then proceeded to march through Manchester city centre, before holding a rally to call attention to what amounts to genocide against the population of Gaza by Israeli forces.



Above left: The front of the march in Manchester (photo: Andrew McCoy). Above right: placard at Shrewsbury vigil.  
Below: banner on foot bridge in Shrewsbury town centre.

It is a sad fact that some of our banners can be used time and again for different situations. This one, pictured right, was made in 2003 for Iraq, but we decided to hang it in Shrewsbury for the afternoon on 3 January as a comment on the desperate situation in Gaza, while we were at the vigil in the Square. Although all the cars appear to be coming the other way in the picture, there are in fact two lanes of traffic in the opposite direction and thousands of vehicles must have passed in the few hours that the banner was up.



Around 60 people, including visitors from Wrexham, Oswestry, Newtown and Wolverhampton, took part in a vigil in the Square in Shrewsbury. The vigil included a number of children, who stood for the full half hour in spite of the bitter cold. The police in attendance talked about a counter-demonstration, but this didn't materialise, so was maybe just a rumour.

**Please try to support the demonstration in Wrexham on Saturday 10 January (see opposite for details).**

## Yale College pulls *foie gras* from menu

*Genny Bove reports on a quick result in a campaign against animal cruelty.*

This year, I had an invitation to a Christmas Dinner at Yale College's *Rendezvous* restaurant. There was nothing on the menu suitable for vegans - no surprise there - but I was horrified to discover that the college was serving *foie gras*.

Following a conversation at a stall in town (just one reason why it's good to do stalls), a number of people agreed to approach the college and the media to see what could be done about this shameful situation.

The college received several complaints within a short space of time and the media took up the issue.

My letter to the press included the following:  
*It has come to my attention that Yale College's Rendezvous Restaurant... is offering foie gras on its Christmas menu. For anyone unaware of the cruelty involved in the production of foie gras, this so-called 'delicacy' is made by force-feeding 8-10 week old ducks and geese with up to 4 pounds of grain and fat every day, far more than they want or need. The food is forced down the birds' throats via a feeding tube and is sometimes rammed down with a stick if the tube blocks. As a result of this unnatural and forced diet, the birds' livers become engorged and may swell to more than 10 times their normal size from a disease called hepatic steatosis. Investigations carried out at foie gras farms... all reveal sick, dead*

*and dying animals, many with injuries to the neck from the feeding pipes. Foie gras production is banned in the UK, as well as in many other countries, on grounds of cruelty, but it is not yet illegal to sell and eat foie gras here, unfortunately.*

*I would suggest that it is immoral for any restaurant or other establishment to serve foie gras, and it is particularly distasteful that a college restaurant which is responsible for training young people should be setting such a poor example.*

To its credit, the college issued a press release within days to say that it was withdrawing *foie gras* from its menu with immediate effect. Sometimes, it really does pay to complain.