

2017 May Day Rally, Exhibition Park, Newcastle

Roger Nettleship speaking on behalf of Newcastle Stop the War – 29-4-17

On behalf of Newcastle Stop the War Coalition we would like to thank the May Day Committee for organising this May Day event yet again, especially under the title - No to war poverty and racism which is the theme of the day.

This year, in the general election we have an opportunity, and a space, to fight for an anti-war government in Britain. Jeremy Corbyn who was the President of Stop the War for many years has led a movement to break the pro-war consensus at Westminster. And as many have said let June 8 be the end of May, the end of a government that backs Trump and backs the US bombing and interference in Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, Yemen and the Korean peninsula against Northern Korea. May has even gone further to show that her government is a criminal war government that would support the pre-emptive use of nuclear weapons let alone spending £100s of billions on these weapons. The British Government is also the main driver in forcing countries in Europe to contribute to the provocative warmongering build up of troops tanks and aircraft in Eastern Europe surrounding Russia.

As well as deepening the tragedy of the peoples of West Asia and the Middle East, these irresponsible acts of the war government of May, Hammond, Johnson and others threatens to widen these wars and lead the West into military confrontation with Russia.

Stop the War calls for an end to the British and US warmongering interference against the sovereignty of countries of Syria, Iraq and countries throughout the world. It is an interference for regime change that has led to thousands and thousands of deaths as well as millions of people displaced as refugees. As well as the protests that stop the war is continuing to organise, let us all use the new situation in Britain to organise for and demand an end to Britain as a pro-armament, pro-war country and bring about an anti-war government in Britain. A Britain that ends its relations with the war warmongering NATO alliance that brings its troops home from foreign soil and instead becomes a major factor for peace in the world.

Besides Newcastle stop the war there are stop the war movements in Sunderland, South Tyneside and Durham organising to build on the work of the stop the war movement. If you are not already - get on our mailing lists and take part in our activities. Most importantly let us all warn people of the dangers of supporting and voting for another war government and say if we oppose May on June 8 we can start to bring about a Britain that is a factor for peace and not war.

No to war poverty and racism!