

Saturday 16 January 2010

Michael Clark

Director of the Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Services, and Professor of Defence Studies, King's College, London University

Britain and Afghanistan:

Is it worth it? Is it winnable?

An update on Afghanistan following his latest visit with the Ministry of Defence, and an assessment of the importance of Afghanistan in the UK's national security.

Saturday 20 February 2010

Cardinal Keith O'Brien

Archbishop of St Andrews and Edinburgh

Trident viewed with the eyes of a twenty-first century faith

All of Cardinal O'Brien's campaigns have been concerned with life issues. They include poverty in the world, poverty of morality in British society, and poverty of serious thought about Britain's nuclear weapons policy.

Saturday 13 March 2010

Alastair McIntosh

Writer and campaigner for social justice and environmental sustainability

The roots of climate change in the violence of hubris

Alastair McIntosh will explore issues raised in his recent book, *Hell and High Water: Climate Change, Hope and the Human Condition*. He argues that on their own, politics, economics and technology will not succeed in tackling climate change, since the roots of the problem lie in the developed world's addiction to consumption in excess of sufficiency. Behind

that lies violence, sourced in the profound spiritual disconnection that is human hubris - excessive pride. A deep transformation of our society is called for, one which would enable us to develop a sense of true community.'

Saturday 10 April 2010

Ian Cobain

Journalist for over 25 years and Senior Reporter for the Guardian

Investigating the UK's role in the illegal detention and torture of terrorism suspects

In June 2009, in awarding him the Martha Gellhorn Prize for his work, the judges said, 'Ian Cobain's remarkable series in *The Guardian* linked not only MI5 but government policy with collusion in torture. Cobain's determined, forensic and courageous work revealed a deep political and moral corruption at the heart of British executive power.' Ian will explain how he came to embark upon his investigation, how he went about it, and the lengths to which officials in the UK and abroad went to impede him.

Saturday 15 May 2010

Mary Mellor

Emeritus Professor at the University of Northumbria

Making money for peace; reforming the money system to enable a steady-state economy

Reclaiming money as a democratically administered social resource would enable the development of economies that are ecologically sustainable and needs-based, thereby avoiding the social divisions and

international conflict that competitive market systems can generate.

Saturday 5 June 2010

Greg Philo

Professor at Glasgow University and Research Director at the Glasgow Media Unit.

More news, fewer views: how the press distorts perception

News, and comment on it, seem to be a procession of the powerful. Critical voices, which dissent from political and economic orthodoxy, are not given equal air time. Prof Philo will argue that this narrowing of debate has led to a deep crisis of legitimacy both for politicians and broadcasters: though we live in the age of 24-hour news, many people do not feel their views are properly represented.

Saturday 10 July 2010

Phil Shiner

Lead solicitor, Public Interest Lawyers, Birmingham

Challenging the legality of the use of force under international law

Phil Shiner will show how challenges are being made to the legality of the UK Government's maintenance, storage and replacement of Trident, to trading in arms, and to the purchase and use of cluster munitions. He will also refer to current cases brought under Human Rights law by clients represented by his practice.

Prof Michael Clark is the Director of the Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Services. Until July 2007 he was the Deputy Vice-Principal and Director of Research Development at King's College, London, where he remains a Visiting Professor of Defence Studies.

Cardinal Keith O'Brien is Archbishop of St Andrews and Edinburgh. He has been a committed campaigner on a number of vitally important issues and has been given the title of 'The Cardinal of Controversy'. He works together with other Churches in Scotland on Justice and Peace issues. On the issue of Trident in particular he appeals far beyond members of Churches, to the 'ordinary people' of Britain.

Alastair McIntosh is a writer and campaigner for social justice and environmental sustainability. He holds fellowships at the Centre for Human Ecology, the E F Schumacher Society and the Academy of Irish Cultural Heritages at the University of Ulster. He is Visiting Professor of Human Ecology at the University of Strathclyde.

Ian Cobain has been a journalist for over 25 years and is a Senior Reporter for **The Guardian**. For the last two years, he has been investigating Britain's role in the illegal detention and torture of suspects held overseas in the so-called War on Terror.

Prof Mary Mellor is Emeritus Professor of Sociology at Northumbria University. Her main interest is in the political economy of money, from an ecological and feminist perspective. She is the author of 'The Politics of Money' 2002 and 'The Future of Money'

2010. She has also written about alternative economies and societies, financial inclusion through credit unions, social investment, social credit, micro-credit, citizen income and local money circulation.

Greg Philo is Professor at Glasgow University, and has been the Research Director of the world-renowned Glasgow Media Group for over 25 years. His current interests include research projects on political advertising, images of health and illness, migration and 'race', as well as risk and food scares. He is the author of numerous publications.

Phil Shiner was named Human Rights Lawyer of the Year in 2004. He heads the Birmingham legal practice 'Public Interest Lawyers' whose work on environmental and human rights law has a national and international reputation. He acts for over 30 Iraqi civilians killed or injured by British soldiers during the occupation.

The Hexham Debates seek to carry on the tradition of active, radical debate essential for ensuring freedom and justice for all. We hope that this programme will demonstrate ways in which a government's legitimate power must depend on the consent of its citizens, and reveal how far we have moved away from that ideal.

Hexham Debates contact:
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Hexham Debates

Series 3

War
Peace
Democracy

Saturdays in 2010:

16 January
20 February
13 March
10 April
15 May
5 June
10 July

11.00am - 12.30pm

The St Mary's Centre
St Mary's R C Church
Hencotes, Hexham

Chair: Patrick Eavis

Admission Free – Retiring Collection

Organised by Northumbrians for Peace and Hexham Quakers