

**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**



## Manchester Group Review 2022-3

Amnesty International campaigns to promote an increased awareness of human rights, and undertakes action to stop grave abuses of human rights wherever they occur.

# United Arab Emirates

- 4<sup>th</sup> February Podcast Sportswashing Mancunian Matters
- 26<sup>th</sup> April Twitter storm for Mohamed Al-Roken



- 17<sup>th</sup> July, with Wirral and Liverpool Amnesty groups, Arab Arts festival, Sefton Park, petition, children's activities.
- 22<sup>nd</sup> October twitter storm Ahmed Mansoor birthday
- October- December – 120 keys sent to UAE embassy



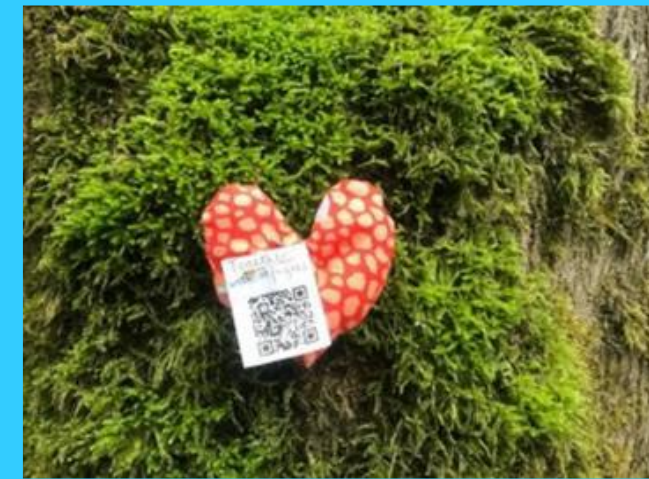
# Anti-racism subgroup

- Working through Layla F Saad's *Me and White Supremacy*
- Ongoing support for Kids of Colour and JENgba
- mid April - signed open letter by Northern Police Monitoring Project – police chases
- 30<sup>th</sup> June - attended demonstration about Manchester 10
- December Letter drafted to Lucy Powell MP about joint enterprise



# Refugee rights

- 15 March: Stockport County – Amnesty presence and collection for DEC & Ukrainian refugees
- June – August: Orange hearts Didsbury, Chorlton (Creative Recycling, Open Gardens and meadows), St Anne’s Square (with WAST)
- 12<sup>th</sup> June, 13<sup>th</sup> November: Rwanda demonstrations



# Human Rights in the UK

- March – response to government online consultation on review of HRA



- Current craftivism activity



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Manchester Amnesty



**PROTECT THE RIGHT TO PROTEST!**

The rights to assemble and to protest are fundamental to democracy. They are included in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Under the Police Crime, Sentencing and Courts (PCSC) Act, 2022, the police already have wide-ranging powers to restrict peaceful protest. For example, they may ban a protest if they think it will be too noisy.

Now, the government has a new **Public Order (PO) Bill** going through parliament. If the Public Order bill becomes law, it will further restrict the right to protest.

The bill proposes **Serious Disruption Prevention Orders (SDPOs)** which could be used to **prevent people attending protests** or taking part in some protest-related activities, **even if they have never been convicted** of a protest-related criminal offence.

To enforce the bans, the government plans to allow **electronic monitoring**. People with **no convictions** could be **fitted with an ankle tag** to make sure that they don't attend a protest.

The Manchester group of Amnesty International have **made our own ankle tags** with the Amnesty International slogan "**Protect the Protest**" to draw attention to the government's outrageous plans to restrict our human rights. **Don't let the government get away with destroying your human rights. Once they are gone, it will be hard to get them back.**

**JOIN US!**

Email: [Manchestergroup@amnesty.org.uk](mailto:Manchestergroup@amnesty.org.uk) Twitter/Instagram: @amnestymanc

Web: [www.Amnesty.org.uk/groups/Manchester](http://www.Amnesty.org.uk/groups/Manchester)

# Individuals at risk & Write for Rights

- Letter writing drop-ins 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov  
Manchester Central Library Café
- Write for Rights 2023
  - Manchester Cathedral
  - Library
  - December group meeting  
(95 solidarity; 26 appeals)
  - Whalley Range Peace & Justice  
(515 solidarity; 263 appeals)



# Israel's apartheid against Palestinians



**ISRAEL'S APARTHEID**

**AGAINST PALESTINIANS**

CRUEL SYSTEM OF DOMINATION AND  
CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY

- 29-31 July Big Ride for Palestine
- Ongoing programme of talks to groups in North West (Mike Reed)
- 15 October Manchester Literary Festival
- 29<sup>th</sup> November Sheffield Apartheid-Free Zone launch event
- 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023 Demo about killing of Palestinian civilians in Jenin refugee camp, West Bank





# Craftivism





# Ukraine



- 26<sup>th</sup> February Some of us attended a peace rally in Piccadilly Gardens
- Half of our Christmas donation to Amnesty this year was earmarked for the Ukraine appeal

# Action for Sustainability Festival

17<sup>th</sup> June, MMU



- Celebrating Leah Namugerwa, youth activist from Uganda
- Planted 200 trees
- Campaigned to ban plastic bags
- Led school strikes
- Attended COP25

# Manchester Pride 2022 27 August

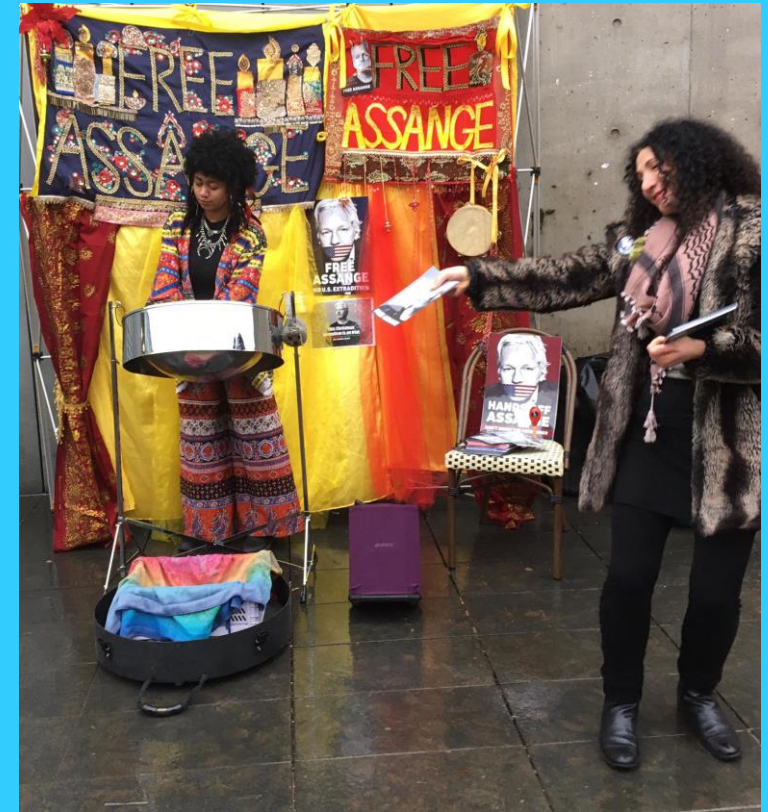


# #AmnestyManc Human Rights walk 8<sup>th</sup> October



# Stalls at press freedom & Julian Assange events

6<sup>th</sup> August  
Deranged Nights



15<sup>th</sup> October  
Old Tap House

10<sup>th</sup> December, 29<sup>th</sup> January  
Busking4Assange



# Acoustic Amnesty, 18<sup>th</sup> November





**\*\*\*This Friday\*\*\***

**Tickets still available**

**WeGotTickets**

FEATURING SIX CHOIRS,  
THREE POETS, A SINGER, &  
A BAND!

# ACOUSTIC AMNESTY



TICKETS FOR £11 HERE

**BENEFITTING  
WOMEN ASYLUM  
SEEKERS TOGETHER**

**SACRED TRINITY  
CHURCH**

17 FEBRUARY 2023  
7:00PM

**WAST**



Next month's  
meeting

# A KNOCK ON THE DOOR

## SUPPORTING HUMAN RIGHTS AND PEACE IN RUSSIA



*"A knock on the front door still fills me with dread... We had this strict rule in our family while we were in Russia: never open the door if you do not expect a guest."*

**SERGEI NIKITIN**, former head of Amnesty International in Russia, recounts his experience being labelled 'a terrorist's aide', escaping Putin's regime and asks: **Are there human rights in Russia?**

**MANCHESTER CENTRAL LIBRARY**

**Mon 13 March**

**6 - 7.30pm**

Free event - no need to book

Further info - [frandevine@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:frandevine@yahoo.co.uk)