

Minutes of [Amnesty International Reading Group](#) Meeting

Thursday 12th December 2024

Chair: Helen Ball

This meeting was held at the Reading Biscuit Factory

Welcome and introductions

7 people joined the meeting tonight: Helen, Michael, Hilary, Blanca, Paola, Ian

New tonight - KC

Apologies - Anne, Sue, Ruth, Liz



Write for Rights

- The evening was taken up with members taking part in the [Write for Rights](#) campaign. It's the world's largest annual global greetings card campaign where everyone is encouraged to take part, either on the night or online at home. There are 3 focus people, but only 9 in total, so please do as much as you can!
- You can send cards to individuals, and if you want to do more, you can send emails to authorities in their countries to lobby for their human rights to be upheld. <https://www.amnesty.org/en/get-involved/write-for-rights/>

Review of recent events

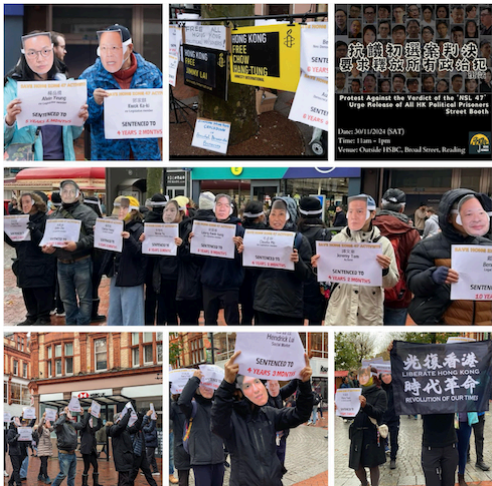


What an incredible evening we had at our Music, Mulled Wine and Mince Pies concert. The stunning grade one listed building, Chantry House in Henley, was the perfect venue for this special evening. Syrnix played beautifully, with perfectly chosen festive pieces, with the mulled wine and warm mince pies aroma adding to the atmosphere. Thanks to everyone's contributions, we raised over £766 pounds for Amnesty.



RECLAIM THE NIGHT with Reading University & Berkshire Women's Aid

We joined many local organisations to march through the streets of Reading to demand safer street for women and girls. We heard speeches made by local MPs, councillors, Berkshire Women's Aid and many students from Reading Uni, including the newly formed Amnesty uni group. To join the Amnesty Feminist Network, [click here](#).



RELEASE POLITICAL PRISONERS IN Hong Kong - street action with our local Hong Konger friends

We stand with our HKer friends as they draw attention to the recent sentencing of 47 people due to the horrific National Security Laws. Read more about the situation [here](#).



KEEP CAMPSFIELD CLOSED DEMO with the Keep Campsfield Closed Coalition

The Central England Network of Amnesty has recently joined the Coalition which is campaigning to ensure this immigration detention centre remains closed.

Please check the [KCC website](#) for more information

Our Upcoming Events:

Event	Dates	Venue
Group meeting - planning for the year, including decide on focus	Thursday 9th January 2025	Zoom https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82789559652?pwd=hQpxJaOWfEHppKy3KdMjzaob2X0hF6.1#success
Petition Hand-in Helen, Anne, Sue, Hillary & Iona	Saturday 11th Jan	10 Downing Street

Group's 50th birthday party	Saturday 1st March - 7.30pm	RISC
------------------------------------	--------------------------------	------

Other Amnesty or local upcoming events:

Event	Dates	Venue
Film Screening of Green Boarder & Q&A Find out more about the struggles refugees face in the Polish-Belarusian border.	16th January	<u>HRAC</u>
Annual General Meeting and National Conference	5th-6th July	University of Birmingham

Next meeting: Thursday 9th January 2025

Zoom at 8pm

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82789559652?pwd=hQpxJaOWfEHppKy3KdMjzaob2X0hF6.1#success>

Follow us on our socials

- [Website](#)
- [Twitter / X](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [facebook](#)