

# Movement for the Abolition of War

## Candidates for election or re-election to MAW's Executive Committee 8 November 2015

### Candidates for office

#### Chair

**Tim Devereux** - a retired maths teacher living in Leeds, he has been on the Committee for three years, helped with the transition from the old web site to the new one, and presently maintains the new site. MAW chairperson 2014/2015. Has been involved with the peace movement since the 1960s, and is a member of Pax Christi and Yorkshire CND.

#### Vice-Chair

**Heather Speight** – Teacher (retired), grandmother, music lover, especially singing and supporting the Songs for Peace project, co-ordinator of local group Peace Action Durham, longstanding supporter of CND, CAAT, PPU and CAAB. Enjoys making connections. Keen to foster links with other organisations, also pursue ideas to encourage many more members and a higher profile, so that MAW, with others, may become an irresistible force for change - an Idea whose Time Has Come.

#### Treasurer

**John Dowbekin** – Retired Local Government Officer living in London. I worked in I.T. for over 25 years largely programming, designing and implementing financial software. I have been involved with Pax Christi since the late 1960s and was Pax Christi Treasurer twice (a couple of years in the early 1970s and recently from 2006 to 2014). During the latter spell I managed the implementation of a new accounting system and the transfer of data from the previous system. I am happy (indeed keen) to become involved with MAW as Treasurer.

#### Secretary

**Sally Reynolds** – a member of MAW from the start, and secretary since November 2014. A Quaker and grandmother, she was a GP for homeless people in Oxford until 2013. Secretary of Abingdon Peace Group and Abingdon Carbon Cutters, and runs MAW's resources shop from her bedroom.

### Candidates for membership

**Hilary Evans** - completed a 4-year maximum term on the MAW Executive Committee, now standing for election again after a 'gap year'. Also an active member of Kingston Peace Council/CND for many years (14 years as Treasurer/Membership Secretary and 4 years as Secretary) involved in organising public events and activities and in conducting assemblies on peace in local schools. Heavily involved until recently with the local branch of UNA, believing strongly in the need to support and promote the ideals of the UN.

**Rebecca Garnault** - completed BA Criminology and Sociology from the University of Liverpool and MSc Humanitarian Studies from the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. A founding member of MAW Youth, I endeavour to live life by my Quaker values to equality, peace, simplicity, integrity and sustainability. I have been involved in work for homelessness with Crisis and housing with Forum Housing Association, the Aegis Trust, fighting for Palestinian rights and have recently completed consultancy for Save the Children. I am looking forward to further MAW's work with young people.

**Jen Harrison** - is a journalist and photographer whose work focuses on showing how we are all connected to perceived 'dissent' events. She joined MAW last year after being sponsored to go to a peace conference in Sarajevo. Since then she helped to set up the MAW youth committee which aims to engage more young people in believing that they have power to make a change.

**Gill Hurle** - a member of MAW since its inception and Membership Secretary for the last 2 years. Active in the peace movement since 1983, and currently Treasurer/ Membership Secretary of Kingston Peace Council/CND. Also a member of Campaign Against the Arms Trade, Amnesty and Palestine Solidarity Campaign, and before moving to the Kingston area was a committee member of Croydon CND.

**Barbara Mayhew** - Married/mother /grandmother living in Suffolk. Has been involved in peace issues since childhood as parents were pacifists. Works alongside her husband in their publishing company and also works as part of a multifaith education team in Ipswich called SIFRE.

**Maddy Ridgley** - A 19 year old student studying International Relations at SOAS. Joined MAW after they sponsored her to attend a peace conference in Sarajevo in 2014. Since then she has co-founded the youth committee of MAW who aim to mobilise young people into peace activism.

**Helen Riley** - an experienced PR professional and has edited Abolish War for the past two years. She also helps with the MAW Facebook page and with website copy. Professionally she works in the not-for-profit healthcare sector.

**Mark Whitehead** - a journalist and public relations professional with a background in print journalism on local and national newspapers and magazines, and more recently working with organisations in the commercial, public and voluntary sectors. He has long been associated with the peace movement going back to the anti-nuclear weapons upsurge in the 1980s and beyond. He sees his role in MAW as helping clarify and simplify the anti-war message to get it across to as many people as possible in the most effective ways.

**Note:** under MAW's constitution, all officers and members of the executive committee retire at each AGM and, if they wish, offer themselves for re-election (unless they have served for four years, in which case they may not stand for re-election for a year). There are 16 electable places on the committee, which means that there is normally no contest between those offering themselves for election or re-election (as the case may be). All of those on the above list may therefore be elected or re-elected to the committee.