



Peace Movement Aotearoa

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Waihopai Ploughshares trial: support activities and events

20 February 2010

Below are the details of the Waihopai Ploughshares trial support activities currently underway and those that will take place in Wellington from Saturday, 6th, to Friday, 12th March. The Waihopai Ploughshares events calendar, which includes an outline of the support events, is available at www.converge.org.nz/pma/pltrial.pdf - please help to distribute it as widely as possible both electronically and in print form.

There are also specific flyers or posters available for some of the events below (see the link/s beside the event) - your help in distributing those, both electronically and in print form, would also be appreciated. The trial begins on International Women's Day, and women's groups may be particularly interested in helping to circulate the flyer for the International Women's Day event. Thank you.

Support events listings are available at <http://www.converge.org.nz/pma/pltrial.htm> - any updates or changes to the schedule will be added there as soon as they are available. Information about other ways you can support Waihopai Ploughshares is at <http://www.converge.org.nz/pma/plsupport.htm>

Currently underway

- ▶ **Waihopai Ploughshares support planning meetings:** Waihopai Ploughshares support planning meetings, for everyone interested in organising around the trial, are held every Thursday, at the US Embassy, corner Fitzherbert Terrace and Murphy Street, Thorndon, Wellington (in the bus or under the gazebo in the park if raining) - shared meal and planning meeting from 6pm to 7.30pm, followed by revolutionary Bible studies. If you are unable to attend the meetings, but are interested in becoming involved, please contact the Wellington Ploughshares Support Group c/o email pma@xtra.co.nz
- ▶ **Waihopai spy base display at the Wellington central library:** the Anti-Bases Campaign's Waihopai spy base display is currently set up in the Wellington central library entrance foyer (until Sunday, 28 February), and it will be there again from Monday, 8 March, until Sunday, 14 March. The Anti-Bases Campaign flyer is at <http://www.converge.org.nz/pma/abc2010fl.pdf>

Schedule of events from 6th to 12th March

Unless stated otherwise, events are in Katherine Mansfield Park (corner Fitzherbert Terrace and Hobson Terrace, next to US Embassy, Wellington), organised by Waihopai Ploughshares, email ploughshares08@gmail.com and Wellington Waihopai Ploughshares Support, email c/o pma@xtra.co.nz

▶ Saturday, 6 March

Invitation: From 5pm, all friends of Waihopai Ploughshares are invited to be in Katherine Mansfield Park for the following six nights, to pray and remember the victims of war and reflect on NZ's complicity in US-led wars. Please bring bedroll, sleeping bag, musical instruments and food to share. Powhiri at 5pm, shared meal at 6pm, then speakers and discussion until Taizè prayer at 9pm. Organised by Waihopai Ploughshares. The A4 poster with this invitation, and events outline, is at <http://www.converge.org.nz/pma/pltrial.pdf>

► Sunday, 7 March

- 10am - **Mass**
- 1.30pm - **The Way of Peace** with the Wellington Catholic Peacemakers: We invite you to join our pilgrimage for peace, we will gather at the Suzanne Aubert Compassion Centre, 132 Tory Street, at 1.30pm. The Way of Peace will link peace-related memorials and historic sites from the Suzanne Aubert soup kitchen to eventually meeting with the supporters and members of the Waihopai Ploughshares at Katherine Mansfield Park. In the tradition of the Stations of the Cross processions and religious pilgrimages, during the Way of Peace, the Catholic Peacemakers will pause for reflection at several Wellington locations.

Following a brief introduction at each memorial, participants will observe a short moment of silence, song and prayer. As we walk and stop to pause at each memorial of Peace, we may reflect on "What steps am I willing to take for Peacemaking and Justice?" *"Not everyone is called to do a Ploughshares action. Not everyone is called to commit civil disobedience. But everyone is called to do something for the disarmament of the world. Everyone is called to work for the liberation of the oppressed, justice for the poor, non-violence in place in this disastrous world of violence."* (Fr John Dear SJ, *On the Road to Peace*, November 2009). Organised by Wellington Catholic Peacemakers, contact links@actrix.co.nz An A4 flyer with the full route of the Way of Peace, details of how to get there, what to bring, and background information is at <http://www.converge.org.nz/pma/wcpmwalk.pdf> and a map of the route is at <http://www.converge.org.nz/pma/wcpmmmap.jpg>

- 5pm - **Ploughshares liturgy service**
- 9pm - **Taizè prayer**

► Monday, 8 March

- 8.30am - **Ploughshares supporters rally**: gather at the Cenotaph, corner Bowen Street and Lambton Quay; silent procession to District Court, 43 - 49 Ballance Street, at 9 am; then vigil outside the court, the trial starts at 10am. Jointly organised by Anti-Bases Campaign, contact cafca@chch.planet.org.nz Wellington Ploughshares Support Group and Peace Movement Aotearoa, contact pma@xtra.co.nz
- 1 to 2pm - **Picket and vigil**, with space for those who wish to pray or stand in silence, at the GCSB Headquarters, Freyberg House, entrance via St Paul's Square next to National Library, 58 Molesworth Street. Jointly organised by Anti-Bases Campaign, contact cafca@chch.planet.org.nz Wellington Ploughshares Support Group and Peace Movement Aotearoa, contact pma@xtra.co.nz
- 5.30pm - **Women Say NO to War and Spy Bases**: Come along to the peaceful protest on International Women's Day to add your voice to the call of women around the world who are saying NO to war and YES to peace, and to mark the first day of the Waihopai Ploughshares trial. Join us at 5.30pm at the GCSB / Defence Force Headquarters, corner Aitken and Mulgrave Streets, then proceeding along Mulgrave Street to the US embassy at 6pm.

Wear something pink if you can, and bring pink streamers or ribbons, photos, messages, cardboard or paper peace doves, or wool to decorate the GCSB / Defence Force HQ and US embassy fence; something to make a noise with - pot and spoon, drum, your voice - during the time of anger; flowers or candles to leave at each location during the time of mourning; and a poem or reading to share during the time of reflection ... and your own banner or placard if you wish. All women and children welcome. Organised by Peace Movement Aotearoa and Women Support Waihopai Ploughshares, contact pma@xtra.co.nz An A4 poster for this event is available at <http://www.converge.org.nz/pma/iwd2010.pdf>

- 9pm - **Taizè prayer**

► Tuesday, 9 March

- 1 to 2pm - **Picket and vigil**, with space for those who wish to pray or stand in silence, at the US Embassy, Fitzherbert Terrace. Jointly organised by Anti-Bases Campaign, contact cafca@chch.planet.org.nz Wellington Ploughshares Support Group and Peace Movement Aotearoa, contact pma@xtra.co.nz
- 5.30pm - **Stations of the Cross**: the Stations of the Cross is an old Christian practice of remembering how Christ died. It involves stopping at different places (usually inside a church) to remember the different moments of Christ's trial and crucifixion. The practice is also a remembrance of the political, economic, religious, judicial and imperial powers that condemned Christ to death. A group of Christians committed to social justice will lead a Stations of the Cross through the streets of Wellington to reflect on how such institutions still operate to condemn whole nations and peoples to death. The walk will stop at sites and institutions that can be used to justify war and oppression. The group will be carrying a cross and will start at 5.30pm at the District Court, then will walk via Treasury and the Reserve Bank, the Cenotaph, parliament, cathedrals, Defence / GCSB Building, to the US Embassy. At each Station there will be a short Bible reading, a reflection on the role of each institution and a song. Organised by the Wellington Ploughshares Support Group. Full details of this event, including the route, will be available at <http://www.converge.org.nz/pma/pltrial.htm> soon.
- 9pm - **Taizè prayer**

► Wednesday, 10 March

- 1 to 2pm - **Picket and vigil**, with space for those who wish to pray or stand in silence, at the British High Commission, 44 Hill Street. Jointly organised by Anti-Bases Campaign, contact cafca@chch.planet.org.nz Wellington Ploughshares Support Group and Peace Movement Aotearoa, contact pma@xtra.co.nz
- 7pm - **'Waihopai: The Spybase, The Wars, The Trial'**, public meeting at St John's conference centre, corner Willis and Dixon Streets. Speakers are: Murray Horton, Anti-Bases Campaign; Moana Cole, Ploughshares; Bryan Law, Christians Against All Terrorism (Australia); and Keith Locke, Green MP; facilitated by Edwina Hughes, Peace Movement Aotearoa. Organised by the Anti-Bases Campaign, contact cafca@chch.planet.org.nz An A4 poster for this event is available at <http://www.converge.org.nz/pma/abc2010.pdf>
- 9pm - **Taizè prayer**

► Thursday, 11 March

- 1 to 2pm - **Picket and vigil**, with space for those who wish to pray or stand in silence, at the Australian High Commission, 72 - 76 Hobson Street. Jointly organised by Anti-Bases Campaign, contact cafca@chch.planet.org.nz Wellington Ploughshares Support Group and Peace Movement Aotearoa, contact pma@xtra.co.nz
- 7 to 10pm - **Celebration concert**

► Friday, 12 March

- 1 to 2pm - **Picket and vigil**, with space for those who wish to pray or stand in silence, at the Canadian High Commission, 125 The Terrace. Jointly organised by Anti-Bases Campaign, contact cafca@chch.planet.org.nz Wellington Ploughshares Support Group and Peace Movement Aotearoa, contact pma@xtra.co.nz