Peace Round-up – 9 December 2019

A selection of items from a range of sources. Inclusion here does not imply full endorsement, but is based on current concerns of NFPB and its members.

If you would like to be added to the mailing list for these mailings, please contact nfpb@gn.apc.org

Extinction Rebellion protest: 91, 'wanted to be arrested' because he 'trembles' for future generations

Extinction Rebellion protester, 91, 'wanted to be arrested' because he 'trembles' for future generations

Threats from emerging weapons technologies
As NATO marks its 70th anniversary, Dr Stuart Parkinson, SGR, highlights the serious risks from the race for new weapons technologies. Examples include cyber weapons, hypersonic weapons and directed energy weapons.
http://www.sgr.org.uk/resources/threats-emerging-weapons-technologies

Scottish church leaders urge truthfulness in political debate
Ten Scottish church leaders have joined together in calling for a respectful tone in the ongoing political debate - that recognises the human value in all people.

Home Office unlawfully imprisoned asylum seekers, supreme court rules

This election, let's bring peace home
As the UK General Election gets down and dirty, we all need to get serious about civil peace.
https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/transformation/this-election-lets-bring-peace-home

Pope Francis calls for a 'world without nuclear weapons' during Nagasaki visit
https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/nov/24/pope-francis-calls-for-a-world-without-nuclear-weapons-during-nagasaki-visit

Churches' plan for new President falters because of equal marriage

War and the imagining of alternatives: some questions for politicians
http://www.ekklesia.co.uk/node/29088

Quakers condemn irresponsible US announcement on Israeli settlements

Britain’s approach to security and war needs a radical rethink
Diana Francis and Richard Reeve respond to an article by Simon Jenkins
https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/nov/18/britains-approach-to-security-and-war-needs-a-radical-rethink

Why we must all reduce our moral certainties
If we want to live in a democracy, we have to reach compromises that make everyone feel secure.

International Criminal Court may investigate UK 'war crimes cover-up'
https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-50455077

The US and Britain face no existential threat. So why do their wars go on?
https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/nov/15/britain-and-us-wars-conflicts-middle-east

Met criticised as cost of policing arms fair doubles to £2.4m
Campaigners accuse force of ‘increasingly authoritarian’ attitude towards protest
https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/nov/14/police-heavy-handed-on-peaceful-protest-say-arms-fair-campaigners

FWCC Sustainability: An Online Conference with Friends World Wide

Veterans For Peace mark Remembrance Sunday 2019
https://youtu.be/LQuUW9kt0kw
Remembrance Sunday: Actors to 'wage peace' in 24-hour theatre marathon
https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-50344654

It is time to make the crucial moral decision and rid our country of the nuclear weapons obscenity

The Business of Building Walls
Thirty years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, Europe is once again known for its border walls. This time Europe is divided not so much by ideology as by perceived fear of refugees and migrants, some of the world’s most vulnerable people.
https://www.tni.org/en/businessbuildingwalls

'Bring a sleeping bag!' Manchester prepares for 24-hour peace epic
https://www.theguardian.com/stage/2019/nov/06/24-hours-of-peace-neil-bartlett-interview-remembrance-manchester

Introducing #SmallActsOfHope - things we can all do
http://www.ekklesia.co.uk/node/29031

Commitment - Collaborative Scotland has promoted the Commitment to Respectful Dialogue as the primary articulation of what it stands for
https://collaborativescotland.org/commitment/

As it approaches its 39th 'birthday', NFLA calls on all UK political parties to put the climate emergency and multilateral nuclear disarmament as focal issues to campaign on in the upcoming general election

Mikhail Gorbachev tells the BBC: World in ‘colossal danger’

The Global Revolts from the Margins
Paul Rogers: During the past nine months, there have been major episodes of civil unrest in several countries across the globe. Focusing mainly on the recent mass protests in Iraq, Lebanon and Chile, this briefing draws on the concept of “revolts from the margins” to explain these events.
https://www.oxfordresearchgroup.org.uk/the-global-revolts-from-the-margins

“We don’t want your war”: Student protesters demand divestment from the arms trade and military service providers
https://glasgowguardian.co.uk/2019/10/29/we-dont-want-your-war-student-protesters-demand-divestment-from-the-arms-trade-and-military-service-providers

Arms firms selling weaponry to Turkey awarded £15m of tax payers’ money
https://theferret.scot/scottish-enterprise-turkey-arms-firms

Do today's global protests have anything in common? In recent weeks, mass protests have broken out in countries from Lebanon to Spain to Chile and Bolivia. All are different - with distinct causes, methods and goals - but there are some common themes that connect them.
https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-50123743

Rebooted Troops to Teachers fails to take off
Gavin Williamson’s rebooted attempts to train more armed forces veterans as teachers has been labelled “pointless” after take-up tanked.
https://schoolsweek.co.uk/rebooted-troops-to-teachers-fails-to-take-off

THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME
In the past three months VFP have conducted silent protests against two of the largest military trade and hierarchy gatherings in Europe... Herewith, as reported by the arms companies and their media themselves, verbatim almost unredacted, is some of what VFP were against.
http://vfpuk.org/articles/the-shape-of-things-to-come

Extinction Rebellion targets arms industry: Disarm to Decarbonise
https://www.pressenza.com/2019/10/extinction-rebellion-targets-arms-industry-disarm-to-decarbonise

Nuclear Weapons Ban Monitor 2019 is here
The 2019 report of the Nuclear Weapons Ban Monitor was launched at a side event during the UN General Assembly in New York on 16 October.

Does punishment work? Home Secretary Priti Patel says she wants criminals to ‘literally feel terror at the thought of committing offences’. Quakers have a different approach.
https://www.quaker.org.uk/blog/does-punishment-work

British Legion changes policy to include civilians in Remembrance
The Peace Pledge Union has welcomed a decision by the Royal British Legion to promote remembrance for civilians for the first time.
https://ppu.org.uk/news/british-legion-changes-policy-include-civilians-remembrance

Climate protests have roots that go deep into the rich history of British social change
Extinction Rebellion draws on a radical lineage that brings together a range of beliefs and ages

British Legion changes policy to include civilians in Remembrance