



UNA LASER Newsletter
21st November, 2020

From our Chair, Trisha Rogers



AGM

The main purpose of this Newsletter is to send out the papers for our AGM, which is to be [by zoom](#) on 28th November at 2pm. Please register for the event by 27th November, by clicking on [this link](#).

Many thanks for the nominations for Officers and Committee members.

The papers are on our website:

- [the minutes of the last meeting](#)
- [the proposed new constitution](#) (slightly revised since our last mailing)
- [the agenda](#).

Urgent Call for Action

We have added an [urgent Call for Action](#) to our website. This is to write to your MP to ask him or her to promote the establishment of a new cross-party committee to scrutinise the expenditure on UK aid now that DfID has been merged with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, meaning the end of the International Development Select Committee. There will very soon be a free vote on the establishment of a new cross-party committee to scrutinise expenditure on UK aid. Such a committee is essential to try to ensure the continuation of our current high standard of UK aid expenditure on poverty alleviation.

UN75 Discussion Paper

Sheila Kesby – on behalf of Bexhill and Hastings UNA – has asked me to share with you their [UNA 75 discussion paper](#) entitled *Global Capitalism versus Human Health & Welfare*. They invite you to take part in the discussion as set out in this paper and would welcome, to be sent to [Sheila](#) by 30th April 2021, critical constructive comments, ideas and suggestions. They plan to present the outcome of this discussion at their UN Day event on 23rd October 2021.

Next Steps for *What Next for the UN?* Festival

We are continuing the work of our LASER UN75 Festival – *WHAT NEXT FOR THE UN? Building a more secure world*. Recordings of all the events can be seen on the [festival website](#). As many of you who attended know, each workshop proposed actions – for [individuals](#), [communities](#), [nations](#) and international organisations such as [the UN](#) – for building a more secure world. We would love your comments and suggestions on these – sharing, at the

end of each page, ideas of how you are taking forward any of the actions. We shall soon be opening a blogs page, so do let me know if you'd like to contribute a blog (of 500-1000 words) building on the ideas of the festival.