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UNA LASER May 2022 Newsletter

From our Chair, Trisha Rogers



Frank Judd

Frank Judd, Lord Judd of Portsea, who died last year, “spent a lifetime in politics devoted to the passionate pursuit of human rights and social justice wherever in the world such things were in short supply or in need of defence”, to quote *The Guardian* [obituary](#).

Frank was a staunch friend of UNA, having held several Offices and supported many branches and events, including for the Council for Education in World Citizenship (an education charity closely linked to UNA) for which his wife, Chris, was a regional representative. A Service of Thanksgiving for Frank will be held in St Margaret’s Church, Westminster, on Tuesday 18th June at 12noon. Anyone wishing to attend should register [here](#).



Policies and Campaigns

Policy Conference

Thanks to its indefatigable Chair, Peter Webster - and to the many members and branches who contributed resolutions, amendments and to the debates - the LASER Policy Committee organised a successful hybrid conference in April. [You can see the agreed resolutions on our website policy page](#). We shall be pursuing these with the relevant national and international institutions. Do - as branches and as individual members - forward any (or all) resolutions to your MPs, who can bring them to the more immediate attention of Ministers. Please [let us know](#) if you get any replies of substance.

Ukraine

Security Council Reform The terrible events in Ukraine have resurrected discussion about Security Council reform. You might like to look again at the [thinking on this](#) from UNA’s *Together First*.

Branch Activity



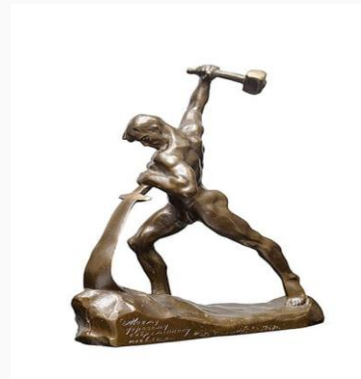
Hilary Evans of Twickenham and Richmond UNA has been making our voice heard outside the Russian embassy a

couple of times a week.

Campaigning

As well as such direct campaigning, our [Special Campaign in March](#) suggested actions that we can take to help address the challenges from Ukraine. These - and our recent Ukraine resolution, which has been added to that page - provide a framework of actions for us all to take.

Re-Discovering the United Nations



Bexhill and Hastings Branch has drafted a consultation on *Re-Discovering the United Nations*. As a bench, they are focussing on three areas: the environment, peace and human security; health and human development. Their Peace Project Coordinator, Sheila Kesby, at our Policy Conference gave [this introduction](#) to the consultative document of their Peace and Human Security group. The consultation paper is [here](#). Please send comments and suggestions to [Sheila](#).

UNA Climate and Oceans Youth Report

UNA C&O has published a [Youth Report](#), which has been producing exciting results. In particular they have received, through their MP, a response letter from the Minister of State for School Standards, which is [on their website](#) and suggests that the *Youth Report* will be influencing UK Government policy regarding the Sustainability and Climate Change strategy for the education and children's services systems



COP26 Follow-Up

According to the Climate Coalition (of which LASER is a member) the impacts of climate change are getting worse and hitting those least responsible the hardest. According to [The Guardian](#), the war in Ukraine has delayed progress to the COP26 targets. The UK continues to be President of the COP until the autumn. Do [write to your MP](#) to stress that it is important that we keep up the momentum, following COP26.

As part of this momentum, you might want to take part in [Great Big Green Week](#) (24 Sept - 2 Oct). Do add your events and activities to the website, which also provides [resources](#) to support your activities.

Newsletters

Many thanks to Peter and Sarah Webster for mailing out this Newsletter. If you might like to help with future mailing (including being given useful training in Mailchimp), or with editing the Newsletter, please [let me know](#). The deadline for announcements for the next Newsletter to [reach me](#) is **16th June**. It is helpful if you can send the information for events in the same format as the events below. We are not able to include large amounts of biographical and background detail, but can link to these on other websites, so do include links.

Forthcoming Events

Warwick and District UNA

On **May 25th at 19:00 - 20:15**, Warwick District UN Association are hosting a webinar on ***The Threats and Realities of Chemical, Biological and Nuclear Weapons Use by Russia in the current Ukraine conflict***. The speaker is **Dan Kazeta** from the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI). The Chair will be **Gian Clare**. [Here](#) is the zoom link.

UNA Greater Lincolnshire



On **May 25th**, UNA Greater Lincolnshire are hosting a Zoom meeting on ***Sustainable Development Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals. We can only achieve together***. The speaker is **Dan Clayton**, Sustainability Manager at Lincolnshire County Council. SDG 17 covers trade, aid, investment, technology & knowledge transfer and enhancing local decision making in developing countries.

Dan will explore how SDG17 can strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development. [Register here to join](#)

Westminster UNA

On **26 May**, UNA Westminster, with UNA-UK and the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI), will host the **19th Annual Conference to mark the International Day of UN Peacekeepers**. This year's conference, entitled ***Enhancing the UK Contribution to Peacekeeping***, will be online, **11:00 - 15:15**. It will feature the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Conversation, a dialogue between **Karin von Hippel**, Director of RUSI and **Pierre Lacroix**, UN Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations, who will review the [Action for Peacekeeping](#) (A4P) initiative launched in 2018. The Dame Margaret Anstee session, titled ***The Digital Transformation of Peacekeeping***, will review the [UN's Strategy for Digital Transformation of UN Peacekeeping](#) (2020), assessing how digital advancement could present a risk to operations such as cyberattacks. Speakers will include UNA-UK's new Chair, **Baroness Anelay of St John's**, and UNA-UK's new Chief Executive, **Marissa Conway**.

This online event is open to all. [Please click here to register](#).

On **26 May 19th**, UNA Westminster will lead the **Annual wreath-laying ceremony to mark the International Day of UN Peacekeepers**. It will take place at the Cenotaph, Whitehall, from 1300. Wreaths will be laid by government ministers and representatives of the armed forces, police and diplomatic community. All are welcome to attend.

For more information on the events of this branch, see [their website](#).

Climate and Oceans UNA

BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE EMERGENCY LAB

“UK CLIMATE AND OCEAN POLICY: Science, Formation and Implementation of offshore renewable energy ”

UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION 2021-2030

UNA CLIMATE & OCEANS

FN-förbundet UNA SWEDEN MALMÖ FN-FÖRENING

This webinar will be on **Thursday 26th May, 19:00 - 20:30**. Speakers include **Stephanie Ockenden** – UK Government Head of the Ocean, Climate Change, and International Evidence (OCCPIE) team at The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA); **Murray Roberts FRSB** – Co-Author on IPCC 5th Assessment Report, Professor and Chair of Applied Marine Biology and Ecology, School of Geosciences, The University of Edinburgh; **Thomas Pendlebury** - UNA Youth Ambassador. [Here](#) is the link to register.

Harpenden UNA

Harpenden UNA will hold a series of free public meetings in June on **Ukraine and Geopolitics**. For registrations, please use [this link](#)

GEO POLITICS 2022

UNA HARPENDEN

June 11
Prof. Richard Sakwa

June 18
Prof. Paul Rogers

June 25
Discussion Group

- **June 11, 10:30** - Richard Sakwa on *How the Clash of Post-Cold War Peace Orders Led to War*, at the Harpenden Salvation Army Hall and by Zoom.
- **June 18, 10:30** - Paul Rogers on *Global Security in the 21st Century*, by Zoom.
- **June 25, 10:30** - Discussion Group Meeting on *The Ukraine Conflict - Causes and Solutions*, at the

Salvation Army Hall; only 20 tickets available, so register quickly!

Streatham & Clapham UNA



Streatham & Clapham UNA will host a Zoom call on *The International Year of Sustainable Mountain Development and life in the Western Ghats* on **Saturday 25th June at 2pm**.

As well as outlining the purpose of the International Year, we hope to be joined live from South India by a number of those living in the Western Ghats mountain range to share and discuss several short video clips about the life and culture of the local indigenous people. Please register to join [here](#).

LSE on *The Future of the United Nations*

The LSE Festival includes a discussion on whether the United Nations is still able to perform its intended role as forum for global deliberations, negotiation and policymaking. It will be at **the Marshall Building, 44 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PX** on **18th June, 16:00 - 17:00**. For more information and to attend this in-person discussion, register [here](#).

Westminster Climate Solutions Fair


The Climate Coalition (of which LASER is a member) is joining with the National Trust and others to organise the Westminster Climate Solutions Fair, focusing on *Climate, Nature and People*, in Parliament, on **6th July, 17:00-19:00**. If you would like to have a display, please complete [this short form](#) by 26th May. For further information, see [here](#) or contact [the organiser](#).

LASER Summer Council

Climate Change - Impact, Reports & Solutions

Summer Council
July 9, 2022
10:30 - 17:00
Salvation Army Hall
Leyton Green
Harpenden AL5 2TG
Entry: Free
Please register:
<https://una-laser-climate-change.eventbrite.co.uk>

 **UNA HARPENDEN**

Session 1: Impact of climate change in Bangladesh and the Pacific islands
Session 2: Reports on climate action for the UK and other countries
Session 3: Sustainable and green growth for the UK

United Nations Association London & South East Region (UNA LASER)

The LASER Summer Council - *Climate Change: Impact, Reports, Solutions* - will be hosted by UNA Harpenden on **9th July, 10:30 - 17:00** at the Salvation Army, Leyton Green, Harpenden AL5 2TG. Entry will be free. Please register [here](#) to join us in meeting together as a region again.



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