

**Amnesty International (UK) Norwich Group
Open Meeting 21 September 2011**

Apologies Lesley, Debbie, Neil, David H 22 people present

Chair drew our attention to Troy Davis due to be executed by lethal injection in the next twelve hours. He has been imprisoned in Georgia for 20 years and has had his fourth plea for clemency turned down. Amnesty sent petitions with over 63,000 signatures including Desmond Tutu and families of previously executed prisoners. Troy has received 70-80 postcards and letters of support daily seven days a week.

Speaker

Local immigration lawyer Olo Ogunnowow spoke about his work and the effects of funding cuts and proposed legislation on immigrants and locally and nationally.

Matters arising from 17 August

Tom reminded David about the reference to local poet Luke Wright. No readers needed as Big Sky performers will simply read text of the music between songs.

Other actions have been dealt with.

Monthly Action

Corporate accountability for human rights abuses committed by UK companies abroad. Proposed legislation would make it impossible for people overseas to seek justice. Letters to MPs. 8 copies given out.

Campaigns

Catherine G handed out action cards involving an Eritrean woman. Catherine agreed to talk to the group as country co-ordinator.

ACTION Joanna/David F

Reports

Lesley raised £214 at her coffee morning to be shared between Amnesty and Lymphoma Association. This money will go towards hire of Assembly House for sale of Christmas cards. Rota of helpers organised from 17 October.

Cinema City Human Rights season has started and the first film *To Kill a Mocking Bird* had over 50 people in screen that holds 60. David F introduced the season of films.

Big Sky concert 22 October 8pm – Poster available tomorrow. List of sites circulated for offers of help in placing A4 and A5 posters. Programme in production. Suggestions of ethically sound businesses who we might approach who might like to advertise or sponsor the programme would be welcome.

David F will discuss possibility of videoing the performance with Sian. **ACTION David F**

Jim will help with front of the programme.

ACTION David F/Jim

People who have signed up to help will be contacted in due course. **ACTION ?Debbie**

Dragon's Den event cancelled by organisers due to lack of support from local business.

AOB

Manchester Amnesty group are organising a photography competition. Details with David F

Date next meeting

Wednesday 19 October 8pm Business and campaign action