

Annual Report 2013

We have once again had a reasonably busy year with a range of activities. We started the year with a meeting with the WDM Director, Deborah Doane, who came up to meet our group during the day on 11th January. We decided to make use of Deborah while she was with us so we invited Tom Blenkinsop, MP, as well. We had a discussion about campaigns and general issues for WDM and made it a public meeting. Considering it was a day time event we got a good turn out.

We had our next meeting on 24th January. We have been asked to discuss various possible options for future campaigns. We were sent a booklet which explained the various possibilities and we gave feedback to National.

On 9th April we invited Tricia from Whitby. Tricia has just come back from spending 3 months in Palestine working as a peace keeper volunteer. She gave us a short talk about her experiences. We had hoped to extend this meeting to include a wider audience but we were disappointed with the turn out.

We then lost a bit of momentum over the summer and never managed to hold our AGM for the previous year.

We had a short summer walk through the woods in Castleton, followed by sandwiches and chips at the Eskdale pub.

We met again in October to discuss the next campaigning actions. Maya, the new regional co-ordinator, travelled from Leeds to meet us all.

In November we met for a shared meal at Scaling. We watched a WDM DVD which took the food speculation issue further into rather distantly related issues such as city gardening. Anyway, we had a lovely meal as well as a bit of time for a social.

In December we had a talk from Ronagh Craddock about her attendance as a youth representative at the climate change talks in Warsaw. She gave up two weeks of holiday to attend this international conference. Rather disappointingly the views of the southern countries were not listened to and the youth delegation joined them in walking out of the talks. Ronagh lives in Newcastle where she is setting up a local branch of WDM, so we will no longer be the only group between York and Edinburgh.

We had a belated Christmas meal in the new year at the Lemon Grass Thai restaurant in Redcar.