Origami Cranes Project

Remembering Hiroshima - Banning Nuclear Weapons



Origami Cranes Project

We are asking people to make Origami Cranes and send them to us to be part of a major exhibition. Post cranes to:

Edinburgh Peace & Justice Centre 5 Upper Bow Edinburgh EH1 2JN Scotland UK

Here's an explanation on how to pack origami cranes.

Workshops Second Saturday of every month from 2 to 4pm normally at the Peace & Justice Centre, 5 Upper Bow. NOTE that the 14 July 2018 Workshop will be at

our stall at the Festival of Resistance in the Meadows. Workshops are also held occasionally at other locations.

Organise a Workshop Where You Are



The project aims to make paper cranes to remember those who were killed by the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and express the hope that this will never happen again and highlight the Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons – the Ban Treaty – as a way to ensure that.

Folding paper cranes is done in memory of the children killed by the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombs because of the story of Sadako, a Japanese girl who was just two years old, living in Hiroshima when the atom bomb was dropped. Sadako later developed

leukemia and while in hospital heard the legend that anyone who folded 1000 paper cranes would have their wish granted. Wishing for peace Sadako set out to fold One Thousand Paper Cranes before she died aged 12. There is a statue of Sadako holding a golden crane stands in the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park.

The atomic bomb dropped in Hiroshima on 6 August 1945 killed 140,000 citizens by the end of the year. Currently each nuclear warhead held by the UK is considered eight times more powerful than the one dropped in Hiroshima. If it is simply multiplied by eight, 1.12 million more than one fifth of the Scottish population would be dead. Later this year it is planned that the British government will renew Trident, the Britain's nuclear weapons system, costing £182bn. Currently Britain holds four nuclear submarines and 215 nuclear warheads. Faslane, near Glasgow, is home to such nuclear weapons in the UK.

Peace & Justice is an affiliate of the Nobel Peace Prize winning International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons. This project is one of the ways we are working to raise awareness of the Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons (Ban Treaty).

To arrange a workshop for you community centre, group or school please contact the Peace and Justice Centre: email origami cranes[at]peaceandjustice.org.uk

Download a "How to Make an Origami Peace Crane" Flyer Here.

Watch a video of How to Make an Origami Crane Here.

Who started the project?



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Atsuko Betchaku, a Japanese woman living in Edinburgh for around 18 years started this project in 2015. Sadly Atsuko died in early 2017. Atsuko obtained a PhD in history at the University of Edinburgh. She said "I was always wondering why Japan experienced two atomic bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. When I was a teenager I visited Nagasaki in my school trip. We learnt stories of Nagasaki atomic bomb victims. My feeling was simply against war and no more Nagasaki and Hiroshima. After that I gradually learnt Japanese armies committed atrocities in other parts of Asia during the World War II. I also met people who congratulated the atomic bombs dropped in Japan. Wars divide people and Japanese were dehumanised. Without dehumanisation, such a devastating bomb would not have been utilised. Depending on the political context, any group could be victimised. We can get rid of nuclear weapons if we can get rid of wars and discriminations."

https://peaceandjustice.org.uk/peace-organisations/origami-cranes-project/

How to pack Origami Cranes

To make the origami paper cranes, the paper used should be either 5cm, 6.5cm, 10cm, or 15cm.

It is best to pack them nestled on top of each other, and laid flat (no opened) in a shoe box if possible. This is entirely dependent on how many cranes you commit to making. An example of the cranes packed this way is shown in the photo to the left.

For those more advanced, there is always the possibility of packing the origami cranes on threads and assembling them into garlands. However, for the purposes of the potential exhibition at the Scottish Parliament next August, it would be preferable to pack them in shoe boxes. An excellent example of the cranes assembled on garlands is shown in the photo



How to fold a Paper Crane

