

Application for Employment

For the post of:

Researcher / campaigner on resource democracy

Application deadline:

6pm (=5pm GMT), Thursday 10 May

Please complete this form, and email (in rich text format) to info@platformlondon.org with 'job application: [YOUR NAME]' in the subject line.

Please ensure that your application is received by the deadline. You may also send a cv if you wish; but CVs on their own will not be considered.

Supporting materials

(tick!) I attach a sample of my writing, as requested in the job description (*please tick*):

One sample of writing (preferably published), which illustrates *either* your research abilities or your campaigning/communication abilities. This may be on any subject, and of any length. You do not need to write something especially for this application.

1. Personal details

Surname

WOOD

Other names

ANDREW NEIL

Name you prefer to be known as (if different from first name):

Address

40 Freelands Road, Oxford. OX4 4BT

Telephone: Home

Mobile 07973 953 446

Work 01865 201 728

Email

Farnborough: all the fun of the arms fair!

We could have air-dropped our leaflet into the Farnborough Airshow on Saturday 24 July but we decided to do it the hard way. Handing out the 'Take the arms fair out of the airshow' leaflets to visitors was Ruth with Leyla, her knee-high daughter. There was Lisa with her smart red and white outfit - Arsenal Football Club would have been proud - emblazoned with 'Peace' and 'Say no to the arms trade', and the rest of us of course; ten in all. We welcomed the visitors: "Hiya", "Good morning", "Would you like a leaflet?" We answered their questions, and smiled. This was public engagement. We were surprisingly well received with only a few hostile remarks - the most perceptive being "you've got a nerve." Too right we have, we take the courage of our convictions plus the training we'd undertaken a few weeks beforehand and tell it like it is. Farnborough is an arms fair, and it should have no part in a family day out to celebrate flight.

Not far away were the Pretzels, a street theatre group, who accompanied us that day. Dressed as the Red Arrows they proceeded to entertain the steady stream of visitors to the airshow - 110,000 people attended over the weekend. The Pretzels' flight routine included flashes from the underside of their Hawk jet wings with startling facts about the use of the military aircraft - their use in the horrendous conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo for example.

The organisers of the Airshow were riled by the leafleting outside the pedestrian entrance. They came out and told us we couldn't be there. When referred to the police the organisers were informed that we were perfectly within our rights. At first the police were concerned about people chaining themselves to the entrances and asked if we had any handcuffs! The day ended peacefully though, as intended, and we achieved our goal - several thousand visitors have read our leaflet and learned about the arms fair they call an airshow.

Farnborough - it's the business

The opening day of Farnborough week, this year on Monday 19 July, is always marked by an announcement of new business deals, some in civil aerospace, but many in the military sector. This year it was \$9 billion of deals, with prominence given to Thales for winning the \$1.5 billion programme for the Watchkeeper UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) - a surveillance plane for the British army. By Thursday the figure rose to \$19 billion as announcements from Geoff Hoon, Secretary of State for Defence, regarding public expenditure were taken as an indication of the Government's commitment to buy the second batch (or tranche as it is known) of the Eurofighter Typhoon, as well as Nimrod aircraft. Both are built, at least in part, by BAE Systems. While the armed forces may be cutting staff, the arms companies are seeing no cuts in orders - quite the opposite. By the end of the week deals worth \$20 billion were announced.

At the peaceful demonstration on Monday we marked the first trading day by highlighting the subsidies given by the Government to companies for the sale of arms abroad. So we had a Tony Blair look a like deliver a huge cheque to the gates at Farnborough showing the £888 million in subsidies given each year (see front cover) - that's £13,000 for each job exporting arms each year. That money buys: the 600 staff in the civil service at the Defence Export Services Organisation (DESO); Export Credit Guarantees for arms exports - cheap insurance if you like; the time of ministers, diplomats, embassies; equipment demonstrations by the armed forces; research and development grants, and lots more. Incidentally, 42 official military delegations visited Farnborough. Our message, on placards and the cheque, was 'Stop Export Subsidies to Arms Companies'. Leaflets, looking like, well, cheques of course (see page 15), were distributed to the visitors of Farnborough's 'trade days', as they are known. The day ended well. There was lots of police attention, including the examining of our cardboard missile props - just in case they were real. Perhaps they should have looked inside the Airshow.

Disbelief

Farnborough sees a huge amount of sponsorship and advertisement. All sorts of things can be sponsored, including the children's face painting. Lloyds TSB sponsored the President's Enclosure this year. Many CAAT supporters have written to Lloyds asking them to stop sponsoring an arms fair. But Lloyds continue to insist that Farnborough is not an arms fair. Perhaps they should listen to Secretary of State Geoff Hoon, who announced: "Farnborough is an important event in the defence calendar and I am pleased to be here to give my support to the defence industry". This year CAAT has nominated the Textron cluster bomb, shown both on the trade and public days of Farnborough, as the most despised weapon.

Equal Opportunities monitoring form

The following information will be used to monitor compliance with PLATFORM's policy of ensuring we are an equal opportunities employer, and will not be used for any other purpose. This form will be separated from the application before short-listing and kept confidentially by PLATFORM.

Where did you see this job advertised?

EnvironmentJob email

Post applied for

Researcher / campaigner on resource democracy

Surname

Wood

First name(s)

Andrew

Gender (M/F)

M

Date of birth

10/02/1967

Please describe your ethnic origin by putting an X in one of the boxes below:

X White British

Irish

Any other white background (please state)

Asian or Asian British

Indian

Pakistani

Bangladeshi

Any other Asian background (please state)

Black or Black British

Caribbean

African

Any other Black background (please state)

Chinese or Chinese British

Mixed

White & Black Caribbean

White & Black African

White & Asian

