

## **Local Campaigners Networking Session**

The session was a good chance to share experiences of working locally, and for the several people interested in starting a CAAT group to ask advice on how to go about it.

### **Some of the top tips and information shared were:**

- CAAT Office can help start a group by contacting others in your area on their database to help get people involved.
- Whether you're writing a leaflet, doing a stall or speaking to the media, have one message and keep it simple.
- If you want to start a group, try and get one or two others involved initially, then organise around an event such as a stall or a speaker to get more people involved.
- Starting a group can be quite a lot of work so make sure you have enough time and encourage others to get involved and take on some of the work.
- If you're meeting in the evenings, give people food and snacks – this helps relieve the time pressure people face.

Time and distance are key constraints on people getting involved. Many people are already involved with several other campaigns too. This is something people would like to share advice about in future.

### **Some of the stories of local campaigning shared were:**

- BAE came to recruit at a university campus in Hastings. CAAT supporters did a picket and leafleted outside, but one supporter power-dressed and went into the room where people were waiting for interviews and talked to them one on one with considerable success. This was a really good, non-hostile way to raise the issue with BAE's potential recruits.
- Norfolk CAAT reported that Earth First had done a banner drop around a small arms manufacturer in the area.