



Justice & Peace

News from the National Justice & Peace Network

Autumn 2003

National Justice & Peace Network (NJPN)

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The National Justice & Peace Network coordinates and encourages work for justice and peace within the Catholic Dioceses of England and Wales.

This newsletter is produced three times a year by the Network. The views expressed are not necessarily those of the National Justice and Peace Network.

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Contents

Three year project . . .	2
Conference comments . .	2
Standing Order form . .	2
Pax Christi . . .	3
Peace Sunday . . .	3
Burma Update . . .	3
Diary . . .	4
News . . .	4

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'We are a bread-breaking, justice seeking people'



Julian Filochowski

Globalisation and the responses Christians can make through education work, campaigning and lifestyle, were the issues addressed at the 25th annual conference of more than 370 Justice and Peace activists from around England and Wales. The Conference, organised by the Catholic Diocese of Salford in collaboration with the National Justice and Peace Network, took place at Swanwick in Derbyshire on the theme: "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice - a theology of protest in a globalised world".

The inequalities produced by globalisation were described as "a human disgrace and catastrophe" by Julian Filochowski of CAFOD. Giving his last talk as Director, before stepping down after 21 years, he pointed out that the income of the richest one per cent in the world is equal to the combined income of the poorest 57 percent, and the gap is increasing each year.

Of the 200 largest economic players in our world, 56 are national governments and 144 are companies like Microsoft, Philips and Sony.

The whole of Julian's speech can be found on the CAFOD website www.cafod.org.uk

The Millennium Development Goals is the most contemporary statement we have in the secular world of the global common good.

A globe is beautiful, it's round, it's equal, it's special, as it manifests itself to the poor, is ugly.

How do we transform structures of sin into structures of grace? I believe, to redeem it, we have to put the cause of the crucified peoples at the centre.

Our option should be the option for constructive engagement—to be the voice of the voiceless poor.

If globalisation cannot be stopped, it can be controlled. It's not a given like the weather. It can be shaped and directed.

We can put a new heart into globalisation — globalisation without marginalisation: in campaigning, advocacy and protest we can change our world; another world is possible.

That's what living on less than a dollar a day means—your dignity is taken away from you.

The other world will be a world where the crucified peoples are taken down from the cross and nobody put up in their place.



Planted to mark the 25th Annual Conference of the National Justice & Peace Network 11-13 July 2003



Rosa Shea (NJPN Chair)

The procession to water the tree

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS

The three year project

As three years of the national J&P project draw to a close I look back with mixed feelings. I have seen things expand in some dioceses, commissions established or revived, new fieldworkers appointed and lots of grassroots activity.

In addition 27 workshops have taken place all round England and Wales with over 400 hundred people attending. Topics have included both the basics: "Theology & Spirituality of J&P", "Groups Skills". "Justice & Peace in the Churches' Life and Worship" and current issues: arms conversion, trade justice, ecology and asylum seekers

Closer contact has been established with other networks such as the Conference of Religious, the National Conference of Priests, Young Christian Workers, the National Council for Lay Associations and Catholic People's Week (CPW) as well as with agencies. (I will not forget helping to lead a CPW family week in Teignmouth while struggling round on crutches. Such enthusiasm from such a mixed age group for issues of social justice renewed my faith).

One of the most productive things has been running joint days with CAFOD, Pax Christi, Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) and the National Catholic Refugee Forum, and Christian Ecology Link. At the most recent day twenty seven people from Clifton Diocese attended an excellent event ably led by Louise Zanre from JRS on the problems of asylum seekers and refugees. Every day has followed the Pastoral Cycle. We knew many attending had good experience of the topic or issue so that's where we started by sharing our experience. The experts (leaders and those attending) then gave some analysis: facts and figures, who has the power, who is doing what and why, where and how. Reflection in the light of our

faith then followed as an essential part of the day and the days concluded with practical ideas for action and a liturgy on the theme of the day.

The agencies who have worked with us tell me that they have seen positive follow-up from these days and I know that many of those attending have been inspired or re-inspired to put their faith into action, and continue to hand the message on.

In addition I have been the receiver of countless calls – partly for advice, though I don't count myself an expert - but more often just for support. I know how isolated J&P workers and enthusiasts can feel. Thankfully I have been well supported myself by my wonderful management group and family.

But I have also witnessed withering – groups closing down, commissions getting smaller, workers currently not replaced, funds not available for essential work, all of which is worrying.

The project is currently being independently evaluated and I hope you will hear more of this later.

Whatever the future holds, however, I am sure NJPN will go from strength to strength – not because more money is being poured into it – it isn't – but because all of us who are involved in any way know that this is what Jesus is about. The "good news to the poor" (or oppressed or marginalised) is that current injustices are NOT how a loving God wants life to be. Our essential role is to try and change things so life improves for those on the margins and to ensure that those with power are held to account – and we can't give up on that, can we?

Rosemary Read

Conference comments

Due to the generosity of our friends and supporters, this year JRS was able to take three refugees to the annual J&P Conference at Swanwick, Derbyshire. Louise, Albert, Evans and Konan joined the 370 other people present to hear inputs on globalisation, to reflect on our faith response to globalisation and to commit to action for justice and peace. The following are the impressions of three refugees :



Konan: "This is to thank all the JRS for inviting me for the 25th Conference of the Justice and Peace Network. I have been so touched and pleased to be informed about this second invitation (I was at last year's). It has been a very nice weekend spending in a splendid atmosphere meeting people from other cultural, religious and educational backgrounds. Really a great time to make friends; share experience; exchange knowledge and hear from others about their daily life. The subject this year was wonderful and very deep, yet it is an ongoing activity. Globalisation's influences are huge and it impacts very widely. I met so many people and had a lot of chats and lots of memories.... I hope the JRS would live longer to help provide joy to people like me around the world. Thanks so much."

Evans: "The weekend was different and very refreshing. The conference was an eye-opener to the different perspectives people have on globalisation, which reminds me of the bit about "action without reflection..." quite summing up that consciousness is not the issue but acting on the issues affecting us. From the introduction Julian [Filochowski] gave about globalisation to the pinnacle or climax really which was Mark Moody-Stewart: on the awareness they [trans-national corporations] have on the environment as a whole. Hence Thomas Cullinan found a phrase to sum it all up: "Behind us we are you". Thanks for the lovely weekend. God bless you."

Albert: "It was very fantastic days for me in Derbyshire, my first conference in England, which taught me many things. I loved it. I was happy to know and see many people from different places and I had the chance to have relationships with them. Thank you so much JRS for giving me this opportunity and introducing me to them. I hope you continue with that every year. Thank you."

JOIN THE BOYCOTT

EMAIL KAPPA AND JJB SPORTS NOW!

Italian sportswear company Kappa are manufacturing clothing in Burma. Clothing exports earn Burma's military dictatorship millions of dollars a year. Forty percent of the regimes budget is spent on the military. By manufacturing clothes in Burma Kappa is helping to fund the dictatorship.

The Burma Campaign UK found Kappa shirts and trousers manufactured in Burma in a JJB Sports shop in Oxford Street, London. This is despite JJB Sports assuring the Burma Campaign UK that they do not stock any clothes from Burma.

Please send campaign emails to Kappa and JJB telling them you will boycott them until they

cut their ties with Burma's dictatorship.

SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO KAPPA

Send to: info@kappa.it and copy the email to: customer@kappastore.com

Dear Sir/Madam

I am shocked that Kappa is having clothes manufactured in Burma.

Burma is ruled by a regime that uses rape, torture and murder to oppress its own people. By sourcing clothes from Burma you are helping to fund the dictatorship. Until you stop having clothes manufactured in Burma I will not be buying any Kappa clothing. I will also be asking my friends to boycott Kappa.

Yours sincerely

SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO JJB SPORTS

Send to: customerservices@jjsports.com

Dear Tom Knight, Chief Executive

I am shocked that despite promising not to stock clothes from Burma, JJB Sports is selling Kappa shirts and shorts that were made there. Burma is ruled by a regime that uses rape, torture and murder to oppress its own people. By stocking clothes from Burma you are helping to fund the dictatorship. Until you remove all clothes made in Burma from your stores, and implement a strict policy of not stocking clothes from Burma, I will be boycotting your stores.

Yours sincerely

PAX CHRISTI

PAX CHRISTI

Christian Peace Education Centre
St Joseph's
Watford Way
Hendon
NW4 4TY

Tel: 020 8203 4884

www.paxchristi.org.uk

This is the fourth report from an agency whose work we promote and support.



Pax Christi, Peace of Christ, is one of the organisations most closely associated with the NJPN. It is a gospel-based lay-inspired, peacemaking movement. Founded in the Catholic Church, its membership is open to individuals, groups and organisations of all faiths who are in sympathy with its aims and values. The three major objectives of Pax Christi are:

- ◆ reconciliation
- ◆ the promotion of a culture of peace and nonviolence
- ◆ providing the means to bring about peace e.g. through peace education resources and training

Peace Sunday 18th January 2004

Every year, Pax Christi, the international Catholic movement for peace, helps the Church in England and Wales to celebrate the Pope's World Peace message. In announcing the 2004 theme, which is International Law – the Path to Peace, the Holy See said "*Humanity is faced with a crucial challenge: if it does not succeed in giving itself institutions that are really effective in eliminating the scourge of war,*

the risk is that the law of force will prevail".

The Vatican is urging us to learn more about the role and value of international law. Recent world events remind us of the dangers of countries who seek to 'go it alone' in resolving disputes or breaches of international law. The need for every country to respect and live up to its obligations under international law is an essential part of international peacemaking. Peace Sunday also offers an opportunity to learn more about and support the work of Pax Christi. Parishes may wish to organise an exhibition on the work of Pax Christi ; carry an article about Pax Christi and Peace Sunday in a bulletin or newsletter, organise a collection for the work of Pax Christi; distribute the Pax Christi prayer card on Peace Sunday. Every year Pax Christi produce a reflection/liturgy booklet with notes to accompany the readings of the day; bidding prayers, ideas for celebrating the day with children and a 'model' article for a parish newsletter.

This year, Peace Sunday coincides with the start of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The theme this year is 'My peace I give you' and the organisers have asked for a special focus on the needs of people in the Middle East. Pax Christi hope that people will use the complementarity of the themes in their own community celebration. Contact your parish now to find out how it plans to mark Peace Sunday on 18th January. Free samples of all the materials will be available from the Pax Christi office from November and will also be on the web site. Every parish will receive a mailing from Pax Christi before the end of November.

THANK YOU

We wish to express our gratitude to all who responded to the appeal in the last edition for Standing Orders in favour of NJPN.

Thanks to your generous donations our income will be boosted by an extra £2000 a year.

We hope many more people will feel moved to complete the Standing Order form alongside.



National Justice and Peace Network

Instructions to Bank or Building Society to pay by standing order

Name and full postal address of your bank/building society

Name

Address

..... Post Code

Instructions to your Bank/Building Society
Please pay National Justice and Peace Network
Sort Code 16 31 15 Account No. 10006157 the sum of

£ Amount in words

Per calendar month

First payment date

Name(s) of account holder(s)

Name

Address

..... Post Code

Signature(s)

.....

.....

Date

Bank/Building Society:

Account Number

Sort Code

PLEASE RETURN TO:
National Justice and Peace Network,
39 Eccleston Square, London, SW1V 1BX

2003 - International Year of Freshwater & 40th Anniversary of 'Pacem in Terris'*(Please check all details with organisers before using this information)*

- Oct 31 CAFOD Pope Paul VI Lecture, speaker: Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez of Honduras. (020 7733 7900)
- Oct31-2 Nov CAP Annual conference at Qunita Hall, Oswestry
- Nov 1 CEL Conference and Annual Members' Meeting. Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church in London, 10h00-18h00. Keynote speaker: Rt Rev James Jones, Bishop of Liverpool. (Call 01524 33858)
- Nov 1 LONDON. Movement for the Abolition of War: General Open meeting. There will be a free (all welcome), general open meeting 10h30-16h30 in London. A full programme is being planned including speakers. Contact: MAW, 11 Venetia Road, London, N4 1EJ Tel/messages/fax: 020 8347 6162.
- Nov 3-9 Landmine Action Week. (UK Working Group 020 7820 0222, www.landmineaction.org) "Explosive Remnants".
- Nov 9 Remembrance Sunday - info. on Peace Pledge Union and their White Poppies from 020 7424 9444. Relevant info. from National Peace Council on 020 7690 9666. Events at many places, incl. lecture by Joseph Rotblat in Imperial War Museum, London at 14h00.
- Nov 9 International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (Christian Solidarity Worldwide - CSW - 020 8942 8810, csw@clara.net, www.csw.org.uk)
- Nov 9 LONDON. Remembrance Day lecture at the Imperial War Museum with Mairead Corrigan, organised by Movement for the Abolition of War. Contact: MAW, 11 Venetia Road, London, N4 1EJ Tel/messages/fax: 020 8347 6162
- Nov 10 *Site Unseen - Exposing the Arms Trade*. CAAT protest at BAe site (Kidderminster & Towcester) and public meeting (B'ham) to raise awareness. Details about protests or meetings on 020 7281 0297 or siteunseen@Caat.demon.co.uk
- Nov 16 Day of prayer for prisoners and their dependants. Date for PACT (Prison Advice & Care Trust) - formerly Bourne Trust annual appeal for funds. (3rd Sunday in Nov.) 020 7820 3454. Parish packs from Alexander King on 020 7582 1313 or alex@thebournetrust.org.uk
- Nov 16-23 Prisoner's Week - materials from PACT 020 7582 1313 (starts on 3rd Sun. of Nov.)
- Nov 20 *Site Unseen - Exposing the Arms Trade*. CAAT protest at BAe site (Chelmsford & Gt Baddow) and public meeting (Chelmsford) to raise awareness. Details about protests or meetings on 020 7281 0297 or siteunseen@Caat.demon.co.uk
- Nov 20 UN Africa Industrialisation Day; UN Universal Children's Day (or "Children's Rights Day" - 11th anniv. of UN Convention on the Rights of the Child).
- Nov 23/24 World Wide Buy Nothing Day (info@buynothing.co.uk, 0160 226 6668, www.envirolink.org). Held annually on first big Christmas shopping weekend.
- Nov 25 UN Int. Day of Action to End Violence to Women - info. from Women's Co-ordinating Group, CTE or pauline@cte.org.uk
- Nov 29 International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People (UN) Also, anniv. of Dorothy Day.

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR CORPORATE AND PRIVATE USE FOR ADVENT :
Openness to the Word of God; Migrants and Refugees; Expectant; Mothers Human Life

- Dec 1 Prisoners for Peace Day - check you have sent off cards to those listed by organisations such as Amnesty (020 7814 6200), Christian Solidarity Worldwide - CSW (020 8942 8810), Action by Christians Against Torture - ACT (020 7372 7347) and War Resisters International (5 Caledonian Rd, London N1 9DX or www.gn.apc.org/wafresisters).
- Dec 1 World AIDS Day (WHO). Info. from 020 7814 6726
- Dec 2 International Day for the Abolition of Slavery - contact Anti-Slavery International 020 7501 8936 (antislavery@gn.apc.org).
- Dec 3 World Day of Prayer for Migrants. 020 7834 0522. *Migration and Inter-religious Dialogue*.
- Dec 10 Human Rights Day (UN)
- Dec 10 *Site Unseen - Exposing the Arms Trade*. CAAT protest at BAe site (Radway Green) and public meeting (Crewe) to raise awareness. Details about protests or meetings on 020 7281 0297 or siteunseen@Caat.demon.co.uk
- Dec 27/28 Holy Innocents. CCND Commemoration of child victims of war. (020 7700 2393). 11h00, St Martin in the Fields, organised by Network of Christian Peace Organisations.
- Dec 28 Feast of Holy Family – Day of Prayer for Human Life
- Dec 28 *Site Unseen - Exposing the Arms Trade*. CAAT protest at BAe site (Basildon) and public meeting to raise awareness. Details about protests or meetings on 020 7281 0297 or siteunseen@Caat.demon.co.uk

2004

- Jan 25 Homelessness Sunday. **Building Justice—yes we can!** Contact: Housing Justice 020 7723 7273

NEWS

Congratulations to Chris Cole, formerly J&P Fieldworker for Southwark and Campaign Co-ordinator for CAAT who now takes up his post as Director of The Fellowship for Reconciliation England.(ForE)

The Ai-Kameli Trust—Educational assistance for East Timorese.

Unit 3, Canonbury Yard
 190a New North Road, London N1 7BJ
 For **WHITE POPPIES** contact PPU:
 tel: 0870 770 7944 or wp@ppu.org.uk
 or whitepoppy.org.uk