



# Justice & Peace

News from National Justice & Peace Network

Summer 2008

## National Justice & Peace Network (NJPN)

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The National Justice & Peace Network co-ordinates 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.*

Editor  
Ann Kelly

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## New Resources Supporting Your Work

### No Hands But Ours

In February 2008, Westminster J&P Commission, in conjunction with partners in other Churches, launched an exciting new Multi-Media resource (CD, booklet and web-page) to help church groups promote Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation. Although designed for use in their own area, the materials can be used or adapted elsewhere. *Barbara Kentish*, Fieldworker for Westminster J&P Commission, here writes about the background and process of producing the resource:

**Why?** We wanted to customise the NJPN handbook for our diocese, so a small working party met to discuss what seemed a straightforward task. Where to start though? Was it for beginning groups or revitalising older ones? What sort of parish—inner city or suburban? What sort of issues? Making a kind of “wheel” diagram we identified topics such as spirituality, liturgy, review of parish and so on. A healthy chunk of text was shown to the Diocesan Communications Director, Eddie Tulasiewicz, who smiled politely and asked, “But who will read all that?” Fr Joe Ryan, our Chair, who had always wanted a DVD, felt vindicated, and with Eddie’s help we moved towards including film. We chose 7 issues and 7 locations, trying to represent something of justice and peace action



Members of the Commission with the new resource pack.

across London and Hertfordshire. We called these our “**Beacons of Hope**” - the good news projects in Justice and Peace, where sometimes whole armies of volunteers are working for change. Filming with Bob Walters from Media Ink was a wonderful learning experience; he managed to get footage we never thought possible, particularly in confidential client situations. *We took our title from the words of Sister Aileen at a day centre in Acton, who quoted St Teresa of Avila as her inspiration. The point we were making is that God’s justice and peace can only be manifested through us, but is do-able, perhaps despite us!*

**Finance and budgeting:** We were grateful for help from CAFOD’s Development Education Fund, and also from the London Churches Social Action Group, an ecumenical source.

**Booklet content and the ecumenical dimension:** We limited ourselves to 20 sides of print (up to 28 with our packed resources list) and tried not to reinvent the wheel: *thus the*

*liturgy section, the starting a group and the list of scripture texts have been adapted from the excellent NJPN handbook with only small amendments.* We have tried, however, to produce a resource which can also be used by other Christian denominations in London, and so refer to Anglican and other Christian resources, and our 20 or so short interviews come not only from Catholics, including the Cardinal, but other Christian leaders, through our very

helpful ecumenical commission member, Revd Chris Brice, Social Justice Advisor for the Diocese of London. Our section on Christian prophecy refers to the many Christian reformers of the 19th century from all denominations, making the point that justice and peace concerns offer a wonderful opportunity to work with others in serving the world.

**Copies of No Hands But Ours cost £5, including postage, obtainable from Westminster J&P Commission, 4 Vincent Road, London N15 3QH. Text and CD should be available on the diocesan website [www.rcdow.org.uk](http://www.rcdow.org.uk)**

### NJPN Website—Resources Page Launched:

The website now has a Resources Page up and running, where information on new publications from around the Network, or of general interest to those working in justice and peace can be accessed. In addition to No Hands But Ours, the page was launched with The Poverty and Justice Bible, described by Alison Gelder of Housing Justice as “..one of those ideas that is so good you can only wonder why no-one thought to do it before!”, and CHASTE’s newest publication The Real Scandal of Sex Trafficking, with resources for worship, education and action. The website also provides links to all our partner organisations, making it your ‘one-stop shop’ for information, ideas for action and resources on a whole range of issues and campaigns.

[www.justice-and-peace.org.uk](http://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk)

# Cottoning on to Fairtrade...

At the NJPN Quarterly Meeting in York last February, there was a lively discussion about the role of supermarkets in selling Fairtrade goods. Do they jump on the bandwagon and put on promotions when Fairtrade is in the news, and then run their stocks down? What about stores who sell Fairtrade goods but treat their staff badly?

**John Marshall**, Hexham & Newcastle J&P here argues for the need to continue support for specialist Fairtrade suppliers. **Maria Malson**, Portsmouth J&P, draws our attention to issues in the production of **cotton**, which links to news of a very special cotton bag in East Anglia. Other items demonstrate how awareness of fair trade is broadening to cover a wider range of issues.



## NEW CHALLENGES IN A CHANGING WORLD

Fairtrade as we know it has been going on now for close on 30 years. It began with Traidcraft and Tearcraft. Those of us who have been around long enough will remember with nostalgia the days when supporting Fairtrade meant filling up your house with carved boxes, vases and a plethora of jute products. Then there were dried fruits, nuts, honey – not to forget some rather dubious tasting beverages, Encafe and Campaign Coffee. In many ways it was easier to support Fairtrade in those days—all you had to do was buy from Traidcraft either by catalogue, or, if you lived near enough, by visiting the premises; or Voluntary Reps bought goods and sold them at Fairtrade parties, community events, church stalls etc, and, importantly, many of these reps were prepared to give talks to groups.

At that time not many people knew anything about Fairtrade and the challenge was to change that. This was where the churches did a great job in spreading the Fairtrade message loud and clear: FAIRTRADE IS NOT CHARITY IT IS JUSTICE. A further challenge was to increase our customer base year on year if more producers in the developing world were to benefit. Everyone involved in the early days had a dream that one day we might see Fairtrade goods in mainstream shops, even, some said, in supermarkets. I don't honestly think that any of us actually believed it would happen. But suddenly, it did!

It began with Café Direct, closely followed by Tea Direct. These goods were necessarily more expensive than other brands, but supermarkets soon realised that there was a growing number of people prepared to pay more in the interest of justice. Before long more and more goods appeared on their shelves. The challenge now was a bit different. When people bought their goods from Traidcraft, they knew they could be trusted, but now they were mixed up with normally traded goods how could we encourage people to choose the right brands? Our slogan became "If

you buy from the supermarkets look for the Fairtrade mark."

When Fairtrade goods first appeared in supermarkets, we knew that, whatever we thought of the ethics of these huge institutions, it was important to buy the Fairtrade commodities they had on offer or they would stop selling them. However, where did that leave Traidcraft and other small shops selling exclusively Fairtrade goods? They couldn't be reasonably expected to compete with the supermarkets. The situation now is that more and more people are buying their Fairtrade goods from supermarkets, and this presents another challenge.

Some Traidcraft reps have given up their church stalls, and already some Fairtrade shops have had to close. How many more? This is an issue that needs addressing. **It is too much of a risk to leave Fairtrade solely in the hands of supermarkets.** If places like Traidcraft go to the wall, along with all their voluntary reps, so, maybe, will the education and awareness raising they do so effectively. With a few exceptions, such as the Co-op, supermarkets are not in to that kind of education.

We urge all caring people to stay on board. Do keep your parish/school Fairtrade stall going, and tell people why. Just as it was in the beginning, there will be people prepared to pay a bit more if it is explained to them the importance of keeping a Fairtrade presence in our churches...Not to forget that there is still a range of Fairtrade goods not generally in our supermarkets, such as greetings cards, jewellery etc from Traidcraft. Don't leave the future of Fairtrade in the hands of the supermarkets, who only sell Fairtrade as a very small percentage of their products. Keep the Fairtrade flag flying in our churches as a visible sign of our support for a better way of doing trade.

BE UP FOR THE CHALLENGE!

John Marshall

## INVESTING IN FAIR TRADE

From **Penny Shepherd** of the UK Social Investment Forum; Green and ethical investment has grown steadily but many people don't realise that they can make a difference even putting just part of their investments in green and ethical funds. Or they can get help from their local independent financial adviser as well as from ethical investment specialists.

It's like the time not long ago when Fairtrade tea and coffee was starting to be available through supermarkets to a much wider range of people than ever before. The challenge was to make sure they knew it was there and persuade them it was an option for everyone not just the deeply committed. FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT has played a key role in making that happen. Ethical investment is now trying to learn from its success.



The first **NATIONAL ETHICAL INVESTMENT WEEK** took place from 18-24 May this year with support from charities, churches, financial advisers and financial services companies. As in Fairtrade Fortnight, organisations and individuals up and down the country promoted green and ethical investment at the same time with the aim of having more impact together than they would individually. Visit [www.neiw.org](http://www.neiw.org) to learn how it went and to start to plan for National Ethical Investment Week 2009.

**SHARED INTEREST** INVESTING IN A FAIRER WORLD Many small producers in developing countries need capital to get started or develop their businesses, but have difficulty getting credit from commercial banks, who either will not lend or whose terms are prohibitive. **SHARED INTEREST** uses its members' investments to lend money on fair terms to farmers and craftspeople. To find out about opening an account, go to ([www.shared-interest.com](http://www.shared-interest.com)) or ring 0191 233 9100.

## HOW DO WE PICK OUR COTTON?

Whether its clothes, household linen or even shopping bags, how do we pick our cotton? As a natural fibre, cotton is cool and comfortable and is seen by most of us as eco-friendly. But how much do we really know about it?

Cotton occupies just a small percentage of the world's farmlands and yet uses 25% of all pesticides, having a huge environmental impact. Worldwide, most of the workers on cotton farms are children and as a general rule, plantation owners spray the crops while pickers are still working. In India, the cotton industry employs a large percentage of the country's 114 million strong army of child labourers who work in the fields from 6am to 6pm. Serious illnesses and death caused by pesticide poisoning are commonplace. Many parents face a double tragedy, losing a child who is the family's sole breadwinner. A recent report by Action Aid highlighted a case of a nine year old girl earning 15 rupees (18p) a day, whose wages were docked to pay for her hospital treatment after she had inhaled insecticides.

Thanks to public demand, change is beginning and the number of child cotton labourers is decreasing. Both organic and Fairtrade cotton are now available although you may have to search hard to find it. Some of the major chain stores have recently introduced Fairtrade cotton clothes. But beware!- the cotton may be Fairtrade but the clothes are probably made up by sweatshops! How else could you buy a Fairtrade T-shirt for a fiver? One major store held "reverse auctions" in Bangladesh for contracts to make clothes out of Fairtrade cotton thus ensuring the lowest wages and the worst conditions for the workers. The answer is not to boycott but to demand answers from these companies.

Sadly, Fairtrade cotton is in short supply, with most of it being bought up by big companies. Small workshops, for whom there is no Fairtrade standard, are unable to obtain it. One women's collective making cotton bags, which was set up in South India as a Tsunami relief project, has recently solved the problem by opting for organic cotton (most organic organisations such as the Soil Association also ensure workers, producers and the surrounding community are respected). The collective makes cotton bags with the customers own design/ logo ([www.vandanamu.co.uk](http://www.vandanamu.co.uk)).

There is no doubt that buying either organic or Fairtrade has a positive effect on the producers, on the environment and on the big companies. If we keep up the pressure, it will become easier to buy ethically and picking our cotton will be less of a dilemma.

**A conference entitled "Pick Your Cotton Carefully" is being held in Southampton on 25 October 2008—[www.fair-trade-southampton.org.uk](http://www.fair-trade-southampton.org.uk)**

Maria Malson



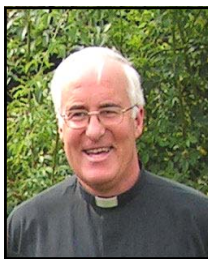
Maria Malson attended the **Trade Justice Movement Members' Day in March** on behalf of NJPN. Read her report of the day on our website: [www.justice-and-peace.org.uk](http://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk), where you can also find a link to the TJM website.

During **Fairtrade Fortnight** earlier this year, Warminster Fairtrade Group, who had been campaigning since 2004, held a party at which they presented the Mayor with a certificate from the Fairtrade Foundation confirming that all the standards required for a Fairtrade Town had been achieved. *From Michael Tansey, member of the group, who runs a Traidcraft stall at St George's RC Church in Warminster and is Deanery Rep on Clifton J&P Commission.*

**Fairtrade at Sea** An aspect of Fairtrade that we might not consider is the dangerous conditions endured by seafarers who transport the goods. The Apostleship of the Sea report that they will be working to ensure those who support seafarers are aware of new international Guidelines on the Fair Treatment of Seafarers in the Event of a Maritime Accident.

## Bishop Kevin Dunn: Justice and Peace loses a friend.

Kevin Dunn, Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle, who died in March, will be greatly missed by all in Hexham and Newcastle J&P. He was always a friend to our movement, taking a great interest in all our activities, such as our asylum work, where one week he accompanied us on the "food run", as we drove from parish to parish to collect food. At our Drop In he was very popular with asylum seekers of all faiths as he listened to their stories. Bishop Kevin was always eager to join us at our J&P Mass, as well as other solidarity and peace events.



**We were especially grateful when he agreed to come to Swanwick for the weekend to open the National J&P Conference organised by our diocese in 2006. We were all proud to have him there, he was a real asset with his easy, friendly manner and his ready smile.**

When we asked him to come with us to Edinburgh for the Make Poverty History rally, he immediately said yes. With his untimely death we, in Justice and Peace, have lost a real friend whose support and friendship will be missed by all. JM



**It's on the bag!**



*A worker from the Vandanamam collective holds one of the cotton bags made for East Anglia J&P Commission. You may just see the NJPN logo (bottom left).*

## More Contacts

### Fair Pensions

Challenging corporate abuse sponsored by our pension funds; 020 7403 7800 [www.fairpensions.org.uk](http://www.fairpensions.org.uk)

Traidcraft Meet the People Tours for a holiday with a difference: 0191 265 1110 [www.traidcraft-tours.co.uk](http://www.traidcraft-tours.co.uk)

Fairtrade Communion Wine [www.poterionfairtrade.co.uk](http://www.poterionfairtrade.co.uk)

## Newsletter Survey

Thank you to all those who completed and returned our newsletter survey. The results are still being analysed as we go to press, but we can say that most of those who responded felt that the newsletter was informative, and liked its brevity; some felt that it could "have a bit more punch" and more news from around the network; people liked the simplicity of the design but some wanted more colour and space. We will be looking at all your ideas and seeing what improvements we can make.

## JUNE

- 1 **Stop the Arms Trade Week** Contact beccie@caat.org.uk
- 2 **Lady of Burma:** Play. The Lowry Centre Studio Manchester 0870 787 5780
- 5 **World Environment Day** [www.unep.org/wed](http://www.unep.org/wed)
- 5 **World Environment Day** Notts J&P Commission event with Mike Edwards, CAFOD. 01332 293836
- 5 **Sounds of Many Waters: Saints and Sustainability** Martin Palmer exploring tales of saints who protected the environment: [www.soundsofmanywaters.org/events-jun08.html](http://www.soundsofmanywaters.org/events-jun08.html)
- 7 **Newman Association** Restorative Justice, with Charles Perryman: Wilmslow Contact Chris Quirke 0161 941 1707
- 8 **Campaign Against Arms Trade Christian Day of Prayer.** [www.caat.org.uk](http://www.caat.org.uk)
- 12 **World Day Against Child Labour**
- 14 **PaxChristi AGM** English Martyrs Parish, York. [www.paxchristi.org.uk](http://www.paxchristi.org.uk)
- 16-22 **Refugee Week** [www.refugeeweek.org.uk/events](http://www.refugeeweek.org.uk/events)
- 21 **Changing the World A Goal at a Time—How are we doing on the Millenium Development Goals?** Dr Sabrina Alkire, Oxford Poverty and Development Initiative: Derby, 01335 390226, christopher.d.harrison@btinternet.com
- 28 **Apostleship of the Sea pilgrimages:** Lindisfarn: Tony McAvoy 0771 392 4504 Aylesford Priory: Deacon Daniel Mulcahy 07963199 924
- 28 **Mount St Bernard Abbey, Leics:** pilgrimage in honour of Bl Cyprian Iwene Tansi for justice and peace and an end to racial and ethnic violence: nottinghamjp@yahoo.co.uk

## JULY

- 6 **Day for Life** [www.dayforlife.org](http://www.dayforlife.org)
- 7-9 **G8 Summit Japan** [www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk](http://www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk)
- 13 **Sea Sunday** [www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk](http://www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk) Volunteers needed for parishes
- 14-18 **UN Conference on Small Arms:** Oxfam
- 18 **Mandela's 90th birthday**
- 18-22 **NJPN Conference "Hear My People Cry"** 0207 901 4864, [www.justice-and-peace.org.uk](http://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk), email admin@justice-and-peace.org.uk

## AUGUST

- 6 & 9 **Anniversaries of first use of atomic weapons at Hiroshima and Nagasaki** [www.paxchristi.org.uk](http://www.paxchristi.org.uk) or ccnd@gn.apc.org

## SEPTEMBER

- 14 **Racial Justice Sunday:** CARJ 020 8802 8080 [www.carj.org.uk/](http://www.carj.org.uk/)
- 20 **NJPN Quarterly Meeting**, Bristol. Speaker: Tina Beattie. 020 7901 4864, [www.justice-and-peace.org.uk](http://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk)
- 21 **Global Cease Fire Day.** 020 7456 9180, [www.peaceoneday.org](http://www.peaceoneday.org)
- 25 **World Maritime Day and Stella Maris Feast Day** [www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk](http://www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk)
- 26 **Child Poverty Day.** [www.actionaid.org.uk](http://www.actionaid.org.uk)

## OCTOBER

- 3 **CAFOD Harvest Fast Day** [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk)
- 11 **Birmingham Diocese J&P Assembly**, Solihull Contact Fr Gerry Murray: 0121 744 1967 [gerard@olwayside.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:gerard@olwayside.fsnet.co.uk)
- 11-19 **AOS Sea to Sea Holy Land Trek: Sheila Bailey** 020 7012 8607
- 17 **International Day for Eradication of Poverty** [www.unmeditation.org/](http://www.unmeditation.org/)
- 18 **No Planet B? Time for Action on Climate Change** with Mark Dowd and others: nottinghamjp@yahoo.co.uk 01332 293836
- 19-26 **Week of Prayer for World Peace** 020 8968 4340
- 19-26 **One World Week** [www.oneworldweek.org](http://www.oneworldweek.org)
- 24 **United Nations Day** [www.unmediatation.org/](http://www.unmediatation.org/)
- 25 **Westminster Diocese J&P Annual Day** St John Fisher, North Harrow: 020 8888 5518
- 27-2 **Landmine Action Week** [www.landmineaction.org](http://www.landmineaction.org)

## NOVEMBER

- 11 **Remembrance Sunday** Peace Pledge Union White Poppies: 020 7424 9444
- 9-15 **Prisoners Week:** PACT [www.prisonersadvice.org.uk](http://www.prisonersadvice.org.uk)
- 16 **Prisoners Sunday:** PACT [www.prisonersadvice.org.uk](http://www.prisonersadvice.org.uk)
- 22 **NJPN Quarterly Meeting** CAFOD Offices, Brixton SW9 9TY : 020 7901 4864, [www.justice-and-peace.org.uk](http://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk)

## DECEMBER

- 1 **World Aids Day** World Health Organisation [www.who.int](http://www.who.int)
- 3 **World Migration Day** [www.catholic-ew.org.uk](http://www.catholic-ew.org.uk)
- 10 **UN Human Rights Day** [www.unmeditation.org.uk](http://www.unmeditation.org.uk)

Many of the above websites may be accessed via links from our website [www.justice-and-peace.org.uk](http://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk)

### 30 Years of Promoting Justice & Peace

#### Annual J & P Conference

The Hayes, Swanwick, Derbyshire  
18-20 July 2008

#### "Hear My People Cry"

Looking at the implications of "doing justice" where we live.

Speakers: John Battle, Sr Margaret Scott, Dr Patrick Riordan SJ, Ivanete de Araújo

Workshops: Children and Youth Activities:  
Just Fair:

[www.justice-and-peace.org.uk](http://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk)

### Pure Gold?

An exhibition exploring the impact of gold mining on communities around the world.

Runs from 21 May—1 June at the.gallery@oxo on the South Bank, London, open daily 11am-6pm. Free

The exhibition will then tour UK cities including Reading, Plymouth, Cardiff and Bristol.

Contact: [kharris@cafod.org.uk](mailto:kharris@cafod.org.uk)



Don't forget Tibet or human rights in China during the Games this summer -or when they're over.