

THIS WEEK'S EMAILS 2

Apostleship of the Sea: Award for helping seafarers access the internet

Network for Peace AGM: Huddersfield, 27 February 2010

Campaign to End Child Detention

Selection of items from Independent Catholic News

Apostleship of the Sea: Award for helping seafarers access the internet Press Release



The Apostleship of the Sea

NORTH EAST'S DIGITAL HERO TO BE HONOURED IN HOUSE OF LORDS CEREMONY

- Paul Atkinson wins £5,000 for Apostleship of the Sea for using technology to bring about social change
- He will be honoured at House of Lords ceremony
- He is in with a chance of winning £10,000 grand prize judged by Martha Lane Fox

Paul Atkinson of Apostleship of the Sea has today been announced as the North East's 'Digital Hero' in TalkTalk's Digital Heroes Awards.

He has been selected as one of twelve regional Digital Heroes to be awarded with £5,000 each to enhance their digital project. The twelve heroes have been invited to attend a House of Lords ceremony in November where an overall winner will take home a grand prize of £10,000. The winner will be decided by UK Digital Champion and dotcom entrepreneur Martha Lane Fox on November 24th.

Paul received the largest number of votes for a Digital Hero in the North East, beating two other good causes. Paul received around 1,200 votes to win. Nationally around 32,000 people voted in the awards.

Paul has developed a technology for seafarers that allows crew & officers to take laptops on board and access the internet for family contact.

"I am so very happy to have been voted the North East's Digital Hero, as I know the other local charities were incredibly deserving" said Paul. "The grant will mean that we can provide more laptops & modems to our Volunteer Ship Visitors to meet the great demand for our services. It will allow more seafarers to have access to internet communication & help greatly with their feelings of loneliness & isolation. This means the world to them & their families".

Mark Schmid from TalkTalk said: "The Digital Heroes Awards were designed to recognise and reward those who use digital technology to bring about positive social change. Over the course of the shortlisting we've seen some incredibly worthy entrants who are making a huge difference to their communities. We truly believe that the internet can change lives and we're excited to have this opportunity to help make a difference."

ENDS

Network for Peace AGM: Huddersfield, 27 February 2010

"Polling Day Plus One – Where next for the peace movement?"

How will a future Conservative government affect the peace movement?

Saturday 27 February 2010

With Professor Dave Webb (CND Vice-chair) and Lindis Percy (Campaign for the Accountability of American Bases).

Network for Peace Annual General Meeting

Friends Meeting House, Church Street, Paddock, Huddersfield, HD1 4TR.

Map: <http://tinyurl.com/ydtg2la>

The business part of the meeting will start soon after lunch around 1.30pm. Speakers session starts around 2.30pm.

All welcome whether NFP members or not. Admission free, donations welcome!

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Campaign to End Child Detention

We launched our campaign to End Child Detention on 12 October, less than 6 weeks ago. We would like to thank you for all your support as all that has been achieved would not have been possible without the support of so many people. Below is a brief summary of our campaign to date:

• Before the end of the last parliamentary session 94 MPs from across the political spectrum signed an EDM calling for an immediate end to child detention. This has been re-tabled as EDM 139

<http://edmi.parliament.uk/EDMi/EDMDetails.aspx?EDMID=39676&SESSION=903> Please write to your MP and ask him to sign.

Model letter can be found on our website www.ecdn.org

· We have initiated a parallel motion in the Scottish Parliament.

www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/business/motions/Default.aspx?motionid=17533

· More than 2,300 people have so far signed our on-line petition including hundreds of health professionals, lawyers, teachers and social workers. <http://petitions.number10.gov.uk/NoChildDetention/> - please send this link to colleagues and friends urging them to sign. If enough people call for an end to detention the government will have to listen.

· Dozens of authors including Andrea Levy, David Mitchell, Jeanette Winterson and Gillian Slovo have signed a letter to Gordon Brown, published in *The Guardian* <http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2009/oct/28/asylum-seeking-children-detention>

· We have secured leading articles in the national press (see below)

We feel this is a matter of basic human decency transcending every day politics and we are sure we will continue to secure cross-party support. The Lorek report http://www.childrensociety.org.uk/resources/documents/media/18565_full.pdf

has recently highlighted how very damaging detention is for children and young people and adds weight to the many calls for an immediate end to all child detention.

Spreading the word. . .

Please do everything you can to tell people about child detention, by blogs, tweets, & facebook; join our group end child detention now, visit our website www.ecdn.org and talk to your friends and colleagues. Please help END CHILD DETENTION NOW by spreading the word:

We're spreading the word, writing and initiating articles in the national press:

The Observer

Sunday 18 October 2009

We are shockingly complacent about locking up 2,000 children a year

The plight of the children of asylum seekers represents a sadly unexceptional failure of public conscience

By Henry Porter

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/libertycentral/2009/oct/18/henry-porter-asylum-seekers-immigration>

The Independent

Tuesday, 20 October 2009

By Esmé Madill of END CHILD DETENTION NOW:

End the inhumanity of child detention

We detain 2,000 asylum-seeking children each year in awful conditions

<http://www.independent.co.uk/opinion/commentators/esm-madill-end-the-inhumanity-of-child-detention-1805644.html>:

The Guardian

Wednesday 21 October 2009

Stop imprisoning children now

Would Phil Woolas let his children be locked up? This shameful practice of detaining families seeking asylum must stop

By Simon Parker of END CHILD DETENTION NOW

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/libertycentral/2009/oct/21/petition-against-detention-of-children>

The Times

October 27, 2009

No need to defend kids? The hell there isn't

If this column were about puppies being held in indefinite detention with no judicial oversight, my inbox would be full

By Sathnam Sanghera

http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/columnists/sathnam_sanghera/article6890949.ece

Big Issue In The North

November 2nd, 2009

Writers call on Prime Minister to halt child detention

Community Care

November 4th, 2009

Detention of asylum seeking children is abuse

By Clare Sambrook of END CHILD DETENTION NOW

www.communitycare.co.uk/blogs/social-care-experts-blog/2009/11/detention-of-asylum-seeking-ch.html

The Guardian

November 5th, 2009

Disguising the detention of children

By Henry Porter

It is difficult to think of two more sinister New Labour figures than Phil Woolas, minister for immigration, and Lady Delyth Morgan, parliamentary under-secretary for children.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/henryporter/2009/nov/05/children-asylum-home-office>

6. Selection of items from Independent Catholic News

[Aid agencies struggle to cope with refugees fleeing Burma](#)

[Ireland: Cardinal Brady 'deeply sorry and ashamed'](#)

[Dublin child abuse report: 'no words of apology sufficient'](#)

[Countdown to Hope for the Holy Land & programme](#)