

## NJPN E-Bulletin 23rd April 2023



***'While all of us in the environmental industry hope to work ourselves out of a job, there will never be a day when Earth Day is no longer needed.'***

*Evan Raskin (National Campaign Manager, Earth Day)*

Dear Friends,

What a busy weekend! As I write this, thousands of people are demonstrating in London for The Big One - not only activists, but members of the RSPB, various organisations dealing with justice and peace/climate issues, church members, religious organisations - and so the list goes on. Today's demonstrations coincide with Earth Day, and I have shared a few articles around this theme.

We have the usual articles on the Climate, Refugees and Palestine; plus this time some on the situation in Sudan. My eldest son, who is not involved at all in J & P issues, mentioned to me last weekend that he had just read a post on Reddit from somebody in Sudan, who basically said that he expected to die very soon. Some of his friends and family had died and the soldiers were closing in on where he was hiding. This really affected my son, especially as we have no idea what happened to the poor guy who posted it.

All being well, the next E-bulletin will be out around the 7th May, which will be a week before our AGM/Networking Day on the 13th May. The theme of

the day is 'Women in Prison' and we have three speakers, all with experience in the different ways in which prison affects women. It is taking place in London. and more details are on our [website](#). We would love to see as many of you there as possible.

Wishing you a good couple of weeks, and if you have anything you want shared, please do so by Friday 5th May. Thanks so much to those of you who send articles through.

Kind regards

Sharon

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**\*\*\*ACTION OF THE WEEK\*\*\***



**We are in urgent need of a Treasurer...**

**Please forgive this rather personal plea, but the National Justice and Peace Network are in need of a Treasurer or a Bookkeeper to manage our finances.**

**We are looking for someone with accountancy experience to look after the books for our organisation. You will be part of our Executive Committee and ideally be committed to justice and peace issues and our values.**

**If you cannot help, please feel free to share this to someone who can.**

*For more information, or to arrange an informal chat, please email: -*

**Kevin Burr: [trustee1@justice-and-peace.org.uk](mailto:trustee1@justice-and-peace.org.uk)**

**Thank you!**

## NEWS AND COMMENT

### 1. The Big One (includes **Actions** and **Events** on Monday)

#### **Event - Peace and Planet: CND at The Big One**

From the CND website: - *CND, alongside other peace groups in the XR Peace collective, will be supporting Extinction Rebellion's The Big One action in London taking place April 21st-24th. We will be standing up for the planet and against nuclear weapons.*

***This is the programme for Monday, April 24th.***

*XR Peace will be based near the Ministry of Defence, in the green area between Whitehall and the MoD building. Please feel free to come for parts of the day, or the whole day – as well as the workshops and performances, there will be information stalls and craft activities taking place.*

More details, including the timings from 7am, are [here](#).

Palestinian Solidarity Campaign write: *We'll be delivering a workshop on our campaign targeting Barclays bank for its complicity in Israeli apartheid as part of XR Peace's actions at the Ministry of Defence on Monday 24 April.*

Details are in the CND link above.

#### **Event - Biofuelwatch Event - this coming Monday, 24th April**

**Protecting forests,  
communities & the  
climate from Drax's  
tree burning**

Date and time

Mon, 24 Apr 2023 18:30 - 20:00 BST

Location

St Anne's Church, Soho 55  
Dean Street London W1D  
6AF



Biofuelwatch write: - *We are particularly excited to be joined by our special guest speaker Katherine Eglund, on Monday 24th April. Katherine is a human, civil, environmental and climate rights activist from the Southern US and the Chair of the Chair of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Environmental and Climate Justice Committee. We'll hear how we can help stop Drax's destruction of forests and pollution of communities around the world and discuss plans for exciting online and in-person Drax actions during the [Drax AGM in London on the 26th of April.](#)*

**Actions - If you cannot attend this weekend in person, there are other ways to be involved...**

Fairtrade Foundation write: -

1) *You don't have to travel to London to show politicians that you care about Climate Justice. Sign your [Community Declaration](#) to show your MP that local people care about communities overseas, whose lives and livelihoods are under immediate threat from climate change.*

2) *Get ready for [Great Big Green Week](#). Great Big Green Week, the UK's biggest celebration of community action on climate change, returns from 10 to 18 June. Last year hundreds of Fairtrade campaigners got involved and made sure the Fairtrade message was heard at events up and down the country.*

## **Bishops lead Christian march to The Big One climate protest outside Parliament**

Premier Christian News report : - A coalition of Christian climate campaign groups is calling on Christians to back their demands for urgent action on the climate emergency. They are joining other protestors at the Big One event in Westminster over the weekend to press for an exit from the fossil-fuel based economy.

The full article, including comments from Lord Sentamu, former Archbishop of York, and now Chair of Christian Aid, can be read [here](#).

As an addition to the above, this morning [Premier Christian News](#) have reported on Lord Sentamu's fury at not being able to hand a letter into Shell's headquarters. I was astounded by the paragraph, '*Police in the area informed Christian Climate Action- the group facilitating Lord Sentamu's visit - that they had been called by Shell in response to his entry request.*' One can only surmise as to why Shell would have called the

police for someone handing in a letter...

## 2. Climate/Environment

### **Bishop Arnold presents interfaith environment pledge to Pope Francis**

I love that this meeting went ahead. With all the division in the world between nations and religions, Greater Manchester shows that we can all work together for the good of the planet.

The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales report on the private audience that Pope Francis held on Thursday 20th April with faith and civic leaders from Greater Manchester. Bishop John Arnold gave an address to the Pope in which he told him of the work that they are doing to tackle the climate emergency, and to make a formal commitment to work together to protect the planet and to care for our brothers and sisters around the world. Read the full article through [CBCEW](#).

### **Action - Save the Bees**

#### **Overturn the decision to allow use of neonicotinoid pesticides on sugar crops**

I know various bee petitions crop up regularly. This one needs to get to 100,000 signatures to be debated in Parliament, and it would be good to support it.

The petition reads: - *Defra has re-authorized the emergency use of thiamethoxam to protect sugar beet crops from the Yellow Virus. However there is widespread evidence of harmful effects of this neonicotinoid on bees and other pollinators, and its use in the European Union is banned for this reason. Bees and other pollinators are vitally important for the UK's ecosystem, and they are already in decline. The decision needs to be reversed.*

Add your name [here](#), and share far and wide.



## **Guardians of Creation launches decarbonisation guidance**

*'Environmental stewardship in place of worship'*

Edward de Quay writes: - *The guide (link in the title above) was written with an interfaith audience in mind, and you are very welcome to share it with others. We also have a limited number of hard copies available. This is a project of the Catholic Diocese of Salford, and was produced by The University of Manchester and linked to the [Guardians of Creation Project](#) (Guidance on decarbonisation for Catholic Dioceses. More information and online link to the guidance here). It was funded through a grant from the Lottery Community Fund.*

## **Event: Saving Energy in Faith Buildings**

This workshop is being held on Tuesday 2nd May at 6.30pm at the Al-Mahdi Institute 60 Weoley Park Rd, Selly Oak, Birmingham, B29 6RB, or you can attend via Zoom.

Go to [Eventbrite](#) for more details and to register.

## **Climate Change - starting all over again**

Brian Austin from the Laudato Si' Animators writing group has shared his thoughts on their Facebook page, about the climate, and what we need to be doing about it ourselves. We all know what needs to be done, but how much do we really look at what we are buying/using. I know myself, with children and pets, and a full working week, how hard it is to make sustainable choices in my food buying, especially when it comes to packaging. Go to their [Facebook page](#), and scroll down until you get to his post dated 30 March.

*(little tip here for those who have cats: my local Pets at Home have a hopper where you can deposit your empty cat food pouches, but they must be properly clean and dry - I took in around two months' worth the other day - they will then go for recycling).*

## **The Endless War**

Virginia Bell, again from the Laudato Si' Animators, has written this very

hard-hitting article about the war that is constantly being raged - not just between nations, *but the war that we are waging with all life forms on the planet.*

Virginia writes: *The purpose of this article is to show that what we do to animals is tantamount to waging an endless and unrecognised war and, much more difficult, to show that it matters.*

You can read it [here](#).

### **Action: Stop Deep Sea Mining**

Environmental Justice Foundation writes: - *Deep-sea mining is poised to do irreversible damage to deep-sea wildlife and disturb our planet's largest carbon sink. Mining companies could be given the go-ahead to start mining as early as this year, but if we put enough pressure on governments to defend the deep, we can still stop them. We're organising a petition to the UK Government to ask them to stand up and protect our ocean - will you join us?*

You can sign their petition [here](#). Read their latest investigation into Deep Sea Mining on their [website](#).

### **We need to talk about glyphosate**

As those of you who read these e-bulletins regularly are aware, I am a big fan of [Wicked Leeks' newsletter](#). This week, Guy Singh-Watson, founder of Riverford, writes about glyphosate (known as Roundup to many of you) and the long term damage. As usual, what is just as interesting as the article, are the comments that people have posted.

### **Our gravest sin: denying clean water to millions**

I have been on a water meter for years, and so I am quite mean when it comes to using water. We have a water butt and several dustbins that I decant rain water into from the butt when it is full up. At present we have had so much rain that I have said butt, two large dustbins, and one old disconnected butt, all full to the brim with water, so my plants in tubs over the summer, and any vegetables I decide to grow, should be ok. This does also make me aware of my neighbours' usage. Last summer I was aghast

that one of my neighbours left his front lawn sprinkler on from first thing in the morning, until the next day (he went out and presumably forgot it was on). Another neighbour a couple of times a year pressure washes his driveway...WHY??? Presumably they are not on a meter, or if they are, don't worry about the bills.

This hard-hitting article written by Tahseen Jafry (Director at the Mary Robinson Centre for Climate Justice, Glasgow Caledonian University) for the Catholic Universe talks about the recent UN water conference in New York. In it she reports on the horrifying fact that less people have access to clean water now than they did 30 years ago.

You can read it through the Universe (Page 10) [here](#).

### **Vietnam: Sustainable Rice Farming**

Another positive story, this time from Vietnam, and the efforts that are being put in to reduce methane from rice cultivation by removing straw from the fields and turning it into mushrooms and organic fertilizer.

There is a very interesting video to watch through [Mill Hill Missionaries](#), which explains the process. This is all part of an initiative by international rice producers to reduce methane gases by 2030; a declaration signed by many of them including Indonesia, Bangladesh and Vietnam. Unfortunately though, the two biggest producers, India and China, have not got on board.

### **Laudato Si' Week - 21st to the 28th May**

A reminder that Laudato Si' week is only a month away. You can visit the [Laudato Si' website](#) to sign up for information; plus they are encouraging parishes to show The Letter, so that we can respond to Pope Francis' call.

### **Action - Ban Private Jets**

Greenpeace write: - *Schipol airport in Amsterdam has just announced that it intends to ban private jets.*

*A private jet flight causes about 10 times more CO2 emissions per person than a regular flight and 50 times more than the average train ride.*

Last year a staggering 90,256 private flights took off from UK airports.

Please add your name to their [petition banning private jets](#) immediately.

### **Quiz - What does climate change have to do with modern slavery and migration**

Chiara Soletti from Anti-Slavery writes: - *The climate crisis affects us all. But people in low-income countries suffer the most from the impacts of climate change. These countries experience some of the most severe climate effects, and yet have the least capacity to adapt.*

*As a result, the climate crisis can destroy the livelihoods and homes of millions of people. This is already making lots of people more vulnerable – including to exploitation, forced labour and trafficking.*

Learn more about the impacts of climate change and modern slavery by taking their [short quiz](#).

### **3. Refugees/Migrants (including Events taking place this week)**

#### **Event - Refugee Prayer Hour**

The poster features a teal background with a white line-art illustration of hands holding a heart. The text is in white and yellow. The main title 'Refugee Prayer Hour' is in large white font. Below it, the text 'Let us come together in prayer, for the needs of those who come to the UK for refuge' is in a smaller white font. The date 'Monday 24 April 23' and 'Zoom' are in white. The website 'REFUGEE-PRAYER.EVENTBRITE.CO.UK' is in white. At the bottom right, the logos for 'Glasgow Prayer Focus for Refugees' and 'WELCOME CHURCHES' are displayed in white and yellow.

**Refugee Prayer Hour**

Let us come together in prayer, for the needs of those who come to the UK for refuge

**Monday 24 April 23**  
**Zoom**

**REFUGEE-PRAYER.EVENTBRITE.CO.UK**

Glasgow Prayer Focus for Refugees **WELCOME CHURCHES**

[Book via Eventbrite here.](#)

## **Event - Napier Barracks: the inhumane reality**

In the last e-bulletin, we shared Jesuit Refugee Service's report on Napier Barracks. JRS now write: -

*The Jesuit Refugee Service UK have a special ministry to accompany, serve and advocate for asylum seekers who find themselves destitute because of government policies and those held in immigration detention. As part of this work, JRS UK worked with people placed at Napier Barracks for two years from when it was repurposed as asylum accommodation in autumn 2020. JRS UK's new report Napier Barracks: the inhumane reality gives insight into conditions in this setting and its effects upon people who have fled hostilities, abuses and life-threatening situations. You are invited to join us for the launch of the report in Our Lady Help of Christians, Catholic Church Hall in Folkestone on **Thursday 27th April at 6pm**. You are welcome to book a ticket to attend in person or online: [Napier Barracks: the inhumane reality Tickets, Thu 27 Apr 2023 at 18:00 | Eventbrite](#)*

If you missed the report last time, you can read it [here](#).

Also, Dr Sophie Cartwright reflects upon the conclusions of the report [here](#).

## **Asylum seekers to be housed on Dorset barge despite local opposition**

[The Guardian](#) have reported on the above, which has been on the news in the last couple of weeks. As the headline says, the article focusses on the views of people opposing it - some of them worried about the refugees, some worried about the impact on the town of Portland, as the asylum seekers will be free to come and go as they please.

On the other hand, [The Independent](#) appeared to have slanted their article towards the facilities that the barge has; until you reach halfway through, to this paragraph: - *The Bibby Stockholm was used to detain asylum seekers in the Netherlands in the 2000s, but was taken out of service after an undercover investigation by a Dutch newspaper uncovered mistreatment by prison officers, rapes by migrants and fire safety failings.*

*Several migrants imprisoned on ships in the Netherlands are reported to have died, including an Algerian man on the Bibby Stockholm in 2008.*

They then go on cover similar objections to those expressed in The Guardian.

#### 4. Palestine/Israel (includes Events)

##### Abū Māzen: 'This land deserves not walls but bridges to be built'

Vatican News share this conversation with the President of the State of Palestine, Mahmūd Abbās, 30 years after the Oslo Accords.

*They write: - It has been 30 years since the historic Oslo Accords were signed. A time which saw the hope of peace ignite in the land of Jesus. Many things have changed in 30 years in that land: politics, its protagonists, international scenarios, but also Israeli and Palestinian societies. The expectations of that time have not been met: after 30 years, peace still seems far away and dialogue between the parties appears to be at a standstill. It has also been nine years since Pope Francis invited Presidents Shimon Peres and Maḥmūd Abbās (Abū Māzen) to the Vatican Gardens to plant an olive tree together. In our own small way, we would like to foster a renewed dialogue, we would like to re-water that olive tree wanted by Pope Francis so that it can grow again. We would like to retrace that season of hope by giving voice to the guardians of that tree.*

Read their article [here](#).

##### Event - Nakba 75 National March



Palestine Solidarity Campaign write: - *In May of this year Palestinians will be commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Nakba, the process of ethnic cleansing, colonisation and dispossession that saw over 750,000 Palestinians driven into exile and more than 500 towns and villages wiped from the map.*

*We mark the Nakba not just as an historical event but as a continuing process of oppression enacted over the past 75 years though ongoing colonisation of land, enforcement of apartheid and military occupation.*

*The Palestinian people need our solidarity now more than ever.*

[Join the protest march and rally for Palestine taking place on Saturday 13th May 2023 in central London.](#)

### **MAP calls for urgent protection for Palestinian children**

Independent Catholic News write: - *Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) is calling for urgent and immediate action to protect children in the West Bank, after an Israeli settler shot and injured a Palestinian child outside the building of our partner, the Saraya Centre, in occupied East Jerusalem.*

You can read more of the story [here](#). MAP are also asking us to support them in contacting our MPs to call for an end to violence against Palestinians, including children. There is a link at the bottom of the article.

### **Event - Human rights in Palestine: Responsibility and Accountability**

From The Balfour Project: - *Our annual conference on Wednesday 17th May 2023 is entitled Human Rights in Palestine: Responsibility and Accountability, and is particularly timely. This year marks significant 75 year anniversaries for both Palestinians and Israelis; anniversaries set against a background of an increasingly turbulent political situation, escalating violence and continuing denial of Palestinian human rights. The right to national self-determination is crucial, and we continue to call for UK recognition of Palestine now, but as important to the lives of Palestinians under occupation is the way in which their human rights continue to be eroded by the actions of the occupying power; actions purporting to be security driven, but increasingly appearing to be designed to weaken Palestinian society, culture and cohesion and to isolate them from international contacts and support. Respect for Palestinians' human rights must not be postponed until their national rights are recognised. Our focus*

*is on highlighting international law and advocating equality now, setting to one side the form of a future political agreement (if any).*

Find out more, and book your place, through their [website](#).

## **5. News from Pact**

### **Catholic prison charity launches new social media platforms**

Pact write: *In this our 125th year of supporting prisoners and their families, we are launching two new social media channels to help us respond more directly to Pope Francis' invitation: "We have a pressing need in the Church for communication that kindles hearts, that is balm on wounds and that shines light on the journey of our brothers and sisters."*

Read more through [ICN](#).

### **“Deeply worrying” government report on weekend in prison needs urgent action, says Pact**

The Catholic Network have shared this article from Pact, in which they express their concerns *"about a new [report](#) from HM Inspectorate of Prisons which has claimed that ‘purposeful activity in prisons is the worst it has ever been.’"*

The full article is available [here](#).

## **6. Sudan**

### **Sobering analysis of current armed conflict**

Mill Hill Missionaries have shared this article, for which they write the foreword as follows: - *Three days of fighting between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) resulted in over 200 casualties, hundreds of others wounded and assaulted and extensive destruction of an already collapsed infrastructure. It is time to wake up from the trance that affected everyone post the 2021 coup and face the reality. There is no pro-democracy or pro-transition side among the parties in this conflict. It is a fight between two partners in one crime, 25 October 2021 coup, over the spoils of their crime. This is a war between two evils who both don't have the interest of this country in their hearts.*

You can read it [here](#).



## **WCC urges worldwide prayer for Sudan as conflict plunges population into critical situation**

As well as praying for Sudan, the World Council of Churches have given a report from Rev. Ibrahim Wushishi Yusuf, WCC programme executive for Peacebuilding in the African Region, who says the current priority is survival.

He says: - Aerial bombing, shelling and heavy gunfire makes it impossible for any organisation to do anything. He also reported that the airport has been completely bombed out, with water and electricity cut off for most around Khartoum.

The full report from Ref. Yusuf is available through [WCC](#).

## **US evacuates embassy staff and families, France launches rescue for 'Europeans and allies'**

[The Guardian](#) reported this morning that President Biden has evacuated US embassy staff and their families from Khartoum due to the ongoing fighting.

They go onto quote a UK government source as saying: *"Due to the increasing attacks on diplomatic missions, we will be evacuating our HMG staff as soon as feasible. It's likely any evacuation will be incredibly limited due to the small number of UK staff in the country, and British nationals should remain in a place of shelter.*

### **A Prayer for Sudan (from [Open Doors](#))**

*Father God, we lift up Sudan and pray for stability in the region.  
May those who covet power and those who seek to fight choose to walk the path of peace.  
Bring justice and healing to this divided land, we pray.  
Out of this darkness, we pray that light will come.  
We pray for a government that respects equality and religious freedom.  
May Your church in this land reflect Your humility, forgiveness and love,  
And so act as a signpost to the possibility of a different way of life.  
Bring hope for those who feel helpless,  
Healing for those who have been wounded,  
And safety for all those who feel afraid.  
Amen.*

## 7. Nigeria

### **Five year old beheaded, 33 killed in Nigeria, Christian foundation calls for action**

My heart just ached when I read the above headline. ACI Africa report on the news out of Nigeria, and the report that Christian Solidarity Worldwide have produced, in which they have *called on the international community to put pressure on the Nigerian government to end the killing of innocent civilians in the West African country.*

You can read the full details [here](#).

### **Over 50,000 Christians killed by Islamist extremists since 2009, says report**

Premier Christian News write: - *A recent study has found that upwards of 52,250 Christians have been murdered in Nigeria since the Boko Haram Insurgency began nearly fourteen years ago.*

*The investigative report entitled “Martyred Christians in Nigeria” was published by Nigeria’s persecution watchdog International Society for Civil Liberties and Rule of Law (Intersociety) earlier this month.*

More details [here](#).

## 8. Britain 'not close to being a racially just society,' two year research project finds

[The Guardian](#) reports that *'More than a third of people from ethnic and religious minorities have experienced racially motivated physical or verbal abuse, according to the biggest and most comprehensive survey of race inequality in the UK for more than a quarter of a century.'*

*Nissa Finney, professor of human geography at the University of St Andrews, who led the study, said it showed racism was “part of the daily lives” of people from ethnic minorities: “The UK is immeasurably far from being a racially just society. The kinds of inequality we see in our study would not be there if we had a really just society.”*

It makes for interesting, but disturbing reading, particularly as you tend to think that things are much better than they were some years ago.

## **9. Charities protest at government plan to further criminalise homelessness**

Westminster J & P and Caritas, through Independent Catholic News, report that *Homelessness campaigners have expressed concern at the government's proposal to replace the archaic Vagrancy Act, with legislation that could punish homeless people even more. Under the 1824 Vagrancy Act, it is a crime to sleep in a doorway or beg. Currently anyone convicted under the law faces a fine of up to £1,000 and a two-year criminal record. People who can't afford to pay fines are often sent to prison.*

*Although the government pledged to scrap the Act in 2021, since then more than 1,000 homeless people have been arrested for sleeping rough or begging. On 26 March this year, the government unveiled their new 'anti social behaviour plan' - but rather than offer support to homeless people - it consists of a raft of proposals to replace the Vagrancy Act with new powers for local authorities and the police to move, or issue more fines, to homeless people "causing nuisance."*

More details on their concerns can be read through [ICN](#).

## **10. UK Aid: UK Government is robbing Peter to pay Paul, Christian Aid warns**

Independent Catholic News reports on the Christian Aid response to the Foreign and Commonwealth Development Office's provisional statistics report on how UK aid was spent in 2022.

The report has revealed that the UK is spending more UK aid in the UK on refugee costs than in both Africa and Asia.

You can read the full article, plus there is a link to the FCDO report [here](#).

## **11. Local elections: why vote?**

At the beginning of May local elections are being held.

Brian Austin, Laudato Si' Animator, has written the following article: -

*If we care for our common home, it is important to vote in local elections, since the turn out is usually poor and therefore your vote carries more weight. We therefore have a better chance of electing councillors that will*

*make decisions for the common good, that is for the good of all, rather than for the few. Local councillors oversee the work of the council and set the strategies and priorities.*

*The main responsibilities of local councils affecting the environment are things such as housing and planning applications, roads and traffic management, parks and recreational facilities, recycling and waste management, and so on. Plus Councils can do a lot to influence businesses and residents to be greener. To find out more about what your council is responsible for, visit their own website.*

*Depending on where you live, you may be voting for different types of Council with different responsibilities, whether a Unitary Council, Metropolitan District Council, or County and District Councils, Town, Parish and Community Councils or London Borough Councils. Councillors are elected for a four-year term, and a proportion may be elected each year, every two years or every four years.*

*However, one common issue is the climate and many Councils have declared a Climate Emergency. But, of the 409 Councils about a quarter have not declared an emergency and those that have may not be doing very much about it. So, one thing we can do is look for prospective candidates that would support a Climate Emergency and pursue those policies. Has your Council declared a Climate Emergency?*

*See <https://www.climateemergency.uk/blog/list-of-councils/>*

*The most important thing is to vote, or perhaps consider standing for election yourself!*

## **12. Coronation weekend 'Big Help Out'**

**"Time is very precious, it cannot be repeated and cannot be saved for later – it is the greatest gift one can give because once given you can never get it back."**

Bishop Kenneth Nowakowski, Ukrainian Eparch

Cardinal Vincent Nichols and Bishop Kenneth Nowakowski are encouraging people to volunteer in their communities on Bank Holiday Monday of the Coronation weekend. They write: - *The Big Help Out is one of the official projects of the forthcoming Coronation Weekend and is an initiative aiming to promote, champion and showcase volunteering. Building on the volunteer phenomenon seen during the pandemic, it aims to inspire a new generation of volunteers by making it easy for everyone to recognise*

*opportunities and get involved.*

*The full details are available through the [CBCEW website](#).*

## **Actions**

### **13. Don't deregulate the banks**

*Global Justice Now writes: - This week we found out that it's not only the food corporations that have made a killing from price hikes – so have the speculators. And this makes it all the more important that we stop the government's attempts to hand these financiers even more power over our food.*

*Hedge funds have made billions of dollars of profit from the food price spikes over the last 18 months, according to new research.(1) And it gets worse. By gambling on the price of food, these speculators actually pushed up prices, fuelling inflation and making food unaffordable for millions of people.*

Read and sign their petition to Rishi Sunak [here](#).

### **14. Sanction Aviation Fuel Now**

*Burma Campaign write: - The Burmese military is using its air force to indiscriminately bomb civilians. Hundreds of people have been killed. Homes, schools, hospitals and churches have been damaged or destroyed.*

*The majority of the estimated 2,000,000 people who have been forced to flee their homes since the military coup last year have fled because of airstrikes or the threat of airstrikes.*

*Without aviation fuel the jets can't fly. If they can't fly, they can't bomb.  
[Tell the British government to sanction aviation fuel now.](#)*

## **Newsletters/Reports**

(please note that any events advertised in individual newsletters will not necessarily be also advertised in our Events section unless specifically requested by the organisation)

### **15. NW NJPN E-Bulletin mid-April 2023**

Anne O'Connor writes: The NW NJPN E Bulletin for mid-April focuses on an ongoing pilgrimage to the Holy Land with some excellent homilies from Deacon Patrick Van der Vorst who may be familiar to regular readers of Independent Catholic News for his daily Gospel in Art reflections. There are reports from Green Christian, Christian Aid, the Balfour Project, Pax Christi, Campaign Against Arms Trade and Aid to the Church in Need plus a look at Saint Pope John XXIII's encyclical *Pacem in Terris*, sadly still as relevant today.

Read it through the [NJPN website](#).

### **16. Joint Public Issues Team April 2023**

Lots of interesting articles, events, and actions. Available [here](#).

### **17. Pax Christi E-News April 2023**

I couldn't find a way to share this, but there it looks as if most of the content can be found on their [website](#).

### **18. Boaz Trust April Update**

News on what they have been involved in. [Read it here](#).

### **19. My Green Pod Magazine April 2023**

Celebrating Earth Day, with a lot of interesting articles. Download the magazine [here](#).

### **20. Safe Passage Impact Report 2022**

Download a copy of their report through the [Safe Passage website](#).

### **21. Journey to 2030 Easter 2023**

Details of their climate events and actions, and news of what they have been doing. Read it [here](#).

## **22. Christian Concern for Animals Easter 2023**

News and details of their campaigns. Available [here](#).

### **EVENTS (in chronological order where applicable)**

#### **23. 25th April - Pax Christi/CAFOD**

7pm - 8pm Webinar: 60th Anniversary of Pacem in Terris

[Details through ICN](#)

#### **24. 25th April - Campaign Against Arms Trade**

6pm - 9pm Resisting surveillance on the UK border and in our communities

#### **25. 26th April - London Mining Network**

8.30am - 10am Performance with Amanda Piña - Art Against Anglo American

#### **26. 28th April - London Mining Network**

10am - 1pm - Responses to Mining from Brazil, Chile & Peru

#### **27. 13th May - NJPN Open Meeting and AGM**

10.30am - 4pm 'Women in Prison'

#### **28. 15th May - Southern Dioceses Environment Network**

12.45pm - 2pm - Online Meeting: 'Guardians of Creation Update'

#### **29. 17th May - 2pm - 6.30pm - Balfour Project Conference**

Human Rights in Palestine: Responsibility and Accountability  
(Church House, London, and online)

#### **30. 17th May - Interfaith Reflection on Fratelli Tutti**

Monthly meetings held by the Westminster Cathedral Interfaith Group in London. Details through this article on the [ICN website](#).

#### **31. 22nd May - CAFOD**

CAFOD parliamentary reception 2023: Politics for the Common Good

**32. 23rd May - Archdiocese of Birmingham Justice and Peace Commission**

7pm - Catholic Social Teaching in our society today

*Footnote: If you are planning on coming to the NJPN Conference, this may be an interesting starter...*

**33. 24th May - 6pm - 8.30pm - PACT**

Sir Harold Hood Memorial Lecture, London

'Is there a Christian answer to the problems of the Criminal Justice System?'

**34. 2nd - 4th June - World Community for Christian Meditation (WCCM)**

Annual Conference: How the Light Enters: Contemplative Wisdom for Flourishing in our Broken World

**35. 10th June - JPIT/Church Action on Poverty/APLE collective Dignity for All Conference**

**36. 10th June - Diocese of Brentwood**

10am - 2.30pm Caritas Networking Day (for those in the Diocese of Brentwood)

**37. 11th June - Tax Justice Sunday**

Details to follow

**38. 20th June - PACT Westminster Supporters Mass and Roadshow**

Details to follow

**39. 15th July - 10am - 1.15pm - PACT**

Birmingham JustPeople Roadshow

**40. 21st - 23rd July - NJPN Annual Conference**

Sustainability? Survival or Shutdown - BOOKING IS NOW OPEN!



#### **41. 23rd - 28th July - Christians Aware Summer School**

This year we aim to raise awareness of the interconnectedness of all life on earth, and to increase our commitment to its flourishing. [More details here.](#)

#### **42. Various dates - Meditatio Centre, London**

Our friends at the Meditatio Centre London have a full programme of events (you may remember they held a workshop at the NJPN Conference last year). Check out details [here.](#)

### **Vacancies**

#### **43. Church Action on Poverty Trustees**

[More details direct from their website.](#)

#### **44. Church Action on Poverty - Your Local Pantry Development Workers**

[Again, details through their website.](#)

### **The Last Word**

#### **45. A Sex Pistol's example of true love**

I wanted to share this lovely piece from our friend Anne O'Connor, writing about the death of Nora Forster, wife of 44 years to John Lydon (aka Johnny Rotten). It is a shining example of someone who takes their marriage vows seriously. I particularly love this quote: - *"All the sadness I had to go through [when Nora became ill] is self-inflicted on myself and I'm seeing the light in it now. In an odd, weird way this is actually a gift from God, not a curse. Because it offers enormous self-reflection. And it reminds me of that famous tradition in the Lydon family, 'Don't have self-pity – all it does is arm your enemies.'"* Amen to that.

[Read it through Grace + Truth.](#)

#### **46. Leyton Orient celebrating promotion**

This made me smile: - Premier Christian News write: - *Footballers at Leyton Orient have been captured on video celebrating their recent*

*promotion by singing a worship song in their changing room.*

*The heart-warming moment was shared by 'Ballers in God' on Instagram, showing the players singing 'Old Church Basement', a popular Christian song by Maverick City Music and Elevation Worship.*

*The Instagram post says: It's not everyday that you get to see a football team singing a worship song together! Last night @leytonorientfc secured promotion and amidst their celebrations they joined together to sing 'Old Church Basement' a popular Christian song by @maverickcitymusic and @elevationworship*

*What's more important is that there is a core number of Christians in the team who have testified that God has really been moving behind the scenes throughout the season at the club!*

*Games have been won, promotion has been secured and players lives have been touched by God. Congratulations Leyton Orient.*

[You can see the video/full post through Instagram here.](#)

### **Note on Data Protection**

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### **NEWS LINKS**

#### **Independent Catholic News**

Find Justice and Peace stories at:

<http://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/justice-peace-environment>

[Sign up](#) to receive these regularly.

**Catholic Communications Network**  
Find news stories at [www.catholicnews.org.uk](http://www.catholicnews.org.uk)

Latest Zenit Headlines [here](#)

Vatican News homepage: [www.vaticannews.va](http://www.vaticannews.va)

**World Council of Churches**  
<https://www.oikoumene.org/en/>

**UK Parliament News**  
<https://www.parliament.uk/business/news/>

Follow us on Twitter: @NJandPNetwork

Follow us on Facebook: National Justice and Peace Network

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#### **About these E-BULLETINS**

The items above are emails received from around the Network which may be of interest to those involved in working for justice and peace.

The views expressed are not necessarily those of NJPN.

To **unsubscribe** from these mailings, email [ebulletin@justice-and-peace.org](mailto:ebulletin@justice-and-peace.org) with “unsubscribe” in the subject box. We also welcome your **feedback** at the same address.

**Forwarding these emails:** Please feel free to forward these emails on to your contacts – *but please remember to tell them to contact YOU if they want to unsubscribe!*

#### **Urgent Actions:**

We sometimes receive emails that need immediate action and cannot wait for the weekly bulletin. To receive these items email the same address with “**urgent actions**” in the subject box.

***If you appreciate these bulletins, help to keep them coming by donating to NJPN:***

*Send cheques payable to NJPN to: NJPN, 39 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1BX.  
Make a regular donation by **standing order**: Download standing order/membership forms from <http://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/>*

(NJPN is a registered charity no: 1114947 Company no: 5036866)

**If you shop online, you can support us at no extra cost to yourself by signing up with [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk), where lots of companies will make a donation to us when you shop online with them.**

As a small charity NJPN relies on donations from its members and friends, as well as grants for specific work or projects, if you feel you are able to make a contribution you can either:

make a bacs payment to our account: Sort code 16-31-15 account 10089516 reference Donation  
with your surname or our CAF donate  
page: <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/8130#!/DonationDetails>