



JUSTICE AND PEACE

Summer 2023

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Editor writes:

I have never been to Chelsea Flower Show but as a keen gardener love watching it on television. This year there has been a greater than ever focus on sustainability. But I can't help wondering how sustainable it actually is when big diggers move piles of earth to build hills and hollows, large quantities of concrete are poured and structures built, fully grown



trees are 'planted' and ponds and waterfalls appear - all for an effect that will only last for a week. Then the process is reversed as the gardens are dismantled to be sited permanently elsewhere or demolished altogether. I

had sympathy with 'Just Stop Oil' who protested with orange paint shouting the slogan "We can't tend the garden and ignore the world on fire". This year's NJPN Conference will help us address this issue of sustainability.

I have noticed as I prepared this Mouthpeace that many events and meetings are continuing on zoom. We can now meet face to face but do we always have the time for all the travelling involved? Even environmentally friendly train travel is now becoming harder to negotiate with the threat of strikes. So again I have included several things you can join online. Also it is noticeable how many of us are not now J & P purists but are working with other groups or agencies who share some of the same outlook and goals – sometimes ecumenical or secular. I have included their reports. This seems to be the way we have to go to survive.

Archdiocese of Liverpool J & P Commission

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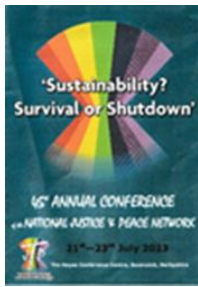
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The articles in MouthPeace are the views of the individual contributors or organisations concerned and do not necessarily reflect those of the Justice and Peace Commissions of the Dioceses of Lancaster and Liverpool .

www.lancasterfaithandjustice.co.uk

<https://jp.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/>

www.jp-shrewsburydiocese.org.uk



SUSTAINABILITY? SURVIVAL OR SHUTDOWN?

The NJPN Swanwick conference this July 21st – 23rd will address issues crucial to the common good and the well-being of creation.

Echoing the words of Pope Francis, all issues are interconnected, as well as environment and especially the impact of climate change, we must consider the need for just and peaceful conflict resolution, economic justice and stability.

More details and booking form to download <https://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/conference/>

Social Action Network: Shape the Change Saturday July 6th Croxteth Drive Liverpool L17 1AA

This partnership event between Nugent, Justice and Peace Commission and Liverpool Archdiocese brings together policy makers, workers and volunteers involved in social action, to interlink themes, make partnerships, and advocate for change.

There are **three themes**:

Asylum and Refugees: What is the current situation – practically and politically?

Cost of living: - what needs to change, and preparing for next winter?

Environment: how can we reduce carbon emissions and make our places of work and worship sustainable?

Who is it for?

Workers/volunteers who can share experiences and services with others

Those involved in a project needing to develop next steps

Agencies wanting to create better impact through partnership working

How will it run?

Series of short key note talks, followed by round table discussions.

Practical hands on workshops, on issues such as: how to set up a food bank; how faith groups can play a role in the city region planning.

Speakers include:

Julie Kashirahamwe, Refugee and Migration Programme Manager at Liverpool City ; Dr Naomi Maynard, Good Food Programme Director ; Dr Emma Gardner Head of Environment, Office of the Chief Operating Officer, Caritas Salford;

Frank Cottrell-Boyce, author and storyteller



Jennifer Rowlands Secretary Archdiocese of Liverpool Justice and Peace Commission writes:

Dear Friends,

You are invited to a networking event on the 6th July, as someone who represents one of the day's themes: asylum; cost of living; and environment. The purpose of this event is to bring together policy makers, workers and volunteers involved in social action, to interlink themes, make partnerships, and advocate for change. I anticipate high level of demand for this FREE day event, so please do book on early, and limit 1 ticket per parish.

To book now visit: <https://SocialActionNetworkingEvent.eventbrite.com>

LANCASTER SCHOOLS DARE TO DREAM!



Faith & Justice worker, Sue Grubic was delighted to return to the school family of St Columba's in Barrow to meet the growing number of Laudato Si 'champions' and take part in a day packed full of 'care of creation' activities.

Many thanks to Headteacher, Claire O'Donnell, Year 3, teacher Angela Pope and the whole of St Columba's school for making me so welcome!



Head Teacher , Catherine Mallard and the pupils of St Begh's in Whitehaven declared a 'climate emergency' in their school assembly on Earth Day 2023 and invited me to undertake a series of the Journey to 2030 'Let us Dream' workshops where pupils use their imagination to create their very own eco friendly fantasy school.

I can't wait to return to this wonderful school to see how their ideas have progressed.

Details relating to 'Let us Dream' can be found on the Ecological Conversion Group's 'Journey to 2030' website.

<https://journeyto2030.org/let-us-dream/>

For more information or if you would like your school to take part in a workshop, please contact Sue at dfjsue@gmail.com





2022 -23 Pax Christi Executive with its President Archbishop Malcolm McMahon, OP

PAX CHRISTI AGM Saturday June 17th 10.30 for 11 am – 4.30 pm

In person at Bloomsbury Baptist Church 235 Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2H 8EP and online on zoom

Register to attend in person or register apologies by emailing admin@paxchristi.org.uk

To attend online register at <https://tinyurl.com/yc38znxs/>

More details : <https://paxchristi.org.uk/>

Balfour Project webinar at 3pm on Tuesday 6th June. Pax Christi member Ann Wilson will provide an eye witness account

of what she observed as an Ecumenical Accompanier in the West Bank.

Ann (ex CAFOD employee in the Diocese of Salford and previous chaplain of Loreto College, Manchester) returned from monitoring human rights violations and breaches of international humanitarian law in East Jerusalem and other parts of the West Bank in November 2022. She spent 3 months on the EAPPI programme which is The World Council of Churches’ Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel (WCC-EAPPI). To reserve your place, follow the link here <https://balfourproject.org/wilson/>. **Please note that the webinar will not be recorded so please attend live if you want to watch it.**



Pax Christi was at ‘the Big One’ in London on 21 April

We were making the links between climate change, armed conflict and violence clear.

- Climate increases the risk of conflict exacerbating the social, economic and environmental problems that are the underlying causes.
- Countries experiencing armed conflict are more vulnerable to climate change because conflict weakens their ability to adapt.
- The use of fossil fuels in the manufacture of weapons and the waging of war contribute to climate change



Vigil for Shireen

On May 11th Pax Christi members in a silent vigil outside the Foreign Office remembered Shireen Abu Akleh, the Palestinian American journalist. On the first anniversary of the day she was shot and killed by the Israeli military, they stood in solidarity and prayer asking for #JusticeForShireen. They sent letters to James Cleverly MP, Foreign Secretary and Lord Ahmad, Minister of State for the Middle East asking them to:

- denounce the killing of Shireen Abu Akleh by the IDF and
- to demand that Israel is held to account for her death and that those responsible be brought to justice.

It is only when this has been achieved that Shireen’s family will feel that justice has been done. You can read more about Shireen and Pax Christi’s other work in Palestine/Israel on <https://paxchristi.org.uk/campaigns/israel-and-palestine/>

AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET ANDREW JACKSON, PAX CHRISTI’S NEW CEO IN LIVERPOOL and to find out more about the plans of the Liverpool Group.

Thursday 8th June 1pm for a shared lunch, with business beginning at 2pm, finishing approximately by 3.30pm

Venue: **St Michael's RC Church (Presbytery)** Horne Street off West Derby Road , Liverpool L6 5EH. Buses from City Centre 18,15,12,13 stop: just before Horne Street

Contact Jan 07591082195/ janharper1@yahoo.co.uk



75TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

15th May 2023 marked 75 years since Israel became an independent state, the realisation of a dream of many for a homeland where Jewish people could feel safe, but also an event Palestinians remember as the Nakba (Catastrophe).

Palestine's UN Ambassador Riyad Mansour said before the UN Security Council Open Debate on October 29, 2022 : "75 years after the Nakba, the Palestinian people still need to wait for their turn to be free. Every liberation movement we fought side by side with is now an independent state." <https://www.un.org/unispal/nakba75/>

Between 1947-49 over 530 Palestinian towns and villages were destroyed and millions of families fled their homes. These families expected to return but very few ever did. There are currently over 5.9 million Palestinian refugees registered with UNWRA. (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East).

The desire of Jewish communities, who had been persecuted for centuries and experienced immeasurable suffering in the 20th Century, to secure for themselves and their children a safe and free future, must be remembered. The achievement of this goal should be celebrated. Nevertheless, the Balfour Declaration stated that in achieving the aspirations of the Jewish community, “nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish Communities in Palestine”. This 75th Anniversary year we remember that realising the aspiration of the Jewish community came at great cost to another people, the Palestinians.



We asked our partners, who are predominantly Palestinian, to reflect on what this 75th anniversary means to them. We are sharing their responses in this blog series: Nakba 75 - Personal Perspectives. Their desires for their children’s safety and freedom echo in history. Our hope and prayers are for a future where all peoples of the Holy Land can live in safety and freedom.

<https://embraceme.org/blog/nakba-75-personal-perspectives-nakba-is-our-daily-reality>

The Pax Christi International Working Group toward a Just Peace in Israel and Palestine, expresses concern in this Statement, that this tragedy continues and calls on the international community to demand an end to the relentless ongoing Nakba.

<https://paxchristi.net/2023/05/15/75thanniversaryofthenakba/>

More articles about Israel/Palestine can be read in Mid April’s NW NJPN E Bulletin for mid-April and May 2023

<https://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/category/njpn-north-west/>

REFUGEE WEEK 19 -25 JUNE

For Refugee Week’s 25th anniversary we invite you to celebrate what compassion looks like in action. Together we can create a shared understanding of compassion to ensure we are extending it widely to all. “Our task must be to free ourselves – by widening our circles of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty.”- Albert Einstein



Why compassion?

The last few years have been challenging for all of us. We are still adjusting to new realities post-lockdown as well as responding to new crises. In the UK, dangerous anti-migration government rhetoric continues, along with inhumane conditions for asylum seekers.

But, none of these things happen in isolation. We know how interconnected our world is: how something seemingly “far away” impacts everyone. All of this makes us even more aware of the need to widen our circles of compassion. Within our own experiences are all the tools we need to be compassionate, not just to ourselves and those in our immediate circle but to all our human neighbours and our one shared home, planet earth.

<https://refugeeweek.org.uk/theme-of-refugee-week-2023-compassion/#>



Napier Barracks: the inhumane reality JRS UK ran an outreach service to Napier for two years from October 2020. What we saw on the ground was deeply troubling: the site was bleak and rundown, the setting was securitised, the accommodation was crowded. This all took a serious toll on mental health. The report draws from the accounts of 17 forcibly displaced people supported by JRS UK held in Napier Barracks between July and November 2022. The full report is available to download

<https://www.jrsuk.net/napier-report/>

A Radical Spirituality of Welcome: The Life and Legacy of Mother Maria Skobtsova Zoom webinar 23rd June at 7 pm

‘Seeking Sanctuary’ is organising a webinar to discuss the life and legacy of this remarkable woman. Although raised devoutly Orthodox, the death of her beloved father at the age of 14 caused her to have a lapse of faith. As a result, she spent several years as a sworn atheist and took part in the Russian revolution in 1917 before returning to the Orthodox Faith.

She next emigrated to Paris where she became a nun. Working tirelessly to welcome refugees and exiles she established houses of welcome, which after 1940 welcomed Jewish refugees. She was deported to Ravensbruck in 1943 where she died two years later. She has been proclaimed a Saint in the Orthodox Church.

Alongside her outreach work she developed a theology of the Cross which is particularly relevant to our welcome of refugees and asylum seekers. Our webinar will be facilitated by Ben Bano. from 'Seeking Sanctuary' and Brother Johannes Maertens, missionary-monk of the Monastery of the Good Shepherd and the Catholic Worker movement.

For further details please email migrantsupport@aol.com to receive a link to the webinar.

MORE FROM LANCASTER DIOCESE thanks to Sue Gubric

GREENING OF THE PARISH by 'Environmental Lead', Stephen Garsed

Our bishops have committed to a target of reducing carbon emissions to zero by 2030. It is challenging but not impossible, especially if we approach it with the hope described by Archbishop Tutu. Whilst many of the difficulties come from our buildings, that is not the whole story. The real challenge is how we live our lives as worshipping communities. We need to do things differently. The following ideas are not "add-ons", but changes to how we do things.

Parish life

Celebrate the environment in worship. There are now many wonderful hymns speaking of god's generosity and of our need to care for the world.

Hold occasional services outdoors Use festivals (e.g. a flower festival) to celebrate the local environment

Recognise the opportunities of the parish fete and similar events for promoting sustainable living.

Be sensitive to the times of public transport when planning events.

Use environmentally-friendly transport and accommodation when planning parish holidays/trips etc

Arrange for people with personal experience of the environment to speak to church groups or show quality films on the environment. Make it a sociable occasion and invite other churches to join you.

Consider environmental tasks for fund-raising challenges (including for other causes)

Use food and drink that meets the LOAF principle (Locally-sourced, Organically-grown, Animal-friendly, Fairly-traded). Use fresh seasonal foods wherever possible. Share surplus produce.

Promote "walk to church" days. Walking/cycling to church/school is "quality time" rather than wasted time. It can be family time, praying time, thinking time, relaxation time, exercise time.

Make the Care of Creation a standing item on parish meeting agendas.

Church buildings

The Diocese's Property Services Group is committed to cutting the carbon in Diocesan properties, but can't do it all, so your help is essential.

Be imaginative - look at things with fresh eyes and always start with the idea that you can do better. Ask parishioners what they would like to improve.

For the church, social centre, office and presbytery consider:

Regular monitoring of energy use.

Using low-energy bulbs, timers and thermostats to cut energy use.

Following best practice on saving water, including using water meters and automatic taps.

Harvesting the free energy that the Lord provides e.g. by installing photovoltaic panels, hot water panels, heat pumps etc. There are schemes available that cut the cost.

When cold, holding some lesser-attended services in side-chapels, the parish social centre or presbytery rather than heating the whole church.

For listed buildings looking first at simple options that may be acceptable to the conservation bodies

Church grounds

Consider the grounds as a resource rather than as a burden.

Involve local naturalists in surveying the land. It may have an environmental value.

Establish a management plan which balances church needs with environmental and educational value

If there is spare land, consider creating a "peace garden", community allotments, or a community orchard to celebrate growing and sharing.

Working with others

Talk to local parishes and other denominations who may be embarking on similar journeys and can share experiences.

Work with like-minded people outside the Church. eg Naturalists' Trusts, FOE, Greenpeace – we have much to learn and we can show that the church is responsive to current needs

Support initiatives for improving local facilities eg shops, better public transport, safer cycling, improvements to footpaths etc

Be a community that is evidently happy living simply and sustainably.

SAFER CUMBRIA

Women's Community Matters together with Churches Together in Cumbria and the Clewer Initiative hosted a '**Getting to Work on Modern Slavery in Cumbria**' event to provide bespoke training and workshop leadership.

The aim of the event was to provide help and support in identifying, reporting and caring for victims of modern slavery, human trafficking and exploitation for front line staff and the wider community who may come into contact with potential victims.

If you suspect someone is a victim of Modern Slavery or Human Trafficking, please contact the Modern Slavery Helpline and report your suspicions with as much detail as possible on 08000 121 700



Angel Advocates is a new Christian based independent and legal advocacy charity launching later this year. Advocacy builds bridges, builds community, builds trust, and builds confidence. It can change lives. Can you help us build that mission?

We are looking for volunteers and supporters across Cumbria. We would love to come and

speak to your congregation or group about advocacy and the differences it can make to the most vulnerable in society.

Be an angel? Email: info@angeladvocates.co.uk Call: 07760 987908



Do you know someone with wisdom to share about financial hardship?

The South Lakes Poverty Commission is well underway now – with a lovely group of volunteers meeting regularly in Kendal for lunch and to plan how to pool their experience ready to share with others at our launch meeting – only a few months away now, in September.

A big THANK YOU to you if you've taken part in any way, even if just by putting up a poster or telling someone else about us. That's the only way the messages get to where they need to go!

We're now doubling down on our efforts to get groups going in the Central Lakes and in Ulverston – and also to reach the groups that are not yet represented. If you know anyone living in either of these places – or any older people, young families, care leavers or carers – with experience of how lack of money can really limit our lives, especially in rural areas, we would love to hear from them. Please contact us on southlakesptc@cumbriacvs.org.uk or just give Lois a ring on 07458 058536. Thank you, Lois and Stella

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN LANCASHIRE:

Social Justice / Social Responsibility theme – partnership with public sector (May 2023)

There are many areas and issues that fall within the scope of 'social justice and social responsibility', which the church can speak in to, but maybe the church needs to first establish itself as a more fully involved and visible part of the fabric of society. By being better connected with health frameworks, local authority structures, and the diversity that is the VCFSE (voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise) sector, 'the church' would be in a position whereby its 'offer' would be more accessible, and its 'voice' heard more widely.

What does 'the church' have to offer civic society? Well, it's buildings, locations and people are a major asset for a start. There are over 600 churches across the county; many of these are in areas of deprivation – both urban and rural; many will have good facilities – kitchen, wi fi, meeting rooms; and in many, there are congregants who are willing to contribute to society. There is also a deeper contribution to the fabric of a locality, as powerfully expressed in a recent Theos report: "A local church can be an economic and relational lifeline to individuals and groups; it can be an effective convenor of local stakeholder relationships, and a powerhouse of both paid and unpaid time; it can raise passionate leaders from within the community, who have networks to understand what is really going on, and the vision to see potential where others do not. A society which embraces the role of churches as key stakeholder in cohesion discussions on this basis will be a more rounded one, more comfortable with difference, and more confident in its underlying unity." Theos report: The Church and Social Cohesion (2020) Page 26 – 27 <https://www.theosthinktank.co.uk/cmsfiles/The-Church-and-Social-Cohesion.pdf>

So, where can the 'F' of the VCFSE have a more visible presence? Since 2022, the boundaries of 'place' set by the new ICB (integrated care board for Lancashire and South Cumbria) correspond with the unitary authorities of Blackpool, Blackburn with Darwen, South Cumbria, and with the upper tier authority of Lancashire county council. There has been some reconfiguring of the VCFSE, to create regional alliances matching these new 'place partnership boards'. Meetings are now taking place in these different locations to create local alliances, and it's clear that there is a willingness to see church / faith groups more widely represented. Anyone from a church can attend these - what is important is that individuals who attend meetings are able a) to represent their organisation, and b) to report back accurately and informatively. See this link for details of the Lancashire VCFSE and how to get involved <https://www.healthierlsc.co.uk/VCFSE>

And, what might the public sector need from the church and faith sector? In the area of health and wellbeing, Lancashire is using a four-stage model: starting well, living well, ageing well, dying well; churches and church groups can certainly offer practical support through use of buildings (as outlined above), but can make a unique contribution through various forms of care – such as befriending, honest conversations about death, and bereavement support. In addition, hospitals are facing a double crisis, firstly with hospital discharges – people are ready to leave hospital, but do not have sufficient support in place to return home, and secondly with admissions to hospital of people who really need low-level support which would avoid them being hospitalised. There are opportunities for churches, or possibly groupings of churches to provide innovative solutions to these situations. Costs will be involved, but the time may be right to initiate a new contract between church and wider society.

Mike Hart and Peter Lumsden

Churches Together in Lancashire Working Group on Social Justice



"Let Justice and Peace Flow" is the theme chosen for Season of Creation 2023, the ecumenical celebration each year from September 1, World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, to October 4th, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. The prophet Amos cries out, "But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!" (Amos 5: 24), and so we are called to join the river of justice and peace, to take up climate and ecological justice, and to speak out with and for communities most impacted by climate injustice and the loss of biodiversity. Our prayers must call for justice not only for human beings, but for all

creation. In covenant with peace, we are called to repent of our ecological sins and to change our attitudes and actions.

Join the river of justice and peace: visit the Season of Creation website <https://seasonofcreation.org/>

Continued

“A mighty river” is the symbol chosen to go with this theme, representing biodiversity at risk. The urgency grows and we must make visible peace with Earth and on Earth, at the same time that justice calls us to repentance and a change of attitude and actions. When we join the river of justice and peace together with others, it creates hope instead of despair.

We are invited to join the river of justice and peace on behalf of all creation and to converge our individual identities, of name, family or faith community, in this greater movement for justice, just like tributaries come together to form a mighty river. Prophet Isaiah proclaims “Listen carefully, I am about to do a new thing, now it will spring forth; will you not be aware of it? I will even put a road in the wilderness, rivers in the desert.” (Isaiah 43: 19)

Our individual actions during the Season of Creation are important. Celebrating creation, participating in cleanups, planting trees and reducing our carbon footprint are some of the immediate actions we can take. Get ready to organize your events! St Alban’s Macclesfield J & P group have in recent years produced a varied programme during the season. They are already working with other local churches to plan this year’s programme. Could we follow their example?

WOMEN IN (and leaving) PRISONS

Marian Thompson writes:

The NJPN Networking Day on May 13th was held on zoom because of the rail strike which meant that I could attend – to get to London even by train on that day would not have been possible. The planned AGM was postponed for various reasons until the conference at Swanwick in July so we were able to concentrate on the main speakers for the day - all of whom are working with women in and coming out of prison.

Simeon Sturney is currently Prison Chaplain at Bronzefield HMP and YOI

Karen Connaughton is Catholic Chaplain at Bronzefield HMP and YOI

Deirdre Leach is a volunteer at HMP Send and co-founder of ‘Making Connections’



Simeon has a background of working first in the Probation Service then in Chaplaincy teams in the Prison Service. He has both managed teams and worked as a chaplain. At present he works as a chaplain at Bronzefield Women’s Prison offering ‘through the gate’ support. He told us that there are far fewer women than men in prison. (Government figures May 12th 2023 show 81,618, men to 3,322 women) so women’s prisons are further apart which can mean more travelling for visitors and the sense of being a long way from home for the women in prison. Bronzefield for instance is a large prison with capacity of 560 covering the whole of the south east of England including all 32 London Boroughs.

Having worked with both men and women who are in prison, Simeon suggested there were general differences. For instance if men have a conflict of interests they can lash out at each other but then make it up later. Women often hang onto feelings and emotions from long ago events that leave them feeling worthless, fearful and devalued. Women may also have more challenges and responsibilities back at home such dependent children and/or elderly parents which can cause feelings of guilt and anxiety. They are often the person who runs the home and has knowledge of helpful contacts.

Simeon works particularly with women as they leave prison. He meets them in the holding cells as they prepare to go out and listens to their concerns and anxieties about this. He then meets them outside as they are released to help them journey safely back home or to the reporting office. This can be the most crucial time as women who are unsure of their way ahead often get swept up by people who lead them back into their unsafe way of life. He felt as if he was acting like a midwife preparing women before the critical time (going out of prison) and then helping them afterwards.

He mentioned the Surrey Probation Service breakfast clubs where people can go to report to their probation officer, have some food and take the children if necessary. They are often on church premises and also have volunteers who can sit and chat. Simeon asked ‘Do you know if there are community based reporting facilities in your area?’

Karen Connaughton as Catholic Chaplain endorsed all Simeon had said. She has worked at Bronzefield for 9 years and before that worked in men’s prisons. She stressed it was an enormous privilege to serve on the ecumenical team at Bronzefield and they tried to make it the heart of the prison – a place of refuge and hospitality carrying the light and love of Jesus to women who often rejected by society as outcasts. Many of the women carried a lot of emotions as they had been victims of abuse in childhood or later in life. Many of them have mental health issues and Karen suggested prison was not the right place for them. But the court system often lacked understanding and women were sent to prison in hope of transforming them when they could be better helped with support outside. But better funding was needed to meet their needs in this way and the prison and criminal justice system was not a vote winner.

Deirdre Leach was a secondary school teacher and later a school chaplain who took up volunteering in the prison system on retirement. She was an assistant to the Chaplain at the men’s HMP Coldingley. She then moved to HMP Send, a woman’s prison, where she co-founded a scheme for helping women when they are released. HMP Send has capacity for 200 at present. It is a working prison where women learn skills that will be transferable when they leave such cooking and kitchen skills, printing and decorating, hair and beauty treatment.

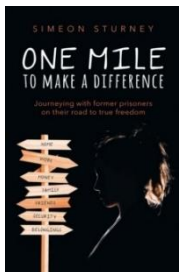
Making Connections. <https://thenazarethway.org.uk/making-connections/>

HMP Send is in Ripley, Surrey. Twelve years ago when women left Send they were taken to Woking, the nearest town with their possessions in a bin liner and were dropped at the railway station. If they had no-one to meet them, it was likely that the only

route they knew would lead them back to prison. Volunteers from 'Making connections' meet the women before their release and offer them a mentoring service. Most accept this. The volunteer mentor then gets to know them, finds out what skills they have and what issues may be bothering them about release. If possible they help them get a job to go to and offer transport on the day they leave. If a woman already has a job when she comes out of prison, her chances of success are much higher. The mentors can also offer a mobile phones to help the women keep in touch with their probation officer.

All three speakers emphasised the importance of dealing well with the critical time as women left prison and moved back into society.

Books by Simeon Sturney

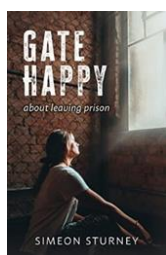


How do we help those who have chosen the wrong path in life?

We often end up supporting people who, for a variety of reasons, make poor choices resulting in a troubled life or even prison. **One Mile to Make a Difference** is to help you as you provide support and encouragement for people who want a new start.

This book is the story of three particular journeys. Simeon's own story and how he ended up as a 'through-the-gate' prison chaplain, stories of some of those women who have left prison to find a new life, and finally Jesus' example of journeying with people who appear to be going in the wrong direction, on the Emmaus Road .

It challenges us not only to look at how we can support those around but also how we can get the support we need when we, too, walk on the wrong path.



Many of the women Simeon Sturney has come across in his role as prison chaplain have lost hope, resigned themselves to a life that leaves them vulnerable. Even though they put on a show of bravado, low self-esteem, depression and anxiety are never too far away.

Gate Happy is a collection of articles highlighting the issues many people face as they leave prison. Simeon writes as an ambassador and advocate for the importance of Through The Gate support, as well as a prison chaplain and experienced Through The Gate practitioner.

THE HALF-LIFE OF SNAILS by Phillipa Holloway published May 2022 Now available in paperback

Two sisters, two nuclear power stations, one child caught in the middle...

When Helen, a self-taught prepper and single mother, leaves her young son Jack with her sister for a few days so she can visit Chernobyl's Exclusion Zone, they both know the situation will be tense. Helen opposes plans for a new power station on the coast of Ynys Mon that will take over the family's farmland, and Jennifer works for the nuclear industry and welcomes the plans for the good of the economy.

But blood is thicker than heavy water, and both want to reconnect somehow, with Jack perhaps the key to a new understanding of one another. Yet while Helen is forced to face up to childhood traumas, and her worst fears regarding nuclear disaster, during a trip that sees her caught up in political violence and trapped in Chernobyl's Exclusion Zone, Jennifer too must discover that even the smallest decision can have catastrophic and long- lasting effects, both within the nuclear industry, and within the home.

In conversation with....
Philippa Holloway
 Novelist & psycho-geographer

Discussing & reading from her powerful new novel about love, landscape & nuclear power, *The Half-Life of Snails*

Hosted by Vicki Lesley, director, *The Atom: A Love Affair*

DATE	Mon 12th June 2023
TIME	7.30-9pm
LOCATION	Online

And Jack isn't like other five-year olds...as they will both discover with devastating consequences.

The event is taking place on Zoom, on **Mon 12th June at 7.30pm UK time**. There'll be a recording made and sent out afterwards for anyone who can't join live - so it's very much open to all, whatever time zone you happen to be in.

Tickets are available now - with three tiers of 'pay what you can' prices, as I know funds are tight for many at the moment.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/nuclear-novelist-philippa-holloway-in-conversation-with-vicki-lesley-tickets-631628>



Monopoly Capitalism: What it is and how we fight it?

A new report looking the power of the gigantic corporations that dominate the global economy. The biggest corporations have captured eye-watering wealth, which far outweighs the economic power of most countries on earth. And that wealth and power is only growing. Only by reclaiming, breaking, decentralising and dispersing this power can we hope to make democratic decisions which meet the public interest, both here and around the world.

<https://www.globaljustice.org.uk/resource/monopoly-capitalism-what-is-it-and-how-do-we-fight-it/>

THE MISTAKE

An urgent new play about Hiroshima and the first atomic bomb by MICHAEL MEARS

Tuesday 12 September at the Wesley Church Centre St John Street, Chester, CH1 1DA at 7.30 pm

The dropping of the first atomic bomb is referred to on the Peace Memorial in Hiroshima as “the mistake”. Michael Mears’ compelling and profoundly moving new play, directed by Rosamunde Hutt, explores personal stories surrounding that catastrophic event.

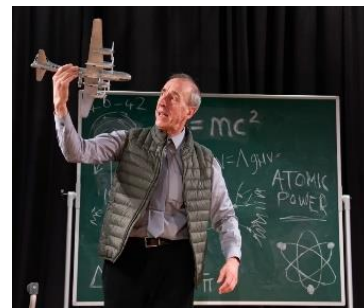


Shigeko Nomura is a young woman living in war-time Hiroshima.

Leo Szilard is a Hungarian scientist and ‘father of the atomic bomb’.

Paul Tibbets is the American pilot chosen to fly the plane that drops the bomb

At 8.15am on a Monday morning in August 1945, their three lives become fatally entangled.



AVAILABLE FOR PERFORMANCE in 2023 and beyond, the play is suitable for audiences of 15+ years. It will appeal to anyone interested in history, politics, science, ethics, morality and peace studies. We also want to perform to school and college students wherever possible.

THE MISTAKE runs at 80 minutes, with set, sound and lighting (where available). Sound effects are on Qlab, and can be played back over any theatre sound system. There are two of us travelling as performers. We do not need to bring a stage manager if the venue/festival can provide someone to operate sound and lighting from a clearly-marked prompt copy. The set consists of six items – a mobile blackboard, its frame, two suitcases, a stepladder and a tatami yoga mat – plus a number of hand-held props.

We can perform in theatre venues and studio-type spaces - but can also consider non-theatre venues where space permits. A minimum performing area of approximately 5m x 3m would be required.

Fees per performance are negotiable – but we are keen to be as flexible as possible to accommodate all budgets. Box office splits can be considered.

AUDIENCE: We want the play to move and enlighten audiences and to encourage them to think deeply about the questions raised. The response from people to the play’s opening run in Edinburgh 2022 confirmed this. For example:

‘An important story told beautifully. We were gripped, moved and enlightened.’ Elaine Russell.

‘Even though I already knew a bit about the Hiroshima bombing, I learned a great deal more from the play. It is not only enlightening but also deeply moving.’ Mary LaFrance.

‘Superbly acted by two immensely talented actors about an historical but totally topical event. It brought tears to my eyes - a ‘must see’ play where the use of limited props is ingenious.’ Chris Elliott.

CONTACT: Michael Mears thehalfitalian@aol.com 07960 981857 <https://michaelmears.org/>

REPORT ON CLIMATE CRISIS EVENT April 23rd 2023

arranged by Climate Action Marple (CAM)



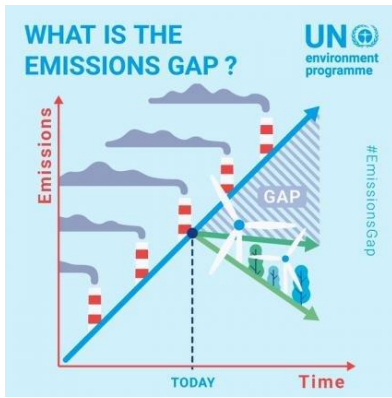
“Climate change that has already occurred will not go away – the best we can hope for is to contain global warming to 0.3° – 0.4° Celsius. The worst would be 2°-3°.”

Dr Amanda Maycock, Associate Professor in Climate Dynamics at the Priestly International Centre for Climate, Leeds university, gave this stark warning at an event highlighting the Climate Crisis. About 230 people of all ages including several schoolchildren gathered in the main hall at Marple Hall School to face the facts about global warming and the crisis we are in now. As well as the speakers there were school children’s presentations and at the end a panel made up of CAM members answering audience questions. In the refectory were a variety of stalls and a display of art from school children and members of the local art group.

Dr Maycock as the main speaker started by warning us that the Climate Emergency is NOW– not something we will have to face up to in the future. She reminded us that

1. Our planet is warming too rapidly. The earth’s atmosphere, our protective blanket is just 90 km thick (the distance from Leeds to Liverpool). It is made up of 70% Nitrogen, 20% Oxygen, 4% water vapour, .04% CO₂ (carbon dioxide), .00019% methane. These last although apparently small in quantity are the dangerous GHG (Green House Gases) as they prevent heat from escaping into space causing the earth to over heat. A diagram clearly showed that since 1850 GHGs have increased by 50% as a result of human activity – industrialisation and our general greedy use of fossil fuels like coal and gas. Dr Maycock called this the human enhanced greenhouse effect.

2. The warming is happening faster over land areas than over the sea. But the arctic area is warming fastest with implications for us all as the ice sheets melt. This melting is unprecedented in the last 100,000 years and is due to human activity.



3. The rapid warming is causing extreme weather events in many places now: heatwaves with temperatures higher by several degrees than ever recorded before; heavy rainfall leading to severe flooding; continued lack of rainfall leading to droughts; large areas of forest tinder dry and susceptible to devastating fires; bleaching of the coral reefs.

Dr Maycock explained about need to close very quickly the emissions gap. This is the gap between what we need to do and what we are actually doing to tackle climate change. It is the difference between the low level of emissions that the world needs to drop to, compared with the projected level of emissions based on countries' current commitments to decarbonization.

<https://www.unep.org/interactive/emissions-gap-report/2022/>

We need a global framework to discuss the issues and make commitments. COP's (Conference of Parties) have been meeting annually since the first COP meeting was held in Berlin, Germany in March, 1995. COP 21 meeting in Paris in 2015 produced a landmark agreement. But countries are not fulfilling their commitments. (In the panel session later a question asked as to why this was so. It was suggested that the COP meetings have been taken over by big corporates such as the oil and gas companies for whom drastic commitments are a problem- see Global Justice report page 8)

Dr Maycock suggested the whole of the global society must be transformed to take this emergency seriously.

We can: think big and be ambitious.

Talk to everyone about the crisis

Think about your town and how it can be improved

Write to your MP

Choose carefully – your lifestyle choices matter.

Believe you can make a difference.

Dr Terry Gallagher, the next speaker focused on the thawing Arctic. He is retired University Professor of Ecology at Sheffield University and lead author on several reports for the IPCC. He has visited the Arctic regularly for the past 30 years keeping in touch with the research stations there. The Arctic consists of parts of Canada, USA, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Russia. It is warming 4 times faster than anywhere else on the globe. There are only 4 million people there living a hard but sustainable lifestyle. They are now drastically affected by what we in the industrialised countries are contributing to global warming.

The changing Arctic.

The conditions there are changing faster than anywhere else on the globe as ice melts and sea levels rise.

The Arctic area is rich in resources: fishing, oil and gas and precious metals which are more readily available as the ice melts. Also new shipping routes are now open all the year round. Russia is taking advantage of this to build ports to take away the coal and other resources. All the countries in the Arctic are developing military sites.

The permafrost is melting exposing more and more soil and allowing the release of more and more CO₂. This also causes the ground to subside producing many large slump holes destroying roads and buildings.

Vegetation is changing. Between 1982-2012 the area was greening as the ice melted but now it is browning. Herbivores such as caribou and musk ox are starving and their carcasses attract more scavengers such as foxes and wolves into the area. The indigenous peoples' diet has altered and their health is affected as they rely more and more on imported processed foods.

How does this affect us?

The arctic is the fridge of planet earth. The snow and ice reflect the heat back from the earth but now the area is holding onto the heat and causing global temperature rise. Dr Gallagher concluded by saying the future of the arctic controls the future of planet earth.

School children from the area (3 primary and 3 secondary) then gave presentations. The secondary school was in touch with a school in the Arctic and had learnt first hand how the children there were living. What they said reinforced the previous lecture. The primary school was in touch with a Uganda school and we watched a short video of devastating flooding in a poor part of Kampala.

As often is the case the children led the way with enthusiasm and concern about the gravity of the crisis we all face.

The last two speakers dealt with more local and practical issues: Nick Leslie from Stockport Council Climate Action Group explained The Stockport Plan <https://www.stockport.gov.uk/our-climate-change-plan>. Jonathan Atkinson from The Carbon COOP talked on retrofitting homes to help save energy. <https://carbon.coop/>



HOW IMMINENT AND DANGEROUS IS RUNAWAY CLIMATE BREAKDOWN?

Written by Philip Kingston April 2, 2023

– Philip Kingston is a founder member of Grandparents for a Safe Earth and Christian Climate Action.

Three years ago Professor Jem Bendell's article, *Deep adaptation: a Map for Navigating Climate Tragedy* (1), challenged my belief that global warming could be contained. I now have no doubt that major earth ecosystems are already on path to temperatures which will, in due course, not sustain human life. This disturbing realisation triggers huge concern for my four grandchildren and their generation across the world.

I will refer to six areas of evidence which demonstrate that runaway warming is already happening and is irreversible:

- Record Rainfall and flooding in Pakistan (2). UNICEF has reported that the waters will take two to six months to recede with rapidly increasing numbers dying of malaria, dengue fever and acute diarrhoea. Tragically, children are more prone to these water-borne diseases.
- 19 of the 20 hottest years in the Arctic have occurred since 2000. It is three million years since the Arctic was as warm as it is now (3). The Arctic is the fastest warming part of the planet, mainly because its sea ice is no longer there to reflect back the sun's rays.
- In June 2020, Research by Carbon Brief gave a comprehensive outline of world-wide tipping points which have occurred or were in process.(4)
- In April 2021, scientists at Reading University concluded that over a third of the Antarctic ice shelf is disintegrating to a point where it will collapse into the sea, significantly raising global sea levels (5).
- CO2 parts per million in the atmosphere are now at levels which were last reached three million years ago. (6). At that time, the temperature was 2-3 degrees higher than in the pre-industrial era and sea level 15-25 metres higher than today. Atmospheric CO2, far from reducing, is continuing to rise each year.
- About 90% of CO2 emissions contribute to heating the oceans. In the tropical North Atlantic Ocean, where hurricanes generate and develop, the ocean heating supercharges these storms and exacerbates the risk of major flooding and associated damage.

Each of the 6 concerns demonstrate that the greenhouse gases which have been emitted in the last 300 years have set in motion forces which have their own momentum. The climate eco-systems which had kept global temperatures within parameters conducive to human development are now out of our control. Runaway climate breakdown is beyond any loss which human beings have previously faced so it is no surprise that the vast majority of us recoil from facing this, especially if we have children and grandchildren.

The comment at the ending of COP27 which most spoke to me was by the leader of the European Parliament's delegation, Bas Eickart. "I can only conclude that 2022 has been a lost climate year".

More than 30,000 IPCC documents which had been leaked to Unearthed Greenpeace were published these by them in the week before COP 27 as being in the public interest. (8)

It is essential to acknowledge that the current global economy is a direct cause of the ongoing increase in GHG emissions. In the 30 years since the first COP, there has been only one year when emissions fell and that was due to the 2008 global recession. In all other years there was an increase; and 2020 and 2021 saw record increases. The priority during this period has been profit rather than care of the earth and I imagine that the fetish of economic growth ensured that de-growth was not raised at COP 27. I regard Pope Francis as the most outspoken world states-person when it comes to critiquing the global economy. E.g. "Just as the commandment "Thou shalt not kill" sets a clear limit in order to safeguard the value of human life, today we also have to say "thou shalt not" to an economy of exclusion and inequality. Such an economy kills." (Joy of the Gospel).

The sooner we adults face the truth about runaway climate breakdown, the sooner we can be alongside our descendants, supporting them in developing resilience and systems of cooperation.. A worldwide study Of 10,000 young people's concerns about their future showed that 84% are worried about the climate. They report feeling anxious, afraid and powerless, and not trusting politicians to speak the truth. They expressed their longing for adults to be with them in their fears. This study challenges adults to examine whether it is our fears rather than theirs which hinder our engagement with them.

With world temperatures now on track to at least 2.4 degrees C, the predicted reality is the eventual cessation of human life on earth. I regularly need to turn to God for courage and support. When I acknowledge my helplessness, Jesus' oft-repeated "Do not be afraid" comes to mind and ease and calm replace my turmoil.

When I share my distress and helplessness with others who listen, I feel relief. I realise that I am neither mad nor alone. Something miraculous occurs: hope returns and what had seemed an inescapable pit becomes an opportunity for growth, integration and positive action, often with others. Sharing my belief in runaway climate breakdown with my children and grandchildren continues to develop and it is now as likely for them to bring new information to me as it is for me to them. At the same time I acknowledge what a hugely difficult subject this is for them to face and I therefore do my best to be ready to respond with love, truth and support.

This period of reflection has been a renewal of my faith. I believe that it is only with God's help that we will find the strength to face the enormity of what runaway means for our descendants and ourselves. For them it means acknowledging the reality of a developing climate catastrophe. For us it means facing our regrets, guilt and grief. I am currently studying Daniel Berrigan's *Whereon to Stand: The Acts of the Apostles and Ourselves*. It has much to offer with regard to what I raise here. When the first

Christians experienced the Holy Spirit, they were transformed into a community of deep faith. Facing runaway climate breakdown with its devastating social, political and economic consequences needs a similar trust in the Spirit. Such trust calls for the non-violent protest of Jesus as was shown by Martin Luther King and his associates. The British NGO Christian Climate Action, many of whose members are Catholic, expresses the same principles, as is shown by the numbers who are willing to go to prison to protect climate and environmental ecosystems.

Meanwhile to a large extent the British Catholic Church continues its centuries-old association with Christendom. It has a long way to go if it is to become a Church of meaningful service to our descendants under the leadership of the Holy Spirit. When last year, Pope Francis was asked which book he would most recommend to Catholics, his response was "The Acts of The Apostles". There is scarcely a page in Acts which doesn't include the guidance of the Holy Spirit. My impression is that Francis' call to read Acts has largely fallen on deaf ears here.

1. Jem Bendell, Deep adaptation: a Map for Navigating Climate Tragedy (the original article)

http://insight.cumbria.ac.uk/id/eprint/4166/1/Bendell_DeepAdaptation.pdf

2. <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/pakistan-flood-borne-diseases-kill-9-people-2022-09-20/>

3. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Instrumental_temperature_record

4. <https://www.carbonbrief.org/explainer-nine-tipping-points-that-could-be-triggered-by-climate-change>

5. <https://www.space.com/antarctic-ice-shelf-collapse-as-earth-warms>

6. <https://www.climate.gov/news-features/understanding-climate/climate-change-atmospheric-carbon-dioxide>

7. <https://www.nationalworld.com/news/environment/gulf-stream-collapse-uk-effects-of-climate-change-if-ocean-current-stops-and-when-it-might-happen-3337728>

8. <https://unearthed.greenpeace.org/2021/10/21/leaked-climate-lobbying-ipcc-glasgow/>

9. <https://www.bath.ac.uk/announcements/government-inaction-on-climate-change-linked-to-psychological-distress-in-young-people-new-study/>

This article is available on Christian Climate Action <https://christianclimateaction.org/blog/page/2/>

Phil writes: I recently facilitated an online workshop for 25 CCA activists on this subject. Almost without exception, they expressed relief that something that they were worried about was in the open. They had virtually no difficulty in understanding the content of the article. However, they generally had difficulty in exploring what differences, if any, it made to their actions. This seemed to relate particularly to the emotional impact of realising just how complex and difficult a time their youngest generation are heading towards. This realisation was overwhelming for many of them; and that in turn led into the subject of how they might support them in preparing for it - and of how to be alongside them in that.

If any diocese or group would like a similar 1-hour online opportunity for up to 20 participants, I will be happy to respond.



WORLD REFILL DAY is a global day of action to prevent plastic pollution and help people live with less waste. Together with our partners and supporters around the world, we're building a global movement, inspiring action and demonstrating that the world is ready for a refill and reuse revolution. On June 16th, join millions of people around the world taking action to prevent plastic pollution. <https://www.refill.org.uk/10-ways-to-refill-this-world-refill-day/>

This World Refill Day, we're launching the first '**GLOBAL REUSE SUMMIT**' **12 – 4 PM** – a free digital event for change-makers, business leaders, policy makers and innovators to learn, share and be inspired as we unite to drive the transition from single-use to reuse, and tackle the global plastic and climate crisis we currently face.

Hosted LIVE on June 16th, by City to Sea founder and award-winning campaigner and author Natalie Fée, we'll be taking you on a journey and create a shared vision of the future we want and need to see. <https://www.refill.org.uk/the-global-reuse-summit/>

Petition to remove plastic packaging from supermarket fruit and veg

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/remove-plastic-packaging-from-fruit-veg-to-stop-waste?>

We are calling for all UK supermarkets to remove plastic packaging from five top-selling fruit & veg products — potatoes, apples, bananas, carrots and onions — so we can fight the plastic problem, reduce food waste and save money.

Why is this important?

Potatoes, apples, bananas, carrots and onions are the top five most wasted fruit & veg products in UK households. Over a one-year period, it is estimated that selling these five items loose (unpackaged) would:

- Prevent an estimated 1.7 billion pieces of plastic packaging from being thrown away
- Avoid over 77,000 tonnes of food waste by allowing people to buy the exact amount they need
- Save shoppers a combined total of over £85m in uneaten food

Removing plastic packaging from these five fruit & veg products is not only a simple, effective and proven way to reduce the effects of the plastic problem, but it can also cut food waste and save us money.

Right now, the industry still argues that plastic packaging protects our food in transit, extends freshness, prevents spoilage and reduces waste. Something isn't adding up...

France has already banned 30 fruits and vegetables from being wrapped in plastic packaging. This year, Spain, Portugal and Luxembourg will join them. It's time for the UK to do the same.

Potatoes, apples, bananas, carrots and onions are often available loose in supermarkets alongside their packaged counterparts. We want them loose, and only loose.

Add your name today and call on supermarkets to increase the availability and affordability of packaging-free fruit & veg so that all of us can #ChooseLoose. You can find out more about the #ChooseLoose campaign along with our Facts and FAQs >> <http://www.chooseloose.org> Figures obtained from WRAP (Waste and Resources Action Programme) for this campaign

How it will be delivered

We'll deliver the signatures to supermarkets as evidence of public demand, and push them to accelerate the transition to packaging-free produce. This campaign is run by Everyday Plastic and City To Sea.



This is the UK' biggest ever celebration of community action to tackle climate change and protect nature. <https://greatbiggreenweek.com/?>

Some local events: Cheshire West and Chester libraries will be delivering events to celebrate community action to tackle climate change and protect nature. The aim is to help raise the profile of climate change and show why it is relevant to our community. See

individual libraries for details. <https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/libraries/library-events>

10 Walk and Talk Wild Flowers 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm Friends Meeting House, Meeting House Lane, Lancaster LA1 1TX, UK <https://wildlifewalk.co.uk/events/>

13 and 15 Conservation and Ecology Landscape Walks 10:30am – 12:30pm National Trust - Quarry Bank, Styal Road, Styal, Wilmslow, UK Booking essential <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/cheshire-greater-manchester/quarry-bank/events/829327d3-e19d-40ca-be2b-72cc16368eae>

12 – 16 JobCrypt Blockchain Sustainability Week – UK 2023 is an in person celebration taking place in Liverpool, UK of some of the great blockchain led innovation that is driving sustainability efforts around the world. This event will see 15 talks presented by numerous speakers on subjects such as Land Conservation, Regenerative Finance, Sustainable Web3 and more!

Our events will take place in Liverpool, starting promptly at 17:45 each day. For more information and tickets see <https://www.jobcrypt.com/blockchainsustainabilityweekuk2023>

15-17 Green Expo 2023 on the Riverside and Castle Drive, Chester. <https://greenexpo.uk/>

This will follow on from the highly successful first Green Expo event in held in June 2022, but bigger and better! It aims to show what has been achieved in the region on progress to Net Zero and climate change and how it will impact how we live, work and play.



Green Expo will have components for business – The Green Expo Conference with a special Inward Investment focus and Green Expo Awards Dinner on Thursday 15th June, both with accessible pricing.

A Youth Conference FREE for school and college students on Friday 16th June.

And the Green Expo Exposition, FREE for anyone to attend which will run alongside the River Dee in Chester, on Castle Drive from Thursday 15th to Saturday 17th June.

All will feature the latest sustainable technologies for powering our future homes, transport and lives. There will be demonstrations, exhibits and presentations for many leading organisations in the region, and it will offer a chance for both businesses and individuals to gain an understanding of how these technologies will impact upon their lives.

CARJ WEBINARS : The Struggle for Racial Justice: Recalling the past and discerning the future.

As a preparation for CARJ's 40th Anniversary in 2024 a series of webinars will take place from May to August 2023. The aim of these webinars is to reflect on the history of the past 75 years and attempt to discern the best ways forward for society and for the Church in the effort to bring about a more just, more equal and more cooperative society. The Webinars will take place on Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings. Each Webinar will last for an hour and a half. There will be two speakers and ample time for discussion. Yogi Sutton will Chair the Webinars. The Webinars are free. To register for one or more webinars or if you need further information, please contact the CARJ Administrator at info@carj.org.uk



See Diary for more details. A link will be sent to all who register. The Webinars will be recorded and will be available on the CARJ website until the end of August 2023.

DIARY

JUNE

- 5 World Environment Day <https://www.unep.org/events/un-day/world-environment-day-2023>
- 6 Balfour Project webinar 3pm Ann Wilson talks of her time on the West Bank see page 3
- 8 World Ocean Day <https://worldoceansday.org/>
- 8 Liverpool Pax Christi Group welcomes Andrew Jackson 1 pm St Michael's see page 3
- 16 World Refill Day Global Reuse Summit 12-4 page 12
- 10-18 Great Big Green Week <https://greatbiggreenweek.com/> see page 13 for events in Chester, Liverpool, Lancaster and Wilmslow
- 11 Tax Justice Sunday– JustMoney Movement <https://justmoney.org.uk/tax-justice-sunday-2/>
- 12 The Half-Life of Snails - In conversation with Phillipa Holloway on zoom see page 8
- 15 CARJ webinar 'Persistent inequality and Racism over the past 75 years' 7 - 8.30pm see page 13
- 15 Catholic Social Action Network on Environment: Investments as a force for good? 6.30 – 8 pm online. The Archdiocese of Liverpool has arranged this event that focuses on the relationship between investments and environment. We will be inviting speakers to explore both sides of the argument, and seek to find ways forward in this complex area. For more information and to book your place, go to Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/social-action-network-on-environment-investment-as-a-force-for-change-tickets-623646552627>
- 17 Pax Christi AGM 11- 4.30 in person and on zoom see page 3
- 18 Day for Life <http://www.dayforlife.org/>
- 18 Active Travel Festival (<https://atfest.uk/>) at Castle Square, Chester CH1 2DN.
- 19-25 Refugee Week 2023, with the theme of 'Compassion' see page 4
- 23 A Radical Spirituality of Welcome: The Life and Legacy of Mother Maria Skobtsova zoom webinar 7 pm page 4
- 29 CARJ Webinar 'Combating Racism - different approaches over the past 75 years' 7 - 8.30 pm see page 13

JULY

- 6 Liverpool Archdiocese Social Action Networking Day page 2
- 13 CWDF July Forum Meeting, 7pm at The Unity Centre.
- 21 -23 NJPN Annual Swanwick Conference Page 2
- 26 UN Day in Support for Victims of Torture <https://www.un.org/en/observances/torture-victims-day>
- 29 CARJ Webinar 'Combating racism - An Agenda for the Future for Britain' 10 - 11.30am see page 13

AUGUST

- 3 CARJ webinar 'The Church's role in the struggle for Racial Justice in the future' 7 - 8.30pm see page 13
- 6 Hiroshima Day <https://nationaltoday.com/hiroshima-day/>

SEPTEMBER

- 12 The Mistake a play at the Wesley Church Centre, 7:30pm. This play was specially written to mark the 75th anniversary of the nuclear bomb attack on Hiroshima, and is currently on tour. Page 9

EDITOR - THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING HELPFUL WEBSITES:

- ICN Independent Catholic News <https://www.indcatholicnews.com/>
- National Justice and Peace Network <https://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/>
- NW NJPN Bulletin produced by Anne O'Connor <https://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/category/njpn-north-west/>

