

The monthly e-bulletin for the North West, linked to the National Justice and Peace Network (NJPN), is produced jointly by the dioceses of Lancaster, Liverpool, Salford, Shrewsbury and Wrexham. Please send diary dates to anneoc980@hotmail.com
Download earlier bulletins at: <http://jpshrewsbury.wordpress.com/e-bulletins/>

SALFORD HAS A NEW BISHOP

Monday 8 December 2014 will be a red-letter day for the people of the diocese of Salford as Bishop John Arnold is installed as their eleventh Bishop.

John Arnold was born 61 years ago in Sheffield and attended Mylnhurst Convent School before attending Grace Dieu Manor Preparatory School and Ratcliffe College, both schools run by the Institute of Charity (Rosminians). In 1975 he graduated with a law degree from Trinity College, Oxford and completed his legal qualification by being called to the Bar in the Middle Temple in 1976 after studies at the Council of Legal Education. In the autumn of the same year he entered the novitiate of the Institute of Charity (Rosminians), taking simple vows in 1978 before beginning studies at the Gregorian University in Rome. In 1981 he transferred to the Venerable English College and continued his studies for the Diocese of Westminster, completing both a Licence and a Doctorate in Canon Law. He was ordained by Cardinal Basil Hume as a deacon in November 1982 and as a priest in July 1983. With the completion of his studies in Rome, he was appointed to Westminster Cathedral as a chaplain, with responsibilities for the Westminster Hospital in 1985.

In 1989 he was appointed as Sub Administrator of the Cathedral under Canon Oliver Kelly and subsequently under Patrick O'Donoghue, later Bishop of Lancaster. In 1993 he became parish priest of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St George in Enfield and remained there until 2001, serving also as Promoter of Justice for Cardinal Hume. In 2001 he was appointed as Chancellor and Vicar General by Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor. During this time he was primarily responsible for planning two consultations within the Diocese on spiritual renewal and forming a vision for the future, in response to Pope John Paul II's invitation in *Novo Millennio Ineunte* (At the Beginning of the New Millennium). He was appointed as an Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Westminster on 2nd February 2006, with responsibility for the pastoral care of the deaneries of Barnet, Brent, Enfield, Haringey, and Harrow.

During his appointment at the Cathedral, he assisted in the compilation of two books published by Cardinal Hume; *Light in the Lord* and *Towards a Civilisation of Love*. Having contributed to *AIDS; meeting the Community Challenge*, he published *The Quality of Mercy: a fresh look at the Sacrament of Reconciliation* in 1993

Bishop John is a member of the Bishops' Conference Department for International Affairs; and Chair of CAFOD's Board of Trustee. He is also a Trustee of Caritas Social Action Network which coordinates social action within the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

On hearing of his appointment, Bishop John said: "I accept the appointment as Bishop of Salford with much trepidation but will do all I can to serve the people, priests, and religious of the Church of this Diocese as we all seek to respond to Pope Francis' call to be 'missionary disciples'. I have much to learn in this new experience, after thirty one years of priesthood spent entirely in Westminster. On leaving Westminster I would like to give thanks for all that I have received, most especially from the three Cardinals under whom I have served and the many people from all walks of life who have encouraged me in my ministry. I am very pleased to join with so many others in offering thanks and gratitude to Bishop Terence Brain for his leadership and shepherding of the Diocese with the hope that all the good work may be progressed. And I ask for prayers, that this diocesan family may journey together with determination and vision in faith and good works. I ask your prayers."

ACTIONS FOR PEACE

Pax Christi Exec member Paul McGowan has been doing sterling work probing the Coventry Council to look at their pension investment in the arms trade, via companies such as Lockheed Martin. Paul's experience can be shared with you all.... might you want to start looking into your own local Council and how/where they invest? Paul would be happy to help and share his way of working. You can read more here <http://paxchristi.org.uk/news-and-events/members-news/> and Paul has an article in this issue of Vocation for Justice: access here <http://www.columbans.co.uk/resources/publications/vocation-for-justice-magazine/>

Paul has also provided material to encourage his MP to table this EDM on pension fund money and cluster munitions. You can see it here <http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2014-15/376> Please invite your own MP to sign and pass the information on to others. 13 MPs have come on board in first 4 days.

PRESS RELEASE: CHURCH HIERARCHY NEED TO STAND UP FOR WORKER'S RIGHTS

Writer and journalist Paul Donovan has called on the Catholic Church hierarchy to speak out for ordinary people struggling on low pay and poor conditions in the workplace. Donovan questioned how the hierarchy seem to value sanctity of life when it comes to the unborn child, the family and old age but somehow missed the link in between which is work. "Work takes up a huge amount of most people's lives, which makes it all the more baffling that the Church has so little to say about it. The way people are treated at work has implications for family life across the country and the common good generally," said Donovan.

Delivering the annual talk, titled "Dignity or Slavery - does work still work for the Common Good?" to the Salford J&P Assembly on Saturday, he outlined a scene that has seen the so called economic recovery being based on forcing people into insecure low paid work. He highlighted how there are now 1.4 million people struggling on zero hour contracts, while one million people have been forced from secure well paid jobs in the public sector into low paid insecure jobs in the private sector. Half the new jobs created since 2010 have come in the private sector.

Donovan condemned the growth of the number of people working but being paid so little that they receive benefits to make up the difference. He singled out the rise of 59% in those in work receiving housing benefit, with the cost to the tax payer going from £3.4 billion in 2010 to £5.1 billion. There are now more than one million people in work receiving housing benefit, where there were just 650,000 in 2010. "This rise has been because landlords have been free to push up rents but wages have been frozen or declined in the same period. A real case of welfare for the rich – in this case rack renting landlords," said Donovan.

The journalist asked "where is the Catholic Church in all of this? Are there not some consequences for the common good from these developments?" Donovan suggested that the hierarchy of the Church seems more at home with the bosses in the boardrooms. He went onto question why church leaders like Cardinal Vincent Nichols have regular meetings with business leaders, contributing to things like the CBI's "great business debate" and developing his own "blueprint for business," yet ignore the trade unions who represent over 6 million working people.

"The Church's social teachings on the world of work are very clear going right back to *Rerum Novarum*. The worker is alone in an unequal position against the employer, they need collective representation to counter the power inequality – this comes from trade unions," said Donovan, who did credit the Church for its championing of the living wage. "The living wage campaign shows what can be done when people act together as Church for a real social justice goal." He called for the Church hierarchy to open up a dialogue with the trade union movement in the same way as it has with business.

HOW IS CAFOD RESPONDING TO THE EBOLA CRISIS?

CAFOD Church and non-Church partners are urgently scaling up their response to the Ebola crisis, and need to reach many more people over the coming weeks. Their work includes:

- *Raising awareness:* Many communities do not have access to accurate information on Ebola, or hygiene facilities to protect themselves. Our partners are working with priests and imams to spread the word about hand-washing and safe sanitation, and to distribute hygiene kits. Religious leaders are in a unique position to bust myths and ensure that communities take the right action to prevent the spread of the disease.
- *Providing safe burials:* Ebola can spread through contact with the bodies of people who have died from the disease. CAFOD church partners and faith leaders in affected communities are best placed to work with in making sure that communities understand the stringent procedures that need to be adhered to pre and post funerals. We will be supporting partners to promote and provide safe burials in Northern Sierra Leone.
- *Supplying food:* As the spread of Ebola widens, the day to day task of buying or stocking food is becoming more challenging. Farmers have been unable to work together to harvest their crops, prices have risen, and food is becoming scarce in districts that have been quarantined. We are supporting Church partners in Liberia to provide vulnerable families with food, and plan to scale up this work into Sierra Leone.

The outbreak is affecting the rest of the health system, as resources are diverted to treat patients, leaving clinics and hospitals unable to administer general healthcare, and having to close. Our partners tell us that because of restrictions of cross border imports of produce, and members of farming communities being affected by the disease, food is becoming scarce in some places, which has led to prices increasing beyond the reach of ordinary people. The deadliest outbreak of the Ebola virus in recorded history has spread across Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea. There is uncertainty about how many people have Ebola, the ones that World Health Organisation (WHO) numbers stand at more than 10,000 people infected, this is made up of confirmed, suspected and probable cases. WHO confirm that 4,992 people across Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea have died from the Ebola virus. WHO now estimate that if rapid action is not taken to halt the spread of the virus in the coming weeks, there could be up to 10,000 infections per week.

To donate to CAFOD's Ebola crisis appeal go to: <https://cafod.secure.force.com/donate/?id=701C00000015FlxIAE>

PROTESTS AT DECISION TO END RESCUE SERVICES FOR BOAT REFUGEES

In a year which has seen more than 2,500 refugees - many fleeing ISIS - drown in the Mediterranean, news that the Foreign Office has decided to stop search and rescue operations, has been greeted with grave concern by refugee and human rights groups. Sarah Teather MP, Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Refugees, said: "This decision is deeply depressing. We would rather let people drown for nothing other than baseless political motives. It shows that when it comes to immigration, the Government has plumbed new depths of inhumanity. We cannot pretend this problem has nothing to do with us and wash our hands as people die. It is the policies we are pursuing, attempting to turn Europe into a fortress with no safe routes in, that are forcing migrants into risking their lives. We are forcing people to choose between dying in their own war torn country and drowning in the sea. While we agree to bomb ISIS and dish out weapons to other groups in the Middle East, we offer no protection to those fleeing the conflict. Instead we have to listen as Ministers claim that UK towns are "under siege" from migrants."

She added, "Last month I visited Lebanon, where nearly a quarter of the population are now refugees from the region. The hospitality I witnessed there was inspiring. How depressing that the UK's response, rather than to extend a hand of welcome, is to turn our back on the biggest refugee crisis for over half a century. We should all be ashamed."

The British Refugee Council chief executive, Maurice Wren, said: "The British government seems oblivious to the fact that the world is in the grip of the greatest refugee crisis since the Second World War. People fleeing atrocities will not stop coming if we stop throwing them life-rings; boarding a rickety boat in Libya will remain a seemingly rational decision if you're running for your life and your country is in flames. The only outcome of withdrawing help will be to witness more people needlessly and shamefully dying on Europe's doorstep. The answer isn't to build the walls of fortress Europe higher, it's to provide more safe and legal channels for people to access protection."

Philip Amaral, Jesuit Refugee Service Europe Advocacy and Communications Coordinator said: "Every day that the European Union dithers on creating safe and legal ways for protection for asylum seekers coming to Europe, more people die. These tragedies happen because the EU has failed to establish a system that enables people to come to Europe safely, legally and with dignity."

<http://www.indcatholicnews.com/news.php?viewStory=25863>

Louise Zanre, Director of Jesuit Refugee Services said: "The decision is unconscionable. It puts peoples' lives at risk – and purely because of a nonsensical idea that rescuing people at sea is in some way a pull factor. People are being forced to flee across the Mediterranean in unseaworthy boats and in overcrowded conditions. No one makes that choice if he or she does not have to. It is wrong to withdraw support for the rescue operation. And it is wrong to use these circumstances to make a cheap political point about immigration. It is almost inconceivable that 150,000 people have had to be rescued at sea in the Mediterranean, while fleeing for their lives. We should not make this a tragedy worse by refusing to rescue them."

<http://www.indcatholicnews.com/news.php?viewStory=25864>

Jesuit Refugee Service UK accompanies, serves and advocates on behalf of asylum seekers from their first arrival until they are settled satisfactorily. We especially work with detained asylum seekers and destitute asylum seekers. This work then feeds into our campaigning and lobbying activities at a local, national and international level.

For more information on JRS see: <http://www.jrsuk.net>

To make a donation see: <http://www.justgiving.com/jesuitrefugeeservice>

COULD YOUR SAVINGS BE FINANCING HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES?

Amnesty International writes: If you're with a typical high street bank, your savings could be funding the manufacture and sale of arms that cause or contribute to human rights violations. Triodos Bank is different. A charity partner of ours for over ten years - they will ensure your savings remain out of the reach of companies that believe in profits at the expense of human rights.

Amnesty has campaigned tirelessly to stop the arms trade fuelling human rights violations. For example, in 2011, with the help of supporters, we successfully campaigned against UK banks funding cluster bomb manufacturers. With the help of Triodos Bank and their customers we have had great success in changing policies and practices amongst UK banks. But many of them still have a long way to go. Triodos are asking you to consider an alternative banking solution - one that will ensure your savings are not being used to support industries or regimes that contribute to the suffering of others. Instead, your money will only be lent to organisations that have a positive social or environmental impact. Furthermore, they publish a full list of organisations that they lend to so you know exactly what your money is doing at all times. Open an account with Triodos with a deposit of £100 or more and they will donate £40 to Amnesty to help us campaign to protect human rights.

<http://www.triodos.co.uk/en/personal/amnesty-international/>

LOVE TENDERLY, ACT JUSTLY: STORIES OF HIV AND CHRISTIANITY TODAY

More than 100 clergy, HIV sector professionals and individual Christians attended 'Love Tenderly, Act Justly: Stories of HIV and Christianity Today' at St Martin's in the Fields, London on 25 October. Chairperson of Catholics for AIDS Prevention and Support (CAPS) Vincent Manning said: "the Conference was a great success. We learned about how HIV impacts on faith, and reflected upon what the Christian churches response should be. The large number of people attending shows that HIV remains a significant issue in society and in the Church, and as people of faith we have an important contribution to make".

High points included a film made especially for the conference on HIV and Christianity which featured HIV positive Christians telling their stories, and interviews with Canon Gideon Byamugisha and Fr Timothy Radcliffe, OP. Christians living with HIV shared their own experience throughout the day. Workshops were also offered by theologians and HIV professionals. The Conference ended with a service of Worship incorporating many of the themes of the day, led by Bro Johannes Maertens.

CAPS was the lead partner in this ecumenical Conference, with Changing Attitude, St Martin's in the Fields and the Terrence Higgins Trust (THT). "It was an extremely interesting conference and I hope that this is the first of many debates that will help shape the way the faith community supports those living with and affected by HIV" said Dr Rosemary Gillespie, CEO of THT.

There were a number of inspirational speakers. Referring to several "common sense" pastoral responses to HIV and AIDS in Africa from Church workers and bishops, Robert Calderisi, best-selling author of *The Trouble With Africa*, and *Earthly Mission: The Catholic Church and World Development* challenged us to question "whether we are being as clear sighted, as resourceful and as imaginative in our own responses to HIV at home. Although the numbers of those infected are smaller here, the resources and opportunities for prevention and care are so much greater" he said, "is there any excuse for the continued spread of this disease in a society as fortunate as ours? Why should people living with HIV and AIDS still have to live in the shadows, worrying about discrimination at work or in society?"

Hannah Musa recounted how after attending a CAPS 'Positive Catholics Retreat' she has been inspired to found the 'Positive Speakers' program, and give talks and education in Churches and Christian schools. Anglican Priest Rev Ijey Ajibade and Vernal Scott author of *God's Other Children* reflected on the theological significance of HIV and AIDS over the past 30 years. Bishop John Sherrington, spoke of Christ occupying the place of stigma on the Cross before us and He remains present with us today.

Cate Jacobs spoke with remarkable vulnerability about the ups and downs of living with HIV for nearly 20 years. "To be diagnosed HIV positive is to be diagnosed with the most socially unacceptable disease on the planet" she said. "Nothing evokes fear, judgement, prejudice, and therefore stigma, quite like it does. Living with HIV has pushed me to the very limits of myself, physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually ... It has stripped me of the casual certainty with which most of us travel through life and flung me out to the sharp edge between life and death into the void of the unknown. Mine is a story of loss, love and survival. Of challenges and joys, a story of transformation, for nothing has honed and shaped me quite like HIV has ... You get to drink from the well of life and taste every drop." Sharing her own journey in faith Cate said, "I was and I am, a beloved child of God ... it is my truth, and the truth does set you free".

Professor Tina Beattie summed up many of the Conference themes. Amongst them, she reflected on how people living with HIV are already the church. She spoke of the suffering body of Christ being most profoundly identifiable amongst those on the margins of society. She was careful to caution against glorifying suffering, God does not want us to suffer. However, we must constantly "... migrate to the margins where we encounter Christ, the word made flesh in the vulnerable, the marginalised and the wounded. That is where we learn to bring our interpretations, and our liturgies and our Scriptural meanings back into our spaces of worship, back into our churches, back into our old wineskins."

For further information contact Catholics for AIDS Prevention and Support info@caps-uk.org and <http://www.caps-uk.org/>

HIV AND AIDS TRAINING DAY

CAFOD staff refresh their knowledge of our work around HIV and AIDS regularly. This year, a member of our HIV Team is coming to deliver this training to staff from northern dioceses. It takes place at Tabor Retreat Centre, Fulwood, Preston on Saturday 15 November, 11am – 4pm. We are opening this up to volunteers and parish contacts who might be interested in learning more specifically around our work in this area. The content of the day will include our work around gender issues. The day will include: new stories from partners showing what CAFOD's overseas HIV and gender work 'looks like'; why we are still working on HIV - what are the latest challenges and issues related to HIV around the world - is it still as big a problem? Why we work on gender; how HIV/gender and faith are linked and building confidence in answering 'tricky' questions on HIV work and gender. Sometimes CAFOD is challenged around our work in this field and things are often wrongly assumed. As the point of call in the parishes, it's helpful to be well and accurately informed to be able to respond in a balanced way. Places need to be booked but there is no charge. Contact Rosa Tel: 01772 733310 email: rtrelfa@cafod.org.uk

TWO SIDES OF THE SAME COIN: POVERTY NORTH AND SOUTH

Joint conference with Christian Aid plus Church Action on Poverty's 2014 AGM 8 November 2014

This summer, Church Action on Poverty's Director Niall Cooper visited Christian Aid's partners in Angola, to learn about their work to tackle poverty. Niall shared some of his reflections in a blog, where he concluded: "Sitting with the dispossessed of Areia Blanca in Angola, my mind went back to a time I had spent more than 20 years ago in Silvertown, at the heart of London's Docklands; and more recently to Hulme and Ancoats on the edge of Manchester city centre... 'Development' and 'regeneration' has come at the expense of the dispossession and dismantling of low-income communities who were not judged to 'fit' with the new image the city wanted to project to the world.

These in turn are echoes of the story of Naboth's vineyard (1 Kings 21). Naboth's bad luck was that his vineyard was close to the palace of King Ahab of Samaria – and Ahab coveted his land. Naboth refused, and paid for it with his life. Yet another story of the rich dispossessing the poor of the little that they have." For Naboth, read Areia Blanca, Ancoats, Hulme or Silvertown. In the race for 'development' the poorest of the poor are, seemingly, always expendable.

In Manchester on 8 November, we'll be reflecting more on how poverty North and South are just two sides of the same coin - and how we can work together for a better world. We'll be joined by other church leaders who took part in the exchange trip, and by Christian Aid's Angolan partners. We hope you'll join us too! If you've already booked your place, we look forward to seeing you. If not, book a place now: 0161 236 9321 <http://www.church-poverty.org.uk/conference>

The day will also include our AGM and elections for CAP's Council of Management and will take place at Central Buildings, Oldham St, Manchester M1 1JQ 10am - 3.30pm.

DIRECTOR OF LIVERPOOL SCHOOL OF TROPICAL MEDICINE TO PRESENT AT VMM DINNER

Volunteer Mission Movement (VMM) will host its second annual dinner on 6 December at the Creative Campus of Liverpool Hope University. The event will feature Professor Janet Hemingway, CBE, Director of Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine who will address the ongoing health issues in Africa and what we have learned from the current crises. In addition, newly announced CEO John Denny will share his views on the organisation's impact and support to over 30 partners in Africa. John oversees offices in England, Scotland and Ireland

VMM trains and sends skilled individuals to Africa to assist in the fight against poverty. It currently coordinates more than 40 people each year to regions of Sierra Leone, Malawi, Uganda, South Sudan, Tanzania, Kenya and Zambia. VMM was founded in 1969 and has sent over 2000 individuals from England, Wales, Ireland and Scotland to vital posts throughout the world. Volunteers work in many professional capacities as community development workers, teachers, doctors, nurses, accountants, builders, mechanics and other technical as well as strategic planning posts. They help to build the capacity of over 30 partners in community and diocese development, education and health.

The 6 December event will also offer a reception beginning at 4pm for mission and development volunteers and groups. This will be a chance to meet similar groups throughout Liverpool and the Northwest. The dinner will begin at 6.30pm. For more information, contact England & Wales Manager Van Garber on 0151 291 3438 or email vmv@hope.ac.uk

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS VIDEO GOES VIRAL

A video by a Dumfries and Galloway woman aimed at raising awareness of mental health has been viewed online nearly hundreds of thousands of times in just a few days. Chloe Kacedan from Lochmaben says she had no idea the video would be seen all over the world and hopes it inspires other sufferers. Watch the video at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SA1DLP_vJes

Read Chloe's story which was featured in the Dumfries and Galloway Weekly Newsletter: <http://www.dgwgo.com/dgwgo-friday-focus/dgwgo-friday-focus-chloe-kacedan-quest-stop-stigma-mental-illness/>

Chloe writes: "I want to stop the stigma attached to Mental Illness. I want people who are experiencing such problems to have the security to come forward and speak about their feelings. I want to stop people feeling ashamed and embarrassed about something that is so common within today's society. I want people to know that they are not alone. That they do not have to suffer in silence. That there is always a way out. Thus I have decided to form a local support group for those that wish to come along and see how many different types of people endure the same or similar battles. I want to allow people the opportunity to meet others within the community who face the same dilemma. The fear of speaking out. Together I truly believe that we can rise against the stigma that has been created surrounding mental health. The group will be informal and anyone is welcome to come along. People do not have to speak if they do not wish to do so. This group is for the people of Dumfries and Galloway. For those that have suffered, or may know of someone who is fighting a secret battle against this epidemic. It will give people the opportunity to meet others whom they wouldn't normally get a chance to speak to."

DIVERSE UK CHILDREN'S BOOKS RECOGNISED

Writers Malorie Blackman and Marjane Satrapi are among 50 books recognised by reading charity Seven Stories for their cultural diversity. Also on the Diverse Voices list are Rastamouse creator Michael De Souza and poet Benjamin Zephaniah. Published in 2005, *Rastamouse and the Crucial Plan* has since gone on to be adapted for television on CBeebies.

The titles, all published after 1950, were chosen by a panel of judges. "Britain's rich and diverse cultural heritage is something to be celebrated and championed," said Seven Stories chief executive Kate Edwards. She added: "Children's books shape our earliest perceptions of the world and its cultures, building understanding, empathy and tolerance. Despite this there is still a lack of representation of children from different cultural backgrounds – especially as main characters. By drawing attention to some best loved and well crafted children's books, our Diverse Voices season will curate an exciting and diverse list of books that will help to inform the choices of librarians, teachers, booksellers and readers when they pick books to recommend, stock, read and enjoy."

Children's Laureate Blackman has two works listed, *Betsey Biggalow* in the young readers, five-plus category and *Noughts and Crosses* in the teenage readers, 13-plus. Iranian-born Satrapi's autobiographical graphic novels *Persepolis 1* and *2*, tell of her childhood and life as a young adult following the Iranian Islamic Revolution. The books were made into a film which was nominated for best animated feature at the 2007 Academy Awards. The list includes picture books, novels and biographies such as *The Life of Stephen Lawrence* by Verna Allette Wilkins. Screenwriter and novelist Frank Cottrell Boyce has been included for *The Unforgotten Coat* - the story of two Mongolian refugee brothers living in Liverpool - which won the 2012 Guardian Children's Fiction Prize.

Seven Stories was founded in 1996 to celebrate children's literature and was named as the national centre for children's books in 2012. Debbie Beeks, the learning manager at Seven Stories said: "These books offer a rich world to inhabit, enjoy and explore. "I hope the children, carers and educators are inspired to get hold of these books, try some of the ideas in the resources and experience for themselves the art in this collection of stunning books."

The full list can be seen at the Seven Stories website <http://www.sevenstories.org.uk/news/latestnews/diverse-voice-top-50>

'BRITISH SCHLINDLER' RECEIVES HONOUR FROM CZECH PRESIDENT

A British man who saved 669 children, most of them Jews, from the Nazis has been awarded the Czech Republic's highest state honour. Sir Nicholas Winton was 29 when he arranged trains to take the children out of occupied Czechoslovakia and for foster families to meet them in London. The 105-year-old was given the Order of the White Lion by the Czech president during a ceremony at Prague Castle.

In a speech, he thanked the British people who gave the children homes. He said: "I want to thank you all for this enormous expression of thanks for something which happened to me nearly 100 years ago. I am delighted that so many of the children are still about and are here to thank me." He continued: "I thank the British people for making room for them, to accept them, and of course the enormous help given by so many of the Czechs who were at that time doing what they could to fight the Germans and to try to get the children out."

The remarkable mission of the man dubbed the "British Schindler" came to light only in the late 1980s when his wife found a scrapbook. It began in 1938 after the Nazi occupation of the Sudetenland, the name for areas of pre-war Czechoslovakia. Winton visited refugee camps outside Prague and decided to help children secure British permits in the same way children from other countries had been rescued by "kindertransports". At the time he was a stockbroker in London, and being from a German Jewish family he said he was well aware of the urgency of the situation. "I knew better than most, and certainly better than the politicians, what was going on in Germany," he said.

He organised a total of eight trains from Prague to London and helped to find foster families for the refugees. He said he was aware that many children would have died if it had not been for his actions, but added: "That's what was happening all over Europe." A ninth train - the largest, carrying 250 children - was prevented from leaving by the outbreak of World War Two. None of those children is believed to have survived. His efforts have been likened to the work of German businessman Oskar Schindler, whose saving of Jews was dramatised in the film *Schindler's List*.

When asked what he made of today's world, Sir Nicholas responded: "I don't think we've ever learnt from the mistakes of the past ... the world today is now in a more dangerous situation than it has ever been and so long as you've got weapons of mass destruction which can finish off any conflict, nothing is safe anymore."

LANCASHIRE CHURCH LEADERS MAKE SOCIAL JUSTICE PLEDGE

On 14 October church leaders from across Lancashire renewed their covenant with each other by signing a pledge of support for social action and social justice.

The pledge states:

"We, the leaders of the Churches in Lancashire, renew our covenant together and pledge our support for the many excellent faith-based social action projects around the county. We will seek to listen to and prioritise the voices of poor and marginalised people in our communities. We call on policymakers to tackle the problems of poverty and hunger, through measures such as a Living Wage and review of zero-hours contracts, and to ensure that the welfare state once again provides a robust defence against destitution."

MAKATON SIGNING COURSE

A short Makaton Signing Course, learning to sign to the Advent Hymn 'Whilst shepherds watched their flocks by night' is being offered by the Methodist Churches of Much Wenlock, Broseley and Bridgnorth. The sessions are every Thursday in November, starting at 10.30am. The course is free and everyone is welcome: Contact Rev'd Gabrielle at 01746 763069.

6 & 27 November – UR and Methodist Church, Cartway in Bridgnorth; **13 November** Methodist Chapel, Much Wenlock; **20 November** Broseley Methodist Church.

NEW GAP PROGRAMME FOR ADULTS

Richard Owens writes: This programme is based in a Catholic Mission parish in Malawi and is not just for traditional gap year ages ... in fact doesn't have an upper age limit! We know that short overseas visits can sometimes have a bad reputation and that is why we are careful to underpin with our long term health education and community development programme applied consistently across the parish's multiple outstations. We also know that visits to the developing world can change the gappers themselves for the better and cement the bonds of solidarity across the world and our church. Perhaps you may come across someone or could promote it. <http://www.n4bw.org.uk/bessies-place.html>

IONA PILGRIMAGE

.... also here's some information about an Iona Pilgrimage I'm running next year (bookings by December 2014) reflecting on the connections between the ancient and modern missionaries <http://www.enkindle.pro/travel.html> More info on both these items: Richard Owens, *enkindle* training & consulting, Office 16, 37-39 Shakespeare Street, Southport. PR8 5AB, Tel:01704 335099 mob: 0785 275 0082 email:richard@enkindle.pro web: www.enkindle.pro

RESOURCES

NEW FORCESWATCH PUBLICATIONS

Spectacle, Reality, Resistance: Confronting a culture of militarism by David Gee, published by Forceswatch, 148pp £7 available from <http://www.forceswatch.net/content/spectacle-reality-resistance>

At a comfortable distance from warfare, our culture easily passes over its horrific reality in favour of an appealing, even romantic, spectacle of war. Yet, over the last decade, most Britons have opposed Western military ventures abroad. This book takes a fresh look at a culture of militarism in Britain, public resistance to it, and the government's increasingly prodigious efforts to regain control of the story we tell ourselves about war.

Army Recruitment: Comparative cost-effectiveness of recruiting from age 16 versus age 18

This paper, published by Child Soldiers International and ForcesWatch in September 2014, finds that approximately £50 million would be saved annually if the minimum age of recruitment were raised to 18. It argues for a full, independent review of the policy of recruiting under-18s, with a view to phasing it out as an unnecessary, cost-ineffective, and fundamentally unethical practice. See more on our campaign to raise the age of recruitment

http://www.forceswatch.net/projects/details?quicktabs_3=0#quicktabs-3

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES ON DECEMBER 1914 CHRISTMAS TRUCES

New resource pack helps teachers mark WW1 centenary in their 2014-17 Christmas programmes. As the UK commences four years of commemorations of the centenary of World War 1, the Martin Luther King Peace Committee has released a set of resources to help schoolteachers mark the December 1914 Christmas Truces as part of their World War 1 teaching. The resources are intended to be used in the half terms before Christmases from 2014 until 2017. The pack contains lesson plans, hand-outs, worksheets and PowerPoint slideshows for a range of subjects. It also contains complete outlines and materials for Christmas Truces-themed assemblies and school carol services.

All resources can be downloaded for free at www.mlkpc.org

RESOURCES FROM THE IONA COMMUNITY

Glimpsed in Passing - Poems from Iona Community member Joy Mead. They come from the beauty of the glimpsed moment ... a precious jewel held for a short time amid the pain and sorrow of the world, then let go into the bigger picture. As in her other books, Joy manages to capture in words the essence of life that is often overlooked in our stressful world. The small things, the unnoticed configurations of beauty and acts of kindness and hope.

<http://www.ionabooks.com/glimpsed-in-passing.html>

Plus a wealth of resources for Advent http://www.ionabooks.com/newsletters/email_lateOctober2014.html

FIRST EDITION OF SPARKLE NOW AVAILABLE

Liam Purcell writes: Here at Church Action on Poverty we're delighted to launch the first issue of *SPARKLE* - a simple news sheet which collates some recent updates from our work. It's easy for you to print it on a single sheet of A4 paper, so you can display it in church or share it with groups. The first issue contains articles about the Scottish referendum and the benefits debate, news of a new local group, reflections from an exchange with Angola, and prayers for Church Action on Poverty Sunday. We hope you'll find it useful - please share it with your church or community if you can!

<http://www.church-poverty.org.uk/sparkle/oct14>

2015 HOUSMANS PEACE DIARY

2015 Housmans Peace Diary with dates, anniversaries and quotes, feature article *A Century of Women Resisting War* and the founding of Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the Women's Peace Crusade and 'The Peace Ship'. Order by post (cheque made payable to Network for Peace) for £10.45. Network for Peace, 5 Caledonian Road, London, N1 9DY 07794 036602 mail@networkforpeace.org.uk web: www.networkforpeace.org.uk

Multiple orders to sell available from Housmans Bookshop <http://www.housmans.com/diary.php>

PEACE SUNDAY 18 JANUARY 2015

Resources for celebrating Peace Sunday available mid-November. <http://paxchristi.org.uk/news-and-events/peace-sunday/>

JUSTICE AND PEACE CALENDAR

9 November Remembrance Sunday

Annual Remembrance Day Lecture 3pm *Who will sing the anthem? Who will tell the story?* given by Michael Morpurgo at the Imperial War Museum in London.

<http://www.iwm.org.uk/events/iwm-london/michael-morpurgo-who-will-sing-the-anthem-who-will-tell-the-story>

Each year more and more people choose to wear the white poppy - as a respectful way to put peace at the heart of remembering those who died in war. This year, 100 years on from 1914, is a fitting time to spread the white poppy as widely as possible. Here's what you can do:

- **Wear a white poppy yourself.** It will probably trigger conversations with colleagues and strangers - a powerful way to get the message out there. Some may choose to wear both red and white poppies.
- **Buy white poppies** to share with others.
- **Spread the word.** Tell others how to find out more and buy white poppies for themselves.
- **Send us a Selfie** of yourself with your white poppy for a gallery on the No Glory website. Send to info@noglory.org.

Buy white poppies here: <http://noglory.org/index.php/resources/333-wear-a-white-popy-share-with-others-spread-the-word>

Resources: <http://paxchristi.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/Approaches-to-Remembrance-and.pdf>

Homilies/talks/ideas/posters: <http://paxchristi.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/Approaches-to-Remembrance-and.pdf>

16-22 November Prisons Week *Building Hope*

Everyone needs a few words of encouragement. We grow stronger, we see things more clearly, and we achieve more. Justice surely hopes that there will be a sense of healing, a chance to see things differently, and a new future for all those affected by crime and imprisonment. To achieve this we need each other, and in particular we need each other's words of encouragement. This Prisons Week let us pray for all those affected by prison, that we may build a sense of hope in each other that life will in some measure be restored.

www.prisonweek.org/

Yellow Ribbon UK & Prison Week

Yellow Ribbon UK <http://www.yellowribbonuk.org.uk/> is a charity working with ex offenders and we are looking to recruit mentors who will volunteer to talk with clients who just need a helping hand to get their lives back on track. If you can give the time and have the ability to mentor please contact Rita Wilkinson 01952 878592. Free training is provided.

16-22 November Inter-Faith Week

In Britain today, people of many different backgrounds live side by side as part of a shared society. Inter Faith Week is an opportunity to discuss and debate how we 'live well together' and to celebrate the distinctive contributions that faith communities bring to the wellbeing of our shared society, both in Britain and globally.

Inter Faith Week:

- **Highlights** the good work done by local faith, inter faith and faith-based groups and organisations
- **Draws** new people into inter faith learning and cooperation
- **Enables** greater interaction between people of different backgrounds
- **Helps** develop integrated and neighbourly communities
- **Celebrates** diversity and commonality
- **Opens** new possibilities for partnership

<http://www.interfaithweek.org/>

17-21 November National Anti-Bullying Week *Let's Stop Bullying For All*

Bullying can lead to children missing school, failing exams, dropping out of sport, staying away from extra-curricular activities, and limiting their life choices. A wide range of resources for Primary and Secondary School ages to combat bullying is available from: <http://www.antibullyingweek.co.uk/>

25 November International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

Violence against women is a human rights violation. Violence against women is a consequence of discrimination against women, in law and also in practice, and of persisting inequalities between men and women. Violence against women impacts on, and impedes, progress in many areas, including poverty eradication, combating HIV/AIDS, and peace and security. Violence against women and girls is not inevitable. Prevention is possible and essential. Violence against women continues to be a global pandemic. Up to 70 per cent of women experience violence in their lifetime.

<http://www.un.org/en/events/endviolenceday/>

29 November Buy Nothing Day

Saturday 29 November is Buy Nothing Day (UK). It's a day where you challenge yourself, your family and friends to switch off from shopping and tune into life. The rules are simple, for 24 hours you will detox from shopping and anyone can take part provided they spend a day without spending!

Everything we buy has an impact on the environment. Buy Nothing Day highlights the environmental and ethical consequences of consumerism. The developed countries - only 20% of the world population are consuming over 80% of the earth's natural resources, causing a disproportionate level of environmental damage, and an unfair distribution of wealth.

www.buynothingday.co.uk

In the last century a tourist from America paid a visit to a renowned Polish rabbi, Hofetz Chaim.

He was astonished to see that the rabbi's home was only a simple room filled with books, plus a table and a bench.

'Rabbi,' asked the tourist, 'where is your furniture?'

'Where is yours?' replied Hofetz Chaim.

'Mine?' asked the puzzled American. 'But I am only passing through.'

'So am I' replied the rabbi.

1 December World Aids Day

World Aids Day was the first ever global health day and has continued to be marked since 1988. It is an opportunity to join people worldwide in the fight against HIV, showing support for people living with HIV and commemorating those who have died.

More info: www.worldaidsday.org

See also articles on page 4

Catholics for AIDS Prevention and Support <http://www.caps-uk.org/>

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

1 St. Peter's Cathedral, Lancaster 1.30 -4.30pm. *'Pray and fast for the climate'*, an initiative to mobilise Christians to fast and pray on the first of every month for a meaningful and just climate agreement. We hope this will be agreed in December 2015 at the Paris climate summit. It is also an invitation to join Yeb Sano to fast the 1st of every month until the talks. Yeb was the Filipino delegate to the UN climate talks in Warsaw when typhoon Haiyan devastated the Philippines. He fasted during the conference because no progress was being made and has continued to fast the 1st of every month. All are welcome for all or part of this free event which will include simple liturgical worship, prayer information stations and a planned showing of the stunning Yann Arthus-Bertrand film "*HOME: Our Planet from the Air.*" <http://operationnoah.org/what-we-do/year-of-prayer-and-fasting/>

4 Rose Castle Carlisle monthly ecumenical prayer meeting <http://www.rosecastle.org/>

4 Faith in the Community Morecambe: 9.30am - 3.15pm, The Platform. Exploring how to work better together to tackle poverty and showcasing the churches' contribution. Contact Greg Smith 07726177044 greg.smith@together-lancashire.org.uk

4 Living with the Mystics Thomas Merton at Friends Meeting House, Keswick rgm1@live.co.uk

4 TRADE-AID-JUSTICE 7.30pm Shrewsbury Museum and Art Gallery, Upper Vaughan's Room, Shrewsbury SY1 1LH. World Development Movement's Director, Nick Dearden, is giving a talk exploring the issues of Trade-Aid-Justice. More info: Suzanne.fregard@gmail.com

4 Manchester Policy Week: *The Transatlantic Trade & Investment Partnership: Cash Bonanza or Risky Deal?* Panel Discussion and Public Debate hosted by Manchester University 7pm - 9pm Nowgen, Grafton Street, M13 9WU (near Manchester Royal Infirmary). TTIP has provoked intense public debate in the UK and further afield. Advocates claim that it will significantly boost growth, while critics argue that it will lead to the erosion of hard-fought social and environmental protections Join the debate and reserve a place <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/manchester-policy-week-the-transatlantic-trade-investment-partnership-cash-bonanza-or-risky-deal-registration-12930079215?aff=eorg>

6 Inter-faith Holocaust Study Day 9.30am - 1.30pm Menorah Synagogue 198 Altrincham Road, Sharston, Manchester M22 4RZ 0161 428 7746 for clergy, teachers and students, members of all faith communities and others interested. There is no charge for this event, but you must book your place in advance. Please let us know if you wish to stay for the light buffet lunch (cost £7). If you are staying for lunch and/or making a donation, please enclose a cheque made out to Tikkun Olam. (*Tikkun Olam* means "repairing the world", the duty of all humanity). Enquiries preferably by email to hsd@menorah.org.uk 0798 414 8313

6 Open evening 7.30pm - 9pm arranged by Our Lady's J&P Group at the Evron Centre, 1 Adswold Lane West, Cale Green Stockport SK3 8HT. Alan Thomlinson, CAFOD's Emergency Program Manager-Syria, will talk on 'Syria, delivering aid in a conflict zone' and explain the difficulties of aid workers, the current emergency ground situations, and decisions to become a refugee. The evening will include refreshments. Enquires: 0161 483 8200 or 0161 485 8312. All welcome.

8 Church Action on Poverty AGM Manchester 10am - 3.30pm www.church-poverty.org.uk

8 Final Novena Mass for peace organised by CAFOD Shrewsbury Diocese starting at 11.50 am in the Cathedral Church of Our Lady Help of Christians and St Peter of Alcantara.

9 Remembrance Day lecture by Michael Morpurgo 3pm Imperial War Museum www.abolishwar.org.uk

10 November 7.30pm St Wilfrids Preston "I was a stranger and you made me welcome" Brian Kelly L'Arche Community

10 Faith in Maintenance Training Day 9.30am - 4pm St John's Church Workington CA14 3AX sue.manson@spab.org.uk

10 Christmas cards addresses for prisoners of conscience available from LACE 0151 522 1000

11 CWDF bi-monthly Forum Meeting 6.45pm - 9pm The Unity Centre, Cuppin Street Chester, CH1 2BN. Speaker Linda Tiongco, Christian Aid NW. www.chesterwdf.org.uk

11 Pax Christi Schools Outreach Day, Manchester to support members who want to engage with local schools and young people. This will be in collaboration with Quaker Peace and Social Witness and supported by Northern Friends Peace Board.

Places are limited. Contact Ellis ellisb@quaker.org.uk 0207 663 1009 or Matt Jeziorski education@paxchristi.org.uk

11 13th National Miscarriage of Justice Day 10am - 5pm John Foster Building, 80-98 Mount Pleasant, Liverpool L3 5UZ. Free event with guest speaker Ricky Tomlinson and many workshops followed by entertainment including free open mike poetry from 5pm at The Casa Bar, 29 Hope St, Liverpool L1 9BQ. Details: <https://www.facebook.com/joyfrance> or email: joyfrancewords@gmail.com

11 and 12 *Life in Occupied Palestine* - (A film by) Anna Baltzer, Jewish American granddaughter of Holocaust refugees, outlines human rights abuses and joint Palestinian and Israeli nonviolent resistance to the occupation. Tuesday 11th November, 2.30pm and 7pm, St Mary's Hall, Longford Road, Holyhead; Wednesday 12th November, 2.30pm, St Annes Church Hall, Dale Street, Menai Bridge. Tony McNicholl tony.mcnicholl@dsl.pipex.com

12 *Conscientious Objection and the Northern Friends Peace Board During World War 1* FREE Public lecture with Barry Mills from the Northern Friends Peace Board. 7.30pm Friends Meeting House, Lancaster (next to the train station). The talk will focus on the early history of the Northern Friends Peace Board, established shortly before the outbreak of World War I. Barry will also share some of his research into conscientious objectors from Lancashire. If you are interested in uncovering and telling the stories of conscientious objectors in Lancashire, or being involved in this project in any way, please get in touch with Alison on a.lloydwilliams@globalink.org.uk To find out more about Global Link and our heritage projects visit www.globalink.org.uk or call us on 01524 36201

14 Friends of Sabeel UK (North West) and Kairos Britain invite you to the film *The Stones Cry Out*, the untold story of the Palestinian Christians. This film will be of interest to both Christian and secular audiences ~ anyone who would like to know more about the situation in the Holy Land. Producer/Director Yasmine Perni. Trinity Community Church, Amani Centre, Moss Lane East,

Moss Side, M16 7 DG, 7.30pm. Tel: 0161 428 7001. Donations towards costs invited. Palestinian Crafts and goods for sale. Watch the trailer: www.thestonescryoutmovie.com There will potentially be other screenings of this film in the North West of England during November. For more details please contact John Logan: logan-j@btconnect.com

14 CAFOD Quiz for CAFOD's Connect 2 Ethiopia projects organised by Ellesmere Port LPA J&P Group 7.30pm Our Lady's Parish Centre. Fee £3 for adults £1 for children which includes interval refreshments. Teams are welcome or join a team on the night.

15 HIV & AIDS Training Day Tabor Retreat Centre, Fulwood, Preston on Saturday 15 November, 11am – 4pm. 01772 733310 email: rtrelfa@cafod.org.uk

16 International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church www.csw.org.uk

16-22 Inter Faith Week <http://www.interfaithweek.org/>

16-22 Prisons Week *Building Hope* www.prisonweek.org/

17-21 National Anti-Bullying Week *Let's Stop Bullying For All* <http://www.antibullyingweek.co.uk/>

19 Lancaster An Interfaith Bazaar: Inspirations for Peace: An evening event organised by Faith in Lancaster at the Quaker Meeting House in Lancaster. Contact Robbie Smith: robbie.rob.smith1@gmail.com

20 7pm, County Hall Preston A Celebration of Faith in Lancashire: Info: andrewpratt1@btinternet.com

20 7.30pm *'Days that shook the world – the Christmas Truce'* Marine FC, The Arriva Stadium, College Rd, Liverpool L23 3AS Followed by an opportunity to talk and discuss. Bar available. Details 0151 522 1080 s.atherton@rcaol.co.uk

22 Next NJPN Networking Day 10.30am - 4.00pm, CAFOD, Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London SW1V 1BX Speaker Oliver McTernon on *'Peace is the Fruit of Remembrance.'* All welcome, no need to book. More details from admin@justice-and-peace.org.uk 020 7901 4864

22 CAFOD Memorial Mass 11am at St Anne's Catholic Church in Westby Mills, Westby PR4 3PL

22 Christian Ecology Link AGM www.greenchristian.org.uk

24 7.30pm St Wilfrids Preston *"I was hungry and you gave me food"* Liam Purcell, CAP www.church-poverty.org.uk

25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women <http://www.un.org/en/events/endviolenceday/>

27 Advent Reflection Day. Bishop Richard Llewellyn will speak about Kairos Britain Tent of Nations and reflections from his time as an Ecumenical Accompanier. Luther King House, Manchester. Contact John Logan 01942 214656 logan-j@btconnect.com

29 Buy Nothing Day www.buynothingday.co.uk

30 'Waiting in Hope: Carols for Advent.' 7pm at St John's, Fountains Rd, Kirkdale, Liverpool L4 1QL.

DECEMBER

1 World Aids Day www.worldaidsday.org

2 Rose Castle Carlisle monthly ecumenical prayer meeting <http://www.rosecastle.org/>

3 & 10 *Becoming a dementia friendly church* (& 14 & 21 January), 1pm -- 5pm, St Cuthbert's Church Centre, Preston. Four half day sessions to explore the issues. Booking: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/dementia-friendly-churches-4-sessions-tickets-13326282269> or contact Ed Saville 01254 658914 Ed.saville@blackburn.anglican.org For clergy and laity alike.

6 Volunteer Mission Movement (VMM) dinner. Details: Van Garber on 0151 291 3438 or email vmm@hope.ac.uk

7 Shrewsbury Diocese J&P Commission Annual Advent Reflection Wistaston Hall Sunday afternoon

12 Romero Lecture Lord Rowan Williams (former Archbishop of Canterbury) will speak on *"A saint for the whole people of God: Romero and the ecumenical future"* 7pm at Chad's Cathedral in Birmingham. Dr Williams has been a Patron of the Romero Trust since its foundation in 2005. The evening will be hosted by Archbishop Bernard Longley, co-chair of ARCIC - the Anglican - Roman Catholic International Commission. All are welcome.

JANUARY

18 Liverpool J&P Annual Memorial Lecture at LACE. 'Together for the Common Good.' 2pm - 4pm. Speaker: Jenny Sinclair. Details 0151 522 1080 s.atherton@rcaol.co.uk

Many of the items featured in this and previous bulletins are taken from the daily e bulletin Independent Catholic News www.indcatholicnews.com an invaluable free resource for up-to-date J&P news and events. Sign up too for weekly bulletins from National J&P Network www.justice-and-peace.org - contact the Administrator 020 7901 4864, admin@justice-and-peace.org.uk

The views expressed in this bulletin are not necessarily those of NJPN