

Justice & Peace Link March 2023

National Justice and Peace Network Publications The latest NJPN eBulletin is available [here](#) (12 Feb); the next issue should be available from 5 March. For longer reads and comments see the February NW NJPN e-Bulletin and the Spring issue of Mouthpeace [here](#)

Ongoing

to Sunday, 12 March – **FairTrade Fortnight** Ffi see the FairTrade [website](#)

to Sunday 19 March

Bath Abbey

'Threads through Creation', a stunning exhibition of twelve enormous, embroidered silk panels that explore the story of Creation. Inspired by the poetic verses of Genesis, the first book in the Bible, textile artist Jacqui Parkinson re-imagines this ancient story in a vibrant combination of layers of silk, hand-dyed materials, metallic leathers and gold leaf, miles of thread – and more than eight million stitches!

Lent resources Independent Catholic News includes an [article](#) listing a range of resources from publications to prayers and online meetings.

Pax Christi From Wednesday 1st March, we'll be hosting 5 weekly online reflections on the **Icon of Peace**. Starting at 7pm on Zoom, each week the focus will be on one image from the icon and pray for a conflict situation in one part of the world. You can register for one or all of the reflections [here](#):

Events

Wednesday, 1 March Millions of Christians around the world mark the first day of every month by **praying and fasting for the environment**. Monthly prayer points are published and can be used at any time during the month. March prayer points will be available [here](#)

Wednesday, 1 March 6.15pm -7.15pm

Fairtrade & L.O.A.F principles Green Christian's Barbara Echlin is leading the LOAF section of this online workshop run by Faiths4Change in the North West. Join [here](#)

Wednesday, 1 March 7pm

Resisting War and Sanctions in Iraq (1991 – 2003) Speaker, Chicago-born pacifist Kathy Kelly co-founded Voices in the Wilderness, which challenged the immoral economic sanctions on Iraq by breaking them, bringing medicine to Iraqi children and families on 70 delegations despite the threat of 12-year prison sentences and million-dollar fines. Kathy travelled to Iraq 26 times; she was with the Gulf Peace Team during the 1991 war and part of a Voices presence in Iraq in 2003. This event is part of the series: 'The Iraq War 20 years on'. Register [here](#)

Wednesday, 1 March

7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

BRLSI 16-18 Queen Square, Bath, Somerset BA1 2HN

Looking forward to 2030 with Paul Rogers, emeritus professor of peace studies at Bradford University. The road we're currently on leads only to destruction. Can we find a way to a better future nonetheless? There is now armed conflict on every continent. Gross inequality is increasing – according to Oxfam, since 2020 the richest 1% have pocketed \$26

trillion in new wealth, almost twice as much as the rest of the world put together. Climate breakdown is accelerating, bringing ever closer the threat of irreversible catastrophe. Everywhere our relentless assault on the natural world seems to be intensifying. Can we still find a way to a better future? This event is sponsored by Bath & District UNA, Bath Stop War and Rethinking Security B&NES. For tickets and more information, click [here](#)

Thursday, 2 March 1pm-1.30pm

Fortnightly Climate Prayer by zoom run by Cheltenham Green Christian local group – usually with guest prayer leaders. Open to all: please contact cheltenham@greenchristian.org.uk for the link

Thursday, 2 March 5.00pm-6.00pm

How do we Campaign for Climate Justice Locally? Run by The Joint Public Issues Team and Hope for the Future. A webinar about effective campaigning to our councils on climate issues. In this webinar we'll hear from Hope for the Future about best practice for approaching and engaging effectively with our local officials on issues to do with the climate crisis. We'll also be speaking about the importance of community and building a 'Net Zero in My Neighbourhood' network beyond. The webinar will be run on Zoom, with opportunities to discuss and interactive elements. Book [here](#)

Friday, 3 March **CAFOD Family Fast Day**

Friday, 3 March **World Day of Prayer Scotland, England/Wales** theme 'I have heard about your faith' prepared by the women of Taiwan. Resources available [here](#)

Saturday, 4 March

6.30pm (doors open at 6)

Palestine Museum and Cultural Centre, 27 Broad St, Bristol BS1 2HG

Zaytoun tour with speaker Doha Asous. Doha Asous, a brave woman farmer from the small village of Burin, near Nablus, West Bank talks about farming and life on the West Bank. Doha is a guest of Zaytoun for Fairtrade Fortnight. Heather Masoud co-founder of Zaytoun, will describe its inspiring history as a community interest company selling Palestinian products, including their olive oil. Maggie Foyer founder of the Olive Harvest Trust, will talk about the charity's work supporting village schools on the West Bank. Entry Free (donations welcome). A selection of Zaytoun products will be available to purchase.

Saturday, 4 March

11.00 – 14.00

Breacon, South Wales (see [here](#) to book and for car-pooling instructions)

Eco-Matting Trees Event Christian Eco-Friends runs events which help mitigate against the Climate Crisis, as a platform for Christian Singles to meet and mix. This event is partnered with the CIC company 9 Trees. Their vision is to tackle climate change by restoring new woodland habitats, promoting biodiversity, creating jobs within the countryside sector and connecting more people to nature. Eco-matting trees is part of that; it is the application of organic mulch around the base of a newly planted tree. This Event is for those in their 20s – 40s. See here for more information: <https://christianecofriends.co.uk/> - or contact Liz at Liz@christianecofriends.co.uk or call on 01172 510 187

Saturday, 4 March

10am-12:30pm

Zion United Church, Frampton Cotterell, BS36 2HY (SatNav use BS36 2HX)

Transform Trade Coffee Morning and Handmade Crafts and Food Sale

Monday, 6 March 2.00pm - 3.30pm

Growing Food for Resilience - Stories from community gardens responding to the cost of living crisis. Community gardens and growing projects have proved time and again just how valuable they are to their local communities: homes for wildlife; sanctuaries from busy urban life; a space to build friendships; somewhere to learn a new skill; and the source of nourishing, diverse, and affordable food. Join [here](#) to learn about some of the initiatives that gardens, and networks of gardens, have set up to improve access to their produce, and have the chance to ask your own questions. Chair: Richard Choksey, Social Farms and Gardens. Speakers: Hannah Leigh Mackie, Granville Community Kitchen; Gemma Birley, Cambridge Sustainable Food; Darren Squires, Hull Food Partnership; Andrea Berardi, Cobra Collective

Tuesday, 7 March

1.00-1.30 pm

Taking our rest one of the Lunchtime talks on Climate Emergency: Using images from the 'Threads through Creation' exhibition in the Abbey, Revd Stephen Girling (Abbey Missioner) will explore what the creation stories in the book of Genesis have to tell us about how we can respond to the climate emergency. For more information, click [here](#) Please refer to Bath Abbey opening hours before planning your visit, as visiting times can alter.

Wednesday, 8 March **International Women's Day 2023** theme [EmbraceEquity](#)

Thursday, 9 March 7pm

The War We Nearly Stopped: Iraq 2003, with Milan Rai. The British anti-war movement needs to realise how close it came to detaching Britain from the 2003 invasion of Iraq. UN weapons inspectors were about to throw a wrench into US war plans – we came close to giving them the time they needed. Peace News editor, Milan Rai, is the author of War Plan Iraq: 10 Reasons Against War on Iraq (Verso, 2002) and Regime Unchanged: Why the War on Iraq Changed Nothing (Pluto, 2003). This event is part of the series: 'The Iraq War 20 years on'. [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

Friday, 10 March

7.00pm

Bath Royal Literary & Scientific Institution 16–18 Queen Square Bath BA1 2HN

Apartheid, Then and Now How does Israeli apartheid compare with that practised by South Africa? And what can we learn from the Anti-Apartheid Movement? With Andrew Fein speaking about his own experience of apartheid; he will address three questions: How does Israeli apartheid (hafrada or 'segregation') compare with South Africa's? What lessons have the Israelis evidently learnt from the downfall of white rule in South Africa? And what can the Palestine solidarity movement, in turn, learn from the success of the Anti-Apartheid Movement? Tickets (£3-£5) and further information [here](#)

Friday, 10 March

7.00pm

St Margaret's Hall Saint Margaret's Street Bradford-on-Avon BA15 1DE

A screening of the film, **Boycott**. A riveting story showing difficulties encountered by three USA professionals supporting the Palestinian. Book tickets [here](#)

Tuesday, 14 March

1.00-1.30 pm

Being content one of the Lunchtime talks on Climate Emergency: Using images from the 'Threads through Creation' exhibition in the Abbey, Revd Stephen Girling (Abbey Missioner)

will explore what the creation stories in the book of Genesis have to tell us about how we can respond to the climate emergency. Ffi, click [here](#). Please refer to Bath Abbey opening hours before planning your visit, as visiting times can alter.

Wednesday, 15 March, 7pm

Global Democracy with Mark Dick and Tony Emerson. Mark Dick writes: Why the need for a World Parliament? Because it is time to represent all of humanity in decision making. Presently we, the peoples, have no say at a global level. What would it look like? A directly elected second (first!) chamber at the UN? Central decision makers must be held accountable. A world parliament would aid the development of a planetary consciousness, and ideological voting blocks would form to discuss shared ideas and eventually global political parties would emerge, to have open discussion on globalisation, climate change etc. A practical idea? Visionary? Not workable? Could a kind of global citizens assembly ever be workable? Come along to the talk to hear the contrasting views and take part in the debate. A Joy in Enough monthly talk [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

Thursday, 16 March 1pm-1.30pm

Fortnightly **Climate Prayer** by zoom run by Cheltenham Green Christian local group – usually with guest prayer leaders. Open to all: please contact cheltenham@greenchristian.org.uk for the link

Thursday, 16 March

9.30am – 3.30pm

Cedars Hall The Liberty Wells BA5 2ST Hybrid event

Wells and Transatlantic Slavery Conference Histories, Legacies and Perspectives.

Bringing people together from Britain and the Caribbean to explore how the City of Wells is connected to transatlantic slavery. This event will consist a morning of talks & creative responses (that will be recorded for the online audience) followed by lunch and a workshop for those attending in person. Ffi and to book tickets, click [here](#)

Thursday, 16 March, 7pm

Iraq 20 Years on - Iraqi Voices, with Nadjie Al-Ali and Maysoon Pachachi. The US-UK invasion of Iraq in 2003 was seen in much of the world as the crime of the century, following another huge crime, over 12 years of economic sanctions that killed hundreds of thousands of Iraqi children. Twenty years on from the devastating invasion, and the start of the occupation, Iraq continues to experience high levels of violence, corruption and political instability. This event is part of the series: 'The Iraq War 20 years on'. See here for other events. [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

Friday, 17 March 7.30pm

Iraq 20 Years on, with Paul Rogers. Britain's best-known peace researcher, Paul Rogers, has kept a careful eye on Iraq since the summer of 2002, when he predicted a US-led war against the Saddam Hussein regime. In the years since, he has documented the brutal air wars, the harshness of occupation, and the rise of the 'Islamic State' terror network.

Paul Rogers is emeritus professor of Peace Studies in the Department of Peace Studies and International Relations at Bradford University. This event is part of the series: 'The Iraq War 20 years on'. See here for other events. [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

Tuesday, 21 March **International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination**

Ffi see the UN [webpage](#)

Wednesday, 22 March **World Water Day**

This year's theme is 'Accelerating change'. There are resources [here](#) to encourage you to play your part in solving the water and sanitation crisis

Friday, 24 March **St Oscar Romero's feast day**

43rd Anniversary of death of St Oscar Romero. Ffi see the [Romero Trust](#)

Saturday, 25 March - **UN International Day of Remembrance of Victims of Slavery and Transatlantic Slave Trade** Ffi see the UN [webpage](#)

Saturday 25 March,

11am-6pm,

Brunei Gallery SOAS Russell Square London WC1B 5DQ

Resisting Monopoly Capitalism Conference about extreme corporate power on a planet in crisis by Global Justice Now. Ffi and to book tickets for this in-person event, click [here](#)

Thursday, 30 March 3.00pm

Jerusalem and the British: 200 turbulent years with Matthew Teller. Matthew Teller's "Nine Quarters of Jerusalem: A New Biography of the Old City" (Profile Books, 2022) was named a Book of the Year by the Daily Telegraph. Matthew writes for the BBC, Guardian, Independent, Times, Financial Times and other global media. He has produced and presented documentaries for BBC Radio 4 and World Service, and has reported for Radio 4's 'From Our Own Correspondent' from around the Middle East and beyond. A Balfour Project Webinar. Click [here](#) to book and ffi

Thursday, 30 March 7.00pm

Iraq: Lessons from War and Sanctions, with Hans Von Sponeck. The meeting will discuss the reform challenges that lie ahead on the basis of the lessons learnt from 13 years of Iraq sanctions and the illegal invasion that followed. Hans von Sponeck is a former UN assistant secretary general who resigned as UN humanitarian co-ordinator for Iraq in 2000 as a protest against the economic sanctions, which he said had created a 'true human tragedy'. The author of A Different Kind of War – The UN Sanctions Regime in Iraq (2006), Dr von Sponeck also campaigned against the 2003 invasion of Iraq. This event is part of the series: 'The Iraq War 20 years on'. [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

Friday, 31 March

7.30 p.m.

Central Quaker Meeting House, Champion Square, Cabot Circus, Bristol BS2 9DB

Bristol - City of Sanctuary: Stories of forced migration from other countries and settling in Bristol. The Lord Mayor's Civic Inter-Faith Celebration. For more information and to offer a contribution from your faith community contact graham.davey29@gmail.com

To Do

Voter ID From 4 May 2023, voters will need to show photo ID at polling stations. To ensure that people, particularly those in vulnerable groups, are not disenfranchised, please share this information, there is a useful guide [here](#).

If you would like to publicise an event, please send details to the Secretary, Clifton Diocese Justice and Peace Commission justiceandpeace@cliftondiocese.com. The items above are included as they may be of interest because of their relevance to peace and justice issues. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Commission.