

Justice & Peace Link May 2023

National Justice and Peace Network Publications The latest NJPN eBulletin is available on the NJPN [website](#) as is the May issue of the NW NJPN e-Bulletin.

In case you missed The Big One (21-24 April) Independent Catholic News have a few items about this four day act of public protest demanding meaningful action in response to the climate and ecological catastrophe facing humanity: [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#). Christian Climate Action also includes reports of the event and follow-up meetings. See their [website](#) for details.

Ongoing

to Tuesday, 9 May

The Global Days of Action on Military Spending (GDAMS). For click [here](#)

Events

Monday, 1 May 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. May prayer points will be available [here](#)

Wednesday, 3 May, 7pm

Green Christian online workshop: **Faith in fashion? Christian perspectives on unsustainable clothing practices** with Prof Tim Cooper. Click [here](#) and to register

Wednesday, 3 May, 6-7.30pm online

How can people of faith in the UK protect and restore nature? The May gathering of Faith for the Climate will discuss the role that faith communities can have in nature restoration and biodiversity protection, specifically through the People's Plan for Nature. The recent David Attenborough narrated series, 'Wild Isles', documents the wild and beautiful places we are so privileged to have in the UK. We will be joined by campaigners who helped bring that series - and the related People's Plan - to life, as well as faith activists taking action on protecting and restoring nature and wild places. Register [here](#)

Thursday, 4 May **Local Government Elections** - remember "accepted photo ID" will be required

Thursday, 4 May 7pm

Programme of weekly online events **Towards Pentecost 2023** arranged by the Scottish Laity Network. Are we truly listening and responding to those who have been abused physically, mentally, sexually and spiritually – by those in positions of trust in the Catholic Church in Scotland? Conversation with the Scottish Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency. Companions ~ Paul Donaldson, Greg Gallagher and Helena Rameckers. Register [here](#)

Monday, 8 May, 5pm, to Thursday, 11 May, 6.30 pm online

No Faith in Fossil Fuels: A Climate Finance Summit Climate destruction is being bankrolled by large corporations and their executives who choose to act against what is right and good, at the expense of our planet's future. The climate crisis is a crisis of greed. From May 8-11, people of faith will gather to learn about how banks and asset managers continue to invest in the fossil fuel industries that are destroying communities in the U.S. and around the world – and then find out how to hold these financial institutions accountable. Together, we can

commit to taking the bold steps necessary to effect real change. Sponsored by Greenfaith. For more information about the programme and registration click [here](#)

Tuesday, 9 May *Hybrid event*

7.30 pm - 9.00 pm

Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institute, 16-18 Queen Square Bath BA1 2HN and online
Beyond Profit: thirty years of operating a green business with speaker, Jay Risbridger, Director, The Green Stationery Co Ltd, former director of Ecotrade, the Green Party trading arm and creator of the Bath local currency. Jay also has a background in appropriate development technology and the recycled paper industry. The talk will cover qualitative rather than quantitative environmental goals, a low turnover high margin business plan, shorter working hours and higher salaries, marketing with minimal advertising and zero selling, and “small is beautiful” principles. Book tickets (£2.00 – £5.00) [here](#)

Tuesday, 9 May, 7-8pm

Where: TBC

Mentor Me Taster Evening Find out more about this Bristol-based charity that exists to help the local church to support people with criminal convictions. It offers training to Christians from all backgrounds, life experiences and denominations to become volunteer mentors for people with criminal convictions. Click [here](#) ffi

Wednesday 10 May 8.00pm

Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions (ICAHD) UK Webinar **Nakba: The Struggle to Decolonize Israel**. As we approach the 75th anniversary of the Nakba, ICAHD UK invites you to join into a conversation between ICAHD’s Director Jeff Halper with Eitan Bronstein Aparicio, the founder of Zochrot and who currently, with his wife and partner Eléonore Marza, co-directs De-Colonizer. Eitan’s personal and professional life has revolved around the elemental Nakba, and particularly how Jewish Israelis can and must deal with it. Zochrot was founded by Eitan as an Israeli organization dedicated not only to Nakba commemoration, but to educating the Israeli public over what Israel has tried to hide all these years. Politically, Zochrot also works to actually prepare for the return of the refugees. De-Colonizer is conceived as a junction between research, creativity, archiving / documentation and public discussion. It also operates Illegallery 81, an art gallery that hosts artists and performances dealing with issues of contested space. Read more... Ffi and to register click [here](#)

Thursday, 11 May 1pm-1.30pm

Fortnightly **Climate Prayer** via 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, 11 May 7pm

Programme of weekly online events **Towards Pentecost 2023** arranged by the Scottish Laity Network. **Running to Catch up with the Spirit** Companion ~ Antonia Sobocki. Register [here](#)

Thursday, 11 May *Hybrid event but all in-person tickets sold out*

5.30 - 6.30pm

Campion Hall 5 Brewer Street Oxford OX1 1QS

What to Give Up for the Climate: Asceticism and Ecological Justice A public lecture hosted by the Laudato Si' Research Institute with Speaker Dr Alda Balthrop-Lewis, Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for Religion & Critical Inquiry (Australian Catholic University), and

currently Denis Edwards Visiting Fellow at the Laudato Si' Research Institute. Environmental politics often asks for our renunciation - for example by reducing waste or driving less. These contemporary forms of asceticism may seem remote from traditional Christian forms, and yet, even religious renunciation has often had political significance. This talk asks about the political significance of asceticism, especially in the work of Henry David Thoreau and Thomas Merton. It argues that Thoreau's nineteenth-century retreat described in Walden was playing on more ancient monastic practices, and that Thomas Merton was an inheritor of this vision of ecological justice. Thoreau and Merton demonstrate the political significance of asceticism in an ecological age, and they offer lessons for contemporary struggles for justice. To book your online ticket click [here](#)

Saturday, 13 May

Sparks Bristol situated inside Bristol's old M&S building in Broadmead

Launch - See what we've been up to in the Sparks building Transforming Bristol's old M&S building into an arts and sustainability hub. Ffi click [here](#)

Saturday, 13 May

NJPN AGM & Networking Day

Due to the proposed Rail strike this meeting will be held on-line

Women in Prison - A different kind of journey with speakers Simeon Sturney – formerly Managing Chaplain and currently Community Chaplain at Bronzefield HMP & YOI, author of two books on his work; Deirdre Leach – Chaplaincy volunteer at Send and Co-founder of "Making Connections"; Karen Connaughton – Catholic Chaplain at HMP & YOI Bronzefield.

For more details see the NJPN [website](#)

Monday, 15 to Sunday 21 May

Christian Aid Week For more information see [here](#)

Monday, 15 May

Conscientious Objectors' Day Ffi see [here](#)

Wednesday, 17 May *Hybrid event*

2pm - 6.30pm

Church House, London, and online

Balfour Project Conference **Human Rights in Palestine: Responsibility and Accountability**

The conference will be opened by Baroness Warsi. Our keynote speaker, Francesca Albanese, UN Special Rapporteur on the Occupied Palestinian Territories will set out the legal framework under International Law for the responsibilities of Israel as the Occupying Power and those of the International Community including Britain, to uphold Palestinian rights. The focus would then shift to a number of voices (including Palestinians) telling the truth about the dire situation today in the OPT and discussing what the UK and our international partners should do to advance equal rights and the rule of law. Finally, a panel of Parliamentarians will respond to the issues raised in the context of likely current and future political situation in the UK. Ffi and to book, click [here](#)

Thursday, 18 May 7pm

Programme of weekly online events **Towards Pentecost 2023** arranged by the Scottish Laity Network. **Where two or three meet in my name, I am there among them.** Companions ~ Kevin Gallagher, Nicholas Postlethwaite and Valerie Stroud. Register [here](#)

Thursday, 18 May

11am-3pm

Hazeland, Bremhill, Near Calne SN11 9LJ

Foraging for Edible Plants and Medicinal Herbs with Fred Gillam. Arranged by Avon Needs Trees. Ffi and to register click [here](#)

Thursday, 18 May AGM 5.00 – 5.45pm, Conference 6.00-8.00pm

Uniting for Peace AGM and Spring Conference 2023 (online) Global Inequality, poverty and instability are major challenges facing the world today. The richest 1 percent grabbed nearly two-thirds of all new wealth worth \$42 trillion created since 2020, almost twice as much money as the bottom 99 percent of the world's population, reveals a new Oxfam report. Addressing these issues requires a multi-faceted approach that prioritises collaboration, cooperation and mutual understanding by promoting economic development, ensuring access to basic resources, and fostering a culture of peace, it's possible to create a more equitable and stable world for all. Chair: Rita Payne, President Emeritus, Commonwealth Journalists Association. Speakers: Vijay Mehta, Chair, Uniting for Peace and author of *How Not To Go To War*; David Swanson, Director, *World Beyond War* and author of *War is A Lie*; John Gittings, Former *The Guardian* Journalist and author of *The Art of Glorious Peace*; Fabian Hamilton, Shadow Minister for Peace and Disarmament; Kate Hudson, Secretary General, CND (invited). Zoom link [here](#)

Sunday, 21 to Sunday, 28 May

Laudato Si' Week This year's theme is '**Hope for the Earth, Hope for Humanity**'. Click [here](#) for ideas and resources.

Thursday, 23 May 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, 25 May 7pm

Programme of weekly online events **Towards Pentecost 2023** arranged by the Scottish Laity Network. **Embracing the Cosmic Christ in Creation and in the Eucharist** Companion ~ Ilia Delio Register [here](#)

Friday 26th May

7.30 pm with tea and coffee from 7pm

Victoria Methodist Church (1A Whiteladies Rd, Bristol BS8 1NU)

Dr Elizabeth Cole (nee Woolfenden) will speak on '**Working in Science, Business and Faith**?' arranged by the Bristol group of Christians in Science. This will be the third talk in a series entitled Faith in Science in which the speaker will talk about their scientific research, primarily exciting and informing us about their area of research / scientific endeavour but also providing some reflections on how their faith and their science interact.

Wednesday, 31 May 7.30 pm - 9.00 pm *Hybrid event*

Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institute, 16-18 Queen Square Bath BA1 2HN and online **Rare Earth Minerals: Critical Geopolitics, Economics & Environmental Issues** with speaker, Bennett Hawley, College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia. Critical earth minerals are essential to everything today. Our technology, from the iPhone and smart fridge to advanced batteries and supercomputers, critical earth minerals enable our transition to a cleaner economy and what many call the Fourth Industrial Revolution. However, many in government, business, and science spheres have raised concerns about how to ensure the

West's continued supply of these critical earth minerals, considering the dominance of China & Russia in this market. This lecture explores the complicated intersection between geopolitics, economics, and environmental science in light of this pressing challenge. Book tickets (£4 - £7) [here](#)

Sunday, 28 May **Pentecost**

Looking ahead

5 June World Environment Day www.worldenvironmentday.global

21-23 July: National Justice & Peace Network Annual Conference. Theme **'Sustainability? Survival or Shutdown'** focussing on the Sustainable Development Goals, The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire. The Conference is family friendly with parallel programmes for children and young people, and some funding for those who would otherwise not be able to attend. For more information and to book [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.