From: Christian Climate Action
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NEWSLETTER May 2023

Silencing Judge Silenced!



There was no response from a Judge when 24 activists, including a priest, held up signs outside Inner London Crown Court as an act of solidarity with four others who had been arrested for doing the same thing.

The signs spelt out that juries can find people not guilty as a matter of conscience - a centuries-old principle that is displayed on a marble plaque by the original court entrance to the Old Bailey. The act of solidarity followed Judge Silas Reid ordering the arrest of four people, all of whom had previouly held similar signs. Judge Reid has also sent people to prison just for uttering the words "climate change" and "fuel poverty" during their defence at trial. This has greatly impacted activists' ability to present their case, as they aren't able to explain their motivation for participating in acts of civil disobedience.

The group was a mix of legal and health professionals, amongst whom were a retired Detective Sergeant, Quakers, a Rabbi and also CCA activists Rev Sue Parfitt and Phil Laurie. They sent a letter to the Judge so that he was aware of their action, but the group were not arrested, asked to leave or even spoken to. But the jury is out as to whether the silencing Judge will remain silent - latest news is that he has referred this matter to the General Attorney.

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights has recently written to the Government about the restrictive Public Order Act saying: "governments should be protecting and facilitating peaceful protests on such existential topics [climate change, loss of biodiversity and pollution], not hindering and blocking them".

Read more

Other Actions



Messsage is Loud and Clear at AGMs

As global oil companies and funders of fossil fuels meet for their AGMs, CCA - in partnership with other activist groups - has been present to send the clear message: the exploration and extraction of fossil fuels must stop.

At the AGMs of Shell, HSBC, Barclays and Lloyds, singing, speeches, vigils and even XR's "dirty scrubbers" helping to greenwash HSBCs £12.9b in profits from so called "green" bonds, greeted shareholders and Board members alike. The Shell AGM grew chaotic as some protesters attempted to completely shut down the meeting.

Read more:

Actions at AGMs
Shut Down Shell Protest



CCA Brighton Supports Clean Water Campaign.



Members of CCA Scotland gather outside the Church of Scotland Assemby, with many dignitaries, including Scotland's First Minister, taking leaflets.

Events



They're coming back! After a break following the Big One, CCA's Saturday Sessions kick off again on June 3rd.

Hosted on Zoom at 11am each Saturday these sessions offer the opportunity for CCA members to come together socially, to plan, to keep up-to-date with developments in climate activism and to consider how biblical teaching can help us shape our response to the climate crisis.

Forthcoming Sessions

Saturday 3rd June Why we express our Christian faith through activism

Freeing our Right-brain imagination from the dominance of Left-brain dogma. with Drew James

Saturday 10th June How we communicate about climate

who hold a range of different views. with Caroline Harmon

change

A practical workshop to think about how we talk about climate change with people

Saturday 17th June Why we need everyone (to be an activist)

A discussion about some recent research about civil resistance on the climate and ecological crisis in the changing landscape of a post COVID-19 world. with Melanie Nazareth

Saturday 24th June **Overcoming the Inner Critic**

When our self-critical thoughts stop us being the activist we want to be. with Holly Petersen

Register in advance for any of these Saturday sessions

New to CCA? Tuesday June 20th, 7.00pm **ONLINE**

Are you new to protest or new to CCA? Not sure how to get more involved? This Zoom call is for you.

Grab a drink and get comfy. Hear about



what we do, how we do it and why. Ask us all your questions and find out different ways you might get involved.

Register here

Want a CCA Group Near You? Thursday June 8th, 7.30pm ONLINE

This is a friendly meeting for anyone who wants a CCA group near them. It doesn't matter if you are completely new to CCA. Everyone is very welcome to explore how to get a local group going.



Register here

Prayer

CCA's endeavours to combat the Climate Emergency are underpinned by daily prayer.

Morning Prayer: 9am every morning on Zoom.

Evening Prayer: Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings, 9.15pm-9.45pm to pray for the Earth and the work we are called to do in CCA, and to replenish our spiritual wellspring at the end of the day.

Register here for both morning and evening prayer.

CCA also participates in a number of **Earth Vigils**, including outside Parliament and other locations. **Find out more**



New Local Groups



West Berkshire

CCA West Berkshire is just setting up and welcomes anyone already involved or interested in understanding and engaging with the climate crisis from a Christian perspective.

The group also has members from wider Berkshire and North Hampshire due to the absence of groups in those areas and hopes to work with the newly forming Oxford group. The group is particularly seeking anyone with experience of setting up social media.

For more information or to get involved **email**: **CCA West Berkshire**.

Kent

CCA Kent is just getting established and would love to welcome any one within the county to join.

We meet online every other Monday evening from 7.00 - 8.00pm and our next meeting is Monday June 5th.



.We are also establishing a regular Earth Vigil on the third Saturday of each month. Join us for our first vigil from 11.00am to 1pm on Saturday 17th June in the Buttermarket outside the main gate to Canterbury Cathedral precincts.

For more info about the vigil and / or the Zoom link for our next online meeting, email CCA Kent

CCA has lots of local groups across the UK.

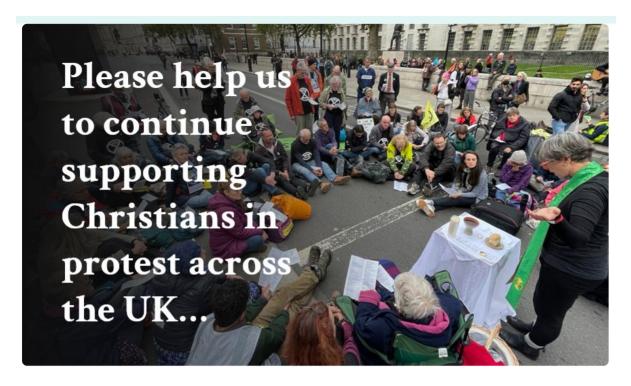
<u>Find your nearest group</u>



Got an update from your local group that you want in the newsletter?

All you have to do is <u>email CCA</u> marked FAO Kate giving details of when/how your local group meets, or any other information you would like to provide, and your group too can appear in the CCA Newsletter.

Don't delay, email today!



As the climate crisis heats up, we are determined to take the action needed. To help us make that possible, we're <u>inviting you to become one of 60 people</u>, each donating £15 a month

CCA is primarily a volunteer-led movement, but we do have some self-employed freelancers who carry out a number of tasks that are essential to keeping the movement going. Since December we've had two new freelancers working specifically to set up and support local groups of Christians protesting together across the country. We can fund this for a year, but to continue beyond that, we heed to secure 60 new monthly standing orders of £15 each to continue with these new roles.

If you would like to set up a standing order with us please visit our website **donations page**.

Thank you!

KEEP UPDATED!

Do check out our <u>website</u>. We update it regularly with blogs.

Also view the <u>CCA YouTube</u> channel and find us at <u>CCA Facebook</u>, <u>CCA Twitter</u> and <u>CCA Instagram</u>

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