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**Christian  
Climate  
Action**

# NEWSLETTER

October 2023



## OILY MONEY OUT!

**This month Big Oil descends on London for their huge 'Oil & Money Conference', now formally known as the Energy Intelligence Forum. Christian Climate Action (CCA) along with Extinction Rebellion (XR), Fossil Fuel London (FFL) and other groups will be there to meet them. Come and join us!**

In addition to the protests running throughout the three days of the conference (17th to 19th October), CCA is organising two vigils that all are welcome to join, taking our prayers on to the streets to say "no more!" to the fossil fuels industry.

### **Conference eve, Monday 16th October 6.00pm to 7.00pm**

CCA Catholics host a **candlelit circle of lament** outside the conference venue **Intercontinental Park Lane, London**. Marking the recent publication by Pope Francis of a letter on the Climate Crisis: *Praise God (Laudate Deum)*, everyone is invited to join in lament for what the Pope describes as the unfulfilled responsibility of the political sector and the lack of interest shown by the powerful. A year ago Pope Francis addressed young people and called for new courage in abandoning fossil fuels; we will be praying that conference attendees will



be open to finding this same courage.

**Wednesday 18th October, 6.30 to 8.00 pm, venue as above**

an **interfaith prayer vigil** hosted by the newly re-formed Faith Bridge, an interfaith activist community open to all. This powerful act of witness will involve multi-faith prayers of grief before a silent prayer vigil against the backdrop of music and images of our destruction of the Earth, and then speaking of hope and action.

We all need to come together in this fight against the continuing exploitation of fossil fuels at the cost of a liveable future. These acts of witness will be in the open air so please come dressed for the weather and bring something to sit on if you need it. Candles and other symbols of our light in the darkness are encouraged.

**Any questions? [Email us](#) or join our Oily Money Out [Telegram channel](#)**

See our [full programme here](#).

## OTHER FORTHCOMING ACTIONS



### [Join CCA at the National Trust AGM](#)

Saturday 11th November, Swindon

The National Trust is one of a number of charities that bank with Barclays. So, this year, CCA will be attending the National Trust AGM, calling on the charity to reconsider their banking arrangements.

The majority of the action will take place outside the building as we join together in prayer and vigil, with a smaller number attending the AGM to ask questions.

Please [contact us](#) if you have National Trust membership, or if you wish to participate in the vigil.

**See more forthcoming actions under Local Groups below**

## RECENT ACTIONS



## Calling on Insurers to Boycott West Cumbrian Mine

**Last month, members of CCA joined XR Croydon as they took part in a nation-wide demonstration against plans to open a coal mine in Cumbria.**

West Cumbria Mining would be Britain's first new coal mine in 30 years and has plans to extract 2.78 million tonnes of coke annually.

Five major insurers have already given guarantees that they will not insure the mine. The protest staged a die-in outside the Croydon offices of the Markel insurance company, calling on them to make the same commitment.

CCA/XR activist Gill Slater said: "We want to make it clear to Markel that new fossil fuel exploration is incompatible with a liveable planet – we cannot stand by whilst climate catastrophe is unfolding before us. Insurers like Markel have the chance to stand on the right side of history and reject the West Cumbria mine."



## Make Polluters Pay Vigil

**Last month, CCA was joined by Christian Aid, Labour MSP Monica Lennon and Green MSP Ariane Burgess at their monthly vigil outside the Scottish Parliament.**

The group gathered for prayers and also carried out a "die-in" (where people lay down on the floor, representing those around the world who have lost their lives to the climate crisis). The main focus of this vigil was on Christian Aid's 'Make Polluters Pay' campaign. Monica Lennon has submitted a Motion to the Scottish Parliament recognising the historical emissions of industrialised countries and the responsibility those countries have to provide appropriate redress.

Letters to MPs and MSPs were sent out ahead of the event asking them to come and speak to vigil participants and to sign the Motion and the Global Parliamentarians Pledge on loss and damage. It is vital that all MPs send a clear message to COP28 that politicians across the world must keep the pledge made at COP27- to create a loss and damage fund - and that the biggest polluters have to contribute substantially to the fund. The action featured on [ITV Local News](#) (12 minutes in).



## THANK YOU

**CCA would like to give a big THANK YOU to everyone who responded to our recent call for funds.**

Donations from our supporters helps:

- pay a handful of freelancers for a small amount of their time to keep CCA running: answering emails and supporting local groups.
- cover the transport and accommodation of activists where needed whenever we can and buying kit for actions.
- fund this newsletter and many of our meetings which are hosted on a paid-for Zoom service.

**So, if you're not able to get involved in actions (or even if you are!) donating to CCA is a really effective way to help us.**

If you missed our recent call, or are perhaps wondering what else you can do to fight against the climate crisis, you can still make a one off gift, or set up a regular payment to CCA, very easily [online](#).



**Thank you again!**

## CCA CENTRAL EVENTS

Below is a selection of the CCA events scheduled over the next few weeks. A full list of all our events can be found on our [EVENTS PAGE](#)



**An Evening with John Dear**  
Wednesday 18th October, 7.30pm

CCA is really excited to be organising this event! Come and hear about the rich tradition of civil disobedience within the Christian faith.

Author of *The Sacrament of Civil Disobedience* (see below), [Rev John Dear](#) is an internationally recognized

voice for peace and nonviolence. He has been arrested some 85 times for actions concerning peace. Archbishop Desmond Tutu has described him as 'the embodiment of a peacemaker, leading by example through his actions and writings.'

[Register in advance](#)



Hosted most Saturdays on Zoom at 11.00am, [Saturday Sessions](#) are a time when CCA members come together socially, plan, 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.

See below for our exciting new autumn programme.

**Saturday 14th October**  
**Exploring Non-Violence**

A session looking at non-violence in our

**Saturday 4th November**  
**Engaging Local Media**

A skills sharing workshop on how to

daily lives. What is violence? How are we violent towards ourselves, others and the earth and how can we address this in our personal and inner lives?

**Saturday 21st October**  
**A Manual for Civil Resistance**  
**Part 1**

Thalia Carr explores the Gospel of Mark as a manual for civil resistance.

**Saturday 28th October**  
**A Manual for Civil Resistance**  
**Part 2**

Thalia Carr continues her exploration of the Gospel of Mark.

engage local media to make more impact with your actions.

**Saturday 11th November**  
**Organising Effective Action**  
Session led by Jonathan Cox from Citizens UK.

[Register for any / all of our Saturday Sessions here](#)



**Brew Time**

Tuesday 7th November, 7.30pm - 8.30pm online

Brew Time is a space, held monthly, where we can get to know CCA people wherever we are in the country. It's casual, laid back and you can bring a cuppa if you'd like. Come once, come twice, come however many times feels right to you.

Register via our [events page](#)



**New to CCA**

Tuesday 31st October  
7.00pm ONLINE

**If you are new to CCA and want to understand more about how we work and how you can get involved, this meeting is for you.**

Grab a cuppa and get comfy as you meet both existing and other new members of CCA.



**Want a CCA Group Near You?**

Thursday 2nd November  
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 in advance](#)

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## LOCAL GROUPS

We now have CCA local groups across the UK and beyond. Click [here](#) to see if there's a local group near you



Below are some actions that are being organised by our local groups.

### CCA Bristol



**The Big Sit (for the Earth)**  
Saturday 21st October, 2.30pm to 4.00pm , College Green, Bristol

This event is organised by XR Buddhists, but is open to everyone and members of CCA Bristol will be taking part. Do come if you would like to join them.

[More information here](#)



**[Unite to Survive South West](#)**  
Saturday 28th October, Victoria Park, Bath

XR South West are organising a family-friendly gathering of climate and social justice groups with workshops, speakers, performers and activities for all. CCA Bristol and CCA members from the South West will be helping to create the day. If you would like to help, please [contact us](#) and please come along to the event!

You can [email us](#) to let us know you are coming.

[More information](#)

## CCA London

**Weekly Vigil Outside Shell HQ**  
Wednesdays, 8.00am - 9.00am

Shell has known about the devastating effects of burning fossil fuels since the 1980s. Despite this, it continues to expand its oil and gas projects with full force. So, this month, CCA member Judith started praying outside their London headquarters.

Shell also insists on charging extortionate prices for fuel, during a cost of living crisis, while making record profits. The practices of this company are systematically cruel and destructive. Persistence is an important element of protest and so Judith has committed to praying outside Shell HQ every Wednesday morning from 8.00am - 9.00am as staff members enter the building. Do join her if you can.



## CCA Kent



**Monthly Prayer Vigil**  
Saturday 21st October at 11.00am,  
The Buttermarket, Canterbury

Join CCA Kent on the third Saturday of every month outside the main entrance to Canterbury Cathedral for an hour of prayer, meditation and mutual encouragement.

[Email us](#) to let us know you are coming.

## CCA Liverpool



**Monthly Prayer Vigil at Barclays**  
Sunday 19th November, 1.00pm –  
2.00pm, Church Street, Liverpool

CCA Liverpool invites you to their regular monthly vigil outside Barclays on Church Street.

Contact [CCA Liverpool](#) for more information.

**CCA North West Training Day**  
Saturday 28th October, 11.00am - 4.00pm  
The Quaker Meeting House, Liverpool

**Come along and join an informal and friendly Christian Climate Action**



day. This will be a great opportunity for connecting with others, hearing practically about what actions have taken part in other parts of the country for some inspiration; and sharing thoughts and ideas.

[Get more information and register](#)

## REFLECTIONS



### Actions Not Words - the Sacramental Signs of Civil Disobedience

CCA Member Rev Jonathan Herbert has been involved in a wide range of actions with CCA, Insulate Britain and Just Stop Oil. Like other CCA members, Jonathan has been arrested repeatedly for his stand for creation.

A talented writer (Jonathan is also a published author) he has written a reflection on the spirituality of being involved in direct action.

[Read Jonathan's reflection here.](#)

## Beyond Commemoration

Last month, CCA Member Deborah Colvin - Warden and Eco-Team member at St James Piccadily - participated in a CCA pilgrimage in London.

As a result of that event, Deborah wrote a reflection that focuses on themes of justice, ecological activism and the legacy of African Abolitionist Quobna Ottobha Cugoano, in the context of the church's role in addressing issues of power, corruption and environmental crisis.

[Read Deborah's reflection 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 across the UK. [Find these listed amongst our events.](#)

## KEEP UPDATED!

Do check out our [website](#). We update it regularly with blogs.  
Also view the [CCA YouTube](#) channel and find us at [CCA Facebook](#), [CCA Twitter](#) and [CCA Instagram](#)

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