

From: [Christian Climate Action](#)
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**Christian
Climate
Action**

NEWSLETTER
September 2023

Pilgrimages of Protest as Britain Bakes in Record Heat



Last weekend (9th and 10th September) Christian Climate Action (CCA) and other climate activists took to the road to highlight the widespread public concern regarding the climate crisis. As parts of the UK baked in unseasonal temperatures exceeding 30°C, activists took part in 13 pilgrimages across the country.

Pilgrimage locations included Brighton, Bristol, Durham, Epsom, Glasgow, Newbury, Merseyside, Oxford and York, with four pilgrimages also taking place in London. Further pilgrimages are planned in London, Sunday 17th September (starting from St James, Piccadilly), and in Sheffield, Monday 18th September (from the Town Hall). More details of these two pilgrimages can be found on our [events page](#).

Historically, pilgrimage has been used as a method of peaceful protest, and these pilgrimages focused on calling the Government to end oil and gas expansion. They also provided space and practice that allowed walkers to reflect on the climate crisis and our role within it.

[Read more](#)

FORTHCOMING ACTIONS

Oily Money Out

Tuesday 17th - Thursday 19th

October 2023

Pre action: 14th - 16th October

In October, Big Oil will descend on London for their huge Oil & Money Conference, attended by CEOs of major oil producers, financiers and government. In conjunction with Fossil Free London and other groups, CCA will be there to rise up against them.

Join us as we take our faith on to the streets to say no more to those who are profiteering whilst pushing us towards planetary collapse.

[More information](#)



Barclays Letter Writing Evening

Monday 18th September, 6.00pm

Online

Barclays is the biggest funder of fossil fuels in Europe, but some charities bank with them, channelling our money into fossil fuel expansion. The same can be said for religious institutions as a number of dioceses across the UK use Barclays as their bank.

If this frustrates you, join us on Zoom as

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

Saturday 11th November

Swindon

The National Trust is one of a number of charities that bank with Barclays (see left). 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

we gather together with pens, paper and email cursors ready for a laid-back time of writing letters. We can help each other get our thoughts onto paper.

[Find out more and register.](#)

prayer and vigil, with a smaller number attending the AGM to ask questions.

Please [contact us](#) if you have National Trust membership.

[Email us](#) if you wish to participate in the vigil.

See more forthcoming actions under Local Groups below

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](#)



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 16th September Practice and theory of NVDA

Using two breakout rooms, there will be training for those who are new to NVDA and discussion for those who are more experienced.

Saturday 23rd September

Details of this session are to be confirmed*.

Saturday 30th September Shooting the messenger*

A session exploring the sobering issue of the erosion of our right and freedom to protest.

This is a change to our previously advertised programme

* **Change to previously advertised programme.**

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



New to CCA

Tuesday September 19th
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.

[Register in advance](#)



Want a CCA Group Near You?

Thursday October 5th
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](#)

Film Night Online

The Letter

Wednesday 20th September 7.00pm - 9.00pm



***The Letter* recounts the experience of five very different people speaking for the Poor, the Young, the Indigenous and Science who visit Pope Francis after receiving a letter of invitation from him. None of them are Christian, but all are profoundly affected by their encounter.**

Bring a cup of tea, a glass of wine or your evening meal to the screen and watch the film from home. This will be followed by a chance to have an on-screen discussion about the issues raised with others who have been watching.

This screening will be followed a week later by:



An Evening with Lorna Gold

Wednesday 27th September 7.30pm - 8.30pm

Dr Lorna Gold plays a key role in *The Letter*, accompanying the guests of Pope Francis in their physical and emotional journeys.

[More information and registration for both events here.](#)

[Brew Time](#)

Tuesday 3rd October, 7:30pm – 8:30pm, online

Brew Time is a space 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.



We hope to run it online on the first Tuesday of every month and everyone is very welcome.

[Register via our events page](#)



An Evening with John Dear

Wednesday October 18th, 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](#)

AND DON'T FORGET the John Dear Book Club

Working together through John Dear's [The Sacrament of Civil Disobedience](#).

If you are wondering about being involved in arrestable actions, this book club is for you! There's still time to join - the first of five sessions starts on Tuesday 26th September.

[Find out more](#) and [express interest](#) (FINAL deadline Monday 18th September).

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 23rd September, 11.00am to 12 noon, 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](#)

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



[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!

[More information](#)

CCA Wales

Vigil for Climate Justice
Every Saturday in September



11.00am - 12 noon, Barclays Bank,
Woking Street, Cardiff

Barclays is Europe's leading fossil fuel funder, investing £150 billion in fossil fuel companies since 2016.

We will gather for an hour in silence, as an act of grief for those dying because of climate chaos and to pray that Barclays stops funding climate breakdown. Everyone is welcome to join us in silence, meditation or prayer.

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

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.



If you are able to, please join Judith. [Email us](#) to let us know if you can be there.

NEW BOOK

Bodies on the Line

Author: Rev Sue Parfitt

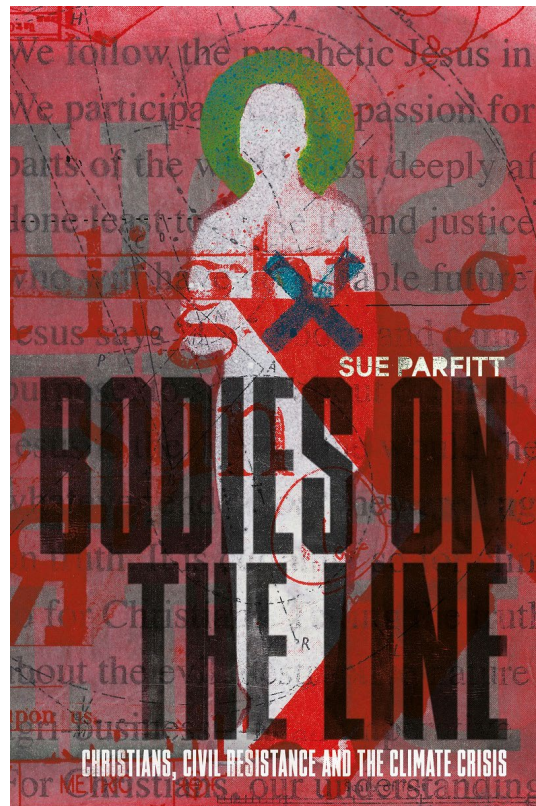
**£9.99. Paperback and ebook formats
from all online bookstores and
available at www.labora.press**

CCA is delighted to announce the publication of [Bodies on the Line](#), written by our very own Sue Parfitt.

Why are Christians breaking the law?
Based on her own extensive experience of non-violent direct action, Sue explores how Christians are waking up to the

existential scale of the climate crisis, rediscovering the radical nature of Jesus's teaching, asking what God needs them to do, and putting their bodies on the line to do it.

Sue describes the experience, surveying our ecological, emotional, spiritual crisis with the blinkers off. **You might want to be sitting down!**



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.](#)

DONATE

If you are not able to get involved in actions

(or even if you are!) a really effective way to support CCA is through a donation.

Whether you wish to make a one off gift, or set up a regular payment, donations to CCA can be made very easily [online](#).

Your gift will go towards any of the following: supporting a small number of paid freelancers who provide essential support and infrastructure to our many volunteers, providing the necessary kit and materials to carry out actions, reducing travel and accommodation costs to enable more people to take part in action and publishing this newsletter.

Thank you!

Image courtesy of CCA member Michael Clarke.



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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