



Justice & Peace Weekly Bulletin : 14 April 2021

Please send any comments or items for next week's news to
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GOOD NEWS

- We thank God for the life and work of **Prince Phillip**, for his loyal and loving support for the Queen and for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme which has been so beneficial and life enhancing for young people in many countries.
- **Rewilding** projects and technology are reducing death rates in natural disasters.
- In the **strongest ever storm** recorded in the Bay of Bengal, only 118 people died instead of thousands despite weather extremes becoming more common. This reduction is due to cyclone defences, early warnings and intervention of government, international agencies and NGOs.
- Easter Monday was **Britain's Greenest day** ever with fair winds and sunshine, the national grid supplying 80% of energy from low carbon sources.
- **The Arts:** The government culture funds are giving £2 million to 24 organisations for promotion of the Arts following Covid loss of income.

FOR PRAYER AND REFLECTION

- **NORTHERN IRELAND**
Irish and British political leaders condemn recent violence on the streets of Belfast and say the only way to resolve the differences is by dialogue.
- **FOSSIL FUELS**
The government is ending fossil fuel funding for projects is developing, but not for the North Sea.
- **NUCLEAR WEAPONS**
Church leaders across 7 denominations have issued a statement re the Governments decision in the integrated review of defence security and foreign policy to increase the number of Trident warheads by more than 40%. This stockpiling is a retrograde and immoral step.
- **IMMIGRATION PROPOSALS LAID OUT BY PRITI PATEL, HOME SECRETARY**
Assessing Asylum seekers by how they arrived in the UK and deporting those who used unofficial settlement routes. This ignores the many valid reasons for which refugees make a particular journey, eg:
 - Unable to access resettlement schemes.
 - Having connections with the UK.
 - Experiencing violence and rejection in other European Countries.The centre of an Asylum Policy should be the human person, their unique experience and how we can assess those fleeing war, poverty and persecution.

ACTION FOR THE WEEK

- Learn more about the plight of refugees and asylum seekers in our part of the world. Devon and Cornwall Refugee Support have just issued their Spring Newsletter, see website. Like other refugees Agencies their face-to-face meetings and group activities and fundraising have been curtailed due to Covid.