

## GOOD NEWS

### CUBA

is leading the way in Sustainability, focussing urgent action on areas most at risk of climate change. People have been relocated from the most at-risk areas. Coral farms and reefs are being grown. Mangroves are also being planted to act as further coastal defences. One billion Cuban Pesos (£0.9 billion) has been allocated for hydraulic programmes around the country.

### SUSTAINABLE FASHION

Green Textiles are the future of fashion, from mushroom leather to seaweed silk. Green textiles are being embraced by brands aware of a new generation of conscious shoppers. As regards water use and contamination, it takes 3000 litres to make a cotton shirt, green textiles use little or none at all. To produce green leather there is no need to rear a cow or cause any deforestation.

### LLOYDS BANKING GROUP

Announced on October 19 that it would stop funding new oil and gas projects, being the first major UK bank to do so.

### CANADA

A law prohibiting the sale, purchase or transfer of handguns took effect last Friday. The legislation implements the nation's strongest gun control in 40 years. New measures also prevent people bringing pistols into the country.

## FOR PRAYER AND REFLECTION

### FREE SCHOOL MEALS

This week is Half Term, so many children miss out on a free dinner at school. New research has shown that expanding the free school meals system would generate billions for the British economy. The analysis from the Impact for Urban Health revealed that expanding the free school meals scheme to every child in households on Universal Credit "would deliver significant benefits" over the next 20 years. For every

£1 invested, £1.38 would be returned through "core benefits" across social, health and educational areas. It would result in £8.9 billion for the economy. A further £16.3 billion could come from wider economic and supply chains. Such an expansion would feed an extra 800,000 children a day.

### IMMIGRATION

The government's immigration policies are leaving people facing homelessness as they wait for the Home Office to process their visas. People face thousands of pounds in fees and charges to renew their visas while the wait is keeping them out of work. It takes 10 years to achieve settled status in the UK. People are required to renew their visa every 30 months. The Visa Office says the wait for a renewal should not top half a year - but people are waiting almost a year on average for a decision on their renewal. £1,048 per person is the price for renewing limited leave to remain for two and a half years. £9,662 is the cost for a family of two adults and two children to remain for two and a half years.

### WINTER WARMTH

So far, the weather here in Cornwall has been relatively mild. In Germany public buildings have been instructed to heat to 19 degrees. In France, Government Ministers are to wear warmer clothing to show that they are united with the people. In UK the foodbanks' Trussell Trust are to focus not just on relieving hunger and poverty, but to campaign re the underlying causes.

## ACTIONS FOR THE WEEK

### FIND OUT MORE ABOUT:

Christians Against Poverty (CAP): <https://capuk.org/>  
CAP Debt Centre (St Budock Church):

<https://www.budockchurch.org/christians-against-poverty/>

CAP Jobs Club & Money Course (Emmanuel Baptist Church): <https://emmanuelbaptist.co.uk/in-the-week/christians-against-poverty/>

Church Action on Poverty:

<https://www.church-poverty.org.uk/>