# Justice & Peace News

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## **GOOD NEWS**

### FROM THE FALMOUTH PACKET

Our local weekly newspaper seldom reports good news, but this week's edition did have some good news:

### **FALMOUTH SPRING CLEAN FESTIVAL**

In March aims to improve the visual impact of the town for visitors and residents. Specific aims include repainting, litter picking, regenerating green spaces, graffiti removal, beach cleans. This gives the local community to come together and show pride of place in our coastal town

#### **CORNWALL COUNTY COUNCIL SHORT TERM LETS**

Cornwall has a desperate housing need for residents and local workers alike. Landlords have preferred to terminate contracts for renting properties and instead use their properties for short term lets which is far more lucrative. It is increasingly difficult to find rented accommodation now. Cornwall Council are taking action on this and implementing new government rules requiring planning permission for conversion of properties into short term lets.

#### **FALMOUTH RECYCLING FESTIVAL**

will showcase money saving resources with a focus on Repairing, Recycling, Repurposing and Reusing. This will take place in the Dracaena Community Centre near one of our poorest local estates.

The emphasis will be on local resources such as Foodbank, Community Fridge, Gleaning Network, Baby Grow (a local Christian resource for mothers and babies). There will be activities for children such as seed pot making, wood engraving and badge making, also a repair café, Clothes mending and exchanging and a warm welcome and refreshments.

### STAFF SHARE BAKING SUCCESS

The largest locally owned pasty producer in Cornwall is transitioning to an employee owned business( which will produce 14 million pasties in 2024)

There are 150 employees and 30 more to be taken on in the the next five years

## FOR PRAYER & REFLECTION

### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

was on 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

### SOCIAL JUSTICE AND REFUGEES IN ENGLAND

A challenge facing refugees in England is that there is a lack of legal support for them as they navigate an increasingly hostile system. This has an enormous effect on asylum claims for housing and support, and increased risk of being held in immigrant detention (report from Jesuit Refugee service).

# ACN (Aid to the Church in Need) REPORTS FROM THE HOLY LAND

Christians are struggling to pay for food and household hills

With an upsurge in religious hatred, Christians are facing threats and are forced to conceal their identities.

In East Jerusalem and the West Bank. unemployment is 72% with mass layoffs and restriction on freedom of movement. Most people worked in the tourist industry. Reliable sources state that 80,000 Indian workers are expected to arrive to take on jobs held by Palestinians.

### **ENERGY BILLS**

are twice what they were three years age. Because shareholders need their dividends.

BP reports a profit of 800million, yet millions are struggling in poverty to pay their energy bills.

### THE INTER FAITH NETWORK FOR THE UK

is to close this year unless the government is to overturn its decision to cancel fund pledges for this important body.

### **WATER POLLUTION**

Water companies have been in the news for the amount of pollution of waste and sewage water into rivers and beaches. Campaigners claim that the current restrictions in place are outdated and inadequate, some dating back to the 1960s, and that the Environmental Agency is "asleep at the wheel". They are calling for restrictions to be updated in the light of increased populations and climate change.

## **ACTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

- Prayer and more Prayer for Peace in areas of world conflicts
- In the World of Politics. Wisdom, Integrity and need to work for the good of all, especially the poor and disadvantaged
- Fasting from food or something else that is hard to give, in solidarity with those in Gaza and in refugee camps

Mary Bradley