

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

NEWSLETTER
August 2023

The Power of Praying for Charities to Break Links with Barclays



This month brought a big win for Christian Climate Action (CCA) as Christian Aid [announced that they have closed their account with Barclays](#) - Europe's biggest funders of fossil fuels. At the end of last year CCA held a vigil outside Christian Aid's headquarters and met with their board to discuss concerns regarding the charity's account with Barclays. Following this meeting, Christian Aid said that they would review their banking arrangements.

CCA are now holding a [series of vigils](#), calling on other charities to break their links with Barclays bank. Other charities that bank with Barclays include World Vision, BMS World Vision, Tearfund, Leprosy Mission and [Greenbelt Festival](#).

Barclays continue to support the expansion of fossil fuel projects despite all the scientific evidence that these must stop if we are to limit global warming. Holly-Anna Petersen, from Sheffield, explained why she is taking part in the vigils: "In this critical time for life on our planet, it is important that charities put their money where their mouth is. If they are declaring their positive impact, they need to move away from this destructive bank."

The series of vigils kicked off on the 11th August, with a prayer vigil outside the headquarters of the Catholic development agency, [CAFOD](#). Participants prayed for and with the charity as they consider their banking arrangements - specifically that CAFOD might drop their account with Barclays.

Members of the Catholic movement Laudato Si joined the vigil, along with some CAFOD

members. Volunteers with the charity also came and talked with vigil participants. The Barclays account is a secondary account for CAFOD, their primary accounts being with RBS and the Co-Op.

FORTHCOMING ACTIONS



CCA at the DSEI Arms Fair 12th September, ExCel, London

The DSEI Arms Fair is one of the world's largest arms fairs. Military emissions fuel climate change, accounting for 5.5% of global greenhouse gas emissions, according to a 2022 estimate by international experts.

We invite you to join CCA as we hold a vigil and die-in at the Arms Fair from 8:30am to 9:30am. We will then be holding prayer for the rest of the day.

[More information available here](#)



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](#)

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 which begins 2nd September.

Saturday 2nd September Return!

Post summer welcome back and an introduction to our upcoming actions and events.

Saturday 9th September Online pilgrimage

Lots of CCA local groups are organising pilgrimages in the next couple of weeks. This is an opportunity to journey alongside them.

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 and Saturday 30th September

A fresh look at Mark

Considering the Gospel of Mark as a manual for civil resistance.

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

Brew Time

Tuesday September 5th
7:30pm - 8:30pm ONLINE



Brew Time is a space where we can get to know 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 Brew Time on the first Tuesday of every month and everyone is very welcome.

[Register here for the link to join](#)

Want a CCA Group Near You?

Thursday September 7th
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](#)



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](#)

An Evening with John Dear

Wednesday October 18th, 7.30pm

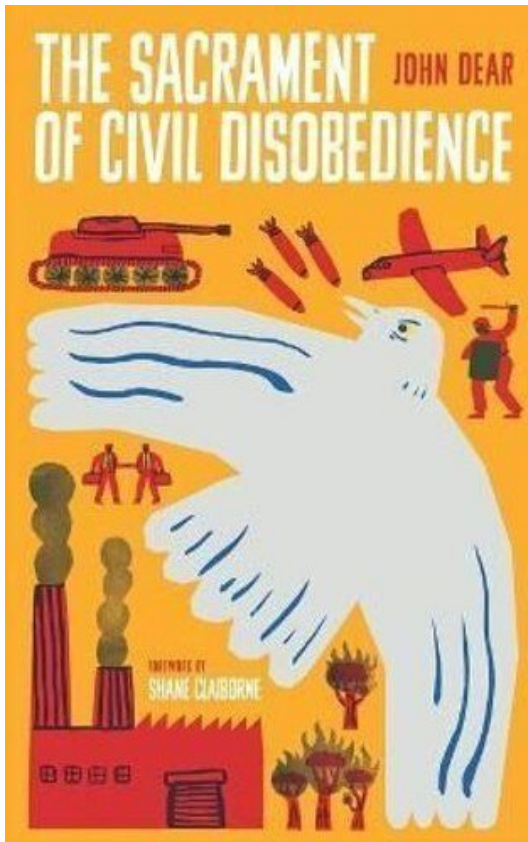
CCA is really excited to be organising this event! Come and hear about the rich tradition of civil disobedience

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](#)



LAST CALL

John Dear Book Club

NOW STARTING Tuesday 26th
September - [full dates here](#)

Are you considering arrestable actions? Would you appreciate the opportunity to discern the call to do this with others? [The Sacrament of Civil Disobedience](#) book club is for you!

John Dear's book is a civil resister's field guide to nonviolent civil disobedience that is rooted in faith. It covers both the biblical roots of nonviolent civil disobedience and the practicalities of how to prepare for, do and deal with the consequences of, nonviolent civil disobedience. Originally published in 1994, it was updated in 2022 by Christopher David and CCA's Rev Sue Parfit. Join us over six evenings as we work through the book and discuss what it might mean for us. Several members of CCA, including Sue, will facilitate different sessions.

[Express your interest here](#)

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

Climate Pilgrimages 9th and 10th September (and 17th in London)

Throughout history pilgrimage has been a tool that groups pushing for change have used alongside nonviolent direct action protest.

During September, Pilgrimages for the Planet will be taking place at a variety of locations across the UK and we invite you to join one.

[Find a pilgrimage near you](#)



The Big Sit (for the Earth) Saturday 23rd September, 11am to 12 noon, College Green Bristol

This event is organised by XR Buddhists, but is open to everyone (of all faiths and none) and members of CCA Bristol will take part. Do come if you would like to join them.

“A coalition of ordinary people, meditators and faith groups, we’ve decided to give a sit.”

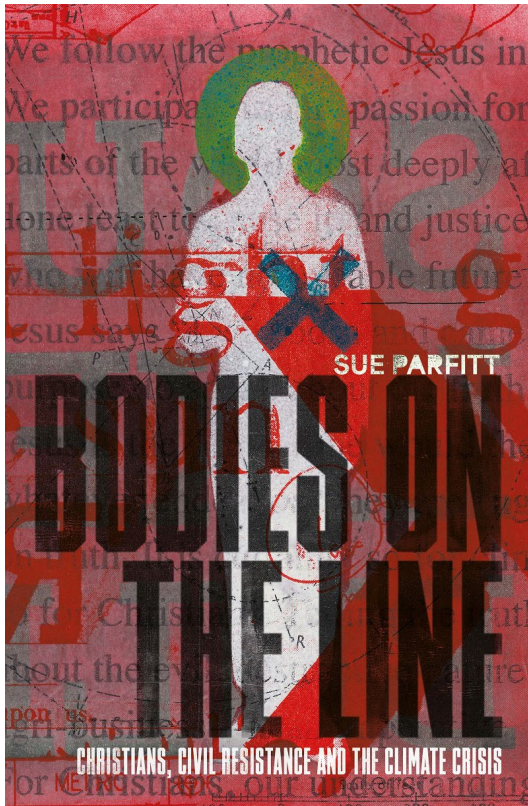
[More info here](#). You can also **contact [CCA Bristol](#)** to let them know you’re coming.

NEW BOOK

Bodies on the Line
Author: Rev Sue Parfitt
£9.99. Paperback and ebook formats
from all online bookstores, from
August 24th. Pre-orders 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!**

**Bodies on the Line Book Launch:
Saturday 26th August at 8.00pm, at Greenbelt.**

If you are attending this year's Festival, join Sue in the URC tent as she is informally interviewed and launches her new book.

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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