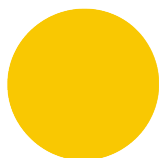


From: [The Clewer Initiative](#)
To: ctcinfohub@gmail.com
Subject: Modern slavery in rural communities
Date: 01 August 2023 10:14:56



THE CLEWER ● INITIATIVE

Mobilising the Church to help end modern slavery.

Modern slavery in rural communities

In this month's newsletter, we share news of our three day visit to Lancashire to raise awareness of rural slavery and our new resource for rural communities. We also reveal the impact the Safe Car Wash App is having and highlight two stories of modern slavery activism, in Devon and the West Midlands.

Please forward this newsletter to your friends and colleagues and encourage them to sign up to receive it regularly.



On tour at The Royal Lancashire Agricultural Show!

The Royal Lancashire Agricultural Show provided a unique opportunity for The Clewer Initiative and its partners to raise awareness of the issue of modern slavery in rural communities.

From 21st-23rd July, more than 25,000 visitors came to the showground and many of them visited the Church Tent which was organised by Churches Together in Lancashire. Inside the Church Tent, Churches Together in Lancashire hosted a café, with free refreshments, and a resource centre with a special focus on modern slavery in rural communities.

The Clewer Initiative worked closely with Churches Together in Lancashire to gather a range of resources which helped introduce the issue to children and adults in general but also more specifically to those who work within farming and agriculture. It was a great location to launch our [new rural resource](#).

[READ MORE](#)



New resource to help tackle modern slavery in rural areas

Modern slavery and labour exploitation are highly prevalent in rural areas. The unseen victims include children caught up in county lines, underpaid construction labourers, and exploited agricultural workers with seasonal visas.

That's why we have developed this new resource and poster set which we hope will help raise awareness in rural communities. The posters can be downloaded and displayed or used as a stand-alone training package.

The material covers the following aspects of modern slavery and exploitation in rural areas:

- The basics of key rural issues
- Types of modern slavery and exploitation
- Signs to look out for and who can look out for them
- How you can raise awareness and report concerns.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



DOWNLOAD THE APP
Safe Car Wash

WE SEE YOU.
THE CLEWER INITIATIVE

Safe Car Wash App helps statutory bodies identify and tackle exploitation

New data from The Clewer Initiative's Safe Car Wash App reveals the scale of exploitation in UK hand car wash businesses.

In the first two quarters of 2023, a third of all reports submitted through the app scored over the threshold of concern for modern slavery and exploitation. This means that consumers observed enough potential signs of exploitation that the app invited them to refer their report to the Modern Slavery Helpline (MSH). These signs included a lack of PPE; workers living on site; paying under £10 and workers under the age of 16.

[READ MORE](#)



Everyday activists - the Mothers' Union in Devon

We spoke to Rev'd Tracey Voysey, an Assistant Curate in the Axe Valley Mission Community and Heather Sayle, the Diocesan President of the Mothers' Union in Exeter, about their experience of using our Lent resource, [Journeys](#).

How did you hear about Journeys?

We follow the work of The Clewer Initiative closely and in February attended a modern slavery awareness event in Plymouth to mark [St. Bakhita's Day](#). During one of the presentations, we heard about Journeys and thought it sounded like the sort of course we could run in our Diocese to increase awareness of modern slavery.

[READ MORE](#)

West Midlands
Violence Reduction Partnership

TOOLKIT FOR FAITH COMMUNITIES

EQUIPPING, ENABLING AND EMPOWERING



Pioneering faith-based approaches to violence reduction

Fred Kratt is the Faith & Communities Navigator at the West Midlands Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP). This is a unique role that the West Midlands VRP has pioneered but which could provide a blueprint for other VRUs / VRPs and partnership organisations across the country. We spoke to Fred to find out more about his job:

What did you do prior to this role at the VRP?

My first job, after studying Geography at university, was as an intern and research assistant to the Bishop of Coventry. This consisted of a number of different elements including being a lay chaplain, supporting the Bishop's work in Parliament, and facilitating local community engagement with churches and other faith groups. It was during my time working for the Bishop that I attended an event that would change the trajectory of my life.

[READ MORE](#)

Children at risk this summer

Children's charity, Barnardo's has warned that more children are at risk of exploitation during the summer as families struggle to afford activities during

the school holidays and children spend more time without adult supervision whilst online or out in the community.

Barnardo's Chief Executive Lynn Perry MBE said: "During the pandemic, we saw a rise in new forms of exploitation – with children increasingly groomed, recruited and exploited over social media, chat rooms, and on gaming platforms. What starts in the virtual world can quickly move to in-person sexual and criminal exploitation.

"Whilst all children, regardless of age, location or background can be vulnerable to sexual and criminal exploitation, with many families struggling to afford the basics, let alone activities for their children during the holidays, some children are particularly at risk this summer."

[READ MORE](#)

SIGN UP FOR MODERN SLAVERY TRAINING

1. Breaking County Lines Train the Trainer

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/breaking-county-lines-train-the-trainer-tickets-671381840157>

Wed 20th September 14:30-16:30

Wed 27th September 14:30-16:30

2. Breaking County Lines Train the Trainer Secular Organisations

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/breaking-county-lines-train-the-trainer-secular-organisations-tickets-671383946457>

Wed 15th November 14:30-16:30

Wed 22nd November 14:30-16:30

3. County Lines for Parents, Grandparents and Guardians

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/understanding-county-lines-for-parents-grandparents-and-guardians-tickets-671386112937>

Thurs 19th October 10:00-11:00

4. County Lines for Foster Parents

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/county-lines-training-for-foster-parents-tickets-671390566257>

Fri 13th October 10:00-12:00

To find out more, visit <https://theclewerinitiative.org/training-and-events>

Follow us on social for more news from The Clewer Initiative!



The Clewer Initiative enables Church of England dioceses and wider church networks to develop strategies for detecting modern slavery in their communities and help provide victim support and care. [Learn More](#)

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You signed up to receive the newsletter from the Clewer Initiative via www.theclerinitiative.org or at an event in person.

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