

Churches Together Against Human Trafficking

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1948 states:

"No one shall be held in slavery or servitude, slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms"

This newsletter is the response by many people to the plight of individuals whose lives are destroyed by Human Trafficking

UK citizen Harry had always worked now homeless and vulnerable, he was taken in by traffickers who promised to him pay. He accepted, worked long hours doing physical labour for no pay and lived in appalling conditions. He eventually escaped, went to the police, who referred him to the **Salvation Army**. He received healthcare, safe accommodation, food and help to start living independently. Harry continues to stay in touch with The Salvation Army, volunteering in his local charity shop.

Modern Day Slavery is defined by the **United Nations** as:

'the recruitment, transport, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a person by such means as threat or force or other forms of coercion for the purpose of exploitation'

Human Trafficking - Local Police Support

Human Trafficking for profit is worldwide and exists even in Cheshire. It represents the most exploitative aspects of organised crime, creating victims of serious crimes and human rights abuses.

Traffickers exploit the vulnerable and often UK nationals are trafficked within and out of the UK. In Cheshire, a network including the Police, Councils, Gangmasters Licensing Authority, Housing Associations and NHS work together to tackle this.

Signs include, lack of personal identification documents, restricted freedom, unusual travel times and reluctance to seek help. An effective response is dependent on the help of the whole community. This includes the general public, local business, voluntary organizations and even you who may

encounter victims during your everyday lives. We ask anyone who suspects human trafficking, sexual exploitation, forced labour to contact the **Police, 101**,

Modern Slavery helpline, 0800 0121

700 or visit www.modernslavery.co.uk

for advice and information.



Note from the Editor; there has been an overwhelming response to requests for contributions to this newsletter. So that they can all be included , it has been necessary to shorten them all.

A Global Freedom Network has been created to join the struggle against



Human Trafficking. This is between Christian Churches and other World Faiths. The purpose being to eradicate an injustice affecting over 30 million people and increasing daily. Working Together the network is stronger.

This is an ecumenical initiative, signed by Pope Francis, the

Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby, Dr Mahmoud Azab on behalf of Al Azhar, Egypt and Mr Andrew Forrest of 'Walk Free'. The network seeks to include other faiths in order to have a multi-faith approach to this multi-national tragedy.

Freedom Sunday 18th October;

"Provides churches with an opportunity to join together with others around the world in a day of worship, prayers and action on Human Trafficking. [Freedom Sunday](#) challenges us and resources us to take action to prevent the crime of human trafficking in our communities." **The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Reverend Justin Welby.**



The future depends on what we do in the present. - Mahatma Gandhi

Action by Local Churches Working Together Against Human Trafficking

Churches have campaigned to raise awareness at all levels of Church and State. Government was lobbied to improve the new Modern Slavery Act, by improving the support for victims. A regional forum created a network of partnerships both locally and nationally. Funds have been raised for frontline charities. Different events have been organised or attended to help others understand and respond, e.g. Cheshire Show, Pop-up Charity Shop, talks, coffee mornings.



RHEMA THEATRE COMPANY: 'IT'S NOT FAIR'

Present an inspiring and moving new piece of theatre telling stories around the world of human trafficking - and those who fight against it. Chester Diocese and Churches Against Trafficking have invited Rhema to include FRODSHAM as a venue on their national tour this autumn. www.theitsnotfair.co.uk/tour-dates

AT: FRODSHAM METHODIST CHURCH, Kingsley Road, Frodsham, WA6 6BA **Friday**

16th October 2015 Starting at 7.30 pm. For tickets contact www.eventbrite.co.uk

or frodshamforuminfo@gmail.com. Tickets are free, a donation collection is

requested for victims of Human Trafficking.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS



STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Human Trafficking in the UK - The Rt. Hon Frank Field DL M.P. BIRKENHEAD

The Human Trafficking Foundation brought to my attention the scale of trafficking in the UK. Since 2012 I have been their Vice Chair and also for the All Party Group on Human Trafficking. This supports anti-slavery charities in the voluntary sector by linking them to the policy makers. Speaking at the launch of the Centre for Social Justice's report, 'It happens here': Equipping the United Kingdom to fight Modern Slavery. I made two recommendations, that trafficking be called slavery and the need for a new abolition bill.

Meeting victims of slavery as part of the Modern Slavery Bill Evidence Review and what I learned from these sessions haunts me to this day. No words can convey the shame and hurt the victims relayed to us of being subjected to another person's power that a key part of humanity was destroyed.

Throughout the Bill's progress, the Foundation maintained pressure on the most controversial issues. The achievement of which they can be proud is the development of the Survivor Care Standards, launched in June.

These provide a blueprint for service providers in the UK, offering the highest quality care to adult survivors. The Survivor Care Standards provide a framework of guiding principles prioritising the needs of victims and ensuring an integrated approach for support agencies." See:

www.humantraffickingfoundation.org
www.antislavery.org

Phase one of the Cheshire Anti-Slavery Network was established December in 2014 and is a range of statutory services working in partnership to make Cheshire resilient and hostile to Slavery. Phase two requires identifying and linking with non statutory organisations including NGO'S who may encounter trafficking in their work. Phase three, will identify relevant businesses in the community and facilitate the development of knowledge and skills across member agencies to share best practice. A pro-active and co-ordinated Pan-Cheshire response to the threat of modern day slavery will be made which reflects the Home Office Strategy for partnerships. The aim is to increase the number of victims rescued across Cheshire, ensuring that aftercare is in line with recognised national guidance, making a significant contribution to fighting Modern Slavery. Contact Network Co-ordinator on 07849 050707

TO SEE THE LEGISLATION
www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2015/30/contents/enacted

Graham Evans M.P. Weaver Vale

Vale, raised the issue of forced marriages with the Solicitor General in the House of Commons, asking what is being done to end this and what advice is being given to those at risk. Forced marriages remain a scourge of communities across the UK. Victims are often young and unable to give free informed consent to marriage. Following marriage it is often difficult for the victim to escape. The Home and Foreign Office, Forced Marriage Unit, provides free and confidential advice on precautions to those at risk, in the UK and abroad. Last year, the service provided advice in nearly 1,300 cases. Tackling human trafficking in all its forms is vital to stopping exploitation. Government will not tolerate slavery of any form, in or into the UK.



Is the person you are with a victim of Modern Slavery?

- Doesn't know home/work address?
- Expression of fear, distrust, anxiety?
- As an individual or group, movements are restricted by others?
- Limited contact with family and/or friends?
- Money deducted from salary for food and/or accommodation?
- Passport/documents held by someone else?

THINK YOU HAVE MET A VICTIM?

Please call the Modern Slavery helpline
0800 0121 700



WHY NOT WATCH
25 Painfully Disturbing Facts
about Human Trafficking

Fiona Bruce M.P. Congleton

The Modern Slavery Act- first of its kind in Europe – reflects the UK Government's determination to fight against Global Slavery.

Government will not tolerate slavery or human trafficking within, or into, the UK, it has no place in today's society. Tackling slavery in all its forms is vital to stop the exploitation of humans.

The Act gives law enforcers powers needed to successfully prosecute those propagating human trafficking, including a provision to give life sentences, confiscate the proceeds of crimes and compensate their victims. The Act enhances protection for victims in different ways, providing a defence for victims who are forced to commit offences.

The UK's first ever Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner has been appointed to spearhead the fight and focus on strengthening the law, both here and overseas. This should ensure that public authorities identify and support victims effectively.

The Home Secretary, states that legislation is only part of the solution in combating the problem of modern slavery, adding that "it also requires tireless and coordinated effort across government and law enforcement, work with other countries to tackle the problem at source, and increased awareness within all communities".



©AFRUCA Young People at a Music Event

AFRUCA -- Supporting Trafficked Victims in the UK from Africa

AFRUCA has been addressing the issue of the trafficking of children and young people since its inception in 2001. Most of our clients have been trafficked into the UK for domestic slavery and benefit fraud - a few for sexual exploitation. Each year, AFRUCA supports about 30 young people .According to government figures, African victims are the second largest number of victims in the UK. Many young people are prone to being trafficked due to promises of a "better life". There is a lot of deceit involved, and in some cases juju and oath rituals are employed as means of coercion and manipulation. Once here, victims are unable to take action against their traffickers or run away, because they believe in the power of the juju or oath they had sworn to. AFRUCA works with such young people to help overcome their ordeals. We run awareness sessions to educate the community and faith groups about trafficking, how to identify victims and what to do as a result. We work with policy makers in formulating policy on this issue as well. With help, Afruca aims to safeguard even more victims. www.afruca.org

No Trafficking of Young People - The

Children's Society campaigns on behalf of children who are vulnerable in many ways. Child Trafficking is child abuse. Children are recruited, moved or transported and then exploited, forced to work or sold on. They are often subject to multiple forms of exploitation. 'Still at Risk' is The Children's Society report that highlights the fact that opportunities to protect children are missed because of culture and suspicion among professionals..**Support is needed for children by:**

- increasing understanding of trafficking and statutory responsibilities regardless of immigration status, nationality and documentation.
- all agencies implementing statutory and practice guidance for safeguarding children
- implementing national responses to all potential victims.
- establishing a system of protection that includes an independent guardian.

Many have heard of The Children's Society through their Christingle Celebrations at Christmas. Fund raising helps their work to stop this crime against children.



www.childrenssociety.org.uk

Salvation Army and Human Trafficking



Since 1865, The Salvation Army has worked with vulnerable people including victims of trafficking, who may be victims of sexual exploitation, labour exploitation or domestic servitude. Since 2011 they have managed the government contract to support victims of modern slavery. The Salvation Army manages the provision of support for adult victims in England and Wales. In June 2014 The Salvation Army, working with various partners, had managed support for around 1,800 potential victims of trafficking and slavery. Potential victims are referred through The Salvation Army's 24 hour referral helpline. Each client received into the system is allocated a support worker and given a tailored support plan. This typically consists of safe accommodation, medical treatment, translation services, counselling, assistance in presenting rights and access to education for children. www.salvationarmy.org.uk

Rebuilding Lives - A Safe House

Kim 30, (not her real name) a survivor smiles when she enters the room. Receiving a warm welcome from the other women she finds a space while the English for Speakers of Other Languages teacher gives her an exercise sheet. She has great news to share.

Kim was referred into the **National Referral Mechanism** like 2,340 other potential victims. Once rescued, she entered a 45-day Reflection Period when caseworker and survivor develop a bespoke support plan. Legally, the plan fulfils article 12 of the European Convention on Action against Trafficking and offers tailored support, care and protection. This fosters independence and integration in the community for when the help ends. On a human level, however, the support offers dignity, an ear to listen, a mind to think forward, a hand to help rebuild a life. In a safe house Kim can socialise with other survivors, join skills and craft sessions and have a one-to-one support meeting with a caseworker. She receives her allowance and talks about how her week has been, how counselling is progressing, if she needs any support with housing, medical or legal appointments. Beaming, she shares that she has been accepted as a volunteer in a Charity Shop. *"Before, I had no hope, no life. I was not a human being. Now, I start to hope that a life is possible for me."* **If you suspect human trafficking, please contact the 24/7 confidential Referral Helpline on 0300 303 8151.**

THE PURPLE TEARDROP CAMPAIGN

has three main aims, they are to:

- Raise awareness of trafficking to the public, voluntary sector, frontline workers and faith groups.
- Support safe houses for trafficked victims by fund-raising
- Help suppress the demand for trafficked women by calling on the Government to introduce legislation which will make it illegal for "Sex for Sale" advertisements to appear in any media. Legislation should cover all aspects of the media and apply to those who assist, promote or aid and abet advertising of prostitution.



The teardrop represents the suffering of women and children who are trafficked, exploited and abused around the world and in our local communities. It is purple because it was the colour used in anti trafficking initiatives started by Soroptimist clubs in the UK and Europe. www.purpleteardrop.org.uk

NEPAL- How much is your daughter worth, a tin roof?

Nepal is desperately poor and vulnerable in terms of economy, opportunity and security. The earthquake in April 2015 made poor people even more vulnerable. It is little known that some 100,000 Nepali girls are taken and trafficked into the sex trade each year. Relative to size of population that is equivalent to 225,000 British girls sold into a life of prostitution, brutality and terror. Many families are tricked into handing over their daughters ‘for a better life’ for a fee of £100, the cost of a tin roof.

The aftermath of the earthquake has helped traffickers. They have pretended to offer safety and security to orphaned children or to those whose parents have lost their income.

Christian Groups are working hard to change this. **The Children’s Rescue Mission** works with a network of churches to run workshops and seminars, to raise awareness and train others to do this work. **Go Project** has built children’s homes and through the school, educates hundreds of children. **The 3 Angels Nepal** tries to restore victims to a life and future of hope and happiness. Since the earthquake, this work has become even more difficult. See: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fdo6NVqHA0w For further details: enquiries@goproject.org.uk



Tear fund -- It's Personal!

 Every thirty seconds a child is trafficked. It is as if half the population of Greater Manchester disappear every year worldwide. The industrial revolution that took over a hundred years in Britain, is happening in a decade in Asia.

Demand for labour coupled with abject poverty in the country areas mean that conditions are perfect for this evil trade in trafficking to flourish. Our latest [Tearfund film](#) shows a family whose boys were trafficked from Cambodia to Bangkok where they worked as construction slaves for six years. It was only when their father was able to set up a business with the help of the Tearfund supported by local church that he got them back. This battle against trafficking gets personal - it could have happened anywhere. Visit www.tearfund.org and see how trafficking can be prevented and how it can be personal for you too.

International Justice Mission, a human rights organisation of Christian Professionals, seeks to secure justice for victims of slavery. IJM lawyers, investigators and aftercare professionals work with local officials in 20 countries to rescue people from slavery, restore them to safety and provide aftercare. They assist in the prosecution of traffickers and help develop local justice systems to make slavery more difficult. It is estimated that nearly 2 million children are exploited in the commercial sex trade.

A five year IJM project in the Philippines led to the rescue of over 220 children and the arrest of 100 suspects. IJM also trained over 700 law enforcement officers. This project led to a 79% reduction in the number of children being sold in the area. Child sex tourists and human traffickers exploit the vulnerable in countries where they think they can commit these crimes with impunity. They target the poor, uneducated and vulnerable. Some criminals are from the UK. In a recent case IJM worked with law enforcement agencies in Kenya to obtain evidence leading to the first conviction in the UK for sexual crimes abroad. Information at www.ijmuk.org/stop-it-together.



The Salvation Army International Development UK

(SAID UK) is committed to fighting the injustice of human trafficking around the world. SAID UK combats human trafficking by supporting projects around the world that focus on (1) rescuing and providing protection and support to trafficked victims (2) preventing the trade in the first place or (3) bringing the traffickers to justice through strengthening the local legal systems. All the projects partner with local organisations and governments in order to have the most effective response.

One anti-human trafficking project is a recovery centre in Dar Es Salaam. As the capital of Tanzania, Dar Es Salaam attracts many young girls in search of work. They are easy prey for traffickers and are willing to take attractive - but fake - job offers. Girls are also trafficked from the rural areas into Dar Es Salaam to work without pay and are often abused. The centre has an outreach team of staff and trained volunteers to identify young girls who have been trafficked or who are vulnerable to trafficking. These girls are invited to the centre for up to six months to recover from their exploitation. If they have been trafficked they can restart their education or gain a vocational skill so that they can protect themselves from being trafficked or re-trafficked. Girls leave the centre once they can be returned to their families or secure safe employment through their vocational training.



Girls at the centre

How wonderful is it that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world. - Anne Frank

The National Referral Mechanism is a process set up by government to identify and support victims of human trafficking in the UK. It was born out of the government’s obligation to identify victims under the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking, which came into force on the 1st February 2008. Information: www.ecpat.org.uk