

# Hope for the Future ...

## The Climate Challenge



### The Campaign in Brief

Dangerous climate change may well be unavoidable within 20 years if we do not reduce our CO<sub>2</sub> emissions drastically *now*. This campaign is a wake-up call to our politicians to act *now*. For this to happen we need thousands of people to write to them *now*.

Make sure you're one of them!

Both the desperate peasant farmer in Rwanda facing persistent drought and the farmer in Norfolk wondering whether his farm will be flooded have good reason to worry. If we continue to emit greenhouse gases at current rates, within as little as 20 years the world can expect more heat waves, droughts and extreme weather with a rise in sea levels of between 26 cm and 82 cm (10-32 inches) by 2100. But things could be much worse as the present rate of greenhouse gas emissions is actually *increasing* by about 3% a year.

**The situation is critical. We must take decisive action NOW. So what can we do? At least three things:**

- **Prayer**

To say that any campaign must be rooted in prayer is not just a cursory nod in God's direction, but recognition that we need to allow ourselves to be filled with a passionate love, not only of God, but also for God's earth.

**"The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it."**

*(Psalm 24:1)*

- **Practice**

There are many practical things we can do: re-cycling, home insulation, shopping locally, using renewable energy, flying only when it is unavoidable. For many others, visit: [www.climatecare.org/climate/low-carbon-living](http://www.climatecare.org/climate/low-carbon-living).

**Such commitments are important  
but they are not enough.**

- **Politics**

**Thousands of us need to write to our politicians to get effective action on climate change.** We also need to encourage family, friends, work colleagues and church members to write as well. It would be good if you could enclose photos of your children or loved ones from the next generation.

Details of your MP can be found at:  
<http://findyourmp.parliament.uk/constituencies>

There is real value in writing a paper letter –  
and keep writing until you receive a proper reply!  
We have included a model letter overleaf.

Winston Churchill said: “It is not enough that we do our best: sometimes we have to do what is required.”

“Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things,  
endures all things. Love never ends”  
(1 Corinthians 13.7-8)

### **Can you join us?**

Contact us at [hopeftf@gmail.com](mailto:hopeftf@gmail.com) or phone Michael Bayley on 0114 258 5248 or Isaac Toman Grief on 0796 7380 268 or write to us at 27, Meadow Bank Avenue, Sheffield S7 1PB. For more information, please visit our website at <http://www.hftf.org.uk>.

## **A model letter to send to politicians**

*I am deeply concerned about humanity's wholly inadequate efforts to respond to climate change.*

*I want you and your party to tackle climate change with commitment and determination so that future generations, in this country and across the world, will have a future in which they can flourish. I want you to do this for [...]\** whom I love.

*At the very least, please press for your party to show in its Manifesto for the 2015 General Election how it will, as required by law, reach the target of an 80% reduction in our greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 giving precise targets and dates. This will give the UK a stronger hand in the vital negotiations for an international agreement.*

*This in itself may not be sufficient. The IPCC Report of September 2013 indicates that the science really requires a 90% reduction by 2030. I realise that this would be challenging politically but that does not alter the science.*

*Please confirm that you have passed this request to your 2015 Manifesto Planning Group.*

*\* [include names of people, especially of the younger generations, for whom you have a special concern. This may well include children and grandchildren but does not have to be limited to them.]*