



# Justice & Peace news

from the Justice & Peace Mission Action Group

February 2018

## Forthcoming Events

### How fair is Fairtrade?

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March, 9.30am-1pm,  
St. Andrew's, Psalter Lane

This event will take a look at Fairtrade in the light of Sainsbury's move to have their own fairly-traded label for tea and some challenges posed in the book 'Doing Good Better' by William MacAskill, a proponent of effective altruism.

The morning will start with an introduction and will look at some of the principles of effective altruism. We will then hear from two speakers with extensive knowledge of Fairtrade and Traidcraft, and about some of the benefits that Fairtrade can bring.

There will be plenty of time for discussion and questions, as well as coffee and cake! Please come and join us.

### Church Action on Poverty Sunday

Church Action on Poverty Sunday is on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February at the Central United Reformed Church, Norfolk Street in Sheffield starting at 6.30 pm. The speaker is Rev. Phill Borkett.

### Mental health issues and the NHS

At the last meeting we briefly discussed the issue of the cuts to the NHS and the plans to close the minor injuries unit. There is a demonstration at Barkers Pool on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March (more information available at <http://www.sheffieldsaveournhs.co.uk/>). We learned at the meeting that 95,000 people in Sheffield suffer from some sort of

mental health problem and we will discuss this in more detail at our next meeting.

### Would you like to get involved?

The Sheffield Methodist Circuit Justice and Peace Mission Action Group is one of four mission action groups set up by the circuit. The remit of the group is to focus on social justice and related issues locally, nationally and globally and to look at what we, as a circuit, can offer to support these issues.

In the last two years we have organised two circuit services: one focussing on good work tackling social justice and environmental issues in the city; and a second highlighting links within the Circuit to churches and mission overseas. We also organised a series of 'Behind the Headlines' events that tackled the problems of climate change, the situation in Palestine and issues around ethical consumerism and third-world debt.

We are a group of enthusiastic individuals who are passionate about social justice issues. Individually, members link to Church Action on Poverty, Sheffield Climate Alliance, Eco Church, Global Justice Now, Fairtrade and Kairos Sheffield to name but a few. We also link with other faiths to work together on these issues.

We meet every six weeks or so and the next meeting is on March 19<sup>th</sup> 2018 at 65, Stafford Road, Sheffield at 7.30pm. New members are very welcome – if you are interested pop along on the 19<sup>th</sup> or email Sean Ashton on [svm\\_ashton@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:svm_ashton@yahoo.co.uk)



The Methodist  
Church in Sheffield

... growing followers of Jesus