

# THE CATHOLIC WORKER FARM

*"Love in all Sincerity"*

**EASTER 2015**

## Bearing the Burden of Reality

Synthesising the ideas of two authors often creates something greater than the sum of each concept. And in the case of Chris Hedges and Ignacio Ellacuria the end sum is a radical reshaping of history. While Hedges analyses our condition, Ellacuria provides the cure.

Hedges, in his book, *The Empire of Illusion*, examines the illusion's of Literacy, Love, Wisdom, Happiness and America. What he clearly demonstrates is that we are in a flight from reality and engaged in the spectacle of Fantasy or illusions.

Our flight into illusion is perhaps precipitated by the fact that life is hard, injustice is epidemic and reality is just too painful. Our existential fears; death, meaninglessness, unguided freedom and loneliness can hang above us like Damocles sword. Who wouldn't want to engage in the lives of others via

television when our own life appears to be loveless or pointless, believe that immigrants are destroying our economy rather than the banks we save in or support our troops in the face of a an ISIS attack? "For the truth is that life on the face of it is a chaos in which one finds oneself lost. The individual suspects as



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Events

much, but is terrified to encounter this frightening reality face to face, and so attempts to conceal it by drawing a curtain of fantasy over it, behind which he can make believe that everything is clear." (Jose Ortega y Gasset)

The mediators of illusion use theatre and spectacle to grasp our attention to the point that soon we may not be able to distinguish between what is real and what is illusion. We may perhaps, in time develop a culture of neurosis or indeed psychosis. We may be already there. Films such as *The Matrix* or *Vanilla Sky* appeal to audiences because they suggest that we either continue to live in a fantasy or accept reality on its own terms. In *The Matrix* Morpheus says to the Neophyte, the new man, Neo "This is your last chance. After this, there is no turning back. You take the blue pill - the story ends, you wake up in your bed and believe whatever you want to believe. You take the red pill - you stay in Wonderland and I show you how deep the rabbit-hole goes."

Ellacuria invites us to engage with reality. The most important aspect of Ellacurias reflection though, is the fact that he lived what he preached. As a Jesuit priest and professor living in El Salvador, he and his colleagues bore witness to the grave evils of the El Salvadoran government. Teaching and broadcasting Ellacuria spoke truth to power. In 1989 the Alacati Battalion broke into their residency and shot the six priests, their house keeper and her daughter. They then took the brains of a few of the Jesuits and placed them next to their dead bodies as if to say, your thinking, your intellectual assessments, your discourse with the powers and principalities at work here will not change the status quo; because your brain is now disengaged from your body, your word cannot be made flesh!

Ellacuria invites us to fully grasp and face reality with our minds. We are asked "to take hold of reality"; which is the intellectual dimension. Then to "bear the burden of reality"; which is the ethical dimension. And finally, "to take responsibility for reality";

which is the praxis dimension. This may cause suffering and sacrifice for the believer, as it did Ellacuria himself.

When one reads the Gospels, clearly Jesus lives this out, for he is the par excellence creator of this insight. All others, Martin Luther King, Oscar Romero and Ellacuria simply, courageously and painfully follow in his steps. Jesus invites his disciples to follow him in The Way. The Way leads to Jerusalem. The Way leads to confrontation with the powers and principalities. The Way leads to death and resurrection.

According to Mark's Gospel, during his last week, our Holy Week, Jesus held a public demonstration riding on an ass to the Temple Mount's east portico. Thus Jesus rode towards the Temple, as the Governor Pontus Pilate rode towards the opposite western portico in full regalia on chariot with armed soldiers. Pilate rode this route because during Passover many rebellions occurred as the Jerusalem population swelled to over 200,000. And there were many attempts to oust the Romans. Pilate created the spectacle of fear and power in order to keep the people under control. Jesus created an anti-spectacle in order to demonstrate that his kingdom was not built on violence and fear, but on service and love. It was not like the Roman Illusion; which was based on peace through war, Pax Romana.

The second day, Jesus goes into the Temple and throws over the tables. Another repudiation of an unjust domination system. He sees, by doing a reconnaissance of the Temple the evening before. He takes hold of the reality of Gods profound ambitions for the Temple. It should be a "House of prayer". He takes hold of the reality of the temple treasury which robbed the poor, a "Den of thieves". And he judges the House of Israel, "they remembered the Fig Tree", which Jesus cursed for not producing fruit.

Jesus then bears the burden of the human condition, the reality of sin, death and shame in carrying his cross. He teaches us that "No

man can be my disciple unless he takes up his cross and follow after me". It is only in

bearing the weight of reality that we can change the course of history.

Scott Albrecht



## **OUR ASH WEDNESDAY WITNESS; CATHOLIC WORKER FOLK, PAX CHRISTI, CHRISTIAN CND AND CATHOLIC PEACE ACTION OUTSIDE THE MOD CALLING FOR AN END TO TRIDENT NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

### **‘I AM NOT RESPONSIBLE’**

I have been volunteering at the Farm since January and have come to appreciate how incredibly blessed we are. After years of hard work by Scott, we now have an extended network of support and as a relatively new volunteer in the community, it appears to me that all we come across is generosity and compassion for the plight of our guests. It is only through the generosity of the local community, churches and our wider readership, as well as through donations of food and money, that we are able to run our 2 houses and look after 22 woman and children. By this continued generosity we are hoping to open another house which is fantastic news.

However, each day we receive upwards of 4 calls from organisations or individuals looking for place of refuge for another woman, or another mother and her children. It is with a heavy heart that we have to turn away the vast majority as our rooms are full. We only know of 3 other organisations that will take in women and children with no access to public funds. In a nation with over 33.2

million Christians, as of the 2011 census, I cannot help but reflect upon the fact that our apparent apathy seems to be a symptom of a sick church.

As we reflect on Jesus last week this Holy week and prepare for the Stations of the Cross in the City of London the words of Rev Emmanuel Charles McCarthy convict me, “But, Pilate washes his hands and says, “I am not responsible.” The scientist who makes a part of the instrument that when discharged sends hundreds or thousands to a fiery death says, “I am not responsible.” Christians in the Third World are beaten into oppression, while Christians in the First World live off the fruits of that oppression and say, “I am not responsible.” The affluent Christian who spends thousands of dollars and hundreds of hours a year on sports, alcohol, fashion, drugs and entertainment says to the billions of people caught in the unrelieved miseries of poverty, hunger, disease and injustice, “I am not responsible.” More than Pilate

*(continued on page 4)*

have washed their hands as the suffering Christ was condemned to death.” When we meet Jesus upon our death we will be like Cain when he said to the Lord, “Am I my brothers keeper?” (Genesis 4:9)

I am as guilty as the rest of us; visiting my sister in Paris just before Easter there were homeless people begging outside pretty much every church before mass. I walk past, feeling uncomfortable and harden my heart with each visit to church. We seem to have allowed this to fit into our social narrative and have all washed our hands of the responsibility for our brothers and sisters who have nowhere to turn in their time of need.

At the Farm we come across blood relatives who will not give their sisters hospitality and leave them on the street. Have we forgotten the golden rule, “So always treat others as you would like them to treat you; that is the meaning of the Law and the Prophets.” (Matthew 7:12) Although these women may not be our sisters by birth they are our sisters in Christ and we, as a church, are failing them.

We occasionally get asked for our opinion on whether government agencies or charities are most efficient in their care of the homeless. We do not believe that either is the answer and both are as inefficient as the other. A study in 2008 by the New Economics Foundation ‘Work it out: barriers to employment for homeless people’ indicated an annual cost to the state of £26,000 for each homeless person. The costs relate specifically to ‘job ready’ homeless people. The Catholic Worker Farm last year looked after 22 women and children for a whole year on a total operating budget of £84,000.

This is thanks to between 4-6 volunteers giving of their time and talents for food and accommodation, as well as a stipend of £20/week. All of our food is

*“If our poor have at times starved to death, it is not because God does not care for them. Rather, it is because you and I have refused to feed them. We have not been instruments of love in God’s hands, so that he can give them bread or offer them clothing. It has happened because, once again, we have not recognised Christ under the disguise of suffering in the hungry. We have not recognised Him in the one who suffers from loneliness. We have not recognised Him in the homeless child looking for shelter.” - Mother Theresa*

donated and professionals, such as, counsellors and teachers give of their expertise for free to assist our sisters in their healing and increasing future prospects. That works out at annual cost of approximately £4000 for each homeless person.

Imagine if every family with a spare room would take in an asylum seeker in their hour of need? If you already feed a family of 4, heat your house etc. the financial cost is minimal. I think the biggest barrier to each one of us is fear. We do not want our comfort to be disturbed, we do not want to see the humanity behind the statistics because if we did we would feel compelled to do something. As we celebrate the joy of Easter perhaps we should reflect more upon Jesus’s words, “Whatever you do to the least of these you do to me” (Matt 25:40), I know that I am not feeling confident that when I meet Jesus upon my death and look him in the eye that I will be able to say that I did all I could to love the ‘least of these’.

Daniel Jackson



Christmas at the Farm was a joyful occasion with all the women from both houses and Roland, Sue and their son joining us for a veritable feast and merriment. Thank you to all of your generous donation of presents for the women and food for the day, it was a BIG success thanks to your kindness.



### **An Appeal to Religious**

**We at The Catholic Worker Farm and Mary House are looking for a Religious sister or two who could be seconded or missioned to work with us within our live-in community. Our Moto is "Love in All Sincerity" and our Mission is to serve the 22 women and children who were formerly street homeless and now live with us in our two community houses. These are all women disintitled to work or to receive benefits because of their legal status; which forces them into destitution. All are Asylum Seekers. Many have fled torture, human trafficking, prostitution, female genital mutilation, domestic violence, bonded servitude. All need our love and support.**

**This could be part of a postulant or noviciate program. It could add another dimension or help you build upon your own community's charism. Thank you and May God Bless your work.**

### **OTHER NEWS**

**SCOTT SPOKE AT AM ECUMENICAL SERVICE AND THEN JOINED THE CLIMATE RALLY CALLING FOR GOVERNMENT ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE**



***“Love in all Sincerity”***

**The Catholic Worker Farm: Home 01923 777201 Mobile 07983477819**

**MONTHLY STANDING ORDER FORM  
FOR A COMMITTED GIVER**

**Please fill in the form in BLOCK LETTERS and send to: The Catholic Worker Farm, Lynsters Farm, Old Uxbridge Rd., West Hyde, Herts, WD3 9XJ**

**Your Bank Information**

To the Manager (Your Bank).....

Bank Address (in full) .....

.....

**Your Account Number**..... **Your Sort Code** .....

Your Account Name .....

Your Roll Number (for Building Societies).....

**Your Personal Information:**

Name.....

Address.....

.....Post Code.....

Telephone.....Email .....

Please accept this mandate as my authority to make the payment (Standing Order) of:

**The sum of £** .....

**And in words** .....

This is to be paid now and thereafter **monthly**. This replaces any previous instruction in favour of The Catholic Worker Farm until countermanded by me/us.

Beneficiary: The Catholic Worker Farm

Bank: Lloyds TSB, Address: Lloyds TSB St. Albans (309725)

**Account Number: 00727903, Sort Code: 30-97-25**

**Signed**.....

**Date**.....

***Alternatively you may send a cheque to the above address –Make payable to  
THE CATHOLIC WORKER FARM***

# How to get involved?

There are many ways in which you can get involved in this important work. Some examples are:

- Come and visit us!
- Become a live-in volunteer/intern
- Help our ladies with transport to appointments
- Come for a retreat in our beautiful Hermitage
- Pray for us - Without this, all the rest is impossible!
- Sign up for our newsletter & event invitations by post or email

## C.W. FARM NEEDS

- Sugar, Juice, Long life Milk, Cheese, Butter, Cooking Oil. At the moment we have enough tinned food.
- Home made Jam to sell.
- Cleaning Supplies such as sponges, sprays, gloves, Bleach.

## Financial Donations

Becoming a Committed Giver by filling out the Standing Order form is the best way to support us regularly. And help us sustain and increase our work.

If you want to support Mary House, our Mother and child house, directly please make cheques payable to St. Simeon's Church Trust, send your cheque to us here at the Catholic Worker Farm and we will send you a Gift Aid form.



## Join us for our fortnightly Vigil for Peace

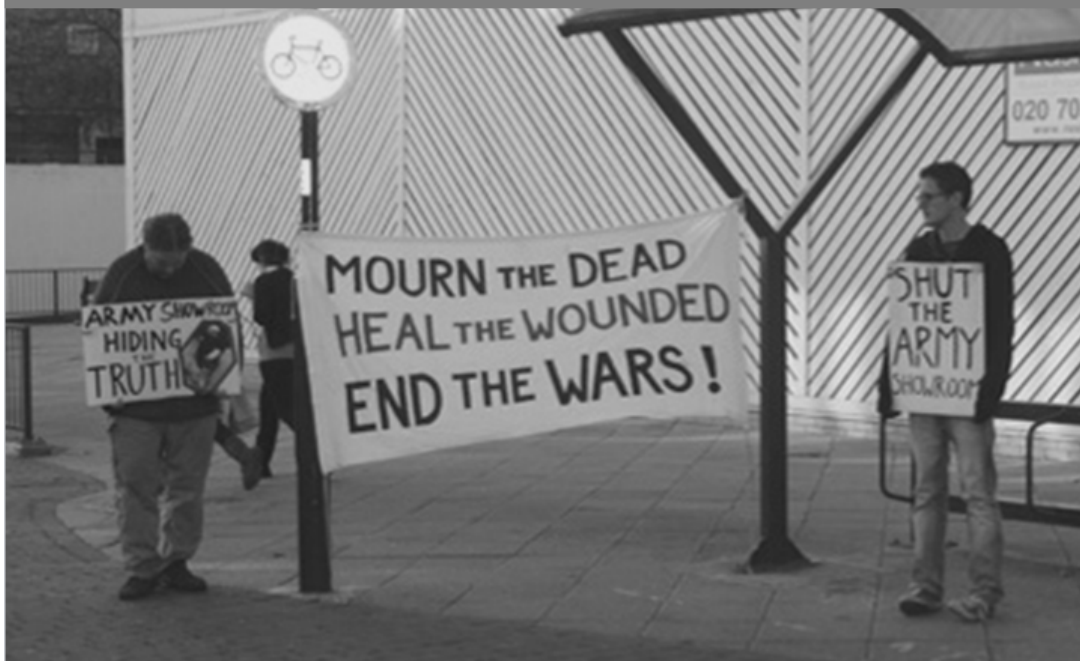
We sustain fortnightly Vigils on the first Friday of the month at Joint Military Headquarters in Northwood and on the third Friday of the month at Raytheon HQ in Uxbridge.

Please get in touch if you would like to join us.. 07983 477819.

We need your  
**HELP!**

In the Garden,  
Weeding,  
Cutting grass,  
Picking fruit,  
Making jam  
Cleaning the house,  
Moving furniture,  
General DIY,  
Counselling

*Give us a ring if you  
have some time to  
spare.*



## The Catholic Worker Farm Roundtable Radio Broadcast

**What?! A radio station? Are you guys mad?!.....** Actually it's internet radio station which is a lot easier. We will be having roundtable discussions, interviews, folk music and challenging topics. Check out our Facebook for the URL so that you can listen live or download our podcast.

[www.facebook.com/thecatholicworkerfarm](http://www.facebook.com/thecatholicworkerfarm)



Open Day: June 20th  
3pm - Late

This is an opportunity for us to Thank You in a small way for all your support of and interest in us and our work. Meet us, chat and learn about our work with homeless women. Enjoy Live music, food from around the world as our sisters put on a veritable feast as well as a huge bonfire and fireworks. Snacks & drinks 3pm, International buffet 6pm.

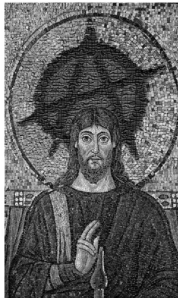
We are very happy to have several great musicians to come and play for us this day. Among others we will have the awesome classical guitarist Andrew Townend and many more.

## European Christian Anarchist Conference: July 10th-12th

This event is co-organised with A Pinch of Salt and the theme for 2015 is Apocalypse Now? There will be Workshops, Roundtable Discussions, time for reflection and socialising around the bonfire. There are some bed spaces available and space to camp. Bring your own tent.



EUROPEAN  
CHRISTIAN ANARCHIST  
COMMUNITY



We will provide the food, so be prepared to lend a hand cooking. Arrivals 12 noon on 10th, Departures in the evening on the 12th. The Conference is free but donations in support of our community and A Pinch of Salt are welcome.

WHERE:  
THE CATHOLIC WORKER FARM  
[WWW.THECATHOLICWORKERFARM.ORG](http://WWW.THECATHOLICWORKERFARM.ORG)

WHEN:  
JULY 10-12 2015

WHO'S SPEAKING:  
ANTHONY GWYTHYR

WHAT:  
WORKSHOPS, ROUNDTABLE, DISCUSSIONS,  
REFLECTION, NETWORKING

THE EUROPEAN CHRISTIAN ANARCHIST COMMUNITY

PRESENTS

# Apocalypse Now?

# The Farm Folk Music Festival Weekend: August 1st-2nd

It is going to be held from Saturday August 1st at 2pm to Sunday August 2nd, 5pm. We have back to back musicians, poets and storytellers performing. We are excited to announce the line-up so far: Ben Holland, John McClean and the Clan, Julian Mount, The Needy, Dearlove, Loudspeka, Peter Nutkins, The Brooms of Destruction, The Baffled Angels, Alastair Murray, Steve Mc Clennon, Alison Raymond, Paul Jackson, Nigel Moorcroft, Andrew Clarke, Martin Olyett, Nigel Wesson, Linda Birmingham. We expect to have many more musicians in time for August.



There will be foods and drinks to buy. The entry fee is £15 for the whole weekend or £10 for day entry, and all the money we get will go to our work with our homeless women and children. There will be camping space available so bring your tent.

## An Appeal for a 3rd House for Trafficked Women

We at The Catholic Worker Farm and Mary House are looking to start a new house for trafficked women. There are over 6200 trafficked persons in the UK and bed space is as low as 200.

We have lived with numerous trafficked women at the farm over the years and they have been lovely people and we feel that they are some of the most vulnerable and in need of support.

As Pope Francis recently said, "Each one of us feels committed to being the voice of these, our brothers and sisters, humiliated in their dignity," and with your help we hope to be provide a refuge for these "women and children" who are "enslaved, exploited, abused as instruments of work or pleasure, and often tortured and humiliated."

We are currently in a good financial position and have a regular income thanks to our committed givers. We are looking for a 4 or 5 bedroom house within a couple of miles of the farm. If you have a house you would rent to us or know anyone who does please do not hesitate to get in touch.

# THE DEAD MUST BE MOURNED

On December 29<sup>th</sup>, six volunteers and friends of the London Catholic Worker blockaded the main gate of Northwood military headquarters. Marking the feast day of Holy Innocents, where Christians remember the children massacred by King Herod, we knelt in front of the gate, with red paint on our hands to symbolise our own complicity in the killing of children and civilians in wars fought and perpetuated by the UK.

We knelt next to a small child's coffin and it felt to me as if we were bringing our dead to the gates of power, saying "look what we have done,

we have sinned by spilling innocent blood". It was an act of mourning and inviting those in power to mourn and repent with us.

Every other

Tuesday our community holds a prayer vigil in front of the Foreign Office remembering the many migrants who have died attempting to reach Europe by sea, and urging the UK government to resume its support for search and rescue missions in the Mediterranean. As part of the liturgy we read the names of men, women and children who have died after their boats capsized, went adrift or were pushed back by European border guards. Some of the names we read are friends and relatives of one of our guests at Guiseppe Conlon House.

Acts of witness and remembrance provide the space we need to articulate the injustice of these deaths without eradicating it by reducing it to matter of discourse. These are fragile spaces where the past and distant suffering of the other can erupt into our present, disrupting the oppressive violence of amnesia and ignorance.

To mourn the dead means to recognise their humanity. We can only understand the victims of violence as human, as "our dead", if we recognise and accept our own weakness and mortality. Instead, capitalist society associates

death exclusively with the other; the unhappy, the uneducated, the poor, the dark skinned, the feminine, the ones who are not like "us". We are afraid of death and



therefore we distance ourselves from it by dehumanising its victims. This fear of death is at the root of a culture which systematically denies and eradicates the fragility of human life. The past belongs in the past and the value of all things, including human lives, derives from their homogeneity and substitutability.

To mourn the dead is to overcome this fear that divides people from themselves and from each other. When Jesus shared bread and wine with his disciples, hours before his death, he invited them to drink from his cup of

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suffering and partake in his broken body. I believe that as Christians we are invited to embrace death as a part of the gift of life. To mourn is to love and to love is a dangerous thing because it exposes us to the pain and hardship of this world. But as God has loved us with all our failures and weaknesses, so we too must learn to love ourselves and each other. By sharing in the death of Christ, we are freed to suffer the suffering of the other, and resist injustice in the name of the dignity of human life.

## OTHER NEWS

**SCOTT AND DANIEL WENT TO THE ECUADORIAN EMBASSY IN MARCH TO THE SUPPORT JULIAN ASSANGE VIGIL, MARKING 1000 DAYS UNDER THE PROTECTION OF ECUADOR IN THEIR LONDON EMBASSY IN KNIGHTSBRIDGE**



The dead must be mourned! By bringing close to us the victims of oppression and war from the past and from the other end of the world, through words, images, songs and silence, we disrupt the capitalist narrative which, by casting death as “other”, would make all human life dispensable. We remember and mourn the dead as an act of love and resistance, showing that we will not allow the fear of death to make us complicit with murder.

Nora Ziegler(London Catholic Worker)

## “I WAS A STRANGER AND YOU WELCOMED ME.” (MATT25:35)

I was, I am and I always will be a stranger in this country. I came to the UK, or rather to The Catholic Worker Farm, in September last year to volunteer and I have to admit that you welcomed me pretty well.

I’ve always been privileged to be able to do whatever I wanted to do. I went to school, got my driving license, had a job, I am able to travel to the UK without a VISA and I have always had friends and a family who were very supportive and encouraging. I took that for granted.

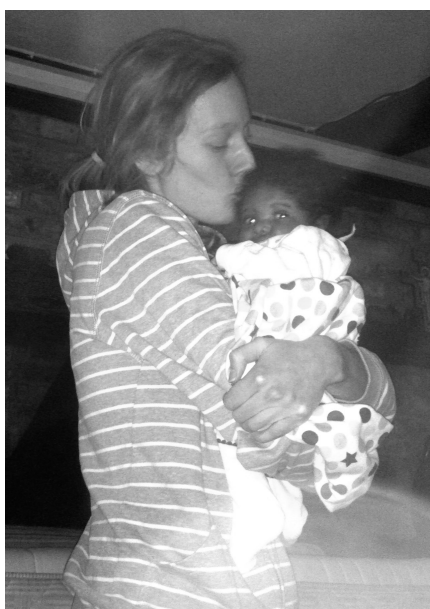
But living here has opened my eyes. Many of our sisters we take care of have no family or friends or at least no one who supports them in these difficult times.

They have been beaten up by their husbands, they have the wrong sexual interests (from their society point of view) or they have their own opinion about the politics in their country... They don’t come to England without a reason. Who would

leave their family or their country when everything is fine? Only to come to a complete different country where they are not even able to speak the language? I bet no one would.

I live in community with women who have all experienced persecution and after reading parts of the immigration act of 2014 I realised that the government doesn’t begin to welcome them. They are not allowed to work, not allowed to marry, not allowed to sign any kind of contract etc. We just had to say good bye to one of our sisters who had to go back to her country because the Home Office refused to believe that she has been trafficked. I think that there must be some truth in her story because she was afraid of going home, she wanted to see her family

*(continued on page 14)*



# Gap Year

## The Catholic Worker Farm



Why not join us for a year?



"I must say that the most valuable part of my experience here has been the encounters and relationships with people"

### CONTACT US!

Scott Albrecht:  
07983477819

Homepage:  
[www.thecatholicworkerfarm.org](http://www.thecatholicworkerfarm.org)

Email:  
[thecatholicworkerfarm@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:thecatholicworkerfarm@yahoo.co.uk)

### Would you like to...

... develop your prayer life?

... live with the poor in the UK?

... be a live-in volunteer in a Christian community?

... work in a beautiful garden?

... learn DIY?

... work for justice and peace?

## LITTLE PORTION HERMITAGE

At the heart of our community we recognise the need for prayer.

To this end we have built our Little Portion Hermitage (4x3 metre log cabin).

Hermitage comes from the Greek *eremos* which is the Desert. As we go into the Hermitage we go into the desert of our own hearts. There we battle for what is God's, the old self dies and the new self grows.

We are offering this hermitage for any who would like to come on a retreat. The log cabin has heat, electrics, bed, dresser, desk and chair, it sits 40 metres from the main house in a secluded wooded area over-looking Lynsters lake. Meals, shower and washing facilities are taken in the main community house.



Comfortable yet Simple Living



The Hermitage

## GUEST HOUSE

A great place for you and three or four friends to spend a weekend alone or having a guided retreat. A 4x5m log cabin (sleeps 4-6).

## TALKS & WORKSHOPS

**Social Justice: A Contextual Theology for the First World** – A modest proposal for a way in which Christians could be living in the first world.

**We Did Not Invent Community** – Community as ontologically rooted in the Trinity and expressed in a continuum of possibilities within human experience.

**Jesus' Last Week** - A radical day by day exploration of Jesus' last week.

**Jesus; Priest, Prophet and King** – Exploring questions such as – What was Jesus' response to the 'Poor of God' in his culture? How do we live out of our baptism in our culture?

**The Catholic Worker** – Catholic Social Teaching - putting "love in action" through the Works of Mercy.

**Faith Based Non-Violent Direct Action** - Scott has had multiple arrests & 4 criminal records for love of neighbour. Here he shares his theological reflections on such actions.

**Radical Discipleship** – Following Jesus in 'The Way' of discipleship.

**Living with the Poor** - Scott, Maria & family live with those who have been denied asylum, bonded, abused and trafficked.

**Christian Anarchism** – Exploring Christianarchy; looking afresh at scripture with the possibility that God's ideal is human communities 'without rulers'.

**Christians in Empire** – An examination of the claims of Empire and claims of The Kingdom of God upon its citizens.

**Should Christians Fight in Wars?** – An exploration of The Early Church Fathers on participation in war-making.

**Other Topics include;** Franciscan Spirituality, Repentance and Resistance, The Domination System of First Century Palestine and Jesus the Rebel.

Contact Scott on 07983477819 for more details.

again but she was afraid that if she returns someone would kill her or her family. In my opinion that doesn't seem normal. But she

had no choice.

What deeply impresses me though is the fact that most of the time you live with these women, who have no rights, you barely realise in what situation they are in. During Fun Night you would think that there are several friends making jewellery or dancing together.

They never wallow in self-pity or anything like that. They just continue living, fighting to get their papers one day.

I experienced a lot in the last six months. "The poor tell us who we are" is one of our mottos here at The Catholic Worker Farm and I have learned the truth of this slogan. Although I have hard times calling my sisters "poor", because as I already said, in our everyday life it's hard to see the difference between me and our sisters. But unfortunately the differences exist. Even though sometimes there are small situations where you'd never thought there were differences. One of our sisters for example wanted to order a new cell phone online but she couldn't because she wasn't allowed to have a bank account. Things like that make me realise how privileged and blessed I am.

Another thing I experienced while living here is that different religions can live together peacefully. This house contains Christians, Muslims, Sikhs and many more and we all respect each other. One of my best experiences so far was Christmas. No matter what religion, everybody was

laughing and loving. We shared a great meal and it really felt like a big family. I am curious how it will be at Easter. We are going to wash each other's feet to show humility, that we are a community and that we love each other.

I don't think that I've ever experienced so much tolerance.

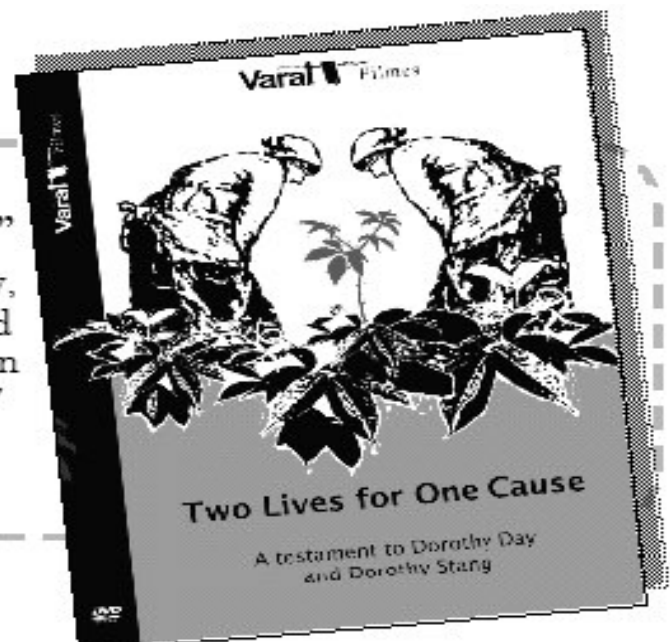
"Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). I always liked this quote because of the many ways to analyse it. You could say that except for bread, the bible, praying and God in general are the most important things in life, which is true, but you could also say that except for the bread; our feelings, relationships and all the things we can't see are the most important things in life.

In terms of our sisters we make sure they get their bread in the form of food and accommodation but we also try to give them the things they cannot see like the ability to speak a new language, of renewed self-esteem and of love.

At this point I would like to thank all of our volunteers who are helping us to love our sisters in form of English lessons, counselling, massages, cutting hair, peeling of wallpaper, helping in our garden or in so many other ways. We appreciate you and your work a lot! God bless you.

Kjella Knop

Purchase the DVD  
"Two Lives for One Cause"  
A moving documentary on Dorothy Day,  
co-founder of the Catholic Worker, and  
Sr Dorothy Stang, activist in the Amazon  
Forest. Directed by Tatiana Polastri. £7  
Cost including P&P. Contact us at  
thecatholicworkerfarm@yahoo.co.uk



**Scott Albrecht** is 52, Former U.S. Military and Chaplain, Third Order Franciscan, BA, MA in Applied Theology, Faith Based Peace Activist. Scott has accompanied many homeless men and women over the past 30 years. He loves to relax by watching movies.



**Francis Albrecht** is 17 and a student at St. Joan of Arc. He helps out with techy type stuff, puts things on eBay to raise money and is quite funny. He enjoys playing guitar and photography.



**Kjella Knop** is 20 years old and from Flensburg, Germany. At the moment she's having a gap year between school and university and has been at The Catholic Worker Farm since September. To know so many women and their stories from all over the world is one of the most exciting experiences in her life. In order to relax, she loves to paint, read and act.

**Daniel Jackson** is 25 years old and is from Cardiff, Wales. He has been here since January and enjoys volunteering at The Catholic Worker Farm. He is our social media guy so if you send us a tweet or Facebook

message you'll most likely be talking to him. He loves reading, music, cycling, movies and enjoys playing the guitar. Before coming here he volunteered for year with NET ministries in Australia. He has a BEng in Mechanical



Engineering and a PGCE in Secondary Maths.

**Veronica Garcia Navarro** is 28

years old and from Alicante, south of Spain. She finished her degree in Sociology in 2012 and she has been working since then. In 2014 she decided to take a break from her life and find a job as a volunteer in the UK so she can improve her English and live new experiences. She met "The Catholic Worker Farm" through a network of European volunteers and she was very interested in the project. Veronica likes to help integrate people into normal life. She has been here since November. She likes meeting people from different cultures, different ways of thinking, living in a multicultural community as well as 80's Italian synth pop and Spanish ham.



## GOOD NEWS

We were sad to say goodbye to Laila in February but Daniel joined us in January as a new volunteer at The Farm. He and Kjella will be staying till September, with Veronica staying with us till November. We have a full house over the summer with volunteers joining us from the UK and Spain as well as a German volunteer confirmed for September and hopefully 6 others who will join us for a year starting then also.

We are continuing to offer 2 English Lessons per week, Massage Therapy once a month, and individual Psychotherapy for our Sisters. We want to thank the folks at Mill End Baptist Church for their Servant Heart.

An amazing year lies ahead of us with Steve Chalk confirmed to join us in Sept for The Speak Peace Festival. We are also in talks with several different organisations about the possibility of partnering with them to open another house for trafficked women.

And I really believe that God has plans for growth here at The Farm. I believe that He wants everyone to live in Peace and without Fear. To this end I hope that He will provide us with the human and financial resources to build upon His work...

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