

Prevention Before Tragedy Make it STOP!

Welcome to STOP UK Newsletter

Crunching 1000 Biking Miles To Beat The Credit Crunch.

This year has illustrated that when there is a major global financial crisis leading to intense recession, such as never previously experienced, a serious knock-back situation arises that can threaten the survival of smaller charities.

It becomes apparent to those who are concerned with the financial health and so called wealth of a charity, a different policy has to be implemented speedily. STOP UK has felt the financial draught with the reduction or withdrawal of some funding in 2008/9.

A major fundraising event supporting the charity STOP UK has assisted in withstanding the financial climate. Serious commitment was shown by our retiring Chair, Justin Whitehead, accompanied by Robert Macdonald, to cycle 1000 miles for STOP UK and the Countess of Brecknock Hospice. Traversing France from Tangle in Hampshire, with a final gruelling climb over the Pyrenees to the destination, San Sebastian in Northern Spain, raised in excess of £10,000 for STOP UK. An example of dedication and belief in the remit of our charity and the alternative measures needed in straitened times.

This was a huge achievement, congratulations to both our intrepid bikers. The 'San Sebastian or Bust' blog is on the website: www.stop-uk.org

Such fundraising events are a lifeline to a small charity coping with the shameful crime of slavery and the trail of destruction that ruins the lives of millions of young people caught up in this evil web. Latest figures illustrate that human trafficking is thought to have a turnover exceeding US \$10 billion. Estimates suggest that the number of people trafficked annually is

between 600,000 (US government figure) and three million people, (International Labour Organisation figure). It is an unattractive face of our modern world where greed, coercion and violence have become a daily routine.

Please do not avert your eyes to slavery. At STOP UK we are dismayed that a large section of the general public is in denial that slavery exists in the UK. It is unexpected. Apathy and ignorance surround the current overwhelming problems.

STOP UK is on a continuous treadmill, seeking to raise awareness of existing issues while observing the violent trade where human life is treated as a commodity. Juggling monetary balls in the air, in spite of financial constraints, the voice of STOP UK still has to be heard, the charity visible and salaries paid.

Not all our plans for 2009 have been achieved. The STOP UK Seminar has been postponed until May 2010.

The STOP UK Dinner and Auction at the House of Lords has also been postponed until the directors of the charity believe timing is appropriate, to hold a high profile fundraising event.

STOP UK pilot Project Gatwick is active and in evidence, an integral part of

care and security at one of the busiest airports in the world.

The STOP UK satellite office at the United Kingdom Human Trafficking Centre (UKHTC) Sheffield is a partner in the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) with the resulting casework for STOP UK to assist and support.

Both these initiatives mean that STOP UK is in the frontline of victim delivery, the best situation to support our mission statement.

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Women of the Year Lunch.

STOP UK CEO Juliet Singer was a guest at the Women of the Year Lunch on October 12th at the InterContinental Hotel, Park Lane London. This event was attended by 600 women. Dame Vera Lynn received the lifetime award, Other women recognised included Jane Walker, an environmental campaigner from Southampton, and Hilary Henriques, founder of the National Association for Children of Alcoholics (NACoA).

New chair for STOP UK

On September 14, chairman, Justin Whitehead, after 3 years in the role, has handed over to John Ball.



Justin, with his business expertise, had been responsible for the continuing drive to push the charity forward. Not only donating to STOP UK financially, but giving up a large chunk of time to train for the London Marathon and then for the gruelling Bike Ride, San Sebastian or Bust on behalf of the charity.

Both events, raising substantial funds for STOP UK. We thank Justin and all who have supported him in this a huge achievement.

John Ball has been warmly welcomed by the organisation. John follows Justin with a substantial business background, much needed in the current financial climate. He will write fully of STOP UK experience in the next Newsletter.

John writes

"I was most honoured to be asked by the Trustees to take over from Justin Whitehead as Chairman of the STOP UK Trustee Board."

As I write, Justin is pedalling furiously across Europe raising money for STOP UK, www.stop-uk.org. Whilst I do not intend to follow him in his cycle tracks I shall do my best to follow his lead as Chairman of STOP UK. Justin has been chairman since the charity's formation and, supported by our much appreciated donors and by an operating group of capable, dedicated and friendly personnel has overseen the successful progression of STOP (Trafficking UK)

With my years of experience in the workings of commerce I hope I shall be able to make a positive contribution and help STOP (Trafficking UK) in continuing to achieve its aims and objectives. I shall write more about my STOP experiences in the next newsletter.

STOP UK Helpline 0800 800 3314

Thanks to all the supporters of STOP UK

As the end of the year approaches we reflect on the difficulties that many charities have encountered in the financial downturn.

STOP UK has had to face a reduction in funding, yet so many of our sponsors and donors have seen fit to believe in the viability of our work and continue to support us, financially.

On behalf of STOP UK I would like to thank our Patron, Lord Carlile of Berriew QC, the Directors and all our financial sponsors.

Kate Auchterlonie 1981-2009 RIP

Glenn Harrison writes

"On 17 February 2009 Kate Auchterlonie was tragically killed in a collision with a car whilst cycling near her home in Caerphilly, Wales.

Oxford University educated, Kate was a much loved member of the team at Nextbigthing where she managed several client accounts, including STOP UK. Kate was instrumental in the creation of the STOP UK brand, and was responsible for making the launch of the charity at the Houses of Parliament such a great success back in February 2008. Outside of work Kate was a talented musician, a fitness fanatic, and great fun. She is sadly missed, but not forgotten."

All at Nextbigthing

From JS

Kate's sudden death at 28 years old, brought immense sadness to those members of the STOP UK staff who had the great pleasure of working with her. The Nextbigthing agency, lead by Glenn Harrison plays an important role in the branding and marketing of STOP UK.



At the launch of STOP UK in the House of Commons in February 2008, I have special memories of Kate and the NBT team proudly arranging the new STOP UK banners, leaflets, cards, the design to which Kate had given so much input.

Launch of STOP UK Joint Initiative at Gatwick Airport

After many months of negotiation with our partners, Project Gatwick is 'live' at Gatwick Airport.

Rona King STOP UK Case Worker took up her post on August 24 working in partnership with the UKBA (UK Border Agency) GIU (Gatwick Intelligence Unit) and Sussex Police. Rona works closely with the law enforcement agencies at the airport, both airside and landside. She is a key member of a joint working process, targeting flights where potential victims of human trafficking may be on board.

This outreach work by STOP UK supplements work already undertaken by the Sussex Police, the UKBA and the GIU in relation to preventing human trafficking at Gatwick Airport. STOP UK is assisting the authorities in their difficult task of intercepting vulnerable individuals (coerced by ruthless traffickers) as they arrive at the airport. At this point, Rona offers them relevant support and advice. By giving them a STOP UK support leaflet, they are urged to contact STOP UK via the confidential helpline if they find their life within the UK begins to deteriorate. It is vital that potential victims are aware that the support of STOP UK exists should they need our valuable help in the future. This partnership will:

1. Benefit individuals over the age of 16, or those that are age disputed individuals, vulnerable to human trafficking.
2. Harness the expertise of STOP UK in supporting the UKBA, Sussex Police and the GIU with their primary role of disruption of human trafficking activities, providing additional resources to tackle this problem by approaching potential victims on a one to one basis.
3. Help to raise awareness of the crime of human trafficking amongst key airport based service providers such as airlines, limousine, taxi and bus drivers, security staff, cleaners, store employees and all other relevant staff. Also to raise the awareness of the general public who pass through Gatwick Airport in their millions each year.

We are very grateful to the far sighted law enforcement staff at the airport and their pioneering spirit which has prevailed in order to launch this joint initiative with STOP UK. Our thanks also go to the Henry Smith Charity who has been so generous in their support of this project.

David Gaylor, Head of Operations
JS



Human Trafficking in the news Julie Etchingam ITN

The French authorities' move to shut down the so-called "jungle" camp of migrants outside Calais grabbed the headlines this autumn and briefly put the issue of trafficking in the media spotlight. With emotive images of makeshift tents being torn down and scores of young adults and children being rounded up, it was touted as a victory over those who seek to profit from those who are desperate to come to Britain. But a few weeks later that seems to be far from the case. The vast majority of those detained have been let go by the authorities, only to make their way back to Calais, where conditions are now even worse. And it's reported not a single trafficker was arrested in the operation.

Several key human rights charities, including STOP UK, have criticised plans by the Metropolitan Police to shut down their unit dedicated to tackling human trafficking. Under the proposals, the trafficking unit's work would be passed on to the force's Clubs and Vice Unit. Just as the charities decided to speak out – so too did one member of the Metropolitan Police Authority. Jenny Jones said closing the unit would be 'crazy'. "We need to be expanding the vital work of the human trafficking unit not closing it down". And she put the ball firmly in the Mayor of London's court. "He can and should stop this." As yet – no final decision on the part of the Met has been made.

A police raid on a suspected brothel in Plymouth led to the arrest of three Polish nationals alleged to have been involved in trafficking and prostitution. The officers were accompanied on the operation by interpreters, and the women found at the alleged brothel are being treated as victims, and potential witnesses.

You may already be used to checking your shopping has been fair-traded – now there's a new campaign to encourage people to buy responsibly to help combat the trafficking of migrants for illegal labour. The International Organisation for Migration is launching an advertising campaign in support of fair trade that encourages consumers in Europe to question what lies behind the products they buy. Trafficked and trapped migrants provide cheap labour in construction, farming, fishing and textiles and in other sectors whose products end up on shop shelves in rich countries. Find out how you can make retailers in this country aware of the issue at www.buyresponsibly.org.



Extra extra! Victims of Success?

Since the introduction of the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) and as a result of the increased work of law enforcement agencies in the trafficking field, significant numbers of victims are entering support systems resulting in the financial resources being stretched.

Migrant Helpline, who support male and female victims of trafficking for forced labour are struggling to stay within the Home Office budget for forced labour work and yet meet the demands being made of their service.

As a result their ability to accept further referrals is severely restricted. It is understood that a constructive dialogue is taking place between the Home Office and Migrant Helpline to resolve the issues.



From Tasleem Kossier STOP UK Case Worker Sheffield



A year on from starting my role as a caseworker for STOP UK has been 12 months of experiences and awareness raising. I have met passionate people who are dedicated to combating the trade of humans on a daily basis.

I have been involved in victim work on the STOP UK Helpline and face to face,

providing emotional and practical support to victims. Assisting organisations and the general public who want advice on trafficking. Through the victim work I have seen how frustrating, emotionally and physically draining it is for the victims to ask for help because they have to employ trust. Trust is something that they have lost. They have also lost their freedom, something we take for granted.

I have seen victims emerge from rock bottom to feeling slightly happy. I say slightly happy because a lot of victims feel, just when they believe there is light at the end of the tunnel, another hurdle appears.

As a Caseworker I see that more needs to be done in provision of a better care package for victims of trafficking. More accommodation is needed, financial support is essential for the initial stage to prevent victims returning to the trafficker because they feel they have no security provided.

My base is at the UK Human Trafficking Centre

who I have been working closely with regards to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM).

From 1 April 2009 a National Referral Mechanism provides a framework within which public bodies such as the criminal justice agencies, UKBA, local authorities and third sector partners can work together to identify individuals who may be victims of trafficking and provides appropriate protection and support. Front-line professionals will refer individuals who they think may be evidencing signs of being a victim of human trafficking to designated 'Competent Authorities' who will work with partners to make an assessment. Where a Competent Authority finds 'reasonable grounds' to believe someone is a victim of trafficking they will be granted a 45 day extendable recovery and reflection period during which time the victim can access accommodation and support and will not be removed from the country. This period may run in parallel with consideration of separate or linked immigration and asylum issues. Before the end of the reflection period a 'conclusive' decision or a decision to extend the recovery period will be made by the Competent Authority. Before the end of a reflection period victims may be granted a renewable residence permit, a minimum of one year in duration.

As the STOP UK Case Worker in Sheffield, I have been working jointly with the NRM team in providing our charity's views and advice on case summaries that are passed to me by the NRM Team. This could be from stating if we feel the person is a victim of trafficking, questions they can ask the victim and to whom they can refer the victim for support.

From Detective Chief Superintendent Nick Kinsella QPM UKHTC Sheffield

The United Kingdom Human Trafficking Centre (UKHTC) has a close working relationship with STOP (Trafficking UK). An MOU was signed between both parties in December 2008. It is hoped this will help to contribute to the prevention and reduction of human trafficking through effective co-operation.

The MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) has already provided both organisations with an opportunity to gain a better understanding of the issues and problems that surround human trafficking. The agreement will provide essential links for both organisations and will ultimately lead to a partnership approach for the protection and support of vulnerable persons who have been trafficked.

Tasleem Kossier, a part time STOP UK Case Worker is works within the Victim Care Unit at the UKHTC. STOP UK has been communicating information where appropriate to the Centre and other bodies while maintaining the ethos of confidentiality but with the safety, human rights and the best interests of trafficking victims and potential victims remaining paramount at all times.

Nick Kinsella, Head of the UKHTC said:

"The partnership with STOP UK, is an essential part of the Centre's daily business and highlights how effectively we collaborate with NGOs."



From Nick Stanton Sheffield University Bummit Campaign



STOP UK's relationship with Sheffield University has continued with the recent 2009 Bummit hitchhike and a joint MA dissertation between the university's Politics Department and the charity.

This year the Bummit hitchhike took 300 students to Zadar, on the Croatian coast, via Nuremberg. It took seven long days for all 300 people to get to Zadar, although some teams managed to spend only 70 hours on the road, 36 hours straight to Nuremberg and 34 for the second leg to Zadar. STOP UK benefited with yet another generous donation from this campaign. The dissertation undertaken by Nick Stanton, Sheffield Politics Department MA student, aimed to

apply a theory of policy making in British politics, the Advocacy Coalition Framework, to trafficking policy and uncover the reasons behind these policies.



Thank you to Sheffield University for their generous donations

From Julie Etchingam Volunteer for STOP UK

It was the passion and persuasion of Juliet Singer which got me involved with STOP UK. We first met after discovering we were neighbours in East Sheen – just as Juliet was getting her charity established and making amazing ground in finding funding and expertise to counter the modern curse of human trafficking. Since then I've had my eyes opened to the breathtaking scale of the issue. I've been fortunate to see STOP UK at work – including accompanying Case Worker Tasleem Kossier on a prison visit to a young Nigerian woman who'd been trafficked through Europe – and I've been hugely impressed with all that STOP UK has achieved in liaising with police and immigration to establish a place for the charity's work at Gatwick Airport. One of the biggest obstacles to countering human trafficking is the difficulty in getting the story out into the mainstream media in a compelling and meaningful way – and it's in this area which between us I'm hoping we can make some inroads.

Case Study

A moment of weakness may be all it takes for someone to fall prey to a trafficker, a tradesman in lies and persuasion. This is not solely a problem of foreign workers being used as slaves in the UK. British nationals are being trafficked internally throughout the UK.

Instead of writing a case study in isolation, we decided to take a broad brush of words that relate to human trafficking. The majority would be found within the text of any of our case studies.

2009 or 1609 Which century are we in?

- **Plausible.** The first encounter by victim or family with the trafficker
- **Flattery.** Liberally applied
- **Foreigner.** Not always, internal trafficking takes place in the UK of British citizens
- **Deception.** Victims are sold a dream of a better life, gifts and promises
- **Coercion.** Bullied and oppressed into submission
- **Persecution.** Relentless, both mental and physical

- **Captivity.** Squalor and degradation, lack of basic facilities to survive as a human being
- **Poverty.** Possibly from birth this moves to poverty as a slave in the power of ruthless traffickers, a financial treadmill, unable to repay the captors
- **Vulnerability.** To drugs, alcohol, mental and physical illness, homelessness, induced by an early dysfunctional life and accentuated by slavery
- **Malnourished.** Starving as a result of captivity and circumstance
- **Disease.** Illnesses resulting from hardship acquired through slavery
- **Abused.** Physically and mentally, daily as a sex slave, a forced labourer, a domestic servant
- **Without identity.** All valid documentation destroyed or confiscated by the captor
- **Without family.** Losing touch with loved ones
- **Forgotten and Ignored.** Not always a priority for authoritative action

The above sums up the every day life of many of the victims who STOP UK works daily to support.

Please help STOP UK to continue making a difference and let's not turn our backs on this hidden society.

Juliet Singer, CEO

**Thanks to Mission Communications
Jess Jethwa**

jess@mission-communications.net manages and develops the STOP UK website. Facilitating requests with humour and professionalism and loading the daily blog from the Bike Ride in September.

**Thanks to Simon Wezowski
Support@megabytex.com**
Our IT support has been improved by the expertise from Simon, who as Tasleem in Sheffield can bear witness, works remote control miracles.

STOP UK Training Programme in Bolivia
IOM (International Organisation for Migration) requested permission to utilise the STOP UK training programme, illustrating the STOP UK Helpline. The STOP UK training programme for staff and volunteers has been developed by Brenda Constantinou, Rona King and Juliet Singer.

Gifts in Kind
STOP UK would like to thank all those who have donated, including
RK Harrison & Co Insurance Brokers Ltd
Lesley Balmer
UKHTC
Mission Communications
Clare & Fred Pearson
Jean Cager
Julie Etchingham
Dan Jotcham

STOP UK Seminar May 2010

**Sheffield University The Bummit
Campaign Event**

A local event was attended by Paul Scriven, the local Liberal Democrat councillor. STOP UK attended as benefactors of the Sheffield University's student fundraisers

**STOP UK Burns Night Celebration
Friday 22 January 2010**
Venue: Dorking, Surrey
Tickets: £25 each
Tickets are limited.
Please apply, info@stop-uk.org
by **Saturday 6 December LATEST**

Fundraising

STOP UK urgently needs funds to continue to support and raise awareness of the plight, for victims of human trafficking. In order for the good progress to continue and develop.
Please support our work

London Marathon 2010
John O'Mahony
Geographical Support
Officer Gatwick Police
Station is running on
behalf of STOP UK

Press & Publicity Enquiries Please contact Brian Cowan media@stop-uk.org

Just Giving www.justgiving.com/stopuk.

STOP Website: www.stop-uk.org

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