

**Jubilee Debt Campaign
at Newcastle University**

Patrons:

Professor Chris Brink
Vice-Chancellor

Professor Sir George Alberti
Formerly President of the Royal
College of Physicians

Rt. Hon. Alan Beith DCL
Lib. Dem. MP for Berwick

Ann Pettifor MLitt DCL
Director, Jubilee Research

Members:

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**MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY
NorthEast**

Patrons:

Martin Callanan
Cons. MEP for NE England

Jonathan Edwards CBE

Sir Fred Holliday
Chairman, Northumbrian Water plc

Kevin Rowan
Regional Secretary, TUC

**Lord Rupert Redesdale &
Lady Helen Redesdale**

Rt Rev Dr Tom Wright
Bishop of Durham

Development Coordinator:

David W. Golding CBE PhD DSc HonDCL

10th February, 2009

Dear Friend of Make Poverty History,

Hope for Planet Earth

7.30pm, Thursday 26th February

Brunswick Methodist Church (bottom of Northumberland Street)
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 7BJ

I write to commend to you most warmly the regional presentation of 'Hope for Planet Earth', part of a national tour, and hope that you will attend yourself and bring family and friends also.

I realise that some of our supporters have found difficulty with the attention we have been giving to climate change. But what are we to do, given that unless radical and urgent action is taken, we can "*Forget about making poverty history; climate change will make poverty permanent*" (Nazmul Chowdbury)? How else are we to respond, when we encounter the anguish of Veena Khaleque, Director for Practical Action in Bangladesh, "*I find it almost impossible to image how the poor of Bangladesh will cope*", given that tens of millions of them will be displaced by rising sea levels?

However, be assured that we in MPH-NE do not forget the hundreds of millions who suffer *right now* from 'stupid poverty' (Bono), inflicted upon them by gross economic injustice. We do not forget them and we will continue to speak up for them!

The presentation will take a broadly Christian perspective and I am sure it will be of immense value to all people of faith. However, others will also benefit: I promise you the science will be top-notch and the impacts on the world's poor are a matter of importance for all people of good will. Furthermore, it will give non-believers the means to 'get at' their religious friends!

Cont'd

Message from Dr Martin Hodson, for the Presenters:

Feel confused about climate change? Slightly overwhelmed by the quantity of contradictory information available? Aware that it has been flagged as the most important problem facing the world today but not quite sure what you can do about it?

Hope for Planet Earth is touring the UK from the 23rd of February to the 13th of March 2009. It follows a highly successful tour in 2008, when the team visited 20 venues and spoke to 5000 school students and 3000 adults.

Leading experts from The John Ray Initiative will be exploring the science and dispelling the myths associated with climate change. Tearfund and A Rocha will be examining the effects of climate change on people in the developing world and the environmental impact on our planet. Andy Frost, Director of Share Jesus International investigates why this is important from a Christian perspective and looks at how groups and individuals have the power to change things.

PLEASE BOOK NOW!

In advance: £6 Adults; £3 under 18's; At the door: £7 Adults; £4 under 18's
www.faithtickets.co.uk; or ring 020 8781 1740 during office hours

Doors open 7:00pm; Presentations commence at 7:30pm; Finish by 9:30pm

The Development Coordinator has the final word(s):

Professor Ross Garnault, the Australian government's economics advisor on climate change, stated that "*There are times in the history of humanity when fateful decisions are made*". He warned that

"The failure of our generation on climate change mitigation would lead to consequences that would haunt humanity until the end of time."

It would indeed, but it doesn't have to be like that! Our generation, and each of us individually, has a unique opportunity to contribute to meeting this great challenge and bringing about a change which will provide unparalleled benefits to countless generations to come.

With every good wish, to you and yours,

David

Dr David Golding CBE

Make Poverty History NorthEast

Chair, Judith Sadler; Vice-Chair, Kevin Haigh; Secretary and Website Manager, Tim Kenny; Treasurer, Mike Waller; Development Coordinator, David Golding; Minutes Secretary, Maureen Osborn; Mailing List Manager, Veronica Golding.

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