



NEWSLETTER Number One, January 1999

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Dear Friends,

Welcome to Issue no. 1 of the Clean Slate Newsletter! It is now 1999, the year in which we have committed ourselves, with your help, to invite everyone in Britain to do at least one thing to Clean their Slate.

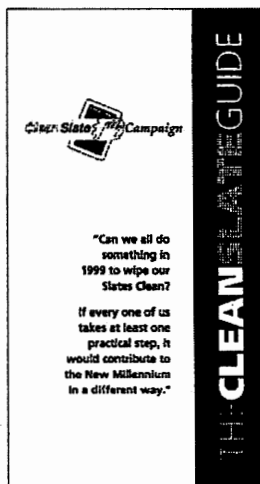
For the growing number who receive it, this newsletter will give updates on a monthly basis, with the progress of the campaign and the ideas generated. If you would like to receive it through the year, fill in the reply slip below and return it to us.

Please send us your own ideas and news of how you get on as you work at Cleaning your own Slate. And please also tell as many people as possible about the Clean Slate Campaign.

Wishing you a peaceful and exhilarating 1999,

Your fellow slate-cleaners (and campaign executive committee),

Chris Evans, Mark Markiewicz, Christopher Morgan,
Andrew Page, Edward Peters, Krish Raval and Imam Abduljalil Sajid.



The 'Clean Slate Guide' is a simple folded A3 leaflet which outlines the idea of the campaign, gives stories of people cleaning their slates, suggestions for action, a copy of the 'Promise', and contact information. 50,000 copies are being printed at the end of January and will be available from this office. Please let us know how many you would like – and use it as widely and wisely as possible.

What people are saying about the Campaign

"This is religion at its highest, without people realising it!" (Rabbi Julian Jacobs)

"This is likely to help people to see that they are not as powerless as they often imagine." (An Anglican Bishop)

"The idea is cool and moral!" (A student)

"... a great, God-inspired initiative ..." (A teacher, with a financial contribution)

"What an inspired idea! I am very immobile, but I wholeheartedly back the campaign." (A pensioner, also with a financial contribution)

For your diaries – your first opportunity
to be involved!

AMBASSADORS' MEETINGS

- Saturday 13 February, 2.30 – 5 pm, at 12 Palace Street, London SW1
- Saturday & Sunday 20 & 21 February, at Tirley Garth, Tarporley, Cheshire
- Monday 22 February, 8 pm, Town Hall, Oxford

Please write or fax our office to book yourself in.

We will be delighted if anyone would like to arrange ambassadors' meetings in other parts of the country, and will gladly supply speakers & materials.

Comments from our patrons

For a list of patrons, see overleaf

"My congratulations to you on launching this unique Campaign, the concept of which is exactly what is needed for the new millennium. I shall do what I can to further its aims."

"I believe your initiative will go a long way in bringing about a better understanding of faith communities and their role in the community. The concept of forgiveness is of vital importance and I hope the campaign will direct all of us towards making a new start."

"It certainly sounds an excellent idea for 1999... In my work in Relate I was very aware of the importance of people letting go of past hurts and feelings of guilt and that is also a theme of my ministry. It applies with particular importance to the Northern Ireland situation... I confirm that I am willing to sign the promise..."

"I am indeed keen to get involved with the campaign – it's a fantastic idea. I've started cleaning my own slate, and would like to promote the idea in any way I can."

"I am sure that this campaign will be widely used by God, mostly in ways that will never be known. In that way I think it is rather unique. The Clean Slate seems to me to be an offering, an opportunity, both given by God, and given to God to be used in His way."

RESOURCES AVAILABLE

- Special issue of 'For A Change' magazine, available now, explores the idea of Cleaning the Slate.
- Two page article by Laura Trevelyan in the latest 'Global Express', a youth magazine, sharing her personal experience of Cleaning her Slate.

Both are available from this office @ £2 per copy.

Please fill in this form and return it to the Clean Slate Campaign office if you would like to receive our newsletters.

Please register me as an ambassador and keep me informed about the progress of the campaign.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____ (to receive the newsletter by email – saves costs!)

'New Start'

The Clean Slate Campaign is for everyone. But, for Christians, it is complementary to the 'New Start' plans of the Churches Together, preparing the way for the 'Millennium Moment' and the big events of the year 2000. This fact is illustrated by extracts from articles in two recent parish newsletters, written by their vicars:

"The national 'Churches Together' theme is 'New Start': with God, at home, and for the world's poor. May I also ask you to consider another campaign, which begins now. It is called 'Clean Slate' and it is based on the following statement: 'I promise to take at least one practical step during 1999 towards wiping my slate clean.' Quite what your response to this involves is a personal matter. It recognises, however, that a 'New Start' can't just happen: it requires careful thought and prayer, if it is to be at all significant." (Liverpool)

"Of the myriad schemes to mark the Millennium one has caught my eye. The Dome fills me with gloom. ... This initiative elicits in me slight scepticism but more hope. The campaign (more than a 'scheme' then) is called the Clean Slate Campaign..... This campaign for the New Year and the new millennium is one that every Christian can welcome...." (Newcastle)

Press, radio and television

There will be no formal media launch of the campaign. We will start by spreading the word at the local level and through all kinds of networks. In due course, local press and radio will be approached. **Please do not contact the media until the campaign is well underway** – we will let you know when, in a later newsletter. If you have suggestions for the media, please send them to us.

Help needed!

The campaign is run by volunteers who give their time out of conviction. As the campaign develops there is likely to be an increasing volume of work – answering phones and letters, preparing newsletters and other materials, mailing, speaking at meetings, meeting people around the country... We need people to help us, preferably based in Oxford, to work with us for the coming year. If you know of anyone who might be interested, please ask them to get in touch with us.

Prayer is also needed for funds. The Clean Slate Campaign Ltd is a company limited by guarantee, and charitable status is being sought.

Visit our website!

Please visit our website (www.cleanslate.org) for news of the campaign.

Please write in!

Please write and tell us your story of cleaning your slate, making it clear if you wish to remain anonymous.

PATRONS OF THE CAMPAIGN

Professor the Lord Alton of Liverpool
Crossbench Peer

Professor Akbar Ahmed
Fellow, Selwyn College, Cambridge

H W 'Bunny' Austin
Wimbledon finalist in the 1930s

Dr Zaki Badawi OBE
Chairman, Imams and Mosques Council

Sir Stanley Bailey
Former Chief Constable of Northumberland

Rabbi Tony Bayfield
Chief Executive, Reform Synagogues of Great Britain

David Bell
Director of Education & Libraries, Newcastle City Council

Revd Dr Nigel Biggar
Fellow and Chaplain, Oriel College, Oxford

Rev. Lyndon Bowring
Executive Chairman, CARE

Louise Cammehgh
Housewife, London

Anne Carr
Co-ordinator, Women Together For Peace, N Ireland

Rev. John Chambers OBE
Church of Scotland, Inverness, and former Chief Executive, Relate Northern Ireland

Andrew Chancellor
Corporate Equity Director, London

Sir Bobby Charlton
Former international footballer

Rt Rev. and Rt Hon. Richard Chartres
Lord Bishop of London

Charles Clayton
Executive Director, World Vision

Lord Cowdrey of Tonbridge
Former international cricketer

H E Cardinal Cahal Daly
Former Roman Catholic Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland

Rev. Dr R R Davey OBE
Founder, Corrymeela Community, N Ireland

Revd Dr V Dobbin MBE QHC DD
Chaplain-General, Army

Rev. Joel Edwards
General Director, Evangelical Alliance

David Erdal
Businessman, Fife

Richard Field OBE
Industrialist, Sheffield

Baroness Shreela Flather JP DL
Chairman, Alcohol Education and Research Council

Cllr Beatrice Fraenkel
Liverpool City Council

Canon Nicholas Frayling
Rector of Liverpool

Timothy Garton Ash
Historian and writer, Oxford

C Lynn Green
Chairman, Youth With A Mission (England)

Gavin Hastings
Former Scotland international rugby captain

H E Cardinal Basil Hume
Archbishop of Westminster

Steve Hunter
British Airways captain

R D Kernohan OBE
Journalist, former editor 'Life and Work'

M Idrees Khan
Educational and financial consultant, Cardiff

Stanley Kiaer
Secretary, The Oxford Group/Moral Re-Armament

Cathy Lynch
Homemaker

Cllr Bashir Maan
Glasgow City Council

Dr James MacMillan
Composer, lecturer at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama

Dr Omnia Marzouk
Consultant paediatrician, RLCH, Liverpool

D W Midgley
President, North East Chamber of Commerce Trade and Industry

The Duke of Montrose
Landowner and farmer

Neville Nagler
Director General, Board of Deputies of British Jews

Aneurin Owen
Director, CAIS, the North Wales Drug and Alcohol Agency

Emma Portman
Shopowner and conservationist

Libby Purves
Writer and broadcaster

Nia Rhosier
General Secretary, Fellowship of Reconciliation in Wales

Rt Rev. Alwyn Rice Jones
Archbishop of Wales

Cllr Theresa Russell OBE
Former Lord Mayor of Newcastle

Chief Rabbi Dr Jonathan Sacks

Iqbal Sacranie
Secretary General, The Muslim Council of Britain

Imam Dr Abduljalil Sajid JP
The Brighton Islamic Mission

Joss Saunders
Solicitor, Oxford

O P Sharma MBE
President, National Council of Hindu Temples

Jim Sharp
3D computer graphics, Liverpool

Hari Shukla MBE
Former Director, Racial Equality Council, Tyne & Wear

Indarjit Singh OBE JP
Director, Network of Sikh Organisations

Margaret Smith
Women's Network of the Methodist Church

Faustina Starrett
Co-ordinator, Media & Communications, NWIFHE, Derry, N Ireland

Paula Stephenson
Facilitator, Students for Sheffield

Sir Sigmund Sternberg OStJ KCSG
The Patron, International Council of Christians and Jews

Ajahn Sumedho Bhikku
Respected Abbot of Amaravati Buddhist Monastery

Geoff Thompson MBE
Executive Chairman, Youth Charter for Sport

Penelope Thwaites
International pianist and composer

David Townend
Faculty of Law, Sheffield University

Graham Turner
Feature writer, 'The Daily Telegraph'

Ludovic de Walden
Lawyer, London

Professor Janet Walker
Director, Newcastle Centre for Family Studies, University of Newcastle

Lord Weatherill
Former Speaker, the House of Commons

Jonathan Webb
Former England rugby international and orthopaedic surgeon

Cut out and return the form on the front of this newsletter, to register as an ambassador!