

HARPENDEN UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION

– HISTORICAL NOTE –

The United Nations was set up in 1945 to “save succeeding generations from the scourge of war” which, twice in the 20th Century, caused untold misery in the world. Its purpose is to find ways to resolve conflicts peacefully, to alleviate hunger, heal the ravages of disease, reduce inequalities and to ensure that every man, woman and child enjoys the protection of basic human rights under international law. It was formed by 51 nations and has now grown to include 193 member states.

Over the last 75 years, the UN, its staff and agencies, have won 10 Nobel Peace Prizes for their work in supporting governments to resolve their international and trans-national problems. It can only deliver what its member governments permit it to deliver but, despite its many constraints, it remains an effective and influential agency of global cooperation and the world’s best hope of achieving peace, prosperity and sustainability in the long-term. Part of the rent we pay for the privilege of being a resident on planet earth is to support the work of the United Nations, and to ensure that any government we elect continues to support and strengthen it to meet the many challenges our human family faces in the future.

The United Nations Association of the UK (UNA-UK) has a network of 75 local branches which campaign and educate in support of the UN and its agencies throughout the UK. UNA-UK is currently leading the UN’s 75th Anniversary Global Conversation through its ‘Together First’ campaign. (see: <https://together1st.org/>) The Harpenden UNA branch was formed in 1947. It organises five or six public meetings every year of a variety of global issues. It also encourages local schools to take an interest in the UN and international affairs and, to this end, has helped several schools organise Model UN events. Harpenden’s is one of the largest UNA branches in the UK and we would be delighted to welcome new members: go to <https://www.una.org.uk/join-us-0>, fill out your details and, if you ‘consent to UNA-UK sharing your contact details you’re your local UNA,’ you will be added to the Harpenden Branch membership.



– PEACE CHILD INTERNATIONAL –

Peace Child helps illiterate young women in rural West Africa escape a vicious cycle of poverty by training them to start, develop and improve their businesses. Using highly-trained local experts and image-based / voice-activated mobile phone devices, we have enabled young female entrepreneurs in remote rural villages to double / triple their incomes, enabling them to feed themselves and their families, send their children to school and pay for vital medicines. A donation of £10 will enable one young woman to complete our 3-week training programme.



Harpenden United Nations Association

Harpenden UN is a branch of UNA-UK, UK Regd. Charity Number 1146016
Chair - Trevor Evans: 01582 713 895



UN @ 75

A 1-hour concert of words and music to launch the 75th Anniversary Year of the United Nations

HIGH ST METHODIST CHURCH, HARPENDEN
4.00PM - SUNDAY 26TH JANUARY 2020

Young people from local Harpenden Schools discuss
Climate Change
and the Past, Present and Future of the United Nations
with UNA Members including UN elder statesman

Sir Richard Jolly

former Deputy Director, UNICEF and
Editor of the UN Human Development Report & the Intellectual History of the UN

Presented by



PEACE CHILD INTERNATIONAL

Founder and Chair of Trustees: David Woolcombe
Founder and Composer, Peace Child Songs & Lyrics: David Gordon

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER: Mark Hammond, Pastor

SONG: Listen to Me

Verse 1 – Choir & Soloists

Please listen to me – hear the words that I say
We live in one world so our home is the same
The same sun is our fire
The same clouds give us rain
So whatever you desire – our future's the same!

EVERYONE:

**Say not that you're Christian – nor Muslim nor Jew
Say not that I'm red – nor that you are blue
Say only we are friends,
And that we want to live in Peace
In this here our world, let all wars cease**

Verse 2 – Choir & Soloists

For where would we go – if this world we destroy?
There's only one home, this world, to enjoy
The same world fills our hunger
And we all breathe the air
So change your desires, this world we must share

EVERYONE:

**Say not that you're rich – nor that you are poor
Say not that you're less – nor that you are more
Say only we are friends,
And we want to live in Peace
In this here our world – let all wars cease**

Soloist: In this here our world – let all wars cease

Introduction: David Woollcombe, President, Peace Child International;

Readings:

1. From the Preamble to the UN Charter – read by Mayor Brian Ellis

WE THE PEOPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS DETERMINED

- to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind, *and*
- to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, *and*
- to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, *and*
- to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

SONG: I have a Vision

Verses 1, 2 & 3 – Choir & Soloists

I have a vision,
I have a dream
I have the answer
- or so it seems.

Don't you see the truth, to fight is not right,
We shall have our rainbow, we will have our sunlight
If we unite!

There's a way you see, where no one gets hurt
There's a way with love if you try!
There is hope and faith to keep you alive
In your darkest day, just pray!

Chorus – EVERYONE:

**Reach out with love, gather all your courage,
Reach out with love, seek a brighter day!
Love as our sword, peace as our weapon
Reach out with love! Let us win this way!**

Verses 5 & 6 – Choir & Soloists

Martin Luther King had a vision! He had a dream
He had the answer, or so it seemed!
He knew the truth - to fight is not right

We can have our rainbow, we can have the sunlight!
We must unite!

A new world, A new light!
A new world, A new light!
A new hope! A new light -

Chorus – EVERYONE:

**Reach out with love, gather all your courage,
Reach out with love, seek a brighter day!
Love as our sword, peace as our weapon
Reach out with love! Let us win this way!**

SUMMATION AND CLOSING PRAYER: Mark Hammond, Pastor

REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP – in the Wesley Café

With many thanks to Mark Hammond and the staff and Congregation of Harpenden High Street Methodist Church for hosting this year's UNA-Harpenden Celebration, to the Committee of UNA-Harpenden, to Jonathan Bungard and the staff and students of Aldwickbury School for providing the choir and music for this afternoon's concert and to all the churches, organisations and individuals in Harpenden and elsewhere who have helped promote this event – and the work of the UN – to local residents. And, of course, a huge THANK YOU to Richard Jolly for coming from Sussex to be with us today.

SONG: Reach Out for a Star – Choir & Soloists

[During this, a collection will be taken for Peace Child's work in West Africa]

Reach out for a star!
Come out from where you are
Show me what you can do
Believe in me, I believe in you!

Reach out for your dream
It's not as hard as it may seem
Together we can make it through
Together - me and you!

Wake up -open our eyes,
This is our world, our paradise.

Reach out, don't be afraid
Come on now, we" find a way
There's a whole new world for us to see
There's a universe in you and me.

Reach out, put your hand in mine!
Oh see! - see how we shine!
Together - we'll make it through,
Together me and you!

Don't be shy, just be yourself!
You are your greatest wealth!

Reach out for a star!
Come out from where you are
Show me what you can do
Believe in me, I believe in you!

Show me what you can do
Believe in me, I believe in you!

Inter-generational Dialogue – TWO: Climate Change

Richard Jolly and the Young People discuss the pressing challenge of Climate Change and agree some priority asks for the UN's 26th Conference of the Parties in Glasgow, November 2020. Suggestions and questions will be invited from the audience.

All the priorities agreed from the 1st and 2nd Dialogues will be put on the screen. Each audience member will have THREE votes: they will be invited to vote, by a show of hands, which of the priorities listed on the screen they would most like to see achieved by 2030.

These will then be given to Mayor Brian Ellis to be locked up in the Harpenden Town Hall to be opened by the then Mayor of Harpenden on Saturday January 26th 2030 to see how prescient we have been, and how far we have addressed the priorities identified today.

2. From Universal Declaration of Human Rights – Read by Trevor Evans

- Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,
- Whereas disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind;
- Whereas the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of the common people,
- Now, Therefore THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY proclaims THIS UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations, to the end that every individual and every organ of society shall strive by teaching and education to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance.

Article 1.

- All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

3. From the Convention to eliminate all forms of Discrimination against Women – read by Rosey Simonds, Founder, Peace Child International;

The States Parties to the present Convention, bearing in mind the great contribution of women to the welfare of the family and to the development of society, hereby agree on the following:

- We condemn discrimination against women in all its forms and agree to pursue by all appropriate means a policy to eliminate it by undertaking:
 - To embody the principle of the equality of men and women in their national constitutions or other appropriate legislation;
 - To establish legal protection of the rights of women on an equal basis with men and to ensure through competent national tribunals and other public institutions the effective protection of women against any act of discrimination;
 - To refrain from engaging in any act or practice of discrimination against women and to ensure that public authorities and institutions shall act in conformity with this obligation;
 - To take all appropriate measures, including legislation, to modify or abolish existing laws, regulations, customs and practices which constitute discrimination against women;

SONG: Child for a Day

Verses 1 & 2 – Choir & Soloists

I was a child who ran full of laughter
I was a child who lived for a day
My heart full of sunshine
My heart full of smiles
I was a child for a day.

We were the children who sang in the morning
 We were the children who laughed at the sun
 Who listened to those
 Who spoke with their wisdom
 We were the ones we would say

 We're getting older as time goes by
 A little older every day
 We were the children of - yesterday.

Men of the Audience:

We are the men who worry of nothing
We are the men who fight without aim
Who listen to no one
Yet speak of our wisdom
We are the pawns in the game

EVERYONE:

We're getting older as time goes by
A little older every day
We were the children of - yesterday.

Reading: From the Convention on the Rights of the Child – read by Sir Richard Jolly and Benedict Godley

RJ *The States Parties to the present Convention,*

- BG Recognizing that the child, for the full and harmonious development of his or her personality, should grow up in a family environment, in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding,
- RJ Considering that the child should be fully prepared to live an individual life in society, and brought up in the spirit of the ideals proclaimed in the Charter of the United Nations and, in particular, in the spirit of peace, dignity, tolerance, freedom, equality and solidarity,
- BG Bearing in mind that, "the child, by reason of his physical and mental immaturity, needs special safeguards and care, including appropriate legal protection, before as well as after birth" – *and* –
- RJ Recognizing the importance of international co-operation for improving the living conditions of children in every country, in particular in developing countries,
- BG Have agreed that States Parties shall respect and ensure the rights set forth in the present Convention to each child within their jurisdiction, irrespective of the child's or his or her parent's race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability, birth or other status – shall take all appropriate measures to ensure that the child is protected against all forms of discrimination or punishment on the basis of the status, activities, expressed opinions, or beliefs of the child's parents, legal guardians, or family members.
- RJ In all actions concerning children, whether undertaken by public or private social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities or legislative bodies, the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration.

Briefing: UN thought leadership - 1945 to 2020;

SONG: WORLD!

Verses 1, 2, 3 & 4 – Choir & Soloists

World – look at the way we are
 Look at the things we do
 Look at the words we say
 Life! – look at the way we live
 Look at the love we had
 Look at the things we've made

Gone, gone are all those lovely days
 Gone are all the peaceful ways
 All that's left is old and grey
 And our world is fading
 Our world is dying – today!

Can't you see the tide is changing?
 Don't you know that truth is fading?
 People coming out from under
 Slowly rising to the thunder
 Listen to the shouting people
 Broken churches, broken steeple
 There's no one for them to follow
 Every one's a God tomorrow

Can't you see the world is dying?
 Repentant people all are crying
 Law and order has been drowned
 Chaos rules and has been crowned!

Chorus – EVERYONE:

World – look at the way we are
Look at the things we do
Look at the words we say
Life! – look at the way we live
Look at the love we had
Look at the things we've made

Gone, gone are all those lovely days
Gone are all the peaceful ways
All that's left is old and grey
And our world is fading
Our world is dying – today!

Inter-generational Dialogue – ONE: Future of the UN

Richard Jolly discusses with students from local schools how the UN might change to meet the needs of the next 75 years to deliver the kind of future they would like. They identify and discuss some priorities for Action over the next 10 years.