

JUSTICE AND PEACE LETTER-WRITING CAMPAIGNS

GREETINGS CARD CAMPAIGN WINTER 2023

At this time of year we remember some of the many people being persecuted today, by sending them a greetings card. Action by Christians against Torture (ACATUK) selects a few cases of individuals, groups and communities who are experiencing human rights abuses.

It is now **26 years** since this parish started sending greetings cards to the persecuted!

Thank-you for this invaluable support which is deeply appreciated.

Please do follow the guidelines carefully **and please check the postage.**

POSTAGE RATES (correct at the time of going to print)

Weight up to and including ...	Europe	Rest of the world
100g	£2.20	£2.20

Simple messages of goodwill are enough. Please never include political comments

When a non-religious card is advised, please avoid referring to religion in your message.

(For example, rather than writing 'you are in our prayers', write 'you are in our thoughts')

Please put your name and address (including country) on your card (or your name and just your town)

Please let the office know if you would prefer to have the complete set of ACAT details.

Please send a message to Aleksei Navalny, Russia.

Aleksei Navalny is a prominent figure in Russian opposition politics, known for his anti-corruption campaign and criticism of President Vladimir Putin and the Russian government. In August 2020 he was poisoned with Novichok. Upon his recovery, Aleksei's return to Moscow was met with an immediate and arbitrary arrest.



On 22 March 2022 he faced further arbitrary charges, including fraud, resulting in a nine-year prison sentence. On 4 August 2023 Aleksei received another conviction, leading to a total of 19 years imprisonment. Throughout his imprisonment, Aleksei has endured increasingly harsh treatment. He is currently serving his term in a strict regime, maximum-security penal colony IK-6, located in Vladimir Oblast (240 km east of Moscow). His experiences in prison have been deeply distressing; he has been repeatedly confined to punishment cells for alleged violations of prison discipline. Aleksei has spent significant time in a SHIZO (penalty isolation cell) where he was not allowed any visits or letters, exercise, or outside walks. Aleksei has spent significant time, approximately 12 months as of 27 September 2023, in a form of solitary confinement known as a single-type penal confinement cell (EPKT), an excessively severe and prolonged form of disciplinary punishment. This duration far exceeds the legal limit in Russia, violating the prohibition against torture or other cruel, inhumane, or degrading treatment.

Please send a message (do not mention ACAT) to:

Aleksei Navalny
Corrective Colony No.6 of the UFSIN of Russia (IK-6 Melekhovo)
Melekhovo
Vladimir Oblast
Russia

The West End Refugee Service (WERS) is a registered charity that provides support and opportunities to people seeking asylum and refugees on Tyneside. They work to bring about positive change to the lives of people whose futures have been irrevocably changed by past events in their home country. Since 1999 WERS have delivered a range of integrated services to reduce levels of poverty, isolation, disadvantage and prejudice as they navigate the asylum system in the UK. They are a team of thirteen staff and over 90 volunteers working across the region to deliver projects and services.

Please send a greeting to:

West End Refugee Service
St Philip's Vicarage
St Philip's Close
Arthur's Hill
Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE4 5JE

Email: info@wers.org.uk

Website: <https://www.wers.org.uk/>