

## From the director's desk

Welcome again to ECPAT Child Alert! This edition brings you news on some innovations, a ground breaking arrest, some local and international items and introduces two new websites!

It is exciting to again be associated with The Body Shop in the global campaign to Stop Sex Trafficking of Children and Youth. The campaign is entering its second year and features a petition for people to sign as a measure of support to prevent the sexual exploitation of children. All the countries in the campaign have been surveyed by ECPAT to gauge their progress in the fight against child sex abuse. Call into your nearest The Body Shop, ask about the New Zealand Progress Card

and join the petition by signing. At the time of writing this the number of signatures globally is already in excess of 2 million!

In addition to our Child Alert Hotline (have you installed it yet on your computer?!) and the Department of Internal Affairs Digital Filter on the Internet we are working with overseas interests to be part of a financial coalition. This coalition will enhance measures to thwart the owners and paying customers of illegal child sex abuse image websites by tracking credit card payments.

We hope you will look at the two new websites we have established and let us know what you think of them. Our main information site

is [www.ecpat.org.nz](http://www.ecpat.org.nz) and our new child online safety site is [www.cyberkids.co.nz](http://www.cyberkids.co.nz).

I want to thank all of you who support us in many ways. In particular we are appreciating the increasing number of volunteers and young people showing an interest in joining the fight against child sexual abuse. We are working to extend our volunteer and youth network across New Zealand so just love hearing from you!



National Director  
ECPAT Child Alert

## An invitation to help

Even though ECPAT Child Alert is a member of a large global network the New Zealand operation is quite small. This is largely due to limited resources but nevertheless much is achieved by a dedicated team committed to prevent the sexual exploitation of children. New Zealand is not exempt from child sex abuse and the statistics do not indicate a significant improvement. The task is a large one and more and more we want to recruit New Zealanders as volunteers to partner with us to raise awareness and inform others. We would love to hear from you and encourage you to visit our website, have a look at what we are doing and decide to join the fight by sending us the Volunteer Form on the Support Us page at [www.ecpat.org.nz](http://www.ecpat.org.nz).

## New online safety for children



With children becoming computer literate at younger ages, it is important that they become aware of how to deal with any offensive material they may come across.

To this end, ECPAT Child Alert partnered with a team of students from a group called yMedia to develop a friendly but informative online game that children can enjoy while being educated. Our team of Adam, Loretta, Guillaume, Kelly and their mentor Kris did a great job in producing our [www.cyberkids.co.nz](http://www.cyberkids.co.nz) site along with Safety Tips for Parents and Teachers. The key thing to protect children online is for parents to be aware and involved in how their children are using the computer and especially the Internet.

ECPAT Child Alert encourages parents to visit the site designed for the younger age group.



## Vatican to publish new child sex abuse rules

The Vatican will publish revised rules on the handling of priest sex abuse cases, according to a source close to the Vatican.

The rules are expected to extend the statute of limitations for sex abuse crimes from 10 to 20 years after the victim's 18th birthday and to classify child pornography as a "serious offence."

The revisions update a 2001 document, a "motu proprio" signed by Pope Benedict XVI's predecessor John Paul II, dealing with "serious crimes."

The new rules will also deem abuse of disabled people to be as serious as that of children, according to the ANSA news agency.

The Vatican posted guidelines on handling paedophilia cases in April at the height of abuse scandals sweeping the Church. *AFP, 15 July, 2010*

## Pimp guilty of under-age sex and prostitution charges

New Plymouth brothel-keeper Michael Hastie has been found guilty of under-age sex and prostitution charges.

Hastie, 60, had denied six under-age sex and prostitution charges relating to a 15-year-old girl, as well as supplying cannabis to her and another underage girl. He was found guilty of all the sex charges but not guilty on the cannabis ones following a trial in the New Plymouth District Court, the Taranaki Daily News reported.

Hastie had lured the teenager to New Plymouth, then put her to work as a prostitute from his home.

A number of prostitutes, and their clients, had defended him and said he did not put her to work.

However, Hastie had admitted booking and paying for the girl's bus ticket and knowing that she was only 15.

He was remanded on bail and will be sentenced on October 13.

*NZPA August 18, 2010*

## First arrest in NZ for child sex tourism

*Auckland motelier charged with organising child sex tours to South East Asia.*

There is hope that the first ever New Zealand arrest relating to child sex tourism will send a strong message to offenders who organise such tours for kiwi men.

The 46-year-old Auckland motel and property manager is accused of organising and promoting child sex tours to South East Asia, and dealing in children for sexual exploitation.

ECPAT Child Alert hopes the arrest will serve as a strong warning. This type of child exploitation is driven by profit - but the cost is paid by innocent children.

It is hoped that this arrest will reduce the demand from New Zealanders to participate in child sex tours.

**ECPAT Child Alert comments:**  
This case is another example of a child (under 18 years of age) being sexually exploited in New Zealand. Coupled with the recent arrest of a man charged with arranging tours overseas for sex with children, the number of convictions for accessing child pornography and the evidence of ongoing child prostitution on our streets there are no grounds for complacency in New Zealand in the fight to prevent child sex abuse.

## Poland castration law takes effect

A Polish law that can force some rapists and paedophiles to undergo chemical castration has come into effect.

The legislation, passed by Polish MPs last September, applies to men who rape children or immediate family members.

Under the law, prisoners would be forced on their release to take drugs to reduce their sex drive, but courts are required to consider the opinions of psychiatrists before ordering it.

According to Polish politicians, the country now has the toughest legislation towards paedophiles in Europe.

*BBC News*

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/world/europe/10269055.stm>

## Aussie, 90, on Thai child-sex charges

THAILAND: A 90-YEAR-OLD Australian man has been charged with raping four young sisters in Thailand. He allegedly lured them to his home with imported chocolates and English lessons.

The police confiscated about 100 photographs of naked children at his home near Chiang Mai, and they were also investigating if he was part of a paedophilia network, noting many of the pictures were emailed overseas. Several Southeast Asian countries - including Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam - are magnets for paedophiles because of lax law enforcement, corruption in the justice system and poverty that forces children into prostitution.

*The Australian, 01 July 2010*

## International cooperation to disrupt illegal payments

ECPAT Child Alert is in the early stages of helping to introduce a new initiative to New Zealand in an effort to constrain the sale of illegal child sex abuse images on the Internet. In cooperation with the International Centre of Missing and Exploited Children (ICMEC) we are hoping that New Zealand interests will support the Financial Coalition Against Child Pornography (FCACP). The objective is to disrupt the economics of the child pornography business by preventing the use of electronic payment methods for the purchase of goods and services from child pornography websites. Contact the Director of ECPAT Child Alert if you would like more information on this matter.

## ECPAT International Board Meeting

The governing body of ECPAT International met recently in Taiwan to confirm global strategies to prevent the sexual exploitation of children. The ECPAT network is composed of ECPAT groups based all over the world; In 1996, the network consisted of 17 groups. By 1999, it had grown to 53 groups and, in 2010, there are over 80 groups in more than 70 countries.

ECPAT works to build collaboration among local civil society actors and the broader child rights community to form a global social movement for protection of children from sexual exploitation. Its membership reflects the richness and diversity of experience, knowledge and perspectives that arise from working in widely different contexts.

## Newsflash! Taking a step to help children

As a result of viewing a TV item on the work of ECPAT Child Alert a university student was moved to contact the ECPAT Office with an amazing offer. Kate Medlicott & friend Tim Geaney had been contemplating walking the length of New Zealand for a cause but were uncertain about what to support. After viewing the item the issue was no longer in doubt! The two Otago University students are now planning the walk from Bluff to Cape Reinga to draw attention to the prevention of sexual exploitation of children. Kate and Tim are prepared to walk an estimated 2,500 kms between November 2010 and January 2011. Kate says "We estimate taking 5 million steps for children. We invite you to take just one step and help us with your sponsorship or donation to go to ECPAT Child Alert in their effort to stop child sex abuse" If you can help with sponsorship, donations, supplies or publicity, please contact us on [office@ecpat.org.nz](mailto:office@ecpat.org.nz).

## A call to action for New Zealand Youth

ECPAT Child Alert is a child rights organisation with a focus on preventing sexual exploitation of children. It is important that youth are part of the effort to prevent the sexual exploitation of children. The youth of today form the opinion shapers of tomorrow and we need hear their voice and share their involvement. We are making a challenge to the youth of New Zealand to get involved and take a stand against the evils of child prostitution, child pornography and child trafficking. If you are in the 18 -25 year age bracket and you want to help make New Zealand a safe place for children to grow up in free from the fear of sexual exploitation get in touch with us! Use our website or call – we need your help!

## Meeting Becky

We welcome Becky Low as an intern from the University of Auckland on assignment to ECPAT Child Alert for three months to put together a strategy and plan to establish a youth participation project within New Zealand.

Becky comes with considerable experience already having worked overseas with victims of sexual exploitation. Her contribution towards engaging with the youth of New Zealand is valued and we invite anyone interested in her work to contact her on [intern@ecpat.org.nz](mailto:intern@ecpat.org.nz).



Becky is currently half way through her four year Social Work degree.

## Stop the Traffick(ing)!

In 2009 the New Zealand Government released a National Plan to Prevent People Trafficking. The Department of Labour (DOL) now has the responsibility to implement this Plan to safeguard New Zealand from people trafficking. ECPAT Child Alert recently convened a Trafficking Forum in Auckland in conjunction with the DOL for agencies to become better informed about this comprehensive Plan and to discuss ways in which the various interested parties could contribute towards making the community aware of it in an effort to strengthen the implementation and impact.



