

# SMK Announces 2009 Campaigner Award Winners!

Since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009 SMK has been searching the UK and beyond for this year's SMK award winners. On 16<sup>th</sup> September, at St Martin-in-the-fields, Trafalgar Square this year's winners were announced. The award ceremony itself was hosted by SMK Patron and Channel 4 newsreader Jon Snow, with award presenters Shami Chakrabarti, Tony Juniper and Terry Waite. To see pictures of the awards ceremony, [click here](#), and to watch videos of the ceremony see our [YouTube channel](#).

## The 2009 Award Winners are:

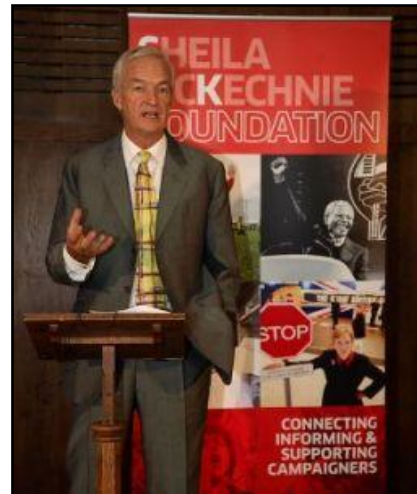
- **Conflict Resolution:** [Lea Misan](#)
- **Consumer Action:** [Tom Royston](#)
- **Environment:** [Shilpa Shah](#)
- **Global Action:** [Danny Hutley](#)
- **International Campaigner:** [Rafael Ahenu](#)
- **International Young Campaigner:** [Nixon Odoyo](#)
- **London Social Justice:** [Renuka Bhakta](#)
- **Shout Out!** [La Sainte Union School](#)
- **Social Inclusion:** [David Watkins](#)
- **Transport:** [Laura Ferguson](#)
- **Women Creating Change:** [Emma and Abi Moore](#)
- **Young Activist:** [Barbara Soetan](#)

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**Deadline extended- send in your views before Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October!**

There is still time to fill in the SMK and NVCO joint survey about issues facing campaigners. It is important that you have your say on the issues you face as a campaigner in the lead up to the next general election. These views will go towards an "election manifesto". Thanks to all of you who have completed the survey so far.

To complete this survey [click here](#), and to read the initial discussion paper, [click here](#).



SMK Chair Lyndall Stein with Patron Geoffrey Howe



## Local campaign spotlight- The Cotswolds



Lake 104: planned to be developed into a new tourist centre

Environmental campaigners in Fairford have been campaigning to save a lake in the Cotswolds. Planning applications have been put in to turn the site into a new tourist centre, which will destroy the lake and the natural environment around it. [Read more here.](#)

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Other local Cotswold residents are campaigning against the possibility of turning a local town hall into a pub. Residents say this could cause an increase in "community louts, rowdy punters or an increase in crime." [Read more here.](#)

## National Campaigning news...

Capacitybuilders have been allocating funding for a campaigning research programme, which aims to investigate different ways of helping marginalised communities get their voices heard through advocacy and campaigning. [Read more.](#)

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The British Red Cross has decided to follow the example of other established charities and has branched into the field of campaigning. A spokesman for the charity has said it has "become increasingly clear that we can and should broaden our help by influencing decision makers and policy makers to change the environment in which people become vulnerable to crisis". [Read more here.](#)

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Read how three environmental charities; World Development Movement ([WDM](#)), [Platform](#) and [People and Planet](#) have challenged the Treasury for bailing out The Royal Bank of Scotland during the financial crisis. The organisations say the Treasury has breached its own environmental policy by supporting the bank who is one of the main lenders to energy companies. [Read more.](#)

## International campaigning news...

### Nixon Odoyo- Keeping Girls in School

Nixon is 16 years old and from Nairobi, Kenya. Over the last few years he has noticed many girls in his year gradually dropping out of school. There are now only two girls left in his year and one of them is pregnant and about to leave. The main reason for girls leaving school is due to the lack of sanitary products available. Many girls feel embarrassed or uncomfortable coming into school during their period, and consequently miss time off school. This makes them fall behind in learning, and eventually drop out due to the amount of lessons missed. Nixon is campaigning to get free sanitary products given to girls in school so that they can continue with lessons and reach their full educational potential. To read more about Nixon see the [SMK website](#), or read this [Guardian article](#) on him.

Nixon Odoyo with Terry Waite



## Upcoming Events & News...



### SMK is recruiting new Trustees

If you are interested in becoming an SMK Trustee, please have a look at the job description on the SMK website- available from 15<sup>th</sup> October 2009. Email your interest to [recruitment@smk.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@smk.org.uk).

### Campaigning workshops

The following workshops are run by the Sheila McKechnie Foundation and supported by the [CLG](#) under the Empowerment Fund programme. They deliver introductory skills in strategic planning and influencing to under-resourced, novice campaigners and frontline service delivery organisations.

- 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2009, London
- 4<sup>th</sup> December 2009, Exeter

To register your interest in one of these two workshops email [ruby.coote@smk.org.uk](mailto:ruby.coote@smk.org.uk).

Become friends with SMK on [Facebook!](#) For up-to-date information on what SMK is up to and photos of SMKs recent events.

Also, follow us on [Twitter!](#)

**Photo credits:** 1. SMK Patron Jon Snow at the 2009 awards ceremony, HKambo/SMK, 2. Lyndall Stein and Geoffrey Howe at the SMK award ceremony, HKambo/SMK, 3. Lake 104, Save our Lake campaign, 4. Nixon Odoyo and Terry Waite at the SMK awards ceremony, HKambo/SMK.