

CARLISLE ONE WORLD CENTRE

www.cowc.co.uk
Newsletter Summer 2007

Welcome!

Once again, it has been a busy few months for the fairtrade activists in Carlisle, renewing the city's Fairtrade status and bringing a new group of prominent local businesses on board, a move that was celebrated at a successful event on 2nd March in the Quaker Meeting House. The annual Action Aid Coffee Break and a concert for local young people were also held during Fairtrade Fortnight, using coffee and music to promote Fairtrade messages. This group has gone from strength to strength in recent years and it will be one of several who will have access to and benefit from the new One World Centre which will be moving to an upstairs premises, above the World Shop, in early June. This expansion of COWC will be funded by a grant from Awards for All (under the Big Lottery Fund) and it will be an exciting time for the whole organisation.

We still don't have enough resources to run a full-time centre and will continue to work through the activities of you, our network and volunteer membership. Therefore, we hope you can make it along to our AGM on 14th of June to contribute your ideas towards the future of COWC and our new base.

As usual, this newsletter will combine a look back at the activities of recent months with notices and dates for your diaries. We hope you will be able to volunteer or participate in some of the exciting events coming up over the next few months. In particular, we are looking for help with the move itself which will take place in early June. We will require help with moving furniture and resources upstairs and with setting up our new home! If you are available for an hour or two on the 9th of June or another day that week, please contact me for more information and how to get involved, or just come along on the 9th from 10am.

Volunteers Required here



*Global Journey Banner in Carlisle,
9 April. photo by P.D. Walsh*

I look forward to seeing you at the AGM. Please do get in touch if you have any comments about this newsletter or wish to contribute an article. The next one will be put together in September.

Adrienne Gill
Adrienne.gill@yahoo.co.uk

From the Chair

Since our last report to our network members there has been little in the way of embarking on new initiatives – it has been a period of consolidation and building upon our past achievements. It encourages all of us to realise that the Carlisle One World Centre is a successful enterprise. This is due in no small part to the support we receive from so many individuals and

other organisations. There's evidence of much commitment from a large group of like-minded people who see an imbalance in the way we use this

earth's resources and who endeavour to right the injustices so many endure. COWC tries to harness this desire for justice in the world and to make a contribution to eliminating poverty, ignorance, and sickness which becomes more effective as we work as a group of people, rather than just as individuals. We should never get discouraged by our occasional lack of progress – remember the old adage *it's far better to light just one candle than to sit back and curse the darkness.*

There is some progress we need to report in one area of our activities, that of education. On behalf of Churches Together in Carlisle we manage the ecumenical chaplaincy to the Tertiary Colleges in the city. With the establishment of the University of Cumbria we are well on the way to ensuring a seamless transfer of our chaplain Ruth Harvey to similar responsibilities in the new organisation, though much still needs to be discussed regarding the financing of the new post.

To my fellow members on the Management Committee, to our volunteers, and many network members thank-you. Your support is appreciated, not least by those whose lives are improved by the commitment you give to Carlisle One World Centre.

Greg Turner

2007 Fairtrade Fortnight and Global Journey

There is a family behind every cup of coffee

At a Fairtrade wine reception in the Quaker Meeting House on Friday 2nd March, Sam Magona, a coffee farmer and chairman of the Gumutindo cooperative union Uganda presented certificates, to businesses that support Fairtrade in Carlisle. Mark Costello and Julie Mosley received the certificate for Carlisle CVS, explaining that they use Fairtrade tea and coffee and encourage all their member organisations to do so. Ian Proniewicz & Clare Scott from Orton Grange Farm Shop and Café are committed to sourcing local products fairly as well as products from overseas which we can't produce ourselves. They are now sourcing Fairtrade wine to offer as well as the tea, coffee and sugar already for sale in the shop and served in the café. Deborah Earl received the certificate on behalf of Carlisle Housing Association, the flagship company for the Fairtrade city. They host the meetings of the Fairtrade Steering Group. As well as offering Fairtrade tea and coffee to their employees, they even provide Fairtrade fruit. They are currently working on sourcing fairly traded uniforms. Denise McEwan, manager of Café Revive and Rachel Humphreys, commercial manager accepted the certificate on behalf of Marks and Spencer, dressed in M & S Fairtrade cotton jeans and tops. They explained that Marks and Spencer have been running a big promotion for Fairtrade Fortnight. They have increased selling from 9 to 70 Fairtrade products in the last year and aim to have fairly traded items for sale in many departments. All tea and coffee and a new range of jam and marmalade carry the Fairtrade mark. They brought examples of Fairtrade cotton socks and underwear and also handmade greeting cards from Salay in the Philippines, bought through Traidcraft.

Danielle Donougher who travelled with Sam Magona on behalf of the Fairtrade Foundation introducing him said, "Fairtrade is not a charity; it is a partnership between us and producers in the developing world, enabling people to have what they justly deserve."



Sam Magona presenting a certificate to Ian Proniewicz from Orton Grange at the Fairtrade wine reception

Sam told us that it was the British who had introduced coffee to Uganda and that the Arabica coffee grown there originally came from Ethiopia, the birthplace of coffee. The high quality Arabica coffee is grown on the lower slopes of Mount Elgon. Most farms are one acre with the larger farms five acres in size. He showed us slides of the coffee being grown and processed and the improvements that they have been enabled to make in the process since



selling to the Fairtrade market. They had improved the quality of the coffee. Women no longer need to sit on the floor to sort the coffee, but can sit on stools by a conveyor belt to select the best beans. Women were involved at every stage and he said how their position had improved; they are now involved in decision making at all levels. And no longer do they have to carry great heavy sacks of coffee.

He outlined the many improvements they have been able to make using the Fairtrade social premium, an amount for social development over and above the fair price they have been given for their coffee. Housing has been improved – replacing mud and wattle walls with concrete and corrugated iron roofing. Two new classrooms will help reduce the class size of 200 shown in one of the pictures. Road surfaces had been improved to facilitate access on otherwise often impassable muddy tracks. Capped springs ensure a clean water supply. A health centre was built and local store was renovated. Improvements have been made on a budget of £1600 over seven years. He said that this could be done on such a tight budget because they did the work themselves.

Although coffee is the main source of income for 91% farmers, only about 5% of coffee is sold to the Fairtrade market. Sam was appreciative of the support of the Fairtrade Foundation and those who buy Fairtrade coffee. He would like to encourage more of us to buy his high quality Fairtrade coffee and assure them that it makes a great difference to his farmers and their families. Joe Human from the Keswick Fairtrade Group and Cumbria Fairtrade Network reminded us that there is a family behind every cup of coffee.

The evening, which was sponsored by the Co-op which is a major player in the sale and promotion of Fairtrade products in Carlisle, was regarded as a great success by Carlisle Fairtrade Steering Group.

A Fairtrade coffee morning at the Old Town Hall earlier in the day was well attended with local MP, Eric Martlew popping in for a cuppa. Joe Human and Sam Magona also spoke with Joe giving an account of a recent trip to Ethiopia by members of the Cumbria Fairtrade Network.



Joe Human speaking at the Fairtrade coffee morning

Music spreads the word at a Fairtrade Concert

On Wednesday 7th March, as part of Fairtrade Fortnight, a lively crowd gathered in the Tithe Barn, Carlisle for an evening of acoustic music with a trade justice message that wants a fairer deal for all. Gareth Davies-Jones a folk/roots artist, captivated the 50+ audience with songs and lyrics based on global responsibility and Christian faith. His lyrics challenged the audience to address the causes of global poverty and for each person to stand up for their beliefs. There was a strong sense that music can reach out to many and spread the trade and social justice message. People of all ages attended the event which was supported by local singer/songwriters Laura James (16) and Ben Mattinson (21). Both sang songs they had written based on their experiences accompanied by acoustic guitar.

Fairtrade bakes, tea, coffee, juice and hot chocolate were on sale in a Fairtrade café. The Co-operative Group, Christian Aid, Shared Interest and the Carlisle World Shop attended the event with stalls and information stands. As the Co-operative groups were offering free chocolate, they proved to be popular. Their simple message of 'changing the world, one can of beans at a time' inspired participants to join the fight for global trade and social justice. The lively music was broken up by short talks from representatives from Christian Aid, the Co-operative Group and the Carlisle One World Centre.

19 year old Becci Palethorpe, schools representative and Carlisle One World Centre volunteer, organized the event. She thanked her fellow Fairtrade volunteers and said that the evening demonstrated how, brilliant music with a clear message, can really reach out and get people thinking about eradicating poverty. She was delighted that so many young people had turned out for the evening. For £2, it was a wonderful way to celebrate Carlisle's second anniversary as a Fairtrade city, and a punchy fair-trade awareness raising event.

Global Journey reaches Carlisle



In January 2004 at the World Social Forum, from one of the poorest slums in Mumbai, India the International Fairtrade Association's (IFAT) Global Journey was launched. Since then, the banner bearing the Fairtrade Organisation's mark has travelled to all the countries where IFAT has members, promoting Fairtrade Organisations (FTO) and the FTO mark, as well as creating awareness of and showing solidarity with the Fairtrade global community.

Then on April 3rd 2007 it finally reached the North of England, and was transported from Newcastle to Hexham, and then on to Haltwhistle where it met representatives from Carlisle and Brampton. Fairtrade supporters from Newcastle, Hexham, Haltwhistle, Brampton and Carlisle stood together at the centre of Britain to listen as the IFAT declaration of Fairtrade was read, just as it had been read at every other Global Journey event, and to hear a local songwriter perform his song about Fairtrade. The groups then shared together in a wonderful lunch kindly provided

by the Newcastle Fairtrade Group, before the Carlisle group travelled back with the banner ready for the main event on April 9th.



The Mayor of Carlisle reading the Fairtrade message in front of the Global Journey banner

On reaching Carlisle the banner was greeted with a day of celebration in the city centre. The day began when the Mayor, Cllr Peter Farmer, introduced by Jim Hyslop, read the IFAT declaration. He also spoke of his own and the Mayoress' personal commitment to Fairtrade. Fairly traded products were available to buy from a marquee situated in front of the bandstand, and the displays of street theatre certainly caught people's attention as they passed by. The day's entertainment included dance, drumming and an 'Unfair Tug of War', all performed by groups of local young people, as well as circus displays by 'Two High' and Samba drumming workshops led by 'Drum Roots'. Young people of all ages enjoyed entering into the Fairtrade banner competition, by decorating a square of material with their ideas about Fairtrade. The competition is to be judged in the near future and hopefully displayed somewhere in the city for all to see.

Overall, the event was a great success; it made a tremendous noise for Fairtrade, which hopefully has raised its profile in Carlisle, and was a fun day for all! Our thanks to Anna Templeton with Becci Palethorpe for all that they did to organise an event on this scale and to the many volunteers who worked hard to make it happen.



Drumming workshop as part of the Global Journey celebrations

News from Forum Bangun Aceh

The organisation which COWC members and members of the public in Carlisle supported as part of the Tsunami appeal in 2005 has produced a fact sheet which can be downloaded from our website www.cowc.co.uk. The community has had some good news in recent months. The people of Rabo Village, Pulo Aceh are harvesting their paddy field which was completely devastated by tsunami on 26 December 2004. FBA supported this people by restoring these fields, their main livelihood.

Forthcoming Events in 2007



Wednesday 23rd May Greystone Community Centre, Close Street 7.30pm

Friends of the Earth meeting

Friday 25th May 1:00pm

Carlisle Equality & Diversity Partnership - Full partnership meeting

Monday 28th May 2:00 – 5:00pm

Upperby Gala COWC and World Shop stall

Volunteers Required here

Sunday 3rd June

Carlisle Equality and Diversity Partnership, Greystone Community Centre

Asian Women's Group Event

4th – 9th June

Brampton Environmental Week.

Tel: 01697 745023

Project officer: Phil Pennefather

E-mail: sustainability@bramptonandbeyond.org

Monday 4th June, Heads Nook Village Hall 7:30pm

Talk to Heads Nook WI on Fairtrade and World Shop

5th – 9th June 2007

Set all free in Whitehaven

Tuesday 5th June Costa Coffee House, Whitehaven 7:00pm

An Illustrated talk by Fergus Pearson followed by questions and discussion. Free entry.

What drove Wilberforce to Slay the Slave Trade?

Friday 8th June Whitehaven Civic Hall 7:30pm

Cargo: a Paul Field Musical

Friday 8th June, William Howard School, Brampton

Public Debate. Contact Phil Pennefather 01697 745023

Saturday 9th June, Community Centre, Brampton

Sustainable Saturday. Contact Phil Pennefather 01697 745023

Saturday 9th June COWC

Moving Day

Volunteers Required here

Saturday 9th June St Begh's Church, Whitehaven 10:30am

Ecumenical Service To commemorate the bicentenary of The Abolition of the Slave Trade Act. To be held in St Begh's RC Church, Coach Road, Whitehaven

Saturday 9th June The Beacon Museum 1.00pm

Conference: Tackling slavery & exploitation in the 21st century

Saturday 9th June The Hub, Whitehaven 10:00am - 4:00pm

Fairtrade Market

Saturday 9th June The Market, Whitehaven 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Street Theatre

Sunday 10th June Carlisle Equality and Diversity Partnership, Morton Community Centre

Migrant Workers Welcome Event

Thursday 14th June Church of Scotland Building, Chapel Street. 7:00 for 7:30pm

Carlisle One World Centre AGM

Sunday 24th June Theatre by the Lake in Keswick 1:30pm

Film **Black Gold**, starring Tadesse Meskela (tickets £5.50; £4.50 students, under 16).

Contact COWC to share transport

Wednesday 27th June Greystone Community Centre, Close Street 7:30pm

Friends of the Earth meeting

Thursday 29th June, Tullie House

Humanity Exhibition

Monday 2nd July – Friday 6th July Festival of Nations Workshops

Schools and Community Centres

Tuesday 3rd July – Houghton

Talk to Houghton WI - on Fairtrade and World Shop

Friday 6th July 1:00pm

Carlisle Equality & Diversity Partnership - Full partnership meeting

Saturday 7th July – Tullie House 10:00am – 4:00pm

Festival of Nations Event
Golden Rule Family Workshops delivered through COWC.

Contact Tullie House (01228 534781) for more info.

Wednesday 25th July Greystone Community Centre, Close Street 7:30pm

Friends of the Earth meeting

Friday 17th August 1:00pm

Carlisle Equality & Diversity Partnership - Full partnership meeting

Saturday 25th August to Monday 27th August

Great Fairtrade Fair **Volunteers Required here**

Wednesday 22nd August Greystone Community Centre, Close Street 7:30pm

Friends of the Earth meeting

Wednesday 26th September Greystone Community Centre, Close Street 7:30pm

Friends of the Earth meeting

Sunday 29th September Tullie House

Multi cultural story telling

Update from the Campaigns Group

This new group has been very active in recent months. In addition to its involvement with the Global Journey, the following has been taking place....

World Water Day

Imagine that it is an hour before sunrise. You have to walk four miles to the nearest well to get enough water for your entire family's drinking, cooking and washing needs. The water is dirty and harbours diseases that may kill at least one of your children before they are 15. You now have to walk four miles back to your home, carrying the great weight on your head, in order to start your daily working routine. You will more than likely suffer permanent damage to your spine because you do this every day...

How much do you, living in one of the world's richest countries, appreciate clean fresh water running from taps?

Two-thirds of the world's households do not have any running water. In the UK, each of us uses between 200 and 600 litres of water in a day. Yet 1.1 BILLION people do not have daily access to even 20 litres. One person in the UK flushes 50 litres of clean water down the toilet in a day. In that same day 3800 children in the developing world have died from diseases associated with lack of clean drinking water and proper sanitation. That's 13 children dead in the 5 minutes it takes you to shower.

'Coping with Water Scarcity' is the theme behind this year's World Water Day on Thursday 22nd of March. It is an opportunity to rethink how we take our almost limitless clean water for granted, appreciate the scale of the problems for our fellow humans in the developing world and maybe figure out how we can reduce our own water consumption (a brick in the toilet cistern, turning off the tap while you shave or clean your teeth, etc.)

If you think that water shortage will never affect you because you live in Cumbria, think about where South East England may take its water from if last years 'drought' was a glimpse of things to come.

If you want to find out more about these issues, you can visit UN Water's website at www.worldwaterday07.org.

COWC Campaigns Group ran a stall in English Street on World Water Day. 40 people took information from the stall about Water Aid and World Development Movement. 10 of those people stopped for a more lengthy discussion.

We have recruited one volunteer who is interested in being involved in future events and one teenager took a huge stack of information to do a presentation to her school about water poverty globally. We also had a slot on BBC Radio Cumbria and articles in the press.

Hazel Bowmaker

Climate Change and Trade Justice in Haiti

At a recent meeting, Prosperity Raymond, Christian Aid's programme officer in Haiti spoke briefly to us about Climate Change and Trade Justice in Haiti.

Climate change

Haiti and the Dominican Republic share an Island in the Caribbean. It is very beautiful but very poor. Global Warming has already affected it. In 2005 there were 23 storms instead of the usual average of 6. They used to suffer drought for 4 months a year every 7 to 8 years. Now it has increased dramatically. The sea is rising and they suffer a new phenomenon – tornados.

The poor are very vulnerable. Villages have been washed away in mud slides. Christian Aid is trying to help avoid floods. They are planting trees and trying to stop trees being cut down.

Trade Justice

Haiti has endured two structural adjustments by the IMF and World Bank. They insist on 'liberalising' trade, which means they must reduce import taxes. Liberalisation has meant that their government has had to stop subsidising their products, but US subsidised rice is dumped on them.

This means that Haiti used to export sugar and it is now importing sugar. In the 1980s they imported 15,000 tons of rice. Now they import 350,000 tins of rice. They produced 130,000 tons of rice and now they produce less than 75,000. 850,000 people lost their jobs after the second structural adjustment.

He asked us to lobby our government and the European Union. They should not impose conditionality on loans.

New Climate change group in Carlisle

A Friends of the Earth group has been re-established in Carlisle. It is a chance to network with other people who are concerned about how the climate is changing and work out what we can do about it at a local level. **The group meets every month** at 7.30, every fourth Wednesday of the month in the Greystoke Community Centre off London Road.

After the meeting in May there will be the opportunity to watch **Greenpeace's short film called "What are we waiting for"** an interesting film about decentralised energy, which shows concrete examples what other countries are doing.

Each meeting the group is collecting together information for a **Carlisle Green Guide**. So if anyone from the network has information which could be included in the guide, please let us know. Useful Web sites, personal experience, useful contacts.

For further information contact Esther Nicholson, email grinicho@aol.com 01228 513 743

Brampton Environment week June 4th – 9th

This partnership between the School and Sustainable Brampton will have 3 components:

1: The first element happens in school on Monday 4th June, with guest Speakers addressing years 7,8,9 about a range of environmental and climate related issues.

2: The second is the Public Debate, also to be held at W. Howard School, on Friday 8th June. The wording of the motion is not yet finalised, but will be about the merits of Brampton being less dependent on oil by 2020. (with local key speakers.)

3: The final component is "Sustainable Saturday" on the 9th at the Community Centre in Union Lane, a chance to invite all the Brampton and beyond community to an "Environmental Fair" to look at a range of sustainability issues and discuss future options. Stalls on a number of themes, will include organic and local foods (for lunch!), energy saving techniques by insulation, double or triple glazing , alternative energy generation demonstrations, (solar-panels, wood-burners, turbines, heat-pumps etc), water conservation, transport, waste disposal, local purchasing, and other themes.

If you know of any firms or people with appropriate technology or innovations which should be exhibited, or any organisations with a relevant contribution to make, please let me know.

Equally, if you could spare any time to help on Sat 9th, I am building up a list of smallish but essential tasks to be done on the day, and would be really grateful for your offer of help if it's possible. (signage, greeting, stalls allocations, printing, etc etc).

Hoping you can visit on June 9th 11.00 – 5.00pm.

Phil Pennefather

sustainability@bramptonandbeyond.org

News from Cumbria Development Education Centre

CDEC resources base

The CDEC resources base is now located at Eden House, Trinity School, Strand Road, Carlisle.

CDEC resources are available for loan through Subscription to CDEC services. Anyone interested in becoming a subscriber (individuals or schools) please contact Claire

Ward on 015394-30231, Low Nook, St. Martin's College Ambleside.

If you are a subscriber and wish to visit the Carlisle Resources base please email Vimala John at vimala@cdec.org.uk with a contact number and Vimala will contact you to arrange a convenient time.

Forthcoming CDEC courses

Training opportunity: Philosophy for Children- Introductory session

Who is it for: Anyone new to P4C and interested in trying out the methodology in class- teachers, TA's, others. *(This is not an accredited course -courses accredited by SAPERE are also available from time to time)*

Venue: Ambleside

Date: Wednesday 13th June 2007

Time: 3.45-5.45pm

Cost: £35 per person plus £10 discount for each subsequent person from any one school. **10% discount to CDEC subscriber.**

Facilitation Skills Course

CDEC has booked the **Management Centre** to run a two day Facilitation Skills training course at Ambleside on Tuesday 17th/ Wednesday 18th July 2007.

We have 10 spare places on this course, which we are happy to offer to colleagues and partners at £185 per head (no accomodation included). The management center comes highly recommended and you can see further information on their website www.managementcentre.co.uk

To book your place please contact Eleanor Knowles on 015394-30231 or email at office@cdec.org.uk

Golden Rule Workshops

Stephen Dunn, the Civic Council's Community Involvement Officer has invited The One World Centre to be involved with this year's Festival of Nations in Carlisle. This year's theme is The Golden Rule which unites the moral teaching of most religions. Part of our response is to look at the Golden Rule in six major religions, one each with individual Primary Schools. The schools will hear about the different religions and the Golden Rule, share in related craft activities and each contribute a section of a display for the Festival. Petteiril Bank Community School are at present enjoying a trial run of the programme as part of their involvement in the international Heartstone Project.

Colin Harbach

Two free of charge family workshops will take place in Tullie House on Saturday 7th July on this theme. Contact Tullie House (01228 534781) for more info and to sign up.

COWC Classifieds

Management Committee Vacancy

The position of **COWC secretary** will be vacant following the June AGM. Please contact Lorna Strong at COWC or come along to the AGM to express your interest in this interesting and rewarding role.

Help us find out about other One World Centres

COWC has been awarded a small amount of funding from the Community Champions Fund to review the work of other centres in relation to our future expansion. We wish to make contact with similar One World/Development Centres in the UK and find out how they have developed, what activities they carry out and how they achieve sustainability. We are looking for someone with relevant skills and experience to do this piece of work and organise visits to at least one Centre. The outcome will be a short report to the management committee with recommendations on expansion and funding sources.

Payment will be a maximum of £240 gross, based on 24 hours work at £10 per hour, plus expenses. Informal interviews will be held on 6th June at 10am. Contact Adrienne Gill for further information after Sunday 27 May (01228 409580. adrienne.gill@yahoo.co.uk) or send a cv and covering letter to the above email address by Friday 1st June.

COWC AGM 2007

Thursday 14 June
Church of Scotland, Chapel Street
7:30pm. Tea and coffee from 7:00pm

Featuring presentations from members
on their own recent global journeys
All are welcome!

Confidence Building Training

Come along to this gentle introductory course which uses exercises and discussion to help us look at where confidence comes from and how we can develop skills to improve competence and confidence. Learning to be more compassionate with ourselves and acknowledging our individual attributes and strengths will help to create a more comfortable existence and a happier disposition. Ideal for volunteers, staff and trustees. To book a place or for more information please call Jackie on 01228 512513 or email jackiebo@carlislecvs.org.uk

When: Wednesday June 13th

Time: 10am - 12 noon

Where: Carlisle CVS

Trainer: Sue Harper

Cost: £15.00 (includes lunch)

Carlisle CVS Sue Harper Training

New address for Carlisle Freecycle site

This locally based community recycling group has been removed from the Freecycle network. This is because the organisation's founder has decided that he wishes to take control of all locally run Freecycle groups by moving them all to a central USA based website that removes local control from each individual group. Simplified, this means that the group would no longer be ran by local people here in the Carlisle area, for the Carlisle people.

The group is now known as Carlisle Freeshare. The new web address for Carlisle Freeshare will be:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Carlisle-Freeshare/>

Contact us:

Carlisle One World Centre
3 Lowthian's Lane, English Street
Carlisle CA3 8JR

Email: cowc@fish.co.uk

Web: www.cowc.co.uk

Tel: 01228 546287

Fax: 01228 550385

Chair: Greg Turner

Secretary: Lorna Strong

Treasurer: Frances Robinson