

CARLISLE ONE WORLD CENTRE

www.cowc.co.uk

Newsletter Autumn 2006

Welcome from the Editor

I was looking through a few old newsletters the other day (from "before my time") and was struck by the range and depth of activities that have been going on at and through the centre in recent years. These activities have not just been responding to national campaigns and initiatives such as Jubilee 2000 and the Trade Justice movement but have played a key role in instigating local, Carlisle based actions responding to need as well as the strong links between this city and projects in Malawi, Manipur, Ethiopia and other countries. It is humbling to look back and reflect on all that has happened on the backs of dedicated volunteers alone.....and to think we keep asking you for more! As Greg says, it is a combination of your ongoing drive for global justice and the steady trickle of new members and interests that keeps the organisation in a constant state of revival and expansion. As we undergo a bit of a "funding drive" at the moment, submitting applications to potential donors for new ideas, projects and space, it's not just about expansion (although more rooms to operate from and meet in would be greatly appreciated by most of us!) but also about consolidating the good work that's already taking place, supporting it and replicating it where it's working well!

Remember it's not all about funding but applying our time and energies in the most effective ways! COWC is going to facilitate a central Campaigns Group which will consist of members and representatives of the local global justice and campaigning organisations and coordinate responses to national and local campaign issues. Contact the centre more information about this group and how to join. Its first meeting will hopefully take place during October.

Don't forget to check out our new website:
www.cowc.co.uk (note the new address)

Remember to look out for symbols throughout the newsletter that will indicate ways you can get involved in COWC's activities.

Volunteers Required here

Finally, if you are organising an event or you wish to write an article about a development issue, do let us know! Send your contributions to adrienne.gill@yahoo.co.uk for my attention. The next newsletter will be put together in early 2006.

Adrienne Gill



Carlisle Mayor Peter Farmer with his wife, Nan, being welcomed by the host of the 2006 Fairtrade Fair, Canon Warden Brian McConnell, representing Carlisle Cathedral

And from the Chair.....

They say only dead things don't change and that life involves constant movement and progress. If that is so the Carlisle One World Centre is in a very healthy state indeed. Since our last Newsletter Ruth Harvey has been appointed the new ecumenical chaplain to the University of Central Lancashire's campus in Carlisle, and we have a new Treasurer in Frances Robinson. They take the places of Caroline Kennedy and Keith Burrow respectively. Elinor Predota leaves soon for new responsibilities further south. While welcoming our new members we here record our sincere thanks to those who in the past have been so committed to COWC and its principles of bringing justice into a world where that commodity is so often lacking.

Several of our younger volunteers have now gone on to further education, but there is no lack of younger blood giving life to COWC and spreading the influence of the Fairtrade Movement. You will read elsewhere in this Newsletter about Fairtrade in Carlisle. In the last couple of years this has become a real feather in the cap of COWC and has made many people in Carlisle much more aware of the imbalance in trade that is so harmful to many poor people in the world.

We are grateful for the dedicated involvement of so many volunteers, and encourage others to be involved in COWC's concerns. There are three main ways in which all can contribute to furthering its aims. All of us have either time, talent, or treasure. Some have all three! Giving to us a couple of hours a week, making available to the Centre any useful skill or expertise, or donating financially to its support will ensure that COWC continues to have a vigorous and healthy future

Greg Turner



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Fairtrade Fair

26 – 28 August 2006

Carlisle Cathedral



August Bank Holiday weekend saw yet another Great Fairtrade Fair, hosted by the Dean and Chapter of Carlisle Cathedral. This year we had a marquee outside the Fraternity. The Mayor opened the fair on Saturday. There were twelve stalls offering information and products from around the world.

The countries represented ranged from Indonesia through to Nepal and Argentina; whilst the products ranged from hand knitted sheep-shaped tea cosies to coconut jewellery and percussion instruments.

It was a huge success and, once again, served to raise the profile of Fairtrade in Carlisle. To add to this, the Prior's Kitchen remained open for the whole weekend providing delicious Fair Trade food every day.

However, none of this could have been achieved had it not been for the many volunteers who gave up their time to run the stalls (despite the weather being a bit chilly), and those who set up and cleared away the stalls each day. So thank you to all who were involved and for the effort that you put in to the weekend. I am sure you will all agree that it was encouraging to have such strong support from the people of Carlisle throughout the fair, showing that we really are a great Fair Trade city!

Next year starts now!

We need a few volunteers to form a sub group to plan the fair for 2007. If you are interested in helping organise this extremely successful project, please contact Lorna Strong at Carlisle One World Centre.

Becci Palenthorpe

Volunteers Required here

Photos (right and overleaf)

From the top and clockwise (from top left)

1. Mayor and his wife with Julie Thompson at the Andina stall
2. Mayor's wife with Esther Nicholson at the Pamet stall
3. Elaine Marney and David at Kenana Knitters
4. Pam Harbach with a customer at Traidcraft
5. Liz Parkinson with our guests at Manipur Textiles
6. A view of the fair
7. Lorna (sitting down at last!)
8. Liz Walsh and the SIWOK team
9. David modelling Kenana glove puppets
10. Mikale trying out a musical instrument





2006 Fairtrade Fair Photo Gallery



Christian Aid Week 14 to 20 May 2006

Christian Aid Week for 2006, in mid-May, was marked by



some horribly wet weather – enough to deter all but the most determined house-to-house collectors!

However, Christian Aid volunteers in Carlisle are not put off by the odd downpour of rain. Despite this, and we had a very successful week, raising a total of over £15,000. This was an increase of about 10% over last year. As well as house-to-house collecting, churches arranged a range of other events, including coffee morning and church collections. Of particular note was the book sale organised by Agnes Herbert with colleagues from St George's United Reformed Church and other helpers.

We have started to plan for next year, and hope to arrange a carol service before Christmas and, subject to getting City Council approval, a street collection during next year's Christian Aid Week.

Much sooner than either of these events - namely on Tuesday 3 October of this year - the Church of Scotland in Carlisle is hosting a Christian Aid evening. The centrepiece will be a talk by Ranjan Panda, a Christian Aid partner from Orissa, India, about Christian Aid's water supply and agricultural projects there. As well as his talk, the evening will start with music from the band and choir from Belah School, and there will be refreshments at the end. Plus there will be a Traidcraft stall. The event starts at 7.30 p.m. The date is 3 October. So do come along to the Church of Scotland in Chapel Street – you will not be disappointed!

Doug Scott
Carlisle Christian Aid Group

COWC AGM and Website launch

At the 2006 AGM, held at the Church of Scotland on 15 June, members and supporters heard an audio-visual presentation about the activities of COWC over the past year. At the start of the meeting the new cowc website (<http://cowc.webspaces.fish.co.uk>) was launched by the new Mayor, Peter Farmer. Jack Templeton was thanked for his work in designing this new site and he took everyone through its contents.



Following the presentation, a new set of Directors and Trustees was elected. The new members are:

Msgr. Canon Greg Turner (Chair)
Mrs M. Frances Robinson (Treasurer)
Mrs Lorna Strong (Secretary)
Rev. Jim Hyslop
Mrs Christian Robertson
Rev. Colin D. Harbach
Ms. Agnes Herbert
Ms. Adrienne Gill
Ms. Esther Nicholson

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

COWC Diary Dates

Contact the centre for more info on any of the following or how to get involved



Mon 25 Sept Cumbria Institute of the Arts Freshers' Fair 9.30 to 4.30

COWC Display & Leaflets 2 volunteers

Volunteers Required here

Wed 27 Sept UCLAN Freshers' Fair 12pm to 3pm

COWC Display & Leaflets 2 volunteers with chaplain Ruth Harvey

Volunteers Required here

Sat 30 Sept Fashion Show

Christ Church Silloth 7pm

Sat 30 Sept The Chocolate Harvest Event

St Cuthbert's Church

Sun 1 Oct Traidcraft Stall

St Cuthbert's Church

Tues 3 Oct Church of Scotland 7.30p.m

Talk by Ranjan Panda, Christian Aid partner in Orissa on water supply and conservation.

Wed 4 Oct St Martin's Freshers' Fair 10am to 2 pm

COWC Display & Leaflets 2 volunteers with CDEC

Volunteers Required here

Fri 6 Oct COWC Operations Meeting 1pm

COWC

Fri 6 Oct Oxjam Concert – "Travelling Light"

7:30 – 9:30pm The Rawnsley Centre, Keswick. Evening of light music and song. Adults £3.50; Children £1.75

All proceeds will go to Oxfam

Tickets from the Keswick Oxfam Shop and Moot Hall

Sat 7 Oct Carlisle City Centre Festival of Pipes

Shop Stall in Made in Cumbria tents, musical instruments with promotional material.

Volunteers Required here

Global Call to Action Against Poverty

Wed 11 Oct Carlisle CVS 12pm to 1pm
Meeting: Volunteer Co-ordinator's Network

Wed 11 Oct Wetheral Mother's Union 2pm
Talk on Siwok: Liz Walsh

Tues 17 Oct Campaign Global White Band Day
International Day on the Eradication of Poverty.
See www.whiteband.org for further information.

Tues 17 Oct VSO Information Evening
Shakespeare Centre, Kendal 7:30pm (see below)

Fri 20 to Mon 30 Oct Tullie House
COWC One World Week display

Sat 21 Oct Brampton coffee morning
Carlisle World Shop stall manned if possible

Volunteers Required here

Sun 22 to Sun 29 Oct One World Week
Mind the Gap www.oneworldweek.org

Thurs 26 Oct Volunteering Fair
Carlisle CVS, 27 Spencer Street 2.30pm

Volunteers Required here

Sat 28 Oct CVS make a Difference day

Volunteers Required here

**Sun 29 Oct Greystone Community Centre,
Greystone Road**
Carlisle World Shop stall manned

Volunteers Required here

Tues 7 Nov Carlisle One World Network Meeting
Church of Scotland, Chapel Street, 7 for 7.30pm
Speaker: Joe Human (see below)
Topic: We Can End Violence against women
www.wecanendvaw.org

Thurs 23 Nov Sale or return box for Scotby Church

Thurs 16 Nov Fashion Show
Ullswater School, Penrith
People Tree and children's clothes

**26 Feb to 11 March 2007
Fairtrade Fortnight**

Sat 1 Mar Fashion Show
Methodist Church Hall Haltwhistle 7 - 9.30pm
Clothes and accessories from shop

Tues 27 Mar Fashion Show
Westerkirk, Langholm
Clothes and accessories from the shop

The Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP), representing more than 150 million people in more than 80 countries, has called for a worldwide month of mobilisation this autumn. GCAP aims to build on the energy generated in 2005 to engage the public, put pressure on decision makers, and build momentum for further campaigning in 2007



A month of mobilization will be launched on 16 September, which will build up to a climax

- o on 15-16th October when there will be a global attempt to set a Guinness World record for the most number of people ever to 'stand up' against poverty.
- o on the 17th October for a global white band day – the International Day on the Eradication of Poverty.

See www.whiteband.org for further information.



One World Week 2006 Mind the Gap!

22 - 29 October www.oneworldweek.org

Every year One World Week provides an opportunity to learn about the widening gap between rich and poor, to take informed action for justice and to choose a lifestyle that reflects care for the Earth and its resources. Local communities stage events to celebrate the diversity of cultures, ethnicity, gender and creed and recognise we are part of one world in combating inequality and discrimination.

This year's theme, 'Mind the Gap', will be illustrated by an exhibition in Tullie House. The theme points to the gaps:

Between winners and losers as gross inequalities in trade continue to widen the divide between rich and poor

Between words and actions in creating a sustainable environment

Between friend and enemies in a world of increasing violence

We are taking a different approach to our own One World Week event this year. Six Carlisle Primary Schools have agreed to share in a OWW programme which will involve an assembly in each school and two afternoons when children from the schools will come together for activities and games. We shall follow the theme of 'Mind the Gap' by celebrating a world of wonderful diversity and learning to build bridges which promote harmony and prosperity for all people in our One World.

Colin Harbach

"We need to reach that happy stage of our development when differences and diversity are not seen as sources of division and distrust, but of strength and inspiration."
[Ratu Josefa Iloilo, President of Fiji]

Carlisle One World Network Meeting 7 November 2006 We Can End Violence against Women

Church of Scotland, Chapel Street, 7 for 7.30pm

At our next Network meeting, Cumbria Fairtrade activist Joe Human will talk about WE CAN, a major campaign which is underway in the 6 countries of South Asia (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka), focussing on Violence against Women. The campaign is not simply about overt domestic violence, but about the silent, hidden, everyday violence of women and girls' oppression. Of course it is not just the women of South Asia who suffer oppression. It happens everywhere to some degree. But in South Asia suffering because of gender is particularly prevalent. It affects women and girls of all backgrounds, and may even start before birth.

WE CAN End Violence against Women aims to generate 5 million 'Change Makers', women and men, young and old, poor and rich, Hindu and Muslim, Christian and Buddhist, who commit themselves both to personal change, and to changing 10 others. Joe says "I have met some of these Change Makers. I have heard their moving and painfully honest stories."

www.wecanendvaw.org

Joe's personal connection with WE CAN has come through his work in South Asia with Oxfam staff and partners in telling Change Maker stories, in order to expand the reach of this ambitious campaign. He is a communications trainer specialising in presentation skills and story telling for development.

All are welcome!

HIV/AIDS Project Update

Carlisle doctor, Janet Purcell, has taken on this project for the next few months. We look forward to hearing about her progress with schools and groups in the Carlisle area.

FAIRTRADE IS COMING TO THE INFIRMARY!

Fairtrade® is no longer the remote concept it used to be to the non-campaign-oriented, brand-indifferent shopper. It has become part of our daily trading jargon and indeed a regular feature on most of our supermarket shelves. The familiarity of the label and the underlying principles that it carries were made even more popular following the MAKE POVERTY HISTORY campaign that millions of people endorsed around the world. Many of us wonder what has been the result of all these events? Have we achieved anything? Well the simple answer to that is YES and even more can be achieved through sustained political commitment. What is even going to help better is for everyone who supported this campaign to



realize that it is still ongoing and that there is A LOT that they can still do to support it- other than wearing a white wristband. Buying FAIRTRADE is probably the simplest, most affordable and effective way of doing that.

Many initiatives have already been implemented and fairtrade is definitely expanding. The latest in this growth of fairtrade is the very laudable decision of the Cumberland Infirmary and West Cumberland Hospital to join in this movement by starting to provide Fairtrade products in their outlets.

This means that from the 9th October 2006, anyone who prefers fairly traded tea and coffee will be able to ask specifically for it in the CIC's two COSTA® outlets (Atrium, Canteen).

The products initially available will include:

- COFFEE- Ristretto; Espresso; Doppio Espresso; Macchiato; Americano; Cappuccino; Latte; Mocha; iced versions of the Latte, Cappuccino and Mocha
- TEA
- If the initial promotion is successful, CIC will look to extend the range to confectionary and cakes.
- The launch date at WCH is due to follow soon after CIC.

Currently, there is already a demand for Fairtrade in the hospital, for example in the Doctors' Mess and other departments that provide Fairtrade for their own users. Now this is becoming available hospital-wide and it cannot be overstated what a boost it would be for the campaign against poverty worldwide if it received widespread support from our own staff and visitors. So please look for the Fairtrade alternatives in the hospital and ask for it.

I would particularly like to thank Mr Neal Gisborne, General Manager, InterserveFm and Mr Alan Davidson, Estate Manager for the CIC for their unrelenting commitment to this campaign and impressive work in achieving this result. I also thank all supporters of this campaign in advance for their support.

Dr Ashtin Doorgakant, SHO in Orthopaedics
ashtindoorgakant@yahoo.co.uk

Update on Food Voucher Scheme

I have distributed the last vouchers which were paid for by the Neighbourhood Forum grant of £750 to the 4 agencies working with vulnerable young people. Frances and I are now in the process of applying for a grant to the Coop to continue the scheme. Once funding is secured, we will look at ways of improving the system eg more outlets.

Carol Barber

New Chaplain – Ruth Harvey

I live in Penrith, with Nick and our three girls, where I am a member of the Society of Friends (Quaker). I am also a member of the Iona Community, and edit their magazine, Coracle. I have worked with students a while ago, through the Student Christian Movement and the World Student Christian Federation - but am now really enjoying working alongside students and staff at UCLan in Carlisle. The

voluntary chaplaincy post is very much part time. I plan to be in Carlisle, on campus, on a Monday, then available via phone/e-mail at other times of the week. As the term progresses I hope that we can begin to develop some more ideas, such as international evenings, sharing food and stories from a variety of cultures, and possibly some fell walks for students, while also maintaining an 'open door', for students to share their concerns around their spiritual life. We are very lucky to have a fantastic Quiet/Meditation room on campus, which is used by students and staff alike. From time to time I may be looking for more volunteers to help out with specific projects - if you are interested in volunteering, give me a call on 07762 065188, or e-mail me: ruthharvey@phoncoop.coop

Ruth Harvey

Any donations of white/neutral curtains and soft furnishings to help Ruth redecorate the Quite Room would be greatly appreciated.

Volunteers Required here

Thinking of working overseas? VSO Information Evening 17 October

Come and meet VSO staff and returned volunteers to discover more about our unique people-orientated approach to development. The evening will begin with a 30 minute presentation, which will provide you with background information to VSO and include a 10 minute DVD showing you the many ways in which you can get involved. There will be an opportunity to ask questions at the end and chat informally with staff and volunteers. We expect the evening to last no longer than 1.5 hours

http://www.vso.org.uk/news/events/meet_vso_october.asp

Tuesday 17 October, Kendal
Shakespeare Centre, Yard 76, Highgate, LA9 4HE 7:30pm

One to Watch!

With the long evenings drawing in and with the recent coverage about Darfur on the news (<http://www.dayfordarfur.org/>), the film Hotel Rwanda will take you back to the Rwandan Genocide of 1994, and to one particular story of humanity and resilience.

Esther Nicholson writes: "It is ironic to hear on the radio today that Dafur is building up to be another Rwanda. So the film has a new relevance all over again. The write up for the film says 'When a country descends into madness and the world closed its eyes, he opened his arms and created a place where hope could survive'

Over to you readers!

- 1. What can we do to help the people of Darfur from Carlisle - they have been experiencing attacks on their homes and livelihoods for over three years now?**

- 2. Would you be interested in being part of a focus group of well read well viewed individuals to compile and review a reading/watching list?**

Contact the Centre with your thoughts on either of the above. We could include a section in each newsletter. In the meantime, if you haven't watched Hotel Rwanda, it's available on DVD from Carlisle Library and most good video rental outlets.

COWC Classifieds

Volunteer vacancies at COWC:

1. Volunteer Coordinator
2. Campaigns Coordinator
3. Chaplaincy team
4. Fairtrade Steering Group members

Contact the centre for information on any of the above

Volunteers Required here

Useful websites:

www.freecycle.org for getting rid of or acquiring furniture and equipment for free – Non-profit organisations can join. Over 500 Carlisle members so far!

www.megatrain.com for cheap rail travel to Edinburgh, Glasgow or Manchester

Eco-building day in South Carlisle – Sat 30 Sept

Learn how to plaster Cumbria's first straw bale construction with lime and clay as part of this unique event. Cost £10 – all proceeds will go to Habitat for Humanity's building programmes throughout the developing world. (<http://www.habitatforhumanity.org.uk/>), For more info contact: fabienandzoe@hotmail.co.uk

Contact us:

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