



Global link

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Newsletter February 2002



Fairtrade Fortnight

Fairtrade Fortnight is coming up on the **4th – 17th March 2002**. This is an opportunity to learn about the issues behind fair trade and the widespread availability and variety of fair trade products. Fair trade ensures basic rights for producers in Southern countries, by offering better and guaranteed prices. Regulated prices for their produce means that they are able to make improvements to their lives in many ways: their business, education and health.

This year we hope to show that supporting local producers is equally as important, demonstrating that the choices we make as consumers have an impact on producers both global and local. Global Link is working with other local organisations such as the World Development Movement, the Faith

and Justice Commission, the Green Party, Craftaid, local schools and churches. We hope to involve many churches, schools, youth and community groups, businesses and retailers in Fairtrade Fortnight. This is a community event which can only be successful with community support. If anybody is interested in or-



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ganising their own group activity we are able to provide information, materials and product samples.

Public activities

4th - 17th March Fair-trade displays in Global Link, The Body Shop and Lancaster library.

9th March Fair trade taster stall at Sainsbury's, Lancaster. All day or while stocks last! Trade Justice stall in Market Square, Market-gate, Lancaster. All day.

12th March Share the Passion. Main event: speaker from the South and local speakers followed by salsa and fair trade beverages and snacks. 7pm Gregson Centre, Moor Lane, Lancaster. Please mark this date in your diary!

13th March Public Inquiry simulation in Garstang, the first fair trade town. Investigation into why farmers in the South and local farmers are not getting a fair price for their produce, incorporating live links with Ghana. The event will be held in Myerscough College. For details see www.garstangoxfam-group.fsnet.co.uk

Global Link news
February 2002

Correction to our web site

Please note that our correct website is:
www.globallink.org.uk

Please ignore the website at the top of this page!

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Fair Trade in the Classroom

Fair trade is an excellent way of raising students' awareness about the impact of world trade. It is a concept that can be introduced in the classroom from Key Stage 2 to 16 plus, and in a range of curriculum areas. Each year a national Fairtrade Fortnight takes place in March. This year many local schools will be getting involved, creating opportunities for pupils to be active global citizens.

Coffee from Kenya, textiles from India, tea from Sri Lanka, nuts from El Salvador, ceramics from Mexico and chocolate from Ghana. Many of the things we buy are products grown or made in 'Less Economically Developing Countries'. International trade has given us more choice than ever before.

However, more and more consumers are wanting to buy products which neither exploit the environment nor the people who produce them. Fair trade makes it possible to shop with a difference and makes a direct impact on the lives and well-being of producers.

Activity ideas

- Make a display using a Peter's Projection map of the world and packaging from fair trade products to illustrate where the products come from.
- Use an activity pack such as **The Truth about Bananas** or **Making a Meal of It** to examine the journey of bananas or chocolate and who is involved in the production processes.
- Market shares - decide who gets what from the sale of products. For example, if a bar of chocolate costs £1, how much do the Ghanaian cocoa farmers get? Borrow our simple **Coffee Chain Game** or play the stimulating **Trading Trainers Game** or **Trading Game**.
- Fair trade quiz - use displays of posters, packaging and leaflets; get your pupils to answer questions.
- Borrow our interactive game **Spilling the Beans**. It traces the journey of coffee from farm or plantation to consumer.
- Design a fair trade poster.
- Hold a fair trade stall or event. Contact Ruth Self at Global Link about this.
- Design an influence tree in order to get a local supermarket or newsagent to stock fair trade products.
- Write letters to local shops or the local council sharing your views on fair trade and asking for theirs.

"When we arise in the morning ... at the table we drink coffee which is provided for us by a South American, or tea by a Chinese, or cocoa by a West African. Before we leave for our jobs we are already beholden to more than half the world". (Martin Luther



Playing the Trading Trainers game

(Thanks to Chester DEC for these ideas.)

Fair Trade in the Classroom

Resources for schools

The following resources are all available on loan from Global Link..

Bitter Sweet Video about the real price of sugar. Focuses on the Dominican Republic.

Cafédirect: a product case study for GNVQ Business Studies An activity pack covering fair trade, trading commodities, the coffee market and promotion.

Chocolate Game New fair trade edition of the activity about the cocoa trade. For ages 11- adult, it deals with justice, inequality, wealth and poverty.

Clothes Line A photoset and activity pack for Key Stage 2 about clothes, cotton and trade. It offers a detailed look at the work of people involved in the clothes production line: workers in India to the consumers in the UK.

Coffee Chain Game Find out how much growers, shippers, roasters and retailers are earning from the sale of coffee.

Comic Relief's Papapaa - Teaching pack on fair trade and chocolate for KS 2 Looks at how cocoa is farmed and the lives of farmers, without whom there would be no chocolate. Papapaa means 'the best of the best' in the Twi language.

It's a Fair Crop Video (23 minutes) on fair trade. It features coffee, tea, bananas, honey and chocolate.

Just Trade – a Fair Trade Resource For youth groups and schools, it features a range of activities about fair trade.

Making a Meal of It Teaching pack for Key Stage 2, with colour photos. Covers food issues, including the growers and fair trade. Focus on Ghana.

New Internationalist Issues on fair trade include The Cocoa Chain (NI304) The Big Banana Split (NI317) and Fair Trade (NI322).

Spilling the Beans – the cocoa trade Video (18 minutes) and leaflet for Key Stage 3-4. Focus on cocoa and Ghana.

Spilling the Beans: the journey of coffee An interactive exhibition for KS3 geography, RE, PSHE, Citizenship and Economics. A flexible 18-panel exhibition with hands-on activities about the journey of coffee, from farm or plantation to the consumer. Covers issues of justice in trade in a practical, accessible way. Global Link can offer training on how to use the exhibition.

Trading Game A simulation game for secondary schools which demonstrates the inequalities in the world trading system.

Trading Trainers Game An excellent simulation game that shows the hardships of the people who produce trainers in an unfair global marketplace.

Truth About Bananas An activity pack which explores the 'banana chain', looking at the issues of worker rights, trade and environment. With participative activities focusing on the Caribbean and Latin America.

Where Does our Food Come From? Poster and activities for Key Stage 1 and 2, covering who grows our food, how it reaches the consumers and cash crops.

Whole World Cake Key Stage 2 teaching pack with colour photos

Coffee Break

As you drink your much-needed cup of coffee to revive you during break time, do you wonder where your coffee comes from? Who has produced it? Was it fairly traded? If you do, why not look into **The Fairground**? They are suppliers of fairly traded coffee and tea to workplaces, such as schools and colleges. Contact:



01539 822823



fairground@lineone.net



www.fairgroundcoffee.co.uk

Linking updates

The Karen in Burma

Morecambe High School, Great Wood Primary School and Queen Katherine School in Kendal recently benefitted from the visit of Harriet, a Karen refugee who managed to escape both Burma, and then the refugee camp in Thailand. In Great Wood Primary she taught the children a Karen alphabet song, and told them a fairy story. When she asked what the children thought the story might be about, they suggested themes like 'war', 'death', and 'life in a refugee camp' and were surprised when she said, 'It's about a giant!' The children thought about what stories they knew that featured giants, like Jack and the Beanstalk and The Big Friendly Giant, and decided that they would share these stories with the Karen.

In the secondary schools, Harriet showed the children some slides. We used a slide of a family eating with their hands, while seated on

the floor of their house, to prompt the children to find similarities with their own lives. It was amazing how many different types of food we eat with our hands in the UK! Chips, crisps, fruit, chicken drumsticks!

She also told them the story of her own escape from Burma, when she had to walk 3 days in flight from the Burmese troops who were burning Karen villages and farms, and killing men, women and children. By the third day Harriet had abandoned most of her belongings because they were too heavy to carry.

"It was amazing how many different types of food we eat with our hands in the UK! Chips, crisps, fruit, chicken drumsticks!"

Many people died of diarrhoea on the way because of the poor drinking water, but she also saw women give birth, including a woman who gave birth to twins. These women could only rest for a couple of hours before they had to continue.

She described life in the refugee camp near Bangkok which was very under-resourced. For a year her family lived in a tent, before they were given the material to build their own house. For a year she tried to teach the children without any materials. The despair and hopelessness she felt finally propelled her to buy her way out of the camp. Thai businessmen use the camps as recruitment grounds for cheap labour, so Harriet ended up in a firecracker factory in Bangkok, working up to 15 hours a day, for £1.20 a day. The workers were locked into the building at night because the Thai owner could be heavily fined if they were discovered.

Finally, she heard about a job at Drum Publications, a Karen education organisation that produces teaching resources in the Karen language for refugee camp schools. She has been working there for the last few years. Her marriage to a Briton has brought her to England where she works in a nursing home, and cannot believe how much her clients complain about their lives!

Slavery links

Did you know that Lancaster was the fourth largest transatlantic slave trading port in the UK? Did you know that the sugar, coffee and other produce from Latin America and the Caribbean that was unloaded on St. George's Quay was paid for with African slaves? Garstang High School have already explored the theme

of slavery as part of the local fair trade movement which successfully made Garstang the world's first 'fair trade town'. Last year the Garstang youth group developed a piece of theatre which movingly explored present day as well as historical slavery. They performed it in Garstang High School, and then received On-the-Line Millennium funding to perform it to a school in Ghana.

This piece of Lancaster history is something that several local schools plan to start investigating with the support of the Maritime Museum in Lancaster, and through links with schools in West Africa and the Caribbean. Global Link will be supporting schools with contacts, resources and ideas for exploring other areas of the curriculum, in particular citizenship education.

Linking updates

Madagascar Link

At Lancaster Girls Grammar School, we are delighted to have started out a new link with Madagascar. A school and half-way house for orphans on the island, Akani Avoko, already has a connection with our school as an ex-pupil, Ireneé Horne, has been working there for two years. Last year she was in England for a consciousness-raising tour and she popped into the school. We arranged for a pupil from Akani Avoko to visit us. This happened in November.

Hanta had first found shelter at the school when she was ten, homeless and parentless, and with all her brothers and sisters to care for. She was taken in, and joined a community of former street children, young mothers, and young victims of an inhumane justice system. She spent the day with us and captivated our Year Sevens with her friendliness, her many skills, and the photos she



Children from Dallas Road School display the Malagasy flag.

brought with her. I think some of our pupils were appalled at how children in some parts of the world are expected to fend for themselves. In a language lesson we learnt some Malagasy expressions (Hanta also speaks French and English fluently), in music she dressed us in robes and taught us a dance, and in art inspired us with stories of life in a remote mountain island.

Since then we have corresponded

“In a language lesson we learnt some Malagasy expressions, in music she dressed us in robes and taught us a dance, and in art inspired us with stories of life in a remote mountain island”.

with the children at Akani Avoko, who were equally excited at the prospect of pen friends from such an exotic place as Lancaster! Our French teacher, Hilary Hopwood got students to include a little French in their letters, as this is the language they learn at school.

The next focus of our link is to exchange information about our different environments, in line with one of the aims of the link - to give students an experience of a different culture along with knowledge and understanding of it. While Hanta is in this country (she is studying in the Midlands for a year) we hope to invite her again, and fingers are crossed for

a teacher exchange later in the year which will undoubtedly renew the impetus by providing fresh resources for our girls to explore.



Girls from Dallas Road School in Malagasy national dress.

The World in your Classroom

Some simple, cheap ways for bringing the world into your classroom ...

A welcome poster with 'welcome' written in many different languages. Available from Cheshire DEC (see below) £2.80.



A collage in the shape of the world or a particular continent or country, showing pictures of children all around the world. Global Link can supply you with some pictures.



An inflatable globe - to pass around the children and ask them a country they have visited or would like to visit, a food they like etc. For sale from Global Link.



Increase the number of **stories, music, pictures, games** from around the

world.



Focus on festivals throughout the year, e.g. Divali, Christmas, Chinese New Year, Easter, Pesach, Eid-ul-Fitr. A calendar of religious festivals is available from CDEC £5.



Display of children's rights' posters, e.g. water, food, shelter, education, play. UNICEF set is available from CDEC £1.50 per poster or £12 for a set of 12.



Collection of **food** from around the world - tins, packets, fairly traded goods.



Map of the world with the children's links displayed through stickers, post-it notes or pieces of string to illustrate, for example, Sam's aunt lives in Australia. Two thirds of primary chil-

dren in Britain have a second cousin in another Commonwealth country.

Patterns - use Global Link's publication 'Heart of West Africa', a textiles and global issues book, to learn about new patterns.



Use **flesh tone pencils** so that children can colour themselves and other children in more realistic flesh colours. Available from CDEC £9.50 per box of 12 pencils.



Multi-language signs. School uniform signs, play-group signs, numbers, months of the year and days of the week are available from CDEC. Packs of A4 cards, £8.99 per pack.

With thanks to Cheshire DEC . Contact CDEC ☎ 01244 347880 or Global Link ☎ 01524 36201 to order these materials.

Fortress Europe

September to February

A secondary school (St Roch's) in Sighthill, Glasgow was the venue for a well organised anti-racism and refugee-awareness project, jointly run by the local Student Action for Refugees (STAR) group and Glasgow LEA, and experienced by hundreds of students. A useful civic reception and lots of press coverage has helped develop a continuing working relationship with Scottish organisations, who really seem to be using their resources and imagination to challenge hostility towards asylum seekers.

The Chichester United Nations

Organisation (Chichester), St Mark's Church (Wimbledon), the London Borough of Lambeth, and Salford Faith and Justice Commission formed a useful set of venues for October - November.

Early December started off with a brilliant one-day session at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre, an event organised by Children in Scotland for pupils, teachers and social workers. A hard long day, but gratifying. The Lancaster Priory Hall show formed a focus for a NorthWest-DEC training day and a conflict

resolution teacher training day, in response to September 11. The final display in 2001, at a secondary school in Ulverston, was experienced by up to 400 pupils and teachers who successfully led the workshops by themselves.

Currently the Plymouth branch of Save the Children have the exhibition and are attempting to challenge the intransigence of Cornwall's 'no refugees here please' attitude. I wish them well!

More details of bookings can be found on our website at www.globallink.org.uk

Students at the Children in Scotland Conference welcoming refugees after their journey to seek asylum in Fortress Europe.



Development Policy Forum

What do you think about globalisation? Can it bring greater prosperity to the poorest people in the world, as well as to the rich? Or is it a threat to our very survival?

These are the questions that the Department for International Development are posing at the Development Policy Forum in Manchester May 2002. This is the third series of development policy forum that DFID have organised around the UK since 1998 to share thinking and ideas on key development issues. These forum bring together Ministers and civil servants with the non-governmental sector for a public debate

on development policy. DFID want to focus on globalisation and its potential to reduce world poverty. Can it help achieve the international development targets which call for the proportion of people living in extreme poverty to be halved by 2015? And for 100% of all primary school age to go to school?

Questions DFID will be asking focus around three key issues of environment, trade, investment and their impacts on development. Should we aim to use the environment more sustainably given that poor countries are most likely to be the victims of envi-

ronmental disasters? How can we do more to reduce our trade barriers with the poorest countries? What impact does increased trade have on the poorest people? How can we ensure that the WTO makes rules that are fair for rich and poor alike? Does increased investment in poor countries actually benefit poor people? How can we achieve business that is profitable and socially responsible?

If you are interested in attending either call 0208 481 2031 or send one of the Development Policy Forum postcards to DFID (available from Global Link).

Useful websites for teachers

www.peopleandplanet.net

An educational resource exploring the connecting issues of environment, population, and sustainable development. No charge to access.

www.commonwealth.org.uk/education

Find out about linking on this educational website.

www.oxfam.org.uk/coolplanet/

Oxfam's new, free internet service for teachers who want to bring a global perspective to their teaching.

www.globalfootprints.org

An exciting new website to help schools deliver global citizenship, involving eight DEC's around the UK.

New Resources

Ghana Rachel Naylor (*Oxfam*)

Background briefing to the issues and people and Ghana, from trade in ivory, gold and slaves to the growth of modern Ghana.

The Slave Trade and the Economic Development of 18th Century Lancaster Melinda Elder (*Ryburn*)

An examination of Lancaster's development as a colonial port and its links with plantation slavery.

Slavery—an Introduction to the African Holocaust (*Black History Resource Working Group/Racial Equality Management Team*)

For schools but also aimed at anyone interested in the history of slavery, with sections on abolition and black rebellion.

(All resources available on loan from Global Link.)



Diary dates

- March 4-17** Fairtrade Fortnight
- March 8** International Women's Day
- March 9** **Towards a Vision of Just World: Putting it into Practice** Training day at Lancaster University Chaplaincy Centre. Contact Rosemary Read
☎01332 293336.
- March 12** **NCBI Conference:** Prime Minister's Challenge to diversify the voluntary sector, Preston. Contact Liz Neat ☎01524 847690.
- April 22-25** **Fortress Europe Exhibition** at Lancaster University Chaplaincy Centre. Open to schools and the public.
- April 26,** **Welcoming Diversity and Prejudice Reduction**
- May 18** **Workshop,** Lancaster. For further information contact
☎01524 847690.
- May 8** **International Red Cross Day**

Global Link Membership

If you would like to support the work of Global Link by becoming a member or by encouraging an organisation to join, please contact:

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