

## Abolition of the Slave Trade

With 2007 marking two hundred years since the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act was passed by the British Parliament, we take a short look at slavery, Lancaster's role in the Transatlantic Slave Trade, and the events that are planned in our local area to commemorate the abolition.

### The Transatlantic Slave Trade

Slavery has existed for thousands of years; in ancient times tribes would capture people from enemy tribes and use them to do their work for them. But slavery only started on a large scale in the 1700s, when the 'Triangular Trade' began. This was a three-way trade between the Americas, Africa and Europe. Manufactured goods such as guns would be shipped from Europe to Africa, and traded for African people who were forced to be slaves - they would then be sent to the Americas on ships. Conditions on the ships were so bad that many people died before they even reached America. In the Americas the slaves were sold and with the money the traders bought tobacco, mahogany, cotton, sugar and rum, which they then brought back to Europe.

### Lancaster and the Slave Trade

Many people are aware that Lancaster was a major port in the North West of England

during the 18th and 19th centuries. However, it is not common knowledge that during the 1700s Lancaster was the fourth largest slaving port in England and that the income generated from the Slave Trade played an important part in the development of Lancaster and funded many major landmarks in the city. Did you know that the building that is now the Maritime Museum used to be where slave traders paid their taxes for the things they imported? Or that St John's Church contains a memorial stone to John Lowther, captain of a slave ship from Lancaster named the "The Johns" who died on Thomas Island?



*Slave Traders paid their taxes at the building that is now the Maritime Museum*

### Commemorating the Abolition

To increase historical understanding of the role of the slave trade in the development of Lancaster, Global Link worked with Lancaster Maritime Museum and Dallas Road Community Primary School to produce the 'Slave Trade Town Trail' - a booklet which guides readers around sites in the city centre associated with the slave

trade. The Town Trail leaflet is available free of charge from Global Link, the Tourist Information Centre, Lancaster City Museum and the Maritime Museum. As a continuation of the project we have also produced a 'Podcast' version of the Town Trail - a collection of audio files downloadable from [www.globallink.org.uk](http://www.globallink.org.uk) - which guides the listener around the town trail sites.

On 25th June the March of the Abolitionists will be passing through Lancaster. This 470 mile walk, which links together the three major slave ports of London, Bristol and Liverpool, is a Christian response to the legacy of the Transatlantic Slave Trade. Its focus is reconciliation, and acknowledging and learning from the past in order to build for the future.



*Download the 'Lancaster Slave Trade Town Trail' Podcast at [www.globallink.org.uk](http://www.globallink.org.uk)*

Lancaster Maritime Museum and Judges' Lodgings Museum have also organised a range of events, including installations by contemporary artists Lubaina Himid and Sue Flowers, as part of their 'Abolished?' project. A full listing of what's on can be found at

[www.lancashire.gov.uk/education/museums/abolished/](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/education/museums/abolished/)

**Modern Day Slavery**

After the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act in 1807, slavery was officially ended in Britain in 1833. However, the cruelty of slavery is not all in the past. Although it is not allowed by international law, millions of men, women and children are leading the lives of slaves. Although they may not be called slaves, they are

sold like objects, and forced to work in terrible conditions for little or no pay. For example in West Africa children are sold to cocoa plantation owners and beaten or tied up if they try to escape. In Asia, families are tricked into sending their children to work in workshops, where they can work 14 hours a day every day of the week.

Even in this country hundreds of people are 'trafficked' - brought here illegally against their will and forced to work for no pay.

If you wish to find out more about modern day slavery visit [www.antislavery.org](http://www.antislavery.org)

## Slavery Education Resources

### Teaching Packs, Books, and Videos

**All of these resources are available for loan free of charge by members of Global Link**

**"Slavery"**, KS3 resource pack by Lancaster Museums.

Discusses Human Rights, the Transatlantic Slave Trade and how freedom from slavery was achieved. Focuses on Lancaster's role in the slave trade.

**"The Amazing Adventures of Equiano"**, by Jean Jacques Vaysieres.

A biography of the life of Equiano who was born in West Africa, but taken to America as a slave and freed 10 years later.

**"The Changing Face of Slavery"**, video teaching pack by Anti Slavery International.

Covers the history of Transatlantic slavery, Child Slavery, and Contemporary Slavery.

**"Whose Side Are You On?"**, by Alan Gibbons.

An adventure story about moral courage. A boy journeys through a painting to a slave trade plantation during the time of the transatlantic slave trade. He returns willing to challenge contemporary racism.

### Web Resources

[www.nmm.ac.uk/freedom](http://www.nmm.ac.uk/freedom) - KS3 History resource. Contains overview of Transatlantic Slave Trade, a chance to contribute to a virtual museum, and teaching activities with links to QCA units

[www.learningcurve.gov.uk](http://www.learningcurve.gov.uk) - Gives the background of the Transatlantic Slave Trade, the role of racism and its legacy. Focus on the British abolition movement and what happened after abolition

[www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/maritime/slavery](http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/maritime/slavery) - Includes contemporary accounts and individual slaves' stories and material for teachers

## Diary Dates

15 June

**Trade and Empire:**

**Remembering Slavery**

Exhibition launch at Manchester University's Whitworth Art Gallery. Further info at

[www.revealinghistories.org.uk](http://www.revealinghistories.org.uk)

18 - 24 June

**Refugee week** — a UK-wide programme of arts, cultural and educational events that celebrate the contribution of refugees to the UK. Details of what's on at [www.refugeeweek.org.uk/events](http://www.refugeeweek.org.uk/events)

25 June

**March of the Abolitionists passes through Lancaster**

See [lifelineexpedition.co.uk/mota](http://lifelineexpedition.co.uk/mota) for a listing of all the locations the march is passing through

29 - 30 June

**BLACK GOLD screening and panel discussion**

Film screening at the Duke's Playhouse, Lancaster.

14 July

**Lancaster Museums 'Abolished?' Launch**

Full details of all exhibitions and installations are online at [lancashire.gov.uk/education/museums/abolished](http://lancashire.gov.uk/education/museums/abolished)

16 July

**Global Citizenship Foundation Stage training session**

See back page for more info.

## Forum Theatre: Be Safe, Enjoy and Achieve!

Global Link has developed three 'Forum Theatre' plays that deal with the issues of climate change and social discrimination. The plays have been touring Cumbria and because of their impact and high demand, Global Link is seeking funding to bring them to other parts of the North West.

The plays initially have a sad ending, but, using the Forum Theatre technique, the plays are performed twice, with the pupils invited to "rehearse for reality" by replacing the protagonist and showing the audience what they think they should have done. In this way the pupils change the outcome of the play and reflect on their own attitudes and behaviour in the process.



Pupils find the learning experience engaging and constructive, with teachers stating that they found the plays an invaluable educational resource that fulfils the *Every Child Matters* strategy, and the *Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000*.

We have three plays, suited to KS3 and KS4:

- **Sam gets a letter** - explores what pupils can do about climate change
- **Ally comes to Cumbria** - the story of a black girl who moves to an all-white school where she is subjected to racist bullying
- **Just passing** - about social discrimination against Gypsies and asylum seekers

If you are interested in our forum theatre plays for your school, contact Sara Nobili - [s.nobili@globallink.org.uk](mailto:s.nobili@globallink.org.uk)

## The Climate Change Game

As part of our climate change project, we have developed a **room sized board game** to help young people understand **climate change**.

The board is made up of different materials, with oversized props used to bring the game to life. Players travel around the board in groups answering questions and making decisions on energy, food, waste and transport.

The game is an ideal way to discuss issues relating to climate change and gives young people the chance to choose what they would do, and empower them to want to change their lifestyles. It helps us to understand how the choices we make now will impact on the future. It is also a great way to introduce team working and debating skills. It is **suitable for schools and youth groups**.



The game will be available to hirers of our 'Trucking with Climate Change' exhibition from Autumn 2007.

## Funding available to hire Trucking with Climate Change

**Organisations in Lancashire are eligible to apply for a Green Partnerships Award (GPA) to cover the hire fee of Trucking with Climate Change**, together with any follow-up work you may wish to do. Grants are in the region of £500 and can be submitted at any time.

GPA assists groups (including schools) and individuals who want to carry out projects to improve their local environment. This includes projects that develop awareness and educate on environmental issues, such as training courses, production of material and events.

If you would like further information or want to get an application form please contact Lancashire County Council Projects and Programmes Team:

Tel. 01772 530650, or email: [projectsandprogrammes@env.lancscc.gov.uk](mailto:projectsandprogrammes@env.lancscc.gov.uk)



## BLACK GOLD screening and panel discussion. Duke's Playhouse, 29th & 30th June

Co-hosted by the Dukes Playhouse and J. Atkinson & Co. of Lancaster, this compelling documentary follows Tadesse Meskela, a man on a mission to save his 74,000 coffee farmers from bankruptcy. Against the backdrop of his journey to London and Seattle, the enormous power of the multinational players that dominate the world's coffee trade becomes apparent.

Simon Wakefield, London based coffee exporter, will join Atkinson's Ian Steel and Leon Gurevitch of the Dukes Playhouse in a panel discussion at 7pm 30th June before the Saturday screening of Black Gold at 8.45pm.

for more info see:  
[www.blackgoldmovie.com](http://www.blackgoldmovie.com)  
[www.dukes-lancaster.org](http://www.dukes-lancaster.org)  
[www.atkinsonsteaandcoffee.co.uk](http://www.atkinsonsteaandcoffee.co.uk)

## Resource Centre and Membership

New resources are continually being added to Global Link's library, so why not call in and have a look when you are next in Lancaster? Resources can be **borrowed free of charge** by members of Global Link - see membership rates on the right of this page.

**Opening hours are 12noon – 5.30pm** (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday), or at other times via appointment. Before coming you might prefer to phone or email and give us an idea of the topic(s) you are interested in so that we can have appropriate resources ready for you to look at.

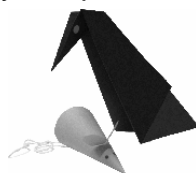
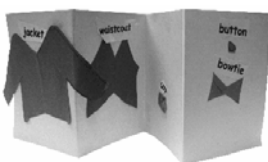
## Foundation Stage Story Boxes

If you would like to find out more about our story boxes, how to use them and how they can support Global Citizenship in the Foundation Stage, we are running a **training session for anyone working with 3-5 year olds**

Venue: Apple Tree Nursery School and Children's Centre

Date: Monday 16th July, 4-6pm

Price: £10



To book contact Ruth at Global Link on 01524 36201 or email [r.davies@globallink.org.uk](mailto:r.davies@globallink.org.uk)

Boxes will be available for members to borrow. If you are not already a member you can join on the evening.

## Global Link Membership

Support the work of Global Link by becoming a member, or by encouraging an organisation to join. Anyone from a member organisation is entitled to enrol as an associate member without further payment. Having joined, you have free use of the resources library.

Please return completed form to:  
 Ruth Self, Global Link, 24a New St,  
 Lancaster LA1 1EG

Organisation:

Contact name:

Address:

Postcode

Tel. Home:

Tel. Mobile:

Tel. Work:

Fax:

Email:

I enclose a fee\* of \_\_\_\_\_

**or**, please invoice \_\_\_\_\_ (name)

and a donation of \_\_\_\_\_

Date                    /                    /

Please make cheques payable to "Global Link".

**\*Annual rates per year to end Sept:**

- **£50 college, university or large organisation**
- **£35 secondary school**
- **£25 primary school/small org.**
- **£15 vol org or individual (waged)**
- **£7 unwaged/low income individual**
- **£3 junior (16 and under)**