

ONE WORLD / THREE LEGS



oneworldcentre
manx development education network
ynnyd un teihll
moggyl ynsagh lhisee vannin

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Hi, Sometimes when we take a long hard look at life it could just appear that things seem to be going from bad to worse; is the disaster in Bangladesh another example of the impact of climate change upon the developing world; in the scramble to continue to maintain our lifestyles is the production of bio fuels going to escalate climate change and global poverty, and what are the implications of peak oil for developing countries? Whilst these things are still being debated at great length there is a real need for individuals to take action now, to make our voices heard on behalf of the worlds poor, to speak out against injustice and to continue to champion their cause. We hope this newsletter will keep you in touch with some of the things we are doing here on the Island, please do circulate it to as many people as you can, we are always looking for new membership from like minded individuals. Keep in touch and keep involved

Shop to make a difference!

The Countdown to Christmas has begun, the shops are stocking silver wrapping paper and Christmas cards, not long until tinsel is draped around display rails and late night shopping begins again. There is an ever increasing variety of gifts to buy your friends and family, but it doesn't seem any easier to find that perfect present. Would it make the stresses of the shopping street more bearable if you knew the treats you were buying for your loved ones would make two people smile instead of one?



The One World Centre, armed with volunteers and a giant willow basket spent a day in the Strand Centre asking people to do just that. To buy gifts for Christmas that will make both the recipient, and the anonymous person on the other side of the world who made it, smile. We were asking the Manx public to 'Shop to Make a Difference'. We spoke to many people throughout the day, encouraging them to sign a pledge promising to buy Fairtrade, question retailers about their labour standards or join an ethical group. In the space of a few hours we collected enough pledges to complete the entire

basket and had talked to many of the people streaming through the shopping centre.

We are often quite naïve about how exactly much power we have as consumers – and how closely we are actually connected to other people in that shopping chain around the world. In 2004 Bob Geldolf rallied his troops again for Band Aid 2, and a new version of 'do they know it's Christmas' with a new line up of pop icons. It was a hugely successful revisiting, with millions raised for charities working in the developing world. A massive achievement, rightly congratulated, but this year the One World Centre is asking you to do something even more exciting. If we really want to make a difference to people living in poverty, forced to work in sweatshops, unable to send their children to school, then we must look at how our lifestyles effect them. By making more informed decisions each one of us can make a real difference and it can be as simple as shopping ethically.

In the last few years Ethical shopping has become mainstream, thanks largely to Fairtrade. Most people are now aware that Fairly traded products are available, and that it is good to buy them, but do people really understand why?

All of the products on our shelves start somewhere, they don't just appear packaged up in plastic with a barcode overnight. There is a whole chain that leads to that point from producing the material, to manufacturing the item and this can involve many people in many countries. Wouldn't it be wonderful if this Christmas we all gave gifts that give

more. Gifts that give respect and rights to workers across the world.

Shop till it stops

If it's not
fairly traded,
does it mean it's
unfairly traded?



A merry ethical Christmas...

If you are interested in having a more ethical Christmas here are some ideas.

For Fairtrade outlets on the Isle of Man look at

www.oneworldcentreiom.org/assets/applyts/fairtrade_list_oct.doc

Buy gifts in kind such as dedicating a tree through The Woodland Trust's scheme,

www.woodland-trust.org.uk

or similar schemes that enable you to choose and buy a gift that will help change lives overseas.

www.oxfamunwrapped.com
<http://savethechildren.sandbag.uk.com/>
<http://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/>
www.fairtrade.org.uk
www.traidcraftshop.co.uk

Or give promise gift tokens to family members and friends – be creative and have fun!

"Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does." William James

DEC Bangladesh appeal

Pass on the word - This weekend the Orange Bucket brigade will be out in force all around the Island. The Island's Rapid Response Coalition is organising street collections in towns the length and breadth of the Island on Friday the 30th November and Saturday the 1st December. They are rattling their trusty orange buckets to raise money for the Disasters Emergency appeal for Bangladesh. Millions of people are struggling to rebuild their lives following Cyclone Sidr which devastated the country's coastline on the 15th November. Since then Aid agencies have been desperately trying to get food, water and medicines to the survivors, many of whom have lost members of their families, friends, their homes and communities. The Rapid Response Coalition was set up in 2005 following the Boxing Day tsunami. The scale of the tsunami shocked the world and we saw enormous generosity to the relief effort.

The impact of the Cyclone on the people of Bangladesh is no less terrible and responding quickly and efficiently is imperative. You can help by:
Putting money in the orange buckets
Passing on the word – tell people to look out for collectors in their town
Volunteering to shake a bucket.
If you'd like to be involved in the collection please contact the One World Centre for more details.

Biofuel - A modern old wives tale?

Did you ever rub butter into a burn to cool it down only to make it worse? Today we know this foolish advice to be nothing but an old wives tale, but once upon a time it was given - and taken quite seriously! It's not always easy to know whether or not you are following the right advice – whether you are solving the problem – or making it a great deal worse.

Unfortunately Biofuels don't seem to be the answer to oil fuelled transport that we thought it was. We don't have to worry about local biofuel – the Fairy hill station uses old chip fat – an entirely practical recycling and fuel solution. However around the world this isn't always the case. Increased demand for non-oil fuel has seen crops normally grown for food being sold to big companies converting it into biofuel. While it may be a lucrative business opportunity for some, the poorest and most vulnerable people are suffering as a result with food prices going up – and food production going down. You can do something about this. Visit <http://petitions.pm.gov.uk/Biofuel-caution/>

Black Gold & Inconvenient Truth

Everyone knows that the end of the school term signals the time when board games and movies are encouraged in classrooms. As a reward for their hard work during the rest of the term teachers and students celebrate by doing something other than study in the last few days.

As we approach the Christmas holidays wouldn't it be great if other groups followed this example! We know that many of our members are involved in community groups across the Island who have also been working hard over the last year. Christmas is the perfect opportunity to get together socially and to take a break from the organisational side of things... and we have the ideal activity.



Last year we toured the Oscar winning Al Gore film 'An Inconvenient Truth' around the Island, bringing the film and equipment where ever we were asked to be. It's still a hugely relevant film – with an inspiring, powerful message. Climate change is now big on the political agenda but more needs to be done, more people need to understand the issues and start changing their own lifestyles and pressuring for the government to act. An Inconvenient Truth is a conveniently accessible and informative, the perfect introduction to Climate change issues. Why not organise a social event with your regular members, or even with friends and family, showing An Inconvenient Truth. Once again we're happy to bring along the equipment (and maybe cake!) if you'll organise the audience.

If you've already seen An Inconvenient Truth you don't have to miss out. Earlier this year the Fairtrade Island Initiative showed 'Black Gold' at the Manx Museum. This is an incredibly moving film looking at the relationship between coffee farmers in Ethiopia, and coffee drinkers around the world. It is a powerful endorsement of Fairtrade and communicates to the viewer exactly how difficult life is for farmers supplying non-Fairtrade companies. We feel this is another must-see movie, which can

Setting an example is not the main means of influencing others; it is the only means.
Albert Einstein

Armchair Activism

Survival campaign. The power of the pen

Do you know how much your signature is worth? It might not fetch as much money at a charity auction as David Beckham's or JK Rowling – but it is just as powerful. Our newsletter often features information about Survival, the charity working to defend the rights of indigenous people. Their achievements in this area are solid proof that letter writing campaigns do work. For the price of a stamp you really can change the world. Survival recently celebrated the UN's new declaration on indigenous peoples' rights, which sets standards for the treatment of tribal peoples. The declaration is an exciting step forward... but it doesn't have the force of law behind it. Survival is now asking for governments around the world to ratify the ILO 169, a convention of the International Labour Organisation which is part of the UN and the most important international law for tribal peoples. Ratifying the ILO 169 legally binds governments to abide by it. Currently 19 countries have signed up to ILO 196, but Britain has yet to join. This year – as a result of a campaign by Survival supporters the Spanish government signed up to the ILO 169, let's do the same in Britain! Please send your letter to The Prime Minister, 10 Downing St, London SW1A 2AA

Stop the traffik!



Could you be a lollipop person for vulnerable people around the world? Could you help to **Stop the trafficking** of people who are being sold into

the slave trade? By visiting www.stophetraffik.org, you can! Stop the traffik are collecting one million signatures between now and February. Their aim is to encourage big donors to set up a global fund through the UN to fight people trafficking.

The One World Centre has 'stop the traffic' bags available for you to buy for £14.99. These bags were made by women in India who were saved from prostitution and who have been given back their dignity. These women now work decent hours for decent pay, "By purchasing a Stop the traffic Bag, you become part of the story of freedom."

Festival of Manx Connections

“A wonderful, enjoyable, successful venture for all, which will benefit those who have so very little”

It seems like almost every week Manx companies are celebrating making new successful business connections around the world. As a wealthy, vibrant Island we are certainly making a mark around the world.

However this is not a new development. Quietly, thoughtfully and with great respect a number of small groups from the Island have been making connections



around the world for many years. These groups have been working tirelessly with people living

in poverty in almost every continent. In October this year the One World Centre held The Festival of Manx Connections – a 2 day event which brought together 21 Manx charities who are operating overseas. The Festival was a celebration of what they have achieved and an opportunity to raise awareness of the work they are doing across the world. For two days the Promenade suite in the Villa Marina was packed with stalls, each one representing a different charity.

Business men and local politicians attended a talk about corporate responsibility and were invited to meet all of the exhibitors. Sixth formers from the Islands secondary schools visited, and in the two days over 900 members of the public travelled from Africa, to Asia and back through Eastern Europe on a tour of all the charities.



This was a multicultural, multisensoral celebration in every sense. There was live African music from Felix and Brian, and Manx Gaelic from Caarjyn Cooidjagh, film and photo images, children’s workshops and willow weaving.

Before and during the event businesses and individuals were encouraged to donate to a Pool of Hope, which was to be divided equally between all of the charities who took part. By the end of the Festival each charity took away £200 for their cause. Many thanks to the H&S Davidson Trust for their sponsorship.



21 Manx Charities:

Friends of Chernobyl's Children. Tel 625926
Hands of Hope. Tel 494084
MARTECC Tel 823065
Ro-Man-Aid Tel 823065
The Manx Romanian Project Trust. Tel 825504
Childcare Kitgum Servants Tel 627543
Koru Hospital Fund Tel 00 25 472 9 358 885
Malawii Mission Project. Tel 862345
Manx Overseas Student Training (M.O.S.T.) Tel 823891
Mannin Africa Sponsors International. Tel 878033
School for Uganda. Tel 801624
The Queens and Kings School, Port Harcourt, Nigeria. Tel 823891
Zambian Medical and Orphan Fund. Tel 861575
ASK Outreach Trust. (Action Saves Kids) Tel 627402
Child-Link International Aid Foundation Tel 496335
Friends of Pestalozzi, Tel 834078
Grace Third World Fund, Tel 842113
Gwalior Children's Hospital, Tel 837548
Manx Landmine Action Tel 837059
Nameste Childrens House. Tel 675569
Pahar Trust. Tel 678865

Attention! Attention! Information required

The directory of Manx charities operating overseas is now available on our website with contact details and mission statements for all the organisations listed above. If you know of any other charities that could be included please send us the details.

Transition fever

What is it that is causing the stir in the meeting places of Britain? People gathering in village halls and community centre, folk from all walks of life who have found a common cause that will doubtless shape the future. What is it that inspires all this grass-roots activity?

It happened in May 2005, or maybe it will be in 2008 sometime or perhaps 5 years from now. Whatever the exact timing, there is broad consensus within the world oil industry that the phenomenon known as Peak Oil will occur fairly soon. This is the point at which oil production peaks before going into irreversible decline. New oil discoveries are either relatively small or are in geographically difficult locations such as deep water or beneath polar ice. At the same time, continued economic growth is very much the mantra of Western governments, coinciding with steadily increasing demand for oil from the world’s developing nations as their economies

expand.

The availability of cheap and plentiful oil has resulted in our becoming dependent upon it. Our transport systems, our home heating, our electricity and, very significantly, our food has become reliant upon the steady flow of oil and gas. It is quite alarming to realise that in modern agriculture systems the production of one calorie of food takes on average 10 calories of energy. Soon oil and gas will be neither cheap nor plentiful. This will inevitably lead to higher costs and shortages of most of our basic needs. So this is what they’re responding to, all those folk who were mentioned earlier. Slide shows, visiting speakers, film shows, surveys and long, inspiring discussions are firing up their imaginations in order to find ways that their communities can become more resilient in the face of rising prices and increasing shortages.

Those that plan soonest will be the best prepared. Groups of people from all

walks of life looking at their activities, observing how oil dependant their lives are and planning ‘energy-descent’ in readiness. Perhaps re-localising food supply and production, reskilling people, planning for renewable local energy or community transport etc... The Transition movement was born in Kinsale Ireland, developed in Totmes in Devon and is spreading like wildfire across Britain and now across the Atlantic to the USA. There are currently 176 towns, villages, postcode areas or islands signed up to the Transition concept and the number is growing rapidly. The IoM can work towards being a Transition Island. Will you take part? What are our most achievable steps? Look out for the advertised film shows and talks. Come and engage with others. Let’s keep our future right. Transition Isle of Man!

Mill Millichap

Christmas postage.....

It's that time of year again when the Christmas card debate raises its head ... Do we or don't we? Can an email *ever* replace that cosy feeling of Christmas wishes hanging around your mantelpiece, does the cost and the environmental impact outweigh the seasons good wishes?

Lets not eat our hearts out over this one, it seems that for a while yet it will remain an inevitable part of the seasons festivities... and hey, it's the a season of good will... so lets see it as valuable source of income for a large number of charities!

But I also urge you not to forget the other valuable asset that comes through the post.

That costly stamp! Every stamp, if collected and saved can be seen as *another* donation to charity. The One World Centre acts as a collecting point for used stamps that we send to the Leprosy Mission to help millions of people who suffer from disability as a result of this disease.

So make this a recycling Christmas! We ask you to save your stamps, cut round each stamp leaving a 2 cm paper margin, and send them through to us to ensure they become a valuable resource to help others.

"Send a message of hope"

Amnesty International's annual Greetings Card Campaign brings people across the world in touch with each other in a simple way. – sending a card with a friendly greeting or message of solidarity to someone who is in danger or unjustly imprisoned. These are prisoners of conscience, people under sentence of death, human rights defenders under threat because of their work, and others at risk.


These cards offer hope and encouragement to the recipients and can help them to bring about change – the impression their mail makes on police, prison staff or political authorities can help to keep them safe, improve their conditions or lead to their release. The Isle of Man Amnesty International Group

has been actively supporting this campaign for the past 14 years. Individuals and groups on the island have regularly contributed hand made cards and held card signing sessions. At public events 12 of the 28 causes in this years campaign are highlighted and there is the opportunity to write a short message inside a specially prepared card to one of the chosen individuals. Card signing sessions have already been confirmed at the following locations
Strand shopping centre, Douglas
Saturday 15th December 10:00- 3:00
Shakti Man, Ramsey
Saturday 12th January 10:00 – 3:00
Waterstone's bookshop, Douglas
Saturday 19th January 10:00 – 3:00
This years cards will be sent to individuals or family members in Iran,

Diary dates:

Monday 3rd December 8:00pm
Goodbye Bafana, Palace Cinema
As a change to our usual monthly members meetings we will be going to see the Arts Council film 'Goodbye Bafana' for our December meeting

Monday 7th January 7:30pm
Members meeting at the Glue pot.
Open to anyone wanting to know more about our work, or wanting to get involved.



Did you know?

Every 2 minutes someone is diagnosed with Leprosy... but education, access to health care and early diagnosis could mean patients are left without disabilities

- But still today poverty, lack of education and leprosy are closely linked, many people who have had leprosy are left with disability
- Disability both causes and is a consequence of poverty.

- In India, about 1.1 million are disabled because of leprosy

- In Indonesia there are 20, 000 new cases of leprosy a year.

Leprosy Mission works to raise awareness of the rights and benefits available to people with disabilities and focuses upon leprosy control and socio-economic rehabilitation.

For further info see: www.leprosymission.org.uk

Positive News about Positive News!

More, more, more! That is the response we have had since the last Island wide delivery of the quarterly newspaper Positive News. The demand for this topical ray of light is increasing as the distribution network is growing and new readers discover how much more enjoyable it is to read about people being proactive and celebrating their achievements. Positive news doesn't cover celebrity gossip or scandal, instead it reports on good news stories from environmental to humanitarian! Unfortunately there won't be a winter issue this year – but we will be looking for more people to help in the new year. If you would know of an ideal location for Positive News get in touch and we'll add it to our growing list!

Yemen, Russia, Turkey, Nepal, Burma, China, South Korea, Cuba, Mexico, Guatemala and Equatorial Guinea. We also have information updates on last years cases which shows once again the huge impact these messages of hope can have – over half have either been released or their conditions have improved.

If you would like to help with this campaign, contribute cards, hold a card signing session or find out more about one of the public events, further information is available from Cyril Rogers (tel 897873) or from the Amnesty UK website at www.amnesty.org.uk. The campaign continues until January 2008
Phil Matthews

Membership form:

I would like to become a member of the Manx Development Education Network (One World Centre). I enclose my annual individual subscription of £5 (organisation subscription = £20). cheques made payable to "Manx Development Education Network"

Name Address Postcode
Tel: Email;
Name of organisation if applicable

Signed Date

Please complete this form and return it, with your subscription to:
The One World Centre. Derby House, Castle Street, Castletown, IM9 1LA



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