

# ONE WORLD / THREE LEGS



oneworldcentre  
manx development education network

ynnyd un teihll  
maggyl ynsegh lhisee vannin

Issue No.14 April 2009

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Hi, welcome to our spring newsletter which, amazingly, is on time!! Once again it reflects a very busy period, but the bulk of our work often goes unseen... in the last three months we made over 40 schools visits and had direct contact with over 3,400 students. Our work is to raise awareness and to encourage a response; whether it is switching off lights for Earth Hour, writing a letter for a prisoner of conscience, or contacting a Member of Parliament about your mobile phone, our work is futile unless it is followed by a response. Ghandi said, "be the change you want to see in the world"; each action is small and can seem insignificant, but it's another drop in a great wave of changing consciousness that is vital to life around the world. Keep up the action!

## Earth Hour

At 8:30pm on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2009 the Isle of Man joined with hundreds of millions of people around the world and switched off for Earth hour. WWF co-ordinated the Global campaign to demonstrate the scale of concern people, across all the continents, are feeling about climate change, and to call for action from world leaders.

This year is an important one for the future of International agreements on climate change as Governments prepare for the Copenhagen summit this December.

Copenhagen will see a new international climate deal agreed that will come into force when the first phase of the Kyoto treaty expires in 2012. With increased global awareness of climate change and its consequences,

and a shift in the US and Australian Governments position there is real hope that positive agreement can be made for the global community to work together. The Christian Aid 'Countdown to Copenhagen' campaign is asking individuals to put pressure on their political representatives to be bold and support genuine International movement to tackle the environmental crisis that is unfolding.

Earth hour was the first major event this year to mobilise the global community to communicate that message.

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon described WWF's Earth Hour as "the largest demonstration of public concern about climate change ever attempted". 3,943 communities from 88 countries across 25 time zones took part – including the Isle of Man!

### Earth Hour IoM

On the Isle of Man  
350 households switched off  
The IoM Government - House of Keys  
Douglas Corporation - Town Hall, Market Hall & Shaw's Brow car park.  
The businesses and schools on the Island who signed up were

7 <sup>th</sup> wave	La Piazza
Britannia International	David Hill & Co.
Hilton IoM	Accountants
IFG International	S&M Harrison
Ballakermeen High school	Shoe Shop
Dhoon Primary School	New Generation
King Williams College	Cowley Groves
St Thomas' CoE Primary	Huckleberries
The Good Health Store	The Mill
Harmony Homes	Port Erin Pets
Beauty Room	Mantons Toy Shop
Video Shop Q	Barberna Fashion
Port Erin Post Office	



### The Climate change catwalk....

One World Centre volunteers began their own Countdown to Copenhagen in Peel Centenary Centre with 6 costumes at the wearable art show.

Each of the costumes made a statement about climate change, and our impact on the planet.

*Worst Case Scenario* was a ballgown with rich green and blue material at the bottom of the dress which became burnt brown and oranges to show how our unsustainable lifestyles damage the earth.

*Alternative Elegance* was a metallic costume with silver willow blades to represent windpower – one of the potential answers to the future of energy.

*Tip of the Iceberg* depicted the issue of raising temperatures and melting ice at the poles.

*Mechanisation* was a comment on how industrialisation may lead to progress but also creates it's own problems and pollution.

*The Countdown to Copenhagen* was designed to promote the upcoming International Climate Conference in Copenhagen in December and to encourage people to call for action from their politicians,

and just in case, the final costume was...

*Captain Climate* who arrived with silver boots and solar powered lighting. Captain Climate's message was that it's not too late to act on climate change, there is one last hope... the mirror hidden behind his cloak was there to show that that last hope is you!

A huge thank you to all the models and volunteers who gave hours of work to create the costumes.



L-R: Captain Climate, Mechanisation, Worst Case Scenario, Countdown to Copenhagen, Alternative Elegance, Tip of the Iceberg

### Amnesty greetings cards updates

Amnesty International IoM ran the annual greetings card campaign in December and January at locations around the Island and sent over 100 cards.

The impact of writing short messages of support to individuals whose human rights are being abused can not be underestimated - Amnesty have already begun to update their website with how the cases have been progressing and with messages from the individuals who have been receiving the cards proving that they offer hope and strength in desperate situations.

To see the updates yourself go to

[www.amnesty.org.uk/content.asp?CategoryID=10673](http://www.amnesty.org.uk/content.asp?CategoryID=10673)

### New look membership...

From April we're changing our membership system - as your numbers are growing we've decided to streamline and simplify!

From now on when you sign up as a supporter your membership will last from April to April... this means we'll still be contacting you annually to renew – just not in the month you originally joined.

For those who joined or renewed within the last 6 months – don't worry we won't be expecting you to pay again just yet.

We're also introducing a new self assessment subscription rate... we're suggesting for unwaged individuals membership is £5, for waged individuals £10 and for groups £20 – but it's up to you to decide what you think you should pay! Our membership is really important to us – it helps us keep you informed and it gives us a stronger voice on the Island

### From one small-scale farmer to another...

Since the Transition Island group led the charge for allotments around the Island the demand hasn't stopped growing. As more and more new gardeners pick up their shovels and seeds locally, communities of small-scale farmers are being born. Luckily for them Progressio have just released a series of useful tips from small-scale farmers around the world (and a few not so useful!).

[http://www.progressio.org.uk/progressio/Internal/89626/97436/97479/further\\_resources/](http://www.progressio.org.uk/progressio/Internal/89626/97436/97479/further_resources/)

Progressio is concerned about the future of many self sufficient smallholders in the developing world. As the global market erodes much of the support they once received, the majority of households are now spending more on food than they earn from selling it. We may be beginning to see the effects of the global financial crisis on our lives, but in finding solutions to our banking problems we must make sure that vulnerable people around the world who are also affected are not forgotten.

“Investing in agriculture in developing countries by getting seeds, tools, sustainable practices and credit to smallholder farmers so they can produce more food and get it to local and regional markets, must be built in to any measures to tackle the financial crisis. says Progressio's Policy Manager, Tim Aldred. “Big farms are not the only solution,” he adds. “Small-scale farmers deliver the food that feeds a third of humanity. We simply cannot afford to ignore them.”

Progressio is calling on governments to take action in three key areas:

1. Provide more investment and support for small-scale farmers (instead of overlooking them in national spending plans and overseas aid budgets)
2. Review national and international policy to ensure that it benefits small-scale farmers (instead of undermining them)
3. Help build the capacity of small-scale farmers to enable them contribute to policy-making at local, national and international level (instead of ignoring their voices and concerns)

To find out more visit

[http://www.progressio.org.uk/progressio/Internal/89626/97436/small\\_scale\\_farming/](http://www.progressio.org.uk/progressio/Internal/89626/97436/small_scale_farming/)

## Charity Challenge 2009

Students from the five secondary schools, KWC and the Isle of Man Collage put together insightful, challenging and passionate presentations about the work of charities working overseas – and as a result helped to give over £24,500 towards the work of the charities represented. Charity Challenge is in its 3<sup>rd</sup> year, with groups of sixth formers researching the work of Manx registered charities operating in the developing world, or charities that have been supported by the Manx Overseas Aid Committee and creating a sensitive and informative 20 minute presentation on what they found. This year 16 teams took part, with 7 making it through to an interschool final.

The H&S Davidson Trust donated a grant pool of £10,500 to be awarded to the teams by a panel of judges along with the new Frances Davidson Cup in honour of Hugh Davidson's late aunt Manx-born Frances Davidson. The anticipation of the students and the audience was heightened by a surprise announcement on the evening with from George Waft, MLC, that the Overseas Aid Committee would be matching the H&S Davidson Trust's grant.

The additional donation meant that the 9 charities who had been selected by school teams but who weren't represented in the final would be receiving £500 from the grant pool. This was a fantastic boost for the charities but also an important recognition of the commitment and enthusiasm of all the students who had chosen to take part in the Charity Challenge.

And the excitement didn't stop there... before the judges had time to retire another donation was offered from an anonymous businessman in the audience who had been moved by the presentations he'd witnessed. The grant pool for the evening now stood at £20,000!

The judge's decision was a difficult one but after the audience had enjoyed the Fairtrade wine reception, sponsored by the Manx Co-op, they returned to announce the awards.

The Minister of Education, Anne Craine presented £5000 to the Castle Rushen High School team for Childcare Kitgum Servants. Ballakermeen High School's team representing Action Saves Kids and Isle of Man College's team representing Koru Hospital Fund were each awarded £3,500; £3000 went to Queen Elizabeth II High School's team representing Excellent Development; St Ninian's High School's team representing The Pahar Trust and King William's College's team representing Namaste Children's House each received £2000, while £1000 was awarded to Ramsey Grammar School's team representing Hands of Hope.

A huge thank you to...

The students and teachers for their hard work and dedication

Jenni Quillan who coordinated the Charity Challenge  
Stephen Ritch and Andrew Barton for their excellent work with the media

The Charities who supported the teams

The H&S Davidson Trust for their generosity and ongoing support for the charity challenge.

The Overseas Aid Committee and the anonymous businessman for their kind contributions.

When the power of love  
overcomes the love of power,  
the world will know peace.

*Jimi Hendrix*

### Have a gap career!

We had a stall once again at the careers convention to talk to students and the public about working in the voluntary sector and how to take an ethical gap year.

International Development agencies, like Oxfam, Christian Aid and Care, employ people with a huge range of skills - from accountants to lawyers, journalists to engineers.

Speaking to students who are beginning to think about their future more carefully gives us an opportunity to plant seeds of new ideas about how you can be involved in working for a charity.

For those who want to try their hand volunteering Excellent Development, the 2008 Charity of the Year, is offering 10 people from the Isle of Man aged between 17 and 24 the exciting chance to see sustainable development work in action in Kenya.

During the 5 week project volunteers will work alongside partner communities, learn from them, and see first-hand cost-effective sustainable development solutions which are helping rural farmers in Kenya to transform their lives and improve water supplies, food security, health and incomes. Volunteers will be sponsored to cover the main costs of the trip but will be required to raise their own £500 contribution towards additional costs such as visas and insurance. The group of volunteers will travel to Kenya on 9 July – 13 August 2009 and those who are interested in applying should send a CV and cover letter no later to [Cheryl@owciom.org](mailto:Cheryl@owciom.org), explaining why they should be picked for this exciting opportunity.

The creation of a thousand  
forests is in one acorn.

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*



## Mobile phones costing the earth.

Who would have thought that such a useful, innocent piece of equipment like a mobile phone could cause as much devastation as a war?

But that's what is happening – in each mobile phone is a tiny piece of mineral that makes the call possible – **coltan**, (short for columbite tantalite) a mineral which comes from the Congo River Basin. This microchip component is dug from the soil, so is cheap to mine, but is in great demand for use in all sorts of electronic equipment – computers as well as MP3s for instance, and some game consoles, to make them work efficiently. To mine it means the loss of forests in that region, which contributes to an increasing devastation, and people who were once farmers are now little more than slaves who are often guarded by militia, or soldiers. Since 1998 over four million Congolese have died because of a conflict that has covered over eight African countries, where rebel militia groups fight to control the Democratic Republic of the Congo's natural resources, which apart from gold, etc. includes 80% of the world's coltan ore.

The mining camps and building of roads to and from the mines threatens the local forests, and their wildlife including the Kahuzi Biega National Park, where the endangered mountain gorillas live. They are regularly killed and their meat sold as bushmeat to the miners and rebel armies that control the area.

In addition to this destruction, The UN Development Fund for women estimates that hundreds of thousands of women and girls have been raped since the conflict began, some sold into sexual slavery, victims may be as young as three or old as 75. Men, women and children need to have this war ended, and their lives restored. It is a basic human right that they should be able to live in dignity and raise their children in peace.

*What can we do?*

- ∞ Text your mobile phone provider to ask where their coltan comes from, and how it is extracted.
- ∞ If you have shares in a multi-national company ask them if they are aware of the destruction coltan mining is causing – and what do they intend to do about it?
- ∞ Write to the British Prime Minister demanding action on the conflict in the DRC. If you want help with wording go to WILPF website –[www.ukwilpf.org.uk](http://www.ukwilpf.org.uk).

It is the people of DRC who will say 'thank you'.

Thelma Wilson (Info received from Women's International League for Peace and Freedom)

## Diary dates:

**Members Meeting**  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April  
7:30pm at the Glue Pot.  
Gluepot Castletown

**Friends of the Earth AGM**  
Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April  
7:30pm,  
The Green Centre

**Amnesty International**  
IoM AGM  
Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April  
10:30 am  
One World Centre

Due to the Bank Holiday  
there will not be a  
members meeting in May

**Members Meeting**  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June  
7:30pm at the Glue Pot.  
Gluepot Castletown

**Tynwald Fair day**  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July

Due to the Bank Holiday  
there will not be a  
members meeting in  
July.



### New renewables campaign!

Friends of the Earth IoM have launched a new Renewable Energy Tariff postcard campaign.

In October 2006 Tynwald adopted an Energy policy – the 3 main aims of which were to maintain the security of our energy supply, to secure the efficient use of affordable energy and to minimise the impact of our energy use on the environment. Despite this we are still dependent on energy generated from gas, oil and the energy from waste plant.

FoE IoM are asking the Manx Electricity Authority to invest in generating electricity from renewable energy, and to develop a Renewable Energy Tariff. To add your voice to the campaign go to <http://www.foe.org.im/Campaigns- MEA.html>

and send an e-mail to their web co-ordinator, Ian Costain, or print off a copy of the postcard and send it to Phil Corlett, IoM FoE, Green Centre, Chester Street, Douglas, Isle of Man. The postcards will be collected and presented to the MEA so if you would like to have the option of a green tariff this is your chance to do something about it!

### Membership form:

I would like to become a member of the Manx Development Education Network (One World Centre). I enclose my annual subscription (Suggested donation: unwaged - £5, waged - £10, organisation - £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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Chair: Phil Craine. Treasurer: Jane Prescott. Management Committee: Phil Matthews, Leni Lewis, Rosemary Walters, Allison Burden, Janet Lees, Alistair Audsley, Helen Gibson, Peter O'shea. Coordinator: Cheryl Cousins. Administrator: Katie Keenan Charity Challenge Coordinator: Jenni Quillin  
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