

# ONE WORLD / THREE LEGS



oneworldcentre  
manx development, education network

ynnyd un teihll  
maggyl ynagh lhisas vannin

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*Welcome to our first edition of "One world/ Three legs", the news letter for the One World Centre. Its aim is to keep you updated on progress, both here on the Island and on with issues from developing countries. We are thankful for any contributions, thoughts or offers of help for future editions!*

Letter from the chair:

May I wish you all a very happy New Year!

I love living somewhere with a strong sense of place & identity – my previous home town, Teddington, cocooned in London's suburbia, somehow just didn't cut the mustard as Ellan Vannin does. But can the flip side be a tendency toward insularity? The vision of the One World Centre is to encourage a progressive, non-defensive, self-confident Manxness which looks outwards to the wider world, takes its international moral responsibilities seriously, and asks 'what can we offer you?'

So our aim is to raise awareness here of global poverty, injustice and environmental degradation – especially in schools to influence the next generation, but also among the public at large. And having raised such awareness, not to walk away but to encourage a response.

How do we do this? By our work in schools (teacher training, classroom support), by staging public events, by networking and building alliances, and by campaigning against unjust laws or policies.

So we're an umbrella network... we're a registered Manx charity... but we're also a membership society – we want to recruit islanders who share our vision. You may just want to subscribe to our aims, and attend the odd event – and that's OK. But you may also like to get stuck in... you may be interested in our schools work, or helping organise events, or cataloguing books, or stuffing envelopes, or writing to MHKs... whatever, we want to hear from you, and we need you to join up. Let's make change happen.

Phil Craine .  
Chair



## The Grand Butterfly Debate .... One Flap Forwards!

On 15 December Tynwald voted for the motion of Phil Gawne MHK "for there to be a significant increase in the amount donated by the IOM Govt to Overseas Aid, with a target to increase the amount given by stages to 0.7% of national income by the year 2013." !!!! The vote was 26-2 (20-1 in the Keys; 6-1 in the Legislative Council)

The vote represents a massive step up from the £650,000 budgeted for overseas aid in the current year - so a time to be grateful and celebrate. Thanks to all of you who wrote letters (our multi-agency letter was read out in full during the debate), and also to the thousands - we reckon approx. 3,500 - who sent our 'butterfly' postcards to their MHKs asking for precisely what Tynwald voted for . Democracy can work!

However one issue during the debate was the allegedly 'wishy-washy' definition of 'national income'; some claimed it meant government income (which it doesn't), a definition which would restrict aid to £3.5m rather than £8m by 2013. The Council of Ministers have appointed a committee to look into the issue. We may need to keep up the pressure to attain the 0.7% in full as the UN intended. We'll be closely monitoring the 05-06 figures to be announced in March ,and maybe explaining the real meaning of national income. Meanwhile, you can dispose of any spare postcards - in an environmentally-friendly fashion of course.

## Tsunami disaster.

The Island's response to the tsunami disaster has been magnificent. In just a few days people have spontaneously organised bucket collections, concerts, and bring-and-buy sales; many have simply made a donation by phone or online. Tynwald itself has contributed a further £100,000 from outside the regular overseas aid budget.

As I write, the tsunami death toll is some 160,000 and rising. Yet in the two weeks since the disaster, it's an "interesting" fact that worldwide 42,000 people have died of malaria, 84,000 from diarrhoea, and 112,000 from AIDS. The same numbers will die in the next fortnight, too. And every fortnight. But *is* this really an interesting fact? These largely preventable diseases are actually undramatic, ongoing, and rather mundane - and we (and our media) look away.

Many are suffering from the tsunami because of their poverty, their homes made of ramshackle materials, their insurance policies non-existent, their health services now struggling to prevent widespread disease. .

The combined African Nations are currently paying £1000,000 an hour in paying off Western debt. We in the west need to write off third-world debt, and reduce agricultural subsidies and import barriers which systematically hurt poorer nations, to allow them to take responsibility for their own development. Perhaps we can do very little to stop natural disasters happening, but if we have the will then we have the capacity to greatly mitigate the damage by lifting people out of poverty.

### **"The £100,000 Unwanted Christmas Present sale" Tsunami Disaster Appeal**

The member organisations of the Disaster Emergency Committee, co-ordinated through the OWC, are seeking to meet Tynwald's donation of £100,000 for the Asian Disaster Appeal.

"The All Island Unwanted Christmas Present Sale" is to be held at the Villa Marina on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>. January. Collection points for donated gifts are at any Manx Co-Operative branch, and all Shoprite stores from 10<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> Jan.

The Sale is from 11 am, with a Grand Auction from 6pm.

*Please help support this appeal in whatever way you can!*

### **Resource Centre: Over 1000 titles!**

We celebrated indexing over 1000 titles at the centre last week! Ok some of them are leaflets and magazines, but there is a wealth of interesting reading. Why not come along and see for yourself! Opening times are:  
Tues. & Wed. 2 - 5.30pm.  
Sat. 10am.-12.30 pm.  
Or ring to make an appointment

### ***The Inside Story... Volunteering at the One World Centre. katie Keenan***

Compiling and indexing the one world centre resource library, which is well on the way to completion, has been a mammoth team effort. It is always surprising how much work is involved in making something easily accessible and user friendly.

At times the amount of referencing, logging and typing has seemed overwhelming but it is exciting to see the constant stream of new items coming into the centre. By far the most difficult part of creating the reference list for me has been forcing myself not to become engrossed in every book or article I pick up.

Sustained by cups of tea and the occasional biscuits we've ploughed through mountains of books, videos magazines and CD ROMs. Inevitably when it comes to categorising each one there have been a number of heated debates. "You want to put *that* in geography?!!", is said with giggles rather than grudges and agreement is eventually reached!

Over the last couple of months since the centre has opened it's been really rewarding to see the system working. It's exciting to see it grow and be part of its development, and to learn every step of the way.



*Eutropia – Positive news from Peru.  
You are invited to join us  
on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>. Jan. 7.30pm. at St. Johns Mill .  
Admission Free. \* Refreshments \* Everyone welcome!*

So often we hear of all the bad things that happen in this world, there's an opportunity to catch up on some positive news from Peru on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>.. We are hosting a visit from Eutropia, who was the director of Proande (The Andean Centre for Development) in Peru. Eutropia is now the project coordinator of the democratization project.

The overall aim of Proande is to improve the quality of life for peasant farmers in rural communities. Proande technical staff provide training, support and accompaniment to communities, helping them to build water systems, including water tanks, kitchen gardens, sinks and latrines.

Proande's philosophy is that poor communities should not just receive hand-outs but be prepared to contribute to their own development. This means that the communities contribute both financially and with manual labour for the water and sanitation systems installed with Proande's support.

Eutropia says "I am a quechua woman, married and with two daughters and one son. My parents are peasants. I am happy sometimes and a simple person, I like speaking with honesty and give myself to my work with no time limits or conditions, my work is a challenge. Sometimes this entails going to visit people of my own ethnic group, people who have been forgotten and abandoned, victims of violence but bearers of a great knowledge and cultural heritage. My work involves walking a lot, leaving the house almost permanently, ....."

Christian Aid have been supporting this project since 1997, working with two different projects with Proande. One project works with local communities in the Chanka area in the department of Apurimac, to install water and sanitation systems. They give training on health and hygiene in schools and communities and give seeds and tools for people to grow vegetable gardens.

The second project works in Andahuaylas, La Mar and Chincheros provinces of Apurimac where Proande have a bilingual (Spanish-Quechua) literacy and participatory education programme. They work with local communities to understand and exercise their rights.

Eutropia will be giving a presentation at 7.30 on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>. Jan. at The Mill. Admission is free, and open to anyone interested in hearing this story of positive news from a developing country.

**The little known fainting butterflies of the Strand .....**

In an attempt for our postcard campaign to win the attention of the crowds shopping in the Strand Centre, it was suggested that a bit of high profile street art would do the trick. One gluey Saturday afternoon a butterfly of fragile wings a meter wide and of vibrant transparent colour was created by artist and volunteer David Metaxes and Keda amid the computers and printers and books and office furniture of the One World Centre. But unbeknown to us, this butterfly needed to fly.....

Strapped to the back of Keda standing on a half meter pedestal, our campaign was going well when we noticed our butterfly pale and sway..... now we hadn't bargained for a flying butterfly, and a half meter pedestal can seem very high when someone has virtually blacked out. She had managed an hour before dizziness and nausea overcame the artistic effect.

Undaunted, the rest of us hit the street again the following day. Keda still being indisposed we had a new volunteer. Helen Oliver from Oxfam kindly came to our aid.... Before we had to come to hers! Her flying record lasted the whole of five minutes before she too had to make a quick exit, well, as quick as you can with two meters worth of butterfly wing strapped to you back!

Our campaign continued but from then on Katie established that our butterflies stayed firmly on the ground. Many thanks to all those volunteers who tolerate my "good ideas".

**Global Village:** The One World Centre is planning to work with junior schools on the Island to create a Global Village for exhibition later this year. The aim of the exhibition is to enable pupils to make a comparative study of life in a developing country, to celebrate the cultural diversity of this world and to develop an insight into the lives of other people.

Through exploring aspects of life, researching culture, costume, food, family life, architecture, music, religion, life styles etc. students will create a cameo of life from a particular region of the world, and will investigate related issues of global poverty, injustice and inequality.

That's the theory! We hope that the final

exhibition will be a gathering together of their work to create street scenes from the four continents of Africa, Asia, Australasia and South America. The villages would have representational friezes that depict the diversity of culture e.g. backdrop of a temple frieze, or typical landscape, transport, housing, people working, village well, school. Etc

The Joint exhibition will be open for school visits and to the public over a four day period, to enable students to share in each others experience and research. We plan to make the exhibition interactive sharing the skills of artists, story tellers, and people from countries in the developing world who have chosen to make the Island their home.

### ***. Why are we telling you this?***

***We Need Volunteers !!!! For this project and so much more.....*** We'd love to hear from anyone who would be willing to get involved with this project, in a hundred and one different ways! If you have knowledge and information that you could share with us, any skills, or know of anyone with appropriate skills, we'll need volunteers to help man the exhibition over the four day period, we'll need people with skills in artistic installations, people to help gather resource material, to do research, those good at poster design..... anyone with a vehicle to transport these installations to their exhibition site, etc. etc. etc.

I fear the list is endless! If you are interested in being involved in this scheme, or in anyway at the Centre please do get in touch with us!

### ***Concerned about poverty?.....***

***..... But unsure what you can do about it?***

**The Rough Guide to a Better world.....** is the essential guide to how the world can be a better place for the poorest inhabitants. Poverty in the developing world is well known, but less publicised are the efforts of those who combat hunger, disease and illiteracy. Free copies of this book are now available distributed through the One World Centre and Isle of Man Post office,

Better World' puts into plain words the many different ways people in the UK can contribute to poverty alleviation in developing countries. These include:

- \* campaigning
- \* buying fair trade
- \* ethical trading and investment
- \* volunteering
- \* fundraising
- \* giving to charities
- \* ethical tourism

The UK Government's Dept for International Development has worked with Rough Guides to publish Better World to encourage people to become actively engaged in fighting poverty. Foreword by Bob Geldof; other contributors include Jon Snow, Chris Martin, Fran Healy, Beverley Knight and Ronan Keating. It also features people from developing countries telling their own stories.

Chair: Phil Craine. Treasurer: Phil Matthews. Management Committee: Judy Cannan. Sue Mycock. Hugh Davidson. Hilary Corlett. Peter Whittaker. Kim Wheeler. Muriel Garland. Coordinator: Cheryl Cousins.

Manx Development Education Network Reg. Charity No. 911

The One World Centre has support from: Save the Children IOM; British Red Cross; Amnesty International; Manx Co-operative; CAFOD; Island Agenda 21; Christian Aid; Churches Together in Mann; Department of Education, Oxfam; Tearfund & Friends of the Earth

