

ONE WORLD / THREE LEGS



oneworldcentre
manx development education network

ynnyd un teihll
moggyl ynsagh hysa vennis

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Welcome to our second edition of "One world/ Three legs", the news letter for the One World Centre. In theory this is meant to be a quarterly newsletter to keep you updated on progress, both here on the Island and with issues from developing countries.... The reality is that six months seem to have vanished since the last one. Sorry....take it as an indication of how hard we have been working?! We are thankful for any contributions, thoughts or offers of help for future editions please do contact us .

A Year in the Life of

For those of you who were unable to join us for our first Annual General Meeting, we would like to share with you some of the facts and figures that help sum up a year in the life of the One World Centre.

- **Our resource centre:** now has over 1200 items for loan: they include books, videos, posters, magazines, catalogues, leaflets , CD ROMS, games , maps, photo-packs, and artefacts
- The primary section subject lists and titles are now available by email on request.
- Over 200 items have been loaned out to date.
- **Education:** We have undertaken over 80 school visits since January, offering teacher support, workshops, assemblies, and discussion groups for both secondary, primary and foundation stages.
- We have co-ordinated the visit of Eutopia from Peru into local schools
- We have distributed "Rough Guides to a Better World" to all sixth formers and college students.
- We have helped to co-ordinate the Eco day at Balakermeen High School that involved 21 local environmental organisations.
- We are working with thirteen Island primary schools to co-ordinate the Global Village Project.
- **Volunteers:** We are developing a network of active and enthusiastic volunteers who have helped with different aspects of all of these projects.
- **Outreach :** We estimate that there have been over thirty news items and articles in local papers generated by, and reflecting issues related to, the OWC.
- We estimate that there have been over 30 local radio interviews and news items in the year related to our work
- We now have a membership of 65 and rising, including some group members.
- We have helped to co-ordinate the Islands' response to the Sudan Crisis,
- We have helped to coordinate the islands' response to the Tsunami Emergency.
- We are developing links with the Islands international community.
- We are developing a directory of island charities and individuals working in the developing world
- We have done presentations to community groups, and been involved in awareness raising at local events.
- We have produced two news letters (just!) and kept the schools informed on educational materials and updates during the tsunami emergency.
- **Campaigns:** We distributed over 4000 postcards for the campaign to increase the Manx Over Seas Aid Budget.
- We have helped to co-ordinate the Islands' response to Make Poverty History. (see over...)

Volunteers are ALWAYS a gift from the Gods!! We were told the other day that we are achieving the equivalent of a DEC with three full time staff. Anyone who would like to help share the load from one part time staff member please do get in touch!

Stop Press ! * Stop Press ! * Pulse at the Palace! * Stop Press ! * Stop Press !

Sorry for the lateness of this memo: **If you are able to get to the Palace cinema one morning this week then PULSE is well worth a visit!** Showing daily from 11 am at the Palace this film version of Stomp is a celebration of our shared humanity! Following a beat across continents it features exquisite photography, and amazing dance and music. A gem for anyone interested in other lands and cultures!

If sometimes the world news gets you down this short 40 min film will put rhythm back into your life. It focuses on the multi cultural, cross cultural qualities of our shared human experience to express ourselves beyond words. An amazing film! Admission is FREE!!! Just turn up at 11 am. or if you want to be certain you're going to get in ring the box office on 676814 to reserve a seat.

Not always the Answer you'd expect!



School visits vary from working alongside teachers, offering support and guidance, sharing resources, to doing classroom teaching or assemblies, all different ways of adding the global dimension to the National Curriculum.

One particular assembly, a story aimed at looking at comparative life styles between life in rural Kenya and our own lives here on the Isle of Man, celebrates some of the positive aspects of life in the developing world and high lights some of the development issues.

In this story the young African boy, Kadengy, climbs a coconut tree and throws down a coconut to his six year old sister who thwacks the top off with a knife and they all to drink the milk. Aware that this could well unleash a hornets nest for those sensitive about health and safety issues I always try to address this particular issue in the follow up discussion....

"Would they do that in our country?" I ask

"No," comes back the dutiful response

"Why not" I say leading them nobly on into discussion

"Because we don't have coconut trees in our country" comes back the answer!

Soggy Outreach!

Yes, we were there on Tynwald Day! With a global hoopla stall, throwing Make Poverty History arm bands at strategically placed pegs. The OWC had enthusiastic support from a crowd of soggy youngsters undaunted by the lashing rain..

Luckily we were well prepared, snug within a borrowed gazebo that proved wonderfully waterproof

not so luckily no one warned me about the pools of water that build up on the stretched canvas!

"Thirty people braved the elements on 20 May by responding to our call for a demonstration on Broadway to help 'Make Poverty History'. They stood opposite the Villa Marina gates to peacefully greet delegations arriving for the British and Irish Council meeting held inside the tightly-guarded Villa. Their banners read "UK! At the G8... Make Poverty History", "Drop The Debt" and "Trade Justice" - reflecting the demands of the MPH campaign to write off unpayable debt from poor countries, reform international trade rules such as EU farm subsidies, as well as a call for more overseas aid.

Hugh Davidson, Vice-President of Save The Children IOM, and a founding committee member of the OWC, said, "Save The Children is a very strong participant in Make Poverty History, and has translated that into Make Child Poverty History. Unequal opportunities between countries, driven by unfair trade laws, are among the biggest challenges facing the world today."

Phil Craine, Chair of the One World Centre, added "We were disappointed not to see John Prescott, who we suspect is a MPH supporter, but he evaded us by sensibly strolling along the Prom to the Villa! But we hope we got the message across to some delegates as well as the Island public that we can't accept such an unfair division of the world's resources. Since the tsunami, 15 times as many people - 4.5 million - have died through avoidable illnesses like TB, AIDS, and malaria - as perished in that terrible disaster on Boxing Day."

At 10am after the delegations had arrived at the Villa, the group adjourned for a welcome cuppa at Broadway Baptist church.

Phil Craine

Public meeting for the Global Village in the Centenary Hall Peel on Monday 1st. August 7.30 pm. Anyone interested in being involved, or helping out, please come along!

We would really welcome any volunteers for the centre, people with skills in IT skills, design, graphics, website design, anyone who would like to help index books, baby sit the centre, help with schools visits, make coffee, do general admin, whoever you are I'm sure we have useful and worthwhile work just made for you sk Let me know if you are interested in helping out at the Centre.



On 22 June, Tynwald unanimously approved 27-0 a resolution supporting the 'Make Poverty History' campaign. Proposed by David Anderson, and seconded by Phil Gawne, the motion called on the G8 states to a) cancel in full the unpayable debts of the poorest countries; b) end export subsidies which damage the livelihoods of poor communities, and c) allow governments of poor countries the freedom to protect and support their own farmers and traders. “

While in Edinburgh for the Make Poverty History rally on 2 July, the IOM group, which included the two MHKs, handed in the resolution to a representative of the G8

The Tynwald debate, lasting some 40 minutes, was mature and well-informed. An amendment put forward by Steve Rodan calling for poor countries to address issues of corruption and poor governance, was defeated by 21 votes to 6.“ In opposing the amendment, Bishop Graeme Knowles said his head agreed with it, but not his heart, pointing out the danger of us saying 'you must do things like us'. Phil Craine

Picture : David Anderson MHK handing over Tynwalds' resolution to a G8 representative.

Make Poverty History : JEAN BOGHTYNID SHENNAGHYS : The Islands

After all the media coverage and the celebrity hype of Make Poverty History we have the luxury of time to assess the success of the campaign. The people in Niger do not have the same luxury.

So what happened here on the Island and what did it all achieve?

On the Island the OWC backed the campaign, encouraging junior groups to “make buddies and send my friend to school””. Over 2000 Manx buddies joined the 3000,000 + buddies at the conference, to raise awareness of the millennium goal to bring primary education and equal opportunities to all children in the world.

We also encouraged “stripping parties” and achieved over 2000 strips of torn sheet signed with personalised messages. These were sown together to create cloaks that were worn by those attending the Edinburgh Rally from the IOM, and left for the delegates of the G8 summit. Postcards were sent and over twenty banners flew across the Island to show the Manx solidarity with the movement.

Did it make an impact? Yes it *does*, and is still doing so! On the island the high profile of the OWC in this campaign led to a number of invitations to schools to speak and lead discussion groups on issues related to the Make Poverty History Campaign enabling young people to explore some of the aspects of becoming a global citizen.

On the World Stage :

- The G8 summit brought some success in areas of debt relief and aid. They agreed to cancel all the debt of 18 countries, and this could rise to 35 if they satisfy conditions set by the rich, (though these could increase privatisation which may actually deepen poverty.)
- The G8 agreed to provide an extra \$50 bn in aid, but only by 2010, and only about a third of this is new money.
- No worthwhile agreements were made on positive action to address the issue of climate change, but president Bush has slightly strengthened his acknowledgement of the existence of climate change and has agreed to join in new talks with the G8 and leading developing countries.
- The G8 agreed to eliminate all form of export subsidies but refused to set a date, making the pledge virtually meaningless

Make Poverty History has not finished there! The campaign goes on.... It does not reach a conclusion until December . There are other dress white days on Sept 12th, and December 12th. and other opportunities to put pressure on the government to act particularly in relation to global climate change and trade justice. Please contact us if you are interested in receiving more information , or would like to get involved in the campaign.

The Situation in Niger— In extensive parts of Niger both the agricultural production of 2004 and the grasslands reserved for cattle have been severely affected by drought and swarms of locusts. The government and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) estimate a national crop deficit of 224,000 tons. Two thirds of the crop failure can be attributed to the insufficient rainfall in 2004 and one third to the locust plague. In a special report of December 2004, the FAO already calculated that in the most severely affected regions of Niger approximately 3.5 million people in 3,755 villages would suffer acute malnutrition. Niger's government has since announced the distribution of 67,000 tons of cereals at a reduced price, which is by no means enough in view of the magnitude of the catastrophe. The government has now launched a further world-wide emergency appeal and the UN has also directed an appeal to the international community to come to the aid of the starving population. ACT members **Swiss Interchurch Aid (HEKS)** and **Lutheran World Relief (LWR)** have been working in Niger for many years and are responding to the situation. **HEKS**, through its partners in Tahoua, is providing assistance to the affected population in the form of food security, training, and capacity building. They are requesting support from the Alliance to complement their efforts in providing millet, seed and milk powder as well as animal fodder from June to September. They also plan to support cereal banks and setting up cereal bank committees. They are carrying out further assessments and this proposal may be revised to accommodate changes in the situation. **Lutheran World Relief (LWR)** is currently working on a proposal to be submitted to the ACT Alliance.

The Global Village

Over the last term 13 primary schools on the island have followed a cultural pilgrimage that has taken them into the depths of research on certain countries in the developing world. Art exhibitions and displays, dance, music and different cuisine have taken their place alongside the National Curriculum as each school has relaxed the time table, brought in outside speakers, researched and recreated aspects of life in the country of their choice. I have been amazed at the creativity and enthusiasm of pupils and teachers alike!

Issues of health, education, transport, water, job security, gender, equal opportunities etc. have all been discussed whilst at the same time celebrating aspects of culture, climate, costume and cuisine! The project culminates in the Global Village, at the Centenary Hall in Peel. An opportunity to walk through four continents, and experience some of the aspects of the lives of people who live there.

Open to the public:

3.30pm.-8pm. Wed 14th-Fri 16th Sept.

10.00 am – 6pm. Saturday 17th.

2pm. - 6pm. Sun 18th.

The Edinburgh rally

Friday 1st July and an assortment of people gather at Ronaldsway airport. Until this point many of the group had never met, but they had come together now with one purpose – to represent the Isle of Man at the Make Poverty History rally in Edinburgh. With the G8 summit to begin the following week, the MPH alliance had been asking for people from all over the British Isles and beyond to travel to Scotland. They were planning a demonstration to tell the leaders of the 8 richest countries that it was about time they made the world a fairer place.

Our group had an interesting mix of ages and campaigning experience, and a strong sense of camaraderie. We stepped off the train in Edinburgh to singing and cheering – it was the perfect welcoming party. A troop who had cycled all the way to the city had just arrived and were in the mood for starting a few hours early! They had banners, music and whistles, there was already a buzz in the air. We made our way to our accommodation and met up with more members of our group who had made their own way to Edinburgh. After a late night banner making party we all tried to get some sleep before the march the next day.

Our 'uniform' for the Saturday was simple but very effective. We wore white t-shirts with **makepovertyhistory** on the front and the manx translation **jeanboghtynidshennaghys** on the back. We wrapped ourselves in cloaks made from the hundreds of white strips of cotton signed by people from the Isle of Man and set off.

The crowds were already forming when we arrived at the meadows, We were given some time to explore the stands and stages before we met for the beginning of the walk around the city of Edinburgh to be part of the human white band. We had planned to get out on the march in the first wave – but it seemed so had a lot of other people, and the first marchers out had arrived back inside the meadows before we had even left! Possibly the politest crowd in campaigning history waited patiently in the sun for their turn to set off. The march was almost like a carnival, everyone made as much noise as they could. There were whistles, drums, trumpets, guitars and singing the whole way around the course. At 3pm there was a 1 minute silence – a powerful and moving contrast to the constant noise of the previous hours.

A representative of the British foreign office met us just inside the gates when we arrived back at the meadows. She was there to receive a resolution passed by Tynwald supporting the Make Poverty History campaign from David Anderson and Phil Gawne.

The action continued into the evening, with celebrity speakers and performers such as Eddie Izzard, Billy Bragg and Bianca Jagger, and messages from the Dali Lama, the Pope and Cardinal Keith O'Brien,

There were over 200, 000 people – over three times the population of the Island in Edinburgh on that day, all asking for the same things – trade justice, debt relief and more and better aid. If every person is just one drop of water, then together they are still an ocean. At the Edinburgh rally there was a small wave from the Isle of Man shouting **MAKE POVERTY HISTORY.** Katie Keenan
Katie Keenan