



Annual Report 2014-15

General Information

Mission Statement:

The One World Centre raises awareness on the Isle of Man of global issues of poverty, injustice and the environment – with a view to encouraging and enabling a positive response.

Contact Details

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Trustees

Chair: Phil Craine
Treasurer: Susan Everitt
Claire Bader
Clare Baker (Clare Manser from June 2015)
Alison Burton
Fams Camara
Vicky Christian
Phil Matthews
Judy Needham

Minutes Secretary: Rosie Laird Scott

Company Secretary: Cat Turner

Intern

David Wildman worked with us on a voluntary basis for several weeks at the end of 2014. We are grateful for his work on the wiki and the India Badge in particular

Workforce

Director: Rosemary Clarke
Fundraiser: Wendy Shimmin
One World Charity Challenge Project Officer:
Jenni Kneale (to 31st March 2015)
Helen Kneale (from 1st September 2015)

Key Funders & Supporters 2014-15

AFD Software
Capital International
Fairtrade Foundation
H&S Davidson Trust
International Development Committee (Isle of Man Government)
Manx Co-op
Manx Lottery Trust
Sure
Twilight
Tynwald Day Committee

Chair's Introduction

Throughout this year, our screens have been filled more than ever with distressing images of migrants taking horrendous risks crammed on to small boats on the open seas, or jumping onto moving trains. They do this by choice – since the risks of staying at home are even higher... civil war, vicious regimes, grinding poverty, climate degradation, low life expectancy. These issues – and others across the globe - are not going away anytime soon, and it is my belief that the One World Centre is playing a vital part in raising awareness of these issues of the day (especially in our schools), helping us understand and wrestle with them – and think how we might begin to respond.

Rosemary has described the many activities carried out during this past year, our eleventh. I need to say a huge thank you for the committed support of staff, management committee, members, donors, allies and supporters. Our Global Village on Tynwald Day was a wonderful expression of all these groups coming together – despite getting soaked in the process! Special thanks go to Jenni Kneale as she moves on after six years of 'Charity Challenge' and we warmly welcome Helen Kneale as her successor.

I'm rather proud that we continue to swiftly organise street collections throughout the Island following any disaster or emergency – this year, for Gaza, Ebola and Nepal. The One World Centre seldom makes public fundraising appeals for itself – but this is one! We are particularly grateful to Tynwald's International Development Committee for its support, but we remain vulnerable and wish to broaden our funding sources - so if you think our work is worthwhile please consider a donation. Many thanks.

Phil Craine

General Introduction

Despite having a regular programme of events, each year at the One World Centre produces some surprises and we never cease to be busy – and inspired – with the involvement of so many in our projects. This was particularly true over the past year which began with our 10th anniversary celebrations and ended with a wet but wonderful Global Village and an unexpected opportunity for Rosemary to see a charity working in the field in Kenya

Work with Schools

One World Charity Challenge

This year's winning team was outstanding. Their presentation started with a phone ringing, and an "answer" button on the big screen being pressed. This brought up a video of a record producer challenging the team to write the next charity No 1 hit single. This provided an excellent framework for them to choose a charity, explore its work, demonstrate how it contributed to the Millennium Development Goals and what its impact was on the life of a young person. As they explored all these issues, they began to write the song which concluded their presentation. Toybox benefited to the tune of £3,800 as a result of their work. Congratulations to Hannah Dixon, Hazel Matthews, Adele Harris, Danielle Akitt, Charlotte Darbyshire and Jack Maylin from Castle Rushen High School.

Jenni Kneale, who has been the project officer for the last 6 years, has stood down from this role and we are delighted to welcome Helen Kneale (no relation!) to take her place. Jenni will be a hard act to follow as she has developed the project year on year.

Primary Fairtrade Conference

We were pleased to welcome Tom Allen of Trading Visions as our key note speaker for this year's conference. Seventeen schools sent 4 delegates each and experienced an ice-breaker, a richman/poorman snack, a circus of workshops, a planning session and a plenary. One of the workshops was a formal debate in the chamber where our members of parliament discuss Island issues. We are grateful for sponsorship from the Manx Co-operative Society to enable us to run the conference.

Primary Film Competition

Thanks to Sure for sponsoring this opportunity for young people to engage with development issues and then produce a film of not more than 4 minutes. The results were very encouraging and can be viewed at: <http://www.oneworldcentreiom.org/2015/07/02/primary-film-competition-you-can-view-here/> Congratulations to Sulby who have their name on the trophy for the third year, although they shared it last year with Anagh Coar.

Poetry Slam

Following two years working with Castle Rushen, this year QE2 joined in the competition. Ballakermeen had hoped to participate but withdrew a few weeks beforehand. Groups of Year 7 pupils in each school composed and performed poems about one of the following themes:

- Hunger
- Water and sanitation
- Child soldiers
- Conservation

The top groups in each school took part in the final. It was very difficult to choose a winner as the content and performances were excellent, some of them particularly emotional. The winning team of Ryan Coates, Percy Hampton and John Keig were from Castle Rushen whose achievement was all the more remarkable given Percy had recently broken his arm and some team members were unavailable requiring others to be drafted in at the last minute.

Work Experience

Rosemary is part of the Employability Group on the Island. Following a brief presentation about the ways in which we help to prepare students for work, the One World Centre was asked to provide work experience for 6 students from St Ninians. Working in partnership with Thare Machi Education, these students learned how to author DVDs and managed to produce 25 new ones during the week. One of the students drafted a script on leprosy which will be checked for accuracy and suitability before going into production.

School Visits

Cronk y Berry – food and drink from Africa

Manx Connections, RGS 3 sessions

Rainforests, Anagh Coar

General Activities

Fairtrade

Fairtrade Fortnight followed about six weeks after the Primary Conference. Ashley Hill School provided 5 "Thoughts for the Day" for Manx Radio. Other schools did assemblies, raffled Fairtrade Hampers and held Fairtrade tuckshops. A Fairtrade stall was held in the Strand Centre one Saturday and it was encouraging to learn that many of the children who came with their parents had been learning about Fairtrade at school; some had been at the conference.

In 2014 the Fairtrade Foundation celebrated its 20th anniversary. It invited groups from across the UK to submit examples of good practice that had taken place over the last 20 years. We sent information about the Primary Fairtrade Conference that we have now run 3 times and were delighted to win the Outstanding Campaign Award. The trophy contains a Fairtrade silver version of the Fairtrade logo.

Our Fairtrade Island Status is up for review and we hope to have renewed this status by the end of 2015.

Global Village

Despite the very wet weather conditions, there was a great atmosphere at the Global Village. It is the second time this has taken place in the Arboretum, following two years at Garey Ny Cloie. People did visit throughout the day, but not in the numbers of last year. Only two performances were able to go ahead: Rodger Sleight on the Didgeridoo, and Arabella Ayen on the harp. We are investigating the possibility of covered staging for next year.

Food from various African countries, the Philippines, the Caribbean and India was available. A variety of Manx Charities working internationally had stalls and there was cultural input too. The Chinese community offered the opportunity of writing names in Chinese characters.

The Global Village featured strongly in the publicity for Tynwald Day and it would be good to establish it as a key feature of Tynwald Day.

One World Week

Working with the World Development Committee of Churches Alive in Man, the One World Centre decided to raise awareness of the lack of toilets around the world through the promotion of Toilet Twinning. Several assemblies were led and sixth formers from QE2 presented five Thoughts for the Day for Manx Radio on this topic. More than 120 toilets have been twinned on the Island since October 2014.

Christmas Tree

Our tree continued the toilet twinning theme. The base for the tree was a toilet borrowed from Cu Plas, and the branches of the tree were made from toilet brushes, as was the angel perched at the top of the tree. Despite it being tucked away at the back of the display, the travellers awarded us joint third prize.

Global Tree Trail

Although the Tree Trail was launched last year, this year we were able to put up a sign and containers for the leaflets. It has been very rewarding to spot people studying the leaflets as they

wander round Garey Ny Cloie. The leaflets need to be restocked regularly during the summer months.

Wiki

Agreeing the terms and conditions for the website has been a challenging process, but work is now progressing to add more content to the site and we hope for an official launch before the end of 2015.

Karson's Family Foundation

The Karson's Family Foundation provided the opportunity for one Manx young person (18-24) to take part in an expedition that would benefit children in the developing world and asked the OWC to help publicise this and take part in the selection process. Lucy Johnson from Ramsey Grammar School was selected and spent four weeks in Malawi during summer 2015. It is hoped that this opportunity can be repeated over the next few years.

India Badge

Encouraged by our trustee Louise Whitelegg, we have developed a badge for the guiding movement. Recognising that there will be an international gathering at the guiding site in India in 2016 the badge includes activities that could enable guides to visit India. It is hoped that this will raise funds for the One World Centre through guides across the world earning the badge.

Employability Group

The group, which includes educationalists, business people and representatives from the third sector, has met several times over the last year. Rosemary explained to the group how the One World Charity Challenge and authoring DVDs for Thare Machi Education helps prepare young people for the world of work. This led to the work experience for St Ninians outlined above. Rosemary also took part in speed dating at Ramsey Grammar School, spending 5 minutes with some 15 groups of Year 9 students, responding to any questions about work. Both Rosemary and Wendy gave half hour sessions about their work to classes of Year 11 students.

Biosphere project

The Manx Government is applying for the whole jurisdiction to be recognised as a Biosphere through UNESCO. The One World Centre agreed to support the application.

Visitors

The One World Centre has facilitated visits for a number of people this year:

- Dr Sarah Parker from Liverpool to speak to Literacy co-ordinators + 3 schools about her Fairtrade + Nepal big book.
- Tom Allen of Trading Visions – key note speaker for FT Conference
- Nick Calland and James Greg from the Leprosy Mission
- Jon Cassidy of Quest Overseas to select young person for sponsorship
- Mark Sturge and Mark Wilson from Christian Aid

Supporting Charities

During the course of the year, the One World Centre seeks to help Manx registered charities that work overseas. The opportunity to participate in the One World Charity Challenge brings the work of the different charities to schools, parents and the audience at the final. Charities benefit from the prize fund. Following this year's competition, two students will be going to Romania with Ro-Man-Aid.

The Global Village provides another opportunity for charities to show case their work in front of a wide audience at the Manx National Day celebrations.

Support has also been provided to charities applying for funding from the International Development Committee.

We have been encouraged by the growth of the work of Mannin Sponsors Africa International following successful applications to the IDC for water projects. It has been exciting to follow the sinking of 2 boreholes in the Gambia and to be able to provide PR support to enable others to appreciate the impact of the charity's work.

Thare Machi Education produces educational interactive DVDs in local languages to provide simple but life-saving information to those who have had little opportunity for education. Each new DVD in a new language needs to be authored using professional software. Students at QE2 and St Ninians have been trained to do this work and some 30 DVDs have been produced on the Island this year.

Amnesty International meets regularly in our office.

Many schools and churches collect stamps for the Leprosy Mission, and we facilitate visits to schools when the regional representative visits each spring.

DEC Appeals

This year there have been three appeals:

- Gaza £4,600
- Ebola £6,300
- Nepal £16,000+

The One World Centre is tasked with enabling Manx people to give through the organisation of street collections as soon as possible after the Disaster Emergencies Committee launches an appeal. Without the support of our members and friends – and new contacts – we would be unable to manage to do this.

The Ebola Appeal was the first one relating to a disease. The response was very encouraging. As well as the street collection, members of the African community put on a concert that raised approximately £3,000.

The devastation caused by the Nepal earthquake and the connections that the Isle of Man has with Nepal led to the greatest response so far to a DEC appeal. In addition to the street collection the following amounts were raised for specific connections with Nepal:

- £3,000 approx was raised after ticketed events at the Guild
- £3,000 approx was raised by Kirk Michael which is twinned with Ghamrang in Nepal

- £3,000+ was raised by Shakti Man to support Fairtrade workers in Nepal
- £13,000 was raised by Rotary for shelter boxes
- £1,600 was contributed through the Roman Catholic Churches
- £70,000 was raised by the Pahar Trust (including from UK supporters)
- £100,000 was given by the International Development Committee to the DEC appeal

Other Events

One World Concert of Culture

We were thrilled that so many people came to perform and to watch at our special anniversary concert at the Centenary Centre in Peel in October. There was a huge variety of acts including dancing, singing and music from cultures around the world and it was a wonderful experience to enjoy all of this in one night on one stage in the Isle of Man. The event raised much-needed funds of £600 which was split between the One World Centre and the Centenary Centre. Thank you to all those involved.

10th Birthday party

Our 10th anniversary took place in the accounting reporting period and we celebrated it with a BBQ as part of our AGM last year.

Live Below the Line

Several staff and members of the One World Centre took up the challenge to spend only £1/day on all food and drink for five days. St Ninians provided Thought for the Day for Manx Radio. This project aims to raise awareness of the reality facing many families in the developing world.

Visit to Kenya

Excellent Development, a UK charity set up by Manxman Simon Madrell in 2002 was registered as a Manx charity more recently. While Simon was back on the Island as a special guest on Tynwald Day he met up with Rosemary to see how the two organisations could work more closely together. There was a space on their expedition less than a month later and as Rosemary had space in her diary she accepted the invitation to see Excellent's work at first hand.

Excellent specialises in building sand dams. Dams are built across ephemeral rivers. When the torrential rains come, sand is washed along the valley and builds up behind the dam. Excess water pours over the top of the dam. 30% of sand is air. Water is trapped in the sand and the water table is raised. Usually a hand dug well is constructed beside the dam. This draws the water down through the sand which acts as a very effective filter. Some such dams have been known to continue providing water for more than 6 years when no rain has fallen. As the water is stored in the sand there is little evaporation and no wet areas for mosquitoes to breed.

The first two days were spent visiting completed projects. The communities are so keen to become part of the project that they work for months gathering the necessary resources. As well as the dam itself, the local people need to terrace the land so that silt doesn't wash down into the river bed.

This would fill up the small spaces between the sand grains and prevent the water from being stored. There was a swathe of green vegetables growing on the banks of the river.

Having seen how the schemes worked, the team then joined one local community to help construct a dam. There was plenty of sand in the river bed. Some of this had been swapped for barrels of water so that the cement could be mixed. Dozens of bags of cement were stored above the dam level and tonnes of rocks had been brought to the site to strengthen the dam wall. The Excellent team joined some 30 community members to dig sand, load it into wheel barrows, mix it with cement, form bucket chains to get the water to mix with the cement, load rocks onto wheelbarrows and trundle them down to the dam, throw rocks into the cement. A local engineer checked that everything was working properly, adding shuttering once the lowest part of the dam had been made. A group of women prepared lunch.

Excellent Development features in the One World Charity Challenge each year, and is included in a case study for the A-Level World Development course taught at Ramsey Grammar School. An educational DVD, developed on the Island, was distributed to all schools a few years ago.

Rosemary is happy to share some of her experiences in local schools or adult groups. There will be opportunities for others to join similar expeditions in the future – get saving now!

Rosemary Clarke