



Manchester's schools make trade fairer

Two Manchester schools have been awarded Fairtrade School status. Gold certificates were presented to Whalley Range High School and Aspinal Primary School by councillor Jeff Smith at October's Eco Schools Forum and Green Fair.

Neil Flint, Head of Aspinal, was pleased that the school had achieved the award but was keen to stress that receiving Fairtrade status was a good beginning to a much longer journey. The school has had a Fairtrade coffee morning, a stall at their Christmas Fair and Fairtrade goods at all their meetings. Year 4 pupils have focused on the Fairtrade issue and explored it in reference to their global links in Zambia and South Africa. Fairtrade has also been included as a part of the school's Values Programme and a Super Learning Day is being planned for the Summer.

"Fairtrade is a part of Every Child Matters as it helps develop ideas around economic well being, amongst other things, but it is still a middle class ethic and for it to mean anything it must be embedded in the local community."

Editor's Notes

Bob Geldof, Tony Blair and a large number of the public have tried to Make Poverty History, but still our trading systems maintain an unfair world. So what can we do to try and make things better? Hopefully in this issue of Beehive you'll find lots of information, resources and contacts about Fairtrade which will help you and your school become Fairtrade friendly. If you have any stories around Fairtrade or any other relevant issues please let us know. Call us on 0161 273 8881.



Already the governors at the school have been discussing whether Fairtrade is more important than Best Value, and in response to the debate decided to use a local photocopying firm rather than a large corporate business.

"When Mick Waters, then Head of Education, visited Aspinal he was very impressed by the fact that we were dealing with such complex issues. It is all about the value of work versus the idea of the job and it highlights the need for responsibility as an important part of our work ethic."

Neil wants to see each classroom developing its own cottage industries so every pupil can get an understanding of the issues around work and the value of what they make. He wanted to stress the fact that we need to change how we think of work and recommended reading Matthew Fox's book 'Reinvention of Work'.

Six pupils from Aspinal visited Newall High School to participate in learning about the G8 and Third World Debt, and it had a particularly big impact on two of the pupils. When asked why we don't always trade fairly Nathaniel Marden said, "People can be a bit selfish." Katy Westland added that the problem is that, "We don't give people the things they need because we don't understand. We need to find out more about other people and their countries so we can understand."

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Purchasing Fairtrade goods for your school

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Network News

Gardening with children

On Thursday 30th March Groundwork are running a training session for Manchester teachers on gardening. It's being held at SS John Fisher and Thomas More Primary in Wythenshawe between 2 and 5pm. The training will have a strong focus on how to involve children in the practical work, and lots of ideas for linking the garden to curriculum teaching. There will also be the opportunity to be inspired by some fantastic school grounds. This is for teachers either wanting to create a new school garden, or those wanting to redevelop an old one. For more information contact Cath Battersby at Groundwork on 0161 237 5656.

The Captive Animals' Protection Trust

CAPT is an educational trust based in Manchester which works to inform and educate people about the plight of captive animals. They examine issues relating to the treatment of animals held in circuses, zoos and in the exotic pet trade, their aim being to prevent cruelty and to promote respect for all animals.

They are currently producing educational materials and lesson plans which follow the national curriculum and they are developing a database of speakers who can give talks in schools and other places of education. If you are interested in more information go to www.animalprotection.org.uk or e-mail trust@animalprotection.org.uk

Schools Fairtrade Forum

Come to the Schools Fairtrade Forum on 9th March 2006 9.45am - 2.30pm at Manchester Town Hall. This event will be full of fun and learning; come and meet with mango growers from Burkino Faso who have benefited from Fairtrade, play the Trading Game or play on some drums, learn about how your school can become Fairtrade friendly, and find out how Fairtrade can fit into becoming an Eco School. For further information contact Raichael Lock on 0161 273 8881.

Eco School updates

If you are an Eco School you have an opportunity to enter a competition to come up with innovative ideas to help your school develop more sustainable forms of transport. Lots of young people say they want to travel in a more sustainable way but few of them do. If your school can create an innovative solution to this environmental problem you could win a grant to put your ideas into action. To view the full criteria and download an application form visit www.eco-schools.org/innovation

Or would you like to win a free

Help in tackling Climate Change

Melissa Littlestone offers workshops in schools to help educate young people on the issues surrounding climate change. As a Greenpeace volunteer she has a lot of knowledge on this issue and she will not only inspire young people learn about the problems but help them to come up with ideas for combatting them. If you are interested in Climate Change workshops please contact Melissa on 07790 377806 or email on: mel_03@yahoo.com

wind turbine worth £20,000 for your school? If so go to the above mentioned web page and see if your school could fit the criteria. Completed applications need to be sent by 1st June 2006 with the intention that the winning schools has their wind turbine installed for the new academic year.

Eco Schools has also developed a new international linking facility to enable schools from all over the world to have greater contact. If you are an Eco School and wish to register please go to www.eco-schools.net

Hatha Yoga for schools

Rachael Plaskitt is a yoga teacher who is looking for opportunities to teach in Manchester schools.

She is especially interested in introducing yoga to teenagers, as a way of helping them cope with the various stresses of modern life. "I have worked with young offenders, in Community Centres, in a drug rehab' unit, and with autistic kids. I have also trained with "Yoga-Ed", a programme in America, which has set up yoga in schools."

Current research shows there are many benefits of yoga for young adults, building confidence and awareness of responsibility for self, increasing concentration skills, and more. Rachael charges £20 per session, and is available to teach on a variety of different days and times.

Please contact her for further details on rachplaskitt@lycos.com or 07840 483122

Fairtrade brings Burkino Faso to Manchester



On Thursday March 9th it will be possible for teachers and pupils from Greater Manchester schools to meet and talk with representatives from two farmers' cooperatives from Burkino Faso.

Issaka Sommande and Arsene Sourabie will be sharing their experiences of growing mangoes and describing the effects that Fairtrade have had on their lives and their communities.

They will be talking about how the cooperatives work: how they dry hundreds of tonnes of fresh organic mangoes, teach their members improved farming practices, encourage re-forestation and organic agriculture, as well as promoting literacy amongst adults and children. Members are also helped to diversify their production base into crops such as cashew, sesame and hibiscus.

They represent two farmers' cooperatives from Burkino Faso: Association Ton, which is near the border of Cote D'Ivoire, and Association WOUOL, both being in the south of the country.

Association Ton has had extra problems to deal with because of its location next to Cote D'Ivoire where war and unrest has been stifling trade and making life hard for farmers and traders in the area. To

add to this squeeze on resources, many refugees from Cote D'Ivoire have fled into Burkina Faso looking for help. In this difficult context, Ton's mango business provides essential income for its 2,800 members.

Association WOUOL's cooperative has 1000 members, and at the mango drying station men work on the pruning and harvesting of the trees and the planting of new stock, while the women are responsible for the mango drying. The Chair of WOUOL, Monsieur Antoine Sombie, describes their mission as being, 'to work with the producers and elevate their condition,' and creates a sense of true community when he describes the cooperative as being, 'one big family who

work out our problems together.'

Burkino Faso is one of the poorest countries in the world and every year hundreds of tonnes of fresh organic mangoes are bought at Fairtrade prices from the cooperative members.

Tropical Wholefoods is a company who import mangoes from these cooperatives and then manufacture products such as Dried Mango, Mango Snack Pack and Mango Divine Delights at a plant in Sunderland. Kate Sebag from Tropical Wholefoods will be joining the cooperative workers at the event on the 9th March.

The event, which is being held at Manchester Town Hall, is a part of the celebration of Fairtrade Fortnight and it will include workshops and demonstrations around how Fairtrade can be integrated into school life. If your school would like more information about this event please contact Raichael Lock at MEEN on 0161 273 8881 or e-mail meen@gn.apc.org



Fairtrade Schools

What is Fairtrade?

The Fairtrade organisation was set up in 1994 and aims to protect farmers from middlemen who would pay them less than the value of their crops. It's a means of helping people in developing countries build and strengthen their own communities.

International free trade has massively grown since World War 2: countries from all over the world export what they are good at producing and import what they are not. For instance, Guatemalan coffee is available in Japan and Japanese products are available in Guatemala.

Or are they? Free trade may have liberalised markets but global inequalities have also grown - the share of the world's income distributed amongst the poorest 10% fell by a quarter between 1988 and 1993. In effect free trade has contributed to the poor becoming poorer because agricultural producers in developing countries don't have the same foothold in the global market place that those in more developed countries do. This is due to the fact that they are often penalised by the large subsidies that rich countries pay to their farmers, which their own governments cannot afford to give to them. Furthermore, they do not have access to the world of media and advertising that many of the large corporations use to promote their goods.



So how does Fairtrade combat this injustice?

Fairtrade importers must work directly with producers whether they are farming co-operatives, plantations, or small-scale craft manufacturers. The organisation of small-scale producers into co-operatives or larger trading groups helps them increase their income, share information and pool resources, enabling them to plan longer term and so more sustainably. Fairtrade can have very positive impacts on producers, not just economically but also by increasing educational opportunities, putting environmental measures in place, and preserving indigenous cultures, by generating female empowerment and by increasing civic participation.



How does a school become a Fairtrade school?

The Fairtrade Foundation has now drafted guidelines for schools to work towards but as yet these are not fully developed so schools cannot be accredited by the Foundation. This is, however, set to change in March 2006 so watch this space!

At the moment there are several schemes you can get involved in which the new Fairtrade Foundation guidelines will reflect. The first is by Manchester City Council and the "How To" guide and registration form can be found at:

www.manchester.gov.uk/environment/fairtrade.htm



Purchasing Fairtrade goods for your school



The Oxfam web site has a multitude of fabulous resources for teachers such as lesson plans, schemes of work and activity plans, and you can find these at: www.oxfam.org.uk/coolplanet/teachers/fairtrade_resources/index.htm

Another scheme aimed at older children is the 'People and Planet' guide:

www.peopleandplanet.org/tradejustice/fairtrade/guide.php

If you have problems getting hold of any Fairtrade products either independently or through Manchester Fayre, or simply want to know more about Fairtrade schools, please contact Louise Yates, Manchester City Council's Fairtrade Officer

Louise Yates
Fairtrade Officer
Environmental Strategy and Campaigns Team
External: 0161 953 2754
Internal: 800 2754
Mobile: 07984 122821
fax: 0161 953 2574
lyates@manchester.gov.uk

Manchester Fayre already supply Fairtrade bananas to your school and they can also supply other Fairtrade products such as orange juice and snack bars for the tuck shop or vending machines on request. There are also many other products such as Fairtrade sugar, cocoa and dried fruits that can be used within schools for baking and Fairtrade tea and coffee, which you can get for the staff room. So to help you and your school become Fairtrade friendly here is a list of suppliers who will deliver what you need to the school door.

Suma: The largest independent wholesaler and distributor of vegetarian, Fairtrade, organic and natural foods in the UK. They will deliver to schools especially if there are no other Suma stockists in the area. Good for tea, coffee, and thousands of other products; they pride themselves on their ethical policies.
www.suma.co.uk
info@suma.coop
0845 458 2290

Limited Resources: if you care about cutting back on the food miles Limited Resources are based in Stockport. They will deliver to schools in the Manchester area and specialise in sourcing local fruit and vegetables. They could meet all your Fairtrade beverage needs, have a good choice of cleaning

products and even supply organic handmade cakes!

www.limited-resources.co.uk
0161 477 2040

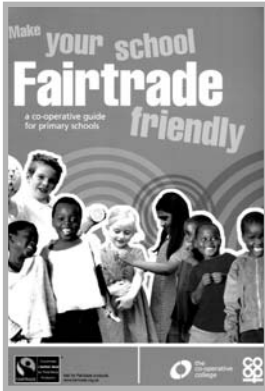
Supplymasters Ltd : this Bolton company supplies Fairtrade vending machines as well as being a wholesaler. For Fairtrade and organic products contact them on 01204 559047 or email fairtraders@aol.com

Manchester Vending : based in Altrincham this company will supply your machines with Fairtrade goods such as Cafedirect coffee. For further information contact peter@manchestervending.com or ring 0161 945 2030

JP Juice : another Altrincham company, JP Juices supplies cartons of Fairtrade juice bought from a cooperative in Cuba. If you want to contact them for your nearest distributor ring 0161 941 6777 or email tim.kearns@jppjuice.co.uk

Traidcraft : Traidcraft supply food, drink, craft, textiles and gifts and have hundreds of products from all over the world. There is an on-line shop at www.traidcraft.co.uk or you can request a catalogue by ringing 0870 443 1016

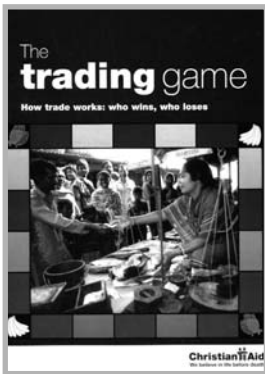
Resources



Make your school Fairtrade friendly

a co-operative guide for primary schools published by the Co-operative Group. Free of charge to all primary schools

This pack is a brilliant resource for schools who are working towards Fairtrade status. It's not just the lesson plans, activities and ideas but also the CD-ROM which contains an interactive game, a quiz, poems, a library and 'Matthew's Fairtrade story' - a short film in which a nine year old Salford boy takes his audience on a storybook journey to Africa to understand the issues behind Fairtrade.

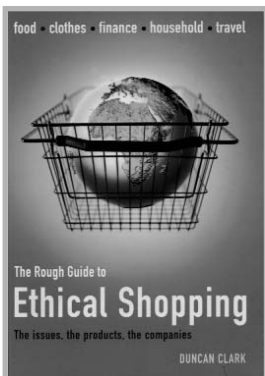


The trading game

How trade works: who wins, who loses Published by Christian Aid £3.99 ISBN: 0-904379-57-4

This brilliant simulation game is aimed at players 14 years or over, although it can be adapted for younger people. The game shows how trade actually works and

helps highlight the gaps between rich and poor countries. Participants role play different countries, have to manufacture 'products' and trade them: the overall aim is to experience the inequalities inherent in trade - and it works - the first thing you'll hear is someone saying 'It's not fair!'



The Rough Guide to Ethical Shopping

The issues, the products, the companies, by Duncan Clark published by Penguin £7.99 ISBN 1-84353-265-4

Shopping can be a moral minefield whether it's food, clothes, finances, travel or household items. There

are so many issues to consider such as Fairtrade, sweatshops, ethical investment, eco-tourism or organic food, and this little book is packed full of information and recommendations to help you shop the ethical way.



Do the right things!

A practical guide to ethical living by Pushpinder Khaneka published by New Internationalist Publications Ltd £7.99 ISBN 1 904456 17 0

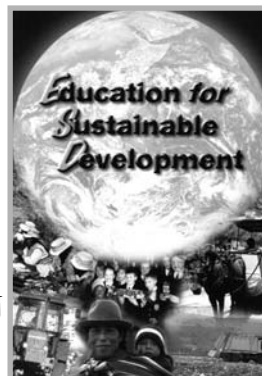
Full of fascinating facts - 'Did you know of the world's 100 largest economies, the majority (51) are not countries but corporations' - simple tips, advice and contacts, this book aims to inspire ethical living. Similar to The Rough Guide, but less intense, it brims with cartoons and manages to maintain a sense of humour in the face of pending doom.



Looking Behind the Logo

The global supply chain in the sportswear industry by Oxfam. £4.95 ISBN 1 870727 541

This is a role play activity for 13 year olds and over which contrasts the Olympian ethos of fair play with the unfair conditions endured by sportswear workers in many countries. Looking at basic human rights, such as getting a living wage and working in acceptable conditions, this easy to use resource is an eye-opener.



Education for Sustainable Development

produced by Cheshire County Council £16 ISBN 0 906763 50 9

This resource may be aimed at Cheshire schools and contain contacts relevant only to Cheshire but it nonetheless acts as a prompt and inspiration to ESD practitioners. Full of case studies and activity ideas, it is divided into eight chapters on themes such as Food and Water. At the beginning of the chapter the Seven Key concepts of ESD are used to generate questions about each topic which in itself provides a lot of food for thought.

Diary: training opportunities and events

February 16th 2006

Using Drama and Storymaking in environmental education and interpretation

Environmental Trainers Network
£105 + VAT for voluntary
orgs/£155 + VAT for others
Manchester
Tel: 0121 507 8390
email: ETN@unite.net

This workshop offers exciting ways for working in the area of Literacy. Aimed at new practitioners, this day offers ideas and confidence to incorporate storymaking and drama into your work.

February 21st 2006

Involving children in the environment

Environmental Trainers Network
£105 + VAT for voluntary
orgs/£155 + VAT for others
Leeds
Tel: 0121 507 8390
email: ETN@unite.net

A great introduction for people beginning to work with children in the environment it will be looking at what children need from us, group and behaviour management, the planning process, an up to date introduction to the legal situation and the National Curriculum, including ESD, and lots of environmental games.

March 9th 2006

Schools Fairtrade Forum

Organised by the N.W. Fairtrade Network
Free at Manchester Town Hall
9.45am - 2.30pm
Tel: Raichael Lock 0161 273 8881
or email meen@gn.apc.org

This event is for all Manchester teachers to learn about how to make schools Fairtrade. You are

welcome to bring along two pupils. There will be two mangro growers from Burkino Faso sharing their experiences of Fairtrade, you will be able to play the Trading Game, go to a drumming workshop, learn about good educational Fairtrade resources and how Fairtrade ties into both the Eco Schools and Healthy School awards. There is a Fairtrade lunch and a chocolate fountain, aswell as an opportunity to discuss Fairtrade School Guidelines.

March 13th 2006

In the pipeline - using water to connect ourselves to the world

Organised by Southern Voices in partnership with The Museum of Science and Industry and North West Global Education Network
At The Museum of Science and Industry 12.45pm - 3.30pm
Tel: The Learning Centre at the Museum 0161 833 0027

This course will help find new ways of delivering a cross-curricular approach to Geography, help you use the Museum to compare and contrast water issues North and South of the globe, and give you hands on activities around the issue of water.

March 27th & March 28th 2006 Earth Education learning to live lightly

Introductory and Advanced workshops with Steve Van Matre
The Institute of Earth Education,
Losehill Hall, Peak District
National Park
Introductory workshop on 27th £85
Advanced workshop on 28th £85
Both workshops including accommodation £190

'Earth Education is the process of helping people of all ages live

more harmoniously and joyously with the natural world'. Steve Van Matre will help participants understand earth education and how it is different from most environmental education. There will be guidelines for leading earth education activities, plus tools for developing programmes in your own setting. There will be an Earthwalk, a Conceptual Encounter and a Solitude Enhancing activity.

March 30th 2006

Gardening with Children

Organised by Groundwork
Free training at SS John Fisher and Thomas More Primary School in Wythenshawe
2pm - 5pm
Tel: Cath Battersby
0161 237 5656
or e-mail
cath.battersby@groundwork.org.uk

This training will be useful for everyone involved in growing in the school grounds. There will be a focus on how to involve children in practical work and how to link the school grounds into the curriculum.

June 8th 2006

'Making it real, making a difference - the global dimension, citizenship and sustainability in Initial Teacher Education'

Manchester Metropolitan University, Geoffrey Manton Building
9.30am - 4.00pm
For further details email
clive@dep.org.uk

What is Manchester Environmental Education Network?

Manchester Environmental Education Network (MEEN) is a membership-based organisation aiming “To inspire and motivate learning about sustainability by building a network of people actively committed to Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in Manchester.” The network was established by six partner organisations involved in the project, and currently employs one person as network coordinator.

Membership of the network offers:

- * free network directory (pay only for P&P) - while stocks last
- * free termly newsletter
- * support from network coordinator
- * reduced entrance to MEEN events
- * a voice in how MEEN is run and the activities of the network

Project Partners:

Development Education Project (DEP),
c/o Manchester Metropolitan University,
801 Wilmslow Road, Manchester.
M20 2QR
Tel: 0161 445 2495

Groundwork Manchester,

Phoenix House,
61 Spear Street,
Manchester. M1 1DF
Tel: 0161 237 5656

Manchester Environmental Resource Centre initiative

(MERCi),
Bridge-5 Mill,
22a Beswick Street, Ancoats,
Manchester. M4 7HR
Tel: 0161 273 1736

Manchester Healthy Schools Partnership,

Mauldeth House,
Mauldeth Road West, Chorlton.
Manchester. M21 7RL
Tel: 0161 882 2313

Manchester Education Partnership (MEP),

The Acorn Centre, Royal Oak Road,
Baguley, Wythenshawe,
Manchester. M23 1EB
Tel: 0161 610 3333

Mersey Basin Trust,

Bridge-5 Mill, 22a Beswick Street,
Ancoats, Manchester. M4 7HR
Tel: 0161 273 4207
merseybasintrust@hotmail.com
www.merseybasintrust.org.uk

Network Coordinator:

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Membership of Manchester Environmental Education Network (MEEN)

Please fill in this form and return to the network coordinator at the above address, enclosing a cheque for the relevant amount.

Name School / Organisation Subject (where applicable)

Address

Tel Fax E-mail

Schools / Organisations - Manchester	£8
Individuals - Manchester (waged / unwaged)	£5 / £2
Non-Manchester based membership	£12
Please add P&P for directory	£2
TOTAL	

I enclose a cheque payable to 'MEEN' for £_____