



TIDAL *news*

Trade Injustice and Debt Action Leads

AUTUMN 2004

CLOTH *the sweatshop-free fashion show*

STOP! Don't buy those winter woollies before you've seen this season's gorgeous sweatshop-free fashion. You will have received, with this newsletter, an invitation to Cloth – the sweatshop-free fashion show. We'll be showing some fabulous clothes from Arkadash, PeopleTree, Gossypium, Hug, Epona and Traidcraft, and you will be able to buy some of them on the night.

Monday 18 October
7.30pm The Wardrobe
(next to the Playhouse)

Representatives from these companies will be giving us an insight into the problems they face trying to source ethically-produced clothes, and why they bother in the first place. We'll also hear about homeworkers, in the UK and abroad, and all the difficulties that they come up against.

All our models are locally sourced too – ie: they're our mates and members of the steering group! It will be their first time on the catwalk, so come and give them your support. There will be music, hopefully dancing, and stalls for you to browse.

Please RSVP to Annie in the TIDAL office on 0113 391 7917 or info@leedstidal.org.

£2 / £1 in on the door, and doors open at 7.30pm. You could come down and eat at The Wardrobe beforehand and make a night of it!

Look your best with TIDAL!



Photo: Traidcraft



Photo: Sarah Sutherland

Hello again

As I write this, final preparations are well underway for the huge Trade Justice rally in Brighton. I'm sure it'll be a fantastic event and it's a great way to kick off a busy autumn of campaigning on debt and trade.

I'm up to my eyeballs in sweatshop-free fashion at the moment, and can't wait for the fashion show on Monday 18 October. This is not to be missed, even if it's just to see TIDAL's treasurer, Alun, strut his stuff on the catwalk!

*We are really excited to be part of the planning for what may possibly be the biggest campaign ever. You can read all about **MAKEPOVERTY HISTORY** on page 4. The national launch will be on 1 January 2005, but here in Leeds we're planning our own regional launch on Sunday 14 November. We have a speaker from Zambia and lots of other ideas, and will let you know once the plans are finalised. Meanwhile, keep the date free.*

The Fairtrade campaign in Leeds is steaming ahead, and we'll be able to achieve even more when the new Co-ordinator starts. You can read opposite about what's happening with Fairtrade in Leeds. Make sure you check out the brand new website:

www.leedsfairtradecity.org

Annie Connolly

TIDAL Administrator

Upto date with Debt

With so much happening, it's hard to keep upto date with all the facts and figures about Debt. Dr Mahmood Messkoub, Lecturer at Leeds University Business School, and a TIDAL steering group member, will be leading a training session for the steering group that will also be open to TIDAL supporters.

If you already have a good understanding of the issues surrounding the debt campaign, and would like an update, you are very welcome to join us.

The session will take place from 10am to noon on Saturday 23 October, at Leeds Church Institute.

If you would like to book a place, please contact Annie by Thursday 14 October.

Introducing Arkadash

By buying organic cotton, you help small-scale farmers to make a living, without the risk of poisoning their families and the environment with the huge quantities of toxic pesticides which go into conventional cotton growing. The farmers also get paid a guaranteed price for their cotton, which helps them to plan ahead and give their families greater security.

By buying sweatshop-free, you help factory workers in the developing world to get decent pay and conditions and to have an alternative to harassment and exploitative treatment in cramped, dangerous environments.

Vik Banks, TIDAL member and star of an early Jubilee 2000 video (somewhere on the opening credits) has just started up Arkadash Trading, selling sweatshop-free, organic cotton clothing, in and around Leeds.

Vik hopes to move into direct manufacturing once she's more established, but at the moment she's stocking clothes from Gossypium, Hug and Epona. These clothes are available on the web, but selling locally means people can see what they're buying. And some of them are cheaper this way!

If you'd be interested in hosting an Arkadash clothes party (like a Tupperware party but with less plastic) where people can try on clothes and place orders, if you're running a fair or event where a clothes stall would be welcome, or if you're part of a club or society that wants to put their logo on more ethical t-shirts, please

contact Vik on 07986 530722 or arkadashtrading@yahoo.co.uk

There will be an Arkadash stall at Cloth on 18th October.

New Fairtrade Co-ordinator

The Fairtrade campaign in Leeds will soon be supported by a Fairtrade Co-ordinator, who will work as part of the International Relations team at Leeds City Council. This person will work with the Fairtrade City Steering Group, with the various council departments that are involved, and will lead on the preparations for Fairtrade Fortnight. We are incredibly lucky to have a dedicated worker focusing wholly on Fairtrade issues.

What will really make the difference to the producers, however, is if more Fairtrade tea, coffee, chocolate and other products are sold. Please keep asking for Fairtrade in any café or shop you go to.

Fairtrade Schools Project saved!

Hannah Dalrymple (on the right in the photo below) has managed to secure funding for another two years to continue the Fairtrade Schools Project. This was initiated by Trade for Change but she will now be funded by Leeds City Council. We are delighted that it can continue, as it not only benefits those in the South in the long term, by increasing sales of Fairtrade, but it has also, as a teacher involved in the project last year said: 'encouraged the children to look beyond their lives, empathise with others, and act.'



Moving up a gear...

Tireless campaigner, Mary Keynes, is after your money. And with good reason...

This has indeed been a big year for TIDAL

March saw the launch of Leeds Fairtrade City (a TIDAL initiative). In May we achieved record media coverage with our World Debt Day Penalty Shoot-out, with no less than five appearances on local TV. During the summer we were out at the summer fairs, gaining supporters for our campaigns; and coming soon, the Fashion Show and our local launch for **MAKE POVERTY HISTORY** will see us once more raising public awareness of world poverty, debt, and unfair trade.

But next year will be even bigger!

We will be playing an active part in the nation-wide campaign to **MAKE POVERTY HISTORY** (see page 4). 2005 is a challenge and an opportunity to make a real difference, and we're appealing to you, our supporters, to help make this possible.

TIDAL could never have got off the ground without the unfailing support you gave over the years to Leeds Jubilee 2000, and it is still your contributions as supporters that pay for the nuts and bolts of our work. We are especially grateful to those of you who have signed standing orders, which cover



about half our monthly costs. Generous special donations, collecting boxes, and occasional grants and contributions in kind help towards the rest. But 2005 will bring new demands and challenges and, with them, new costs. Please, if you can, use the standing order form to help put us on a really sound financial footing — it could be £5 or £10 or £20 a month – or maybe more!

Where can you go for a Fairtrade cuppa?

There are many cafés in Leeds, both large and small, where you can get Fairtrade tea and coffee. Next time you are out shopping and could do with a break, please pop in to support them. Make sure you ask for Fairtrade. The cafés involved will only stock Fairtrade produce if there is a demand, so we're relying on our thirsty TIDAL supporters. If you know of any other cafés that sell Fairtrade drinks or snacks, please let us know.

Fairtrade products will be available in the Art Gallery, Lotherton Hall, Temple Newsam and Tropical World from 30 September. If there is a demand, the Council plans to roll Fairtrade out to all its catering outlets, so get drinking that tea!

Central Leeds

- All Starbucks, Costa Coffee and Prêt à Manger serve Fairtrade drinks.
- Marks & Spencers, Briggate
- Org Organics, 79 Great George Street
- Arts Café Bar, 42 Call Lane
- Roots and Fruits, 10 Grand Arcade
- Oxford Place Centre Café, Oxford Place Methodist Centre
- West Yorkshire Playhouse, Quarry Hill
- HIFI Club, 2 Central Road
- Art Gallery Café, Headrow

For students

- Leeds Metropolitan University Students Union café, Calverley Street
- Leeds University Students Union (there's a dedicated Fairtrade coffee bar)
- Park Lane College refectory, Park Lane

Further afield

- Oxfam Bookshop, 9 Otley Road, Headingley
- Headingley Community Centre, North Lane
- Thackray Medical Museum Café, Beckett Street
- Millrace Organic Restaurant, 2 Commercial Street, Kirkstall
- All Hallows Community Centre, Hyde Park



- ABC Café, Hyde Park
- Courtyard Café, Harehills Lane Baptist Church, Harehills (Mondays)
- Cheerful Chilli, Otley Chevin, Otley
- Food Elemental, 26 Bradford Road, Tranmere Parade, Guiseley
- The Beehive, Powternewton La, Chapel Allerton
- Marks & Spencers, Owlcoates Centre, Pudsey
- Lotherton Hall Café, nr Aberford
- Temple Newsam Café, Halton
- Tropical World, Prince's Avenue

MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY

We mentioned in the last newsletter that something big was going to happen in 2005. We were wrong – something **huge** is going to happen in 2005. We're going to **MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY!**

In a world where poverty kills 30,000 people every day, 2005 will be a year of unprecedented opportunity for rich countries to change the rules and practices of trade, cancel poor countries' debts and deliver more and better aid.

MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY aims to be the most powerful coalition ever against world poverty. It calls for urgent action and is looking to Tony Blair to improve the lives of millions of poor people around the world as he hosts the G8 and holds the presidency of the EU.

Last time the UK hosted the G8 was in Birmingham in 1998, when some 70,000 people, many of them from Leeds, formed a human chain around the centre of the city campaigning for the cancellation of unpayable debt. This public pressure forced poverty onto the G8 agenda and brought significant debt relief for poor countries.

On Saturday 2 July 2005 thousands of people will take to the streets of Edinburgh in advance of the G8 meeting in Scotland to insist that the leaders of the world's richest nations should take up the challenge to **MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY**.

It's not just the G8 though – 2005 offers an exceptional series of opportunities for the UK to take a lead internationally, and for campaigners to put pressure on the

What are we asking for?

Trade justice

- Fight for rules that ensure governments, particularly in poor countries, can choose the best solutions to end poverty and protect the environment. These will not always be free trade policies.
- End export subsidies that damage the livelihoods of poor rural communities around the world.
- Make laws that stop big business profiting at the expense of people and the environment.

Drop the debt

- The unpayable debts of the world's poorest countries should be cancelled in full, by fair and transparent means.

More and better aid

- All donors must provide 0.7% of national income in international aid, and make aid work more effectively for poor people.

government to make concrete, lasting policy changes. Key moments include:

April The Commission for Africa Report published

July The UK hosts the G8

July 20th anniversary of Live Aid

July The UK takes up presidency of the European Union

Sept UN Millennium Development Goals Special Summit

What's on Autumn 2004

September

Sun 26 **TJM Lobby of Labour Party Conference**
Brighton

Wed 30 **Art Gallery Café** launches Fairtrade range

October

17–24 **One World Week**

Mon 18 **CLOTH:**
The Sweatshop-free Fashion Show
The Wardrobe, next to Playhouse 7.30pm

Sat 23 **Up-to-date on Debt**
a training session with Dr Mahmood Messkoub at Leeds Church Institute
10am–noon

November

Sun 14 Leeds launch of **MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY**
(watch this space)

January

Sat 1 National launch of **MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY**
(watch this space)

Please contact Annie in the TIDAL office for further info about any of these events.

A wide cross-section of 50 aid organisations; campaigns; trade unions, faith groups and celebrities are members of the coalition (including TIDAL).

Here in Leeds, we're talking about taking a TIDAL train to the mass mobilisation event in Edinburgh. The last time the G8 Summit was held in Britain many of you were on the train to Birmingham. Let's make it even bigger this time!

We'll link all the events that we're involved in next year with

MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY,

but you can sign up at

www.makepovertyhistory.com right now.

Make sure you are a part of what promises to be the biggest force for change ever!

ACTION



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