



TIDAL *news*

Trade Injustice and Debt Action Leeds

AUTUMN 2006

www.leadstidal.org

Fair share of the Cake

Come and find out who gets the cake and who gets the crumbs at TIDAL's **Global White Band Day Tea Party** on Friday 20 October. The rest of the world will mark White Band Day three days earlier, but we wanted to invite John Battle MP to participate and this was the nearest date he could manage.

We will be looking at the relevance of reform of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to the eradication of world poverty.

Why is Hilary Benn threatening to withhold the UK's contribution to the Bank and the Fund and why is Africa trying to block 'reform'? What influence do these international financial institutions (known as the IFIs) have on debt cancellation, trade justice, and climate change? Who makes their decisions and who pays for them?

A number of campaign groups have called for fundamental reform – these include Oxfam, Christian Aid, CAFOD, and the Jubilee Debt Campaign. Are they asking for enough? What are their chances of success? Can we support them, and how?

As well as cake – and crumbs – there will be speakers from the South to tell us how their lives are affected by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, and John Battle MP will respond to criticisms and proposals for reform of the IFIs.

So come along to Committee Rooms 5–6 in Leeds City Hall, 4.30–5.45pm on Friday October 20 for TIDAL's White Band Day with tea, cake (or crumbs) and enlightenment. Places are limited, and it will help our planning if you can tell us in advance whether you will be joining us. Please email mary@keynes.wanadoo.co.uk or call 0113 262 3330 not later than Wednesday 18 October. Please include your contact email address or telephone number.

Mary Keynes



JOIN US FOR THE BIGGEST EVENT OF THE YEAR TO STOP CLIMATE CHAOS.

Saturday November 4th
1-3pm
Trafalgar Square

www.icount.org.uk
1 Count is a campaign of the Stop Climate Chaos

ACTION

Remember, remember the 4th of November!

This is your chance to send a powerful message to the Prime Minister and other world leaders that they must act now to stop climate chaos. Join thousands of other people at Trafalgar Square, London, from 1pm, for music, special guest speakers, and to make a united stand against the global threat of climate change.

The rally is on the eve of critical climate change talks in Nairobi. You can help ensure that the world's leaders recognise their responsibilities to the most vulnerable people in the world.

So gather your friends and join TIDAL in London. We've got day return train tickets for just £20 – but they're selling fast! Email info@leadstidal.org or call 0113 3917917. Otherwise, make your own transport arrangements and we'll see you down there!

Still working to **MAKE POVERTY HISTORY**



Welcome to the last TIDAL newsletter of 2006!

It's been the year TIDAL successfully became part of the Stop Climate Chaos campaign in Leeds, and you can read all about the launch meeting that took place on Monday 25 September. And, as we mobilise for the first national climate change action in London on 4 November, more information about it and how to take part can be found inside.

It is indeed the season for action: Kim Tan of Oxfam's Leeds office tells us more about their new national campaign on health and education, and Mary Keynes tells us more about local action in relation to the IMF meetings taking place in October and how you can get involved. We've also got news from our Surge outreach co-ordinator, Jacinta Kent, about the latest up and coming events of the Autumn / Winter season.

Some of you may also recall a lecture from last June, where Susanna Mitchell of the New Economics Foundation spoke about her book, The Big Picture – Reforming the Global Economy. In this issue we follow up with a book review by TIDAL supporter David Adshead, of Margaret Legum's It doesn't have to be like this! Global economics: a new way forward – an inspirational look at an alternative future.

Enjoy all this and more!

Hilary Thorndike

TIDAL campaigns manager

STOP PRESS

We've had far more articles and reviews than we can squeeze into the newsletter this time, so you'll find some of them on the website. Check out the contributions from Kim Tan, David Adshead and Jacinta Kent at www.leadstidal.org

TIDAL

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Oxfam report is essential reading

This month Oxfam launched *In the Public Interest* – a new report showing how investment in essential public services is the key to making poverty history.

Oxfam calculates that meeting internationally agreed targets on improved health, education, water and sanitation would require an extra \$47 billion a year. Compare this with annual global military spending of \$1 trillion, or the \$40 billion spent globally every year on pet food.

You can download the full report from www.oxfam.org.uk/what_you_can_do/campaign/he/public_interest.htm or read a review by Kim Tan on the TIDAL website: www.leadstidal.org.



New moves at TIDAL Surge

With the recent launch of the Stop Climate Chaos (SCC) campaign and the on-going work of Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAAP), we at Surge are busily preparing for a new flow of events, talks, discussions and debates on the issues surrounding climate change and global poverty.

Our first event will be 'A Fair Share of the Cake', to be held in Committee Rooms 5 and 6 at the Civic Hall on Friday 20 October, 4.30pm–5.30 pm. Together with the World Development Movement (WDM) we will be looking at what influence international financial institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund have on debt cancellation, trade justice, and climate change.

TIDAL Surge's animators from the South will be present to give a grassroots account of life under the imposed conditions of international financial institutions, so come along – and see how much cake you're entitled to!

November brings forth the Commonplace Film Festival and with it, a night of inspirational films and discussion. From the WDM comes a film about the journey Indonesian filmmakers make to trace the development of contemporary globalisation from its roots in colonialism to the present. TIDAL is planning a second film, complete with speakers – so for the full package, make your way down to the Commonplace on Monday 20 November.

Our speakers are always available to discuss these issues with you and your group so call 0113 3917 917 or email surge@leadstidal.org to book us in and become part of an ever-growing network of people calling for change.

Jacinta Kent, TIDAL Surge Outreach Coordinator





Packed house for official launch of SCC Leeds

After forming earlier on in the spring, the Stop Climate Chaos Leeds coalition was formally launched on Monday 25 September with two guest speakers, about 100 guests and some inspiring discussions.

So far the Leeds coalition has hosted a pledge-card signing campaign, as well as beginning to work with Leeds City Council to build a public mandate with local businesses and householders to raise awareness about the dramatic effects of climate change – both on us and on people in developing countries.

Lucy Pearce, SCC Campaigns Manager, and Greg Mulholland, MP for Leeds Northwest, set out their visions for tackling the crisis.

Lucy looks forward to a wide and diverse coalition of 'green organisations' who must work together in bringing the issue into the public consciousness, providing the tools that the decision-makers and institutions need to take action for change.

Greg stressed the urgent need to explain the link between development issues and climate change to the public and to 'force these onto the political agenda – now'. 'Climate change is now the most significant

sustainable development challenge in the world and will have a devastatingly greater impact in developing countries than in the first world,' he argued.

Most greenhouse gases come from the industrialised world. Yet this doesn't mean that we are in a position to discourage the industrialisation of developing countries as they try to work their way out of poverty,

SCC Campaigns Manager, Lucy Pearce (right), and some animated discussion at the group looking at the lifestyle implications of global warming.

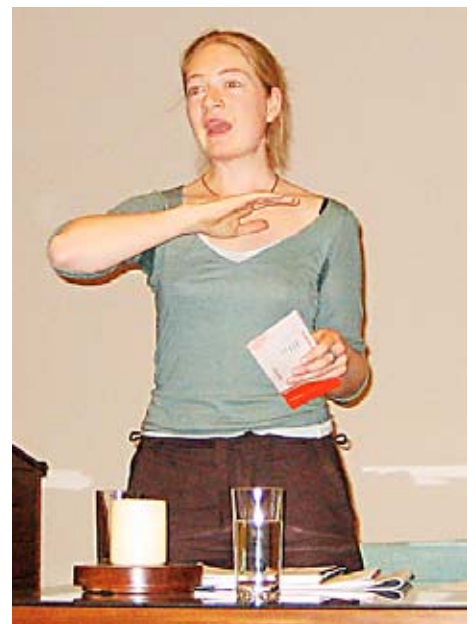


when we have been through this process ourselves and benefited from it.

The answer must lie in a form of non-damaging sustainable development. The Kyoto protocol must work in a way that helps development, backed by strong global cooperation and the political courage to make change. By 2015 at the latest (or **now**, according to SCC), our carbon emissions must be falling by at least 3% per year.

The 'Big Ask', calling for the introduction of a climate bill in the Queen's Speech, is one way forward. Lucy also called for access to 'clean' technology that is cheap enough to be transferred to the developing world. As 'inspiring motivators', she added, our responsibility is to make changes and to call on others, including governments, to make changes. We can set the example through our own actions and choices, making visible changes throughout our communities.

Several discussion groups reflecting these actions followed, covering lifestyle choices, campaigning, and mobilisation for the forthcoming event in London on 4 November (see page 1) to put pressure on the decision-makers to stop climate chaos.





High jinks at the ceilidh...

The TIDAL ceilidh swung into action on 9 September, raising over £160 to support TIDAL's campaigning activities, and much fun was had in the process! Big thanks to Ben Margolis and Lindsey Pearson who organised the event.

Unearthing justice with CAFOD

ACTION

CAFOD's new 'Unearth Justice' campaign is about changing the way that gold is mined in countries like Honduras and the Democratic Republic of Congo. A crucial part of this campaign is to put pressure on the mining companies to sign up to a set of 'Golden Rules', by raising awareness with national high street jewellers. These rules commit companies to making sure gold is mined ethically and responsibly. Supporters will be visiting jewellers in Leeds, taking with them gold chain petitions signed by local supporters. We will be asking jewellers to endorse these rules and put pressure on their suppliers to implement them.

The Leeds event is on 24 November, with a CAFOD partner from the Democratic Republic of Congo. Meet at Leeds Central Library at 5.30pm (for a short service) and at 6.15pm for campaign action.

Contact CAFOD Leeds on 0113 275 9302 or email leeds@cafod.org.uk. Further campaign info can be found at www.cafod.org.uk.

unearth JUSTICE
stop undermining the poor

Leeds Cuba Solidarity Campaign Day School

'Cuba and Venezuela, Latin America's Champions of Self Determination'

9.30am – 4pm Saturday 4 November 2006 at Swarthmore Centre, Woodhouse Square.

Speakers include: Julia Buxton, Bradford University Peace Studies; Ron Ridenour, Journalist and writer on Cuba; Global Women Strike; Colin Burgon MP.

Workshops, stalls, films and delicious, reasonably priced food. £10, concessions £8, reduction of £3 for early booking.

Contact: Margarita McGowan, margarita.mcgowan@ntlworld.com

Well worth reading...

It doesn't have to be like this!

Global economics: a new way forward

by Margaret Legum

ISBN 1 901557 76 6 Published by Wild Goose Publications, www.ionabooks.com

'I recommend this book to anyone interested in the New Economics – it provides an excellent basis for understanding our world and our day-to-day campaigning.' *David Adshead*

Read David's review of this book on our website: www.leadstidal.org

Harrogate focuses on Malawi

Harrogate and Knaresborough Jubilee Debt Campaign are hosting their Annual General Meeting on 17 October (Global White Band Day) with a 'Focus on Malawi', at the Friends Meeting House on Queens Parade, Harrogate.

The talk starts at 7.30pm (drinks available from 7.15pm), with speakers Valentine Sakala From Malawi and Lindsey Pearson from Christian Aid.

The AGM follows shortly after 9pm.

Further details: Jean Welch, 01423 867114.

New Economics for Activists

David Adshead, Lorna Arblaster and Claire Bastin are planning a series of educational events on this topic. For more info, contact David Adshead on 0113 262 9337 or via david.adshead999@ntlworld.com.

What's on: 2006

October

- 15–16 **Stand up Against Poverty campaign**
see www.bond.org.uk
- Tues 17 **GCAP Global White Band Day**
- Tues 17 **JDC: Focus on Malawi**
7.15pm Friends Meeting House, Queens Parade, Harrogate. Details above
- Fri 20 **TIDAL White Band Day Tea Party**
4.30pm Leeds City Hall – see page 1
- Fri 27 **Cities of the Future** with Herbert Girardet
7.30pm at Leeds Met. Details from www.sustainablefuturesleeds.co.uk

November

- Sat 4 **Stop Climate Chaos**, national rally in London. Details, see page 1
- Sat 4 **Leeds Cuba Solidarity Campaign Day School** 9.30am – 4pm, Swarthmore Centre, Woodhouse Square. See opposite.
- Mon 6 **Faith in the Planet** interfaith event Responses to The Earth From The Air exhibition. 7.30pm at Leeds Church Institute, 0113 2454700.
- Sat 11 **Bradford Peace Festival**, at the Victoria Hall, Saltaire. TIDAL will have a stall, with Leeds Oxfam group and Leeds WDM.
- Mon 20 **Globalisation film night** at The Common Place from 6.30pm. Details from www.thecommonplace.org.uk
- Fri 24 **Unearth Justice event**
5.30pm Leeds Central Library. Details opposite