

## Action keeps climate change at top of agenda



Saturday 4 November 2006 saw the start of international climate change talks in Nairobi and Stop Climate Chaos organised the mass iCount rally in Trafalgar Square to send a powerful message to the Prime Minister and other world leaders that they must act now to stop climate chaos.

Forty local activists travelling under the SCC Leeds banner took the train to London to make their voices heard. Many others went by coach to join the rally of 25,000 people, resulting in excellent coverage from the local press and radio stations.

And SCC Leeds got yet more press coverage with their recent survey of public attitudes to climate change. See page 4.



### Stop the vultures!

'Vulture fund' companies are swooping in to buy poor countries' debts at hugely discounted prices, and then suing for the full amount plus interest and punitive damages.

In 1999, Donegal International bought a debt owed by Zambia to Romania, originally worth \$15 billion, for a mere \$3.3 million. Now it has sued Zambia for the full amount, plus interest and costs, demanding \$55 million in total. They may get around \$20 million.

What's needed is a just and comprehensive debt relief system, which takes account of the origins of debts as well as their current impact, and places the same moral and legal obligations on companies as it does on governments.

Full details and an email letter that you can send to Gordon Brown

(currently chair of the IMF board) can be found at [www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk](http://www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk)

**ACTION**



**JUBILEE DEBT CAMPAIGN**

*Still working to* **MAKE POVERTY HISTORY**



**Welcome to the first TIDAL newsletter of 2007!**

*The year in which TIDAL will hold its first ever AGM – please see your invitation enclosed for 19 April. We anticipate an evening of interesting discussion, music and delicious Fairtrade refreshments. Do join us for what promises to be a lively event and an opportunity to meet many like-minded people.*

*In this issue Mary Keynes gives us the low-down on EPAs – Economic Partnership Agreements – and what we can do to encourage their renegotiation. We also have links to Leeds Fairtrade Fortnight activities and a report back from the recent Fairtrade Universities and Colleges conference.*

*Stop Climate Chaos Leeds updates us on recent actions, including a successful survey exercise and lobby to local councillors. We also have news of the new SCC Leeds website!*

*In this edition we welcome two new members of the TIDAL steering group whom we hope you will get to meet during 2007. And we say goodbye (for now) to Ben Margolis of Oxfam, who has worked tirelessly with TIDAL over the past couple of years. Thank you, Ben, for all your valuable contributions. We wish you well in your secondment to GCAP in Oxford.*

*All this plus our regular events calendar makes for a packed issue which we hope you will enjoy.*

*We look forward to seeing you on 19 April!*

*Hilary Thorndike  
TIDAL campaigns manager*

**Would you like to volunteer on a TIDAL stall? Email me on [info@leedstidal.org](mailto:info@leedstidal.org) There'll be lots happening, especially as we move into spring!**

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# Leeds Fairtrade Fortnight

**26 Feb – 11 March 2007**

**Fairtrade Fortnight is upon us again, and as usual Leeds has an action-packed calendar of community-based events and activities for everyone wishing to help spread the word about Fairtrade and the benefits it brings to farmers in the developing world.**

**For a full calendar of events, please visit: [www.fairtradeleeds.org](http://www.fairtradeleeds.org).**



*TIDAL activist Joanna Brown receiving the Media and Communications Award for Fairtrade Fortnight 2006 on behalf of Leeds Fairtrade City. Also pictured are Gerardo Arias Camacho of the Cooperativa Llano Bonito in Costa Rica and Harriet Lamb, director of the Fairtrade Foundation.*

## Fairtrade education

Friday 9 February marked the third Fairtrade Universities and Colleges Conference, held at the University of Leeds and bringing together students, teaching and catering staff and Fairtrade suppliers. Delegates shared experiences on Fairtrade campaigning in their colleges and heard about the latest developments in Fairtrade. Speakers included Hilary Benn, Secretary of State for International Development, Lucy Siegle, Ethical Living correspondent for the *Observer*, and Paul Chandler, Director of Traidcraft. There was also a panel debate on procurement with representatives from the Fairtrade Foundation and NUS Limited, several interactive workshops covering the Fairtrade supply chain and benefits to producers, the role of the Student Union and university and college caterers in sourcing Fairtrade products and Fairtrade campaigning, and the opportunity to meet with different Fairtrade suppliers.

Overall it was a very inspiring day, and thanks to all those who visited – especially to TIDAL volunteers Michelle Hawthorne and Val Kay who helped with the TIDAL stall.

## Green speakers wanted

Are you passionate about the environment? Want to raise awareness and encourage our community to take more action about climate change? Then the TIDAL Surge Project is the place to be. We are currently recruiting new outreach speakers to give talks on climate change and sustainability, looking at the issues from both a global and local perspective.

If you have a sound knowledge of the green issues and would like to become part of our diverse and friendly team, then call today for more details on volunteer opportunities at Surge. Full training and support throughout provided.

Please contact Jacinta Kent on 07812 140720 or email [surge@leedstidal.org](mailto:surge@leedstidal.org)



# Making the link:

## Global poverty and climate change

Most TIDAL supporters will be aware that, since the spring of 2006, TIDAL has been heavily involved in the Leeds chapter of the new national Stop Climate Chaos campaign. TIDAL stands for 'trade injustice and debt action Leeds'. So how did we get involved in climate change?

As public concern about climate change intensifies, the links between climate change and poverty have become increasingly apparent and relevant to TIDAL's aim to mobilise locally on issues of global poverty. Climate change has the potential to cause global economic catastrophe, and much more so upon the developing world.

### Vulnerability

Poor countries will suffer from climate change more than industrialised nations because its impact will bring floods, more frequent and more intense tropical storms, drought in temperate zones, the expansion of tropical diseases and rising sea levels. Lacking the necessary resources to build appropriate defenses such as early warning systems, dikes, floodwalls and barriers, or to diversify into alternative crops, they do not even have enough funds to carry out assessments of critical areas where defenses must be built up against damages that have already begun to occur.

TIDAL, in its involvement in the Stop Climate Chaos Leeds coalition, is raising awareness and lobbying local government for it to lead by example to act more responsibly in our everyday lives. Already a productive dialogue is forming between SCC Leeds and the City Council with regards to the city's carbon footprint. Local action really can lead to global change.

Yet a conflict of interest exists between TIDAL's recent engagement with climate change and its commitment to trade justice.

Take our supermarket shopping habits, for instance. We have become used to being able to obtain all kinds of fruit and vegetables out of season. Kenyan green beans are available to us when our seasonal, locally produced ones are not, and buying them thereby adds to our nation's carbon footprint. But what does this really mean? 'Carbon Footprint is a measure of the impact human activities have on the environment in terms of the amount of greenhouse gases produced, measured in units of carbon dioxide.' ([www.carbonfootprint.com](http://www.carbonfootprint.com)). Transportation – particularly by air and road – produces greenhouse gases. So, literally, export markets mean dirty carbon footprints. And this can also be applied to the clean image of Fairtrade.

### Dilemmas galore

Supporters of Fairtrade may feel that they are doing farmers justice when they buy roses from Kenya. In fact, these roses could easily be grown in greenhouses in Europe. The truth is that farmers in poor countries now rely heavily on the export market, putting trade justice in direct conflict with our attempts to reduce our carbon footprint. As a compromise, ethically-minded shoppers refusing to buy out-of-season fruit



and vegetables flown halfway around the world may still take it to the till if it carries a Fairtrade label. But how long can this last?

### No easy answers

Ideally anyone exporting goods overseas (us included) should be encouraged to produce goods for themselves. Until then, shipping instead of airfreight is often the most logical answer, but there is no easy way to reconcile climate change and global trade. People all over the earth share the same responsibility to change the way we act and avert global disaster as much as we can. Through local action, Stop Climate Chaos is trying to do this.

The local group meets monthly in Leeds. If you'd like more information, please email [chaos@leedstidal.org](mailto:chaos@leedstidal.org).

*Hilary Thorndike*

For another angle on the Fairtrade/Climate Change debate, see page 5 of the current *Fair Comment* from the Fairtrade Foundation: [www.fairtrade.org.uk/downloads/pdf/fc-spr07.pdf](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/downloads/pdf/fc-spr07.pdf)

### website

SCC Leeds now has a new home all of its own! Check it out at...

[www.leedstidal.org/sccleeds](http://www.leedstidal.org/sccleeds)



# Take a lead on climate change

Members of Stop Climate Chaos Leeds recently conducted a survey of public opinion in Leeds about climate change. There are also plans by members of People and Planet to roll it out in the local universities.

The results were delivered to Cllr Barry Anderson at the Civic Hall by rickshaw on Thursday 8 February – the day before the average UK citizen had already emitted as much CO<sub>2</sub> in 2007 as the average person in India will emit in the whole of the year.

To illustrate the message, people dressed in appropriate national costume for the UK and India. Balloons were used to demonstrate the relative CO<sub>2</sub> production of the two nations and to reinforce the call for urgent action by Leeds City Council to reduce the city's contribution to climate change.

Lindsey Pearson of the SCC Leeds coalition told the councillor that local people are already doing a great deal to help reduce climate change, but that the really big changes can only happen if politicians take a lead.

## More serious than terrorism

The survey results were presented to Cllr Anderson as chair of the City Council Climate Change Steering Group. They showed that the majority of people interviewed want politicians to take climate change more seriously: local people are well aware of the threat climate change poses – rating it as a more serious threat to the world than terrorism or natural disasters. Seventy per cent of local people are 'concerned' or 'very concerned' about climate change.

*Chilly SCC Leeds campaigners with Cllr Barry Anderson outside the Civic Hall on possibly the coldest day of the year. It was worth it, though, as we got some excellent coverage in the Evening Post.*

Lindsey added, 'People in Leeds know that it is the poorest countries of the world who are being hit first by climate change. People are not fooled – they know it is the big industrialised countries like ours that cause the problem and poor countries like India and Kenya that suffer the worst.'

## Lifestyle changes

The survey also looked at what local people are already doing to reduce their impact on carbon emissions. Bill Phelps, also of SCC Leeds, said that the results seemed to indicate that six out of every ten people have already started making lifestyle changes such as using low energy light bulbs, switching off appliances at the wall,

keeping thermostats turned down and using public transport or walking/cycling whenever possible. Clearly, this is a good start, but there is more to be done.

## Council contributions

The survey also suggests that maybe a third of people would like to install either solar panels or wind turbines – the council could help with this by smoothing the planning process. And if having your own wind turbine is not likely to be possible or cost effective then why not switch to a green electricity supplier? This can be done on-line or on the phone and the power normally costs exactly the same – but without damaging the planet.

People also want to see better public transport, further subsidies, improved frequency and reliability. This would encourage more people to leave the car at home when travelling around the city.

Over half the people surveyed think that climate change is already happening and that it will result in more floods for Leeds and Yorkshire in the winter, along with hotter, drier summers which may result in droughts.

For further information about Stop Climate Chaos Leeds and how you can get involved, visit: [www.leedstidal.org/sccleeds](http://www.leedstidal.org/sccleeds)



# ¡La Concha!

## A little taste of Nicaragua

Two grassroots campaigners from La Concha, Leeds' twin town in Nicaragua, will be visiting Leeds 14–25 April. They are members of the Community Movement, which works with the some of the poorest in La Concha.

**Pablo Calero** is a key figure in the Community Movement, with long experience of working on community organisation, including:

- campaigning against Nicaragua's international debt
- campaigning against water privatisation
- helping people understand and challenge increasing energy costs
- giving advice on human rights issues
- supporting work with young people on sexual health
- legalisation of informal housing for people who had to move and settle in La Concha during the war
- helping communities to identify priorities and secure funding from national NGOs for projects such as well-digging and rainwater collection systems; house repairs; latrine building; revolving funds for seeds and livestock.

**Esperanza Hernandez** is a leader for her local committee of the Community Movement. For the past couple of years she has been co-ordinating a women's revolving credit fund in her community (funded by Leeds), helping women to start small businesses such as selling food and small crafts. She also works for Los Pipitos, a Nicaraguan NGO, teaching children with special needs.

Both Pablo and Esperanza work fully voluntarily for Community Movement projects. They are coming to Leeds to meet

with like-minded people and projects to share experience and explain something about their work, and to further build links between the two communities. They will be visiting schools and community projects during their stay.

There will be various opportunities to meet them:

- Public meeting Wednesday 18 April at The Common Place, 7.30pm, organised by Oxfam, WDM and Leeds Central

America Solidarity Group (Details tbc – check before coming!)

- TIDAL AGM, Thursday 19 April
- Ceilidh with The Tuppenny Ceilidh Band, Saturday 21 April from 8pm at Burley Liberal Club (bottom of Cardigan Road). Bring lots of friends and let's show Pablo and Esperanza how to fiesta European-style.

If you would like further information or want to arrange a meeting with your school or group, contact Maggie (soon!) at Leeds Central America Solidarity Group on 0113 2494417 or [maggie\\_m\\_day@hotmail.com](mailto:maggie_m_day@hotmail.com)



*Top right: Children from Dacre Braithwaite School in North Yorkshire sent their toy hedgehog on a trip to La Concha and this is one of the friends it made there.*

*Top left: A different pace of life and a relaxed approach to health and safety.*

*Above: This is Pablo, one of the two community activists who are visiting Leeds.*

*Right: This piglet's just been given a new home through the community livestock project.*

# Force feeding free trade

## The TIDAL guide to Economic Partnership Agreements

The battle for trade justice is a continuous one and it brings with it echoes of old colonial injustices. The EPAs – Economic Partnership Agreements – are about the long and unequal relationship between the European colonial powers and their now independent ex-colonies. **Mary Keynes** explains...

### The history

In colonial times free trade between the metropolitan powers and their colonies gave the European nations free access to the resources and raw materials of their colonies. The colonies served as essential suppliers of raw material and labour, building up the industries and financial power of the European masters whilst keeping the colonies in a position of economic dependency.

This relationship continued after independence, with 'preferential agreements' protecting trade between the individual European colonial nations and their ex-colonies.

In 2000 a new agreement took effect, whose purpose is to move away from these special arrangements towards free trade with the EU. These new Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs), are treaties between groups of countries in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP) and are to come into effect on 1 January 2008. These EPAs must meet World Trade Organisation rules that both parties to a free trade agreement must reduce tariffs 'on substantially all trade.' At the same time they should 'foster smooth and gradual integration of the ACP states into the world economy,' whilst 'promoting their sustainable development and contributing to poverty eradication'.

Unfortunately, the EU negotiators seem to give little consideration to sustainable development and poverty eradication. Instead, they are insisting that the ex-colonies scrap their tariffs and open their borders to competition from cheap imports from the highly developed, subsidised and supported agricultural and industrial economies of the North. This means loss of livelihoods, unemployment, food insecurity

and social disruption, undermining sustainable development and reinforcing poverty.

Meanwhile at the World Trade Organisation, the march towards increasingly free trade has slowed down. The pressure for free trade had come largely from the developed countries – although they have a minority of votes in the WTO, they were able to enforce their interpretation of the rules and use bribery and arm-twisting to get their way.

At the WTO meeting in Cancun in 2003, poor countries coordinated their efforts, formed groups with common interests, and stood together in mutual support. The development agencies – Oxfam, WDM, CAFOD, Christian Aid and others – had a part in all of this, providing essential

research, advice and encouragement to governments and negotiators, and mobilising civil society in support.

But back in the EPA negotiations, EU negotiators press to resurrect in the EPAs the very same free trade rules that were rejected at Cancun. These negotiations are in a very different context, between the EU and small groups of nations, or single nations, scattered in time and place, so there is no gathering of supportive NGOs or exposure to the world press to back up the poor countries against bullying and bribery by the EU.

### The negotiations

Under the new arrangements the ex-colonies are divided into six geographic regions, four

## What you can do

The ACP countries are being rushed into signing up to EPAs, with a deadline of 31 December 2007. We must act urgently. Here are some actions you can take:

**Write to Angela Merkel, Chancellor of Germany.** She has already said she wishes to foster cooperation between poor countries and the EU, and this year Germany holds both the presidency of the EU and the chair of the G8. You can use the enclosed letter (and remember, a letter is worth 100 emails, and a personally written letter is worth ten times more!) or email her by going to [www.cafod.org.uk/get\\_involved/campaigning/trade\\_justice/free\\_trade-deals](http://www.cafod.org.uk/get_involved/campaigning/trade_justice/free_trade-deals)

### Write or email any or all of these other people:

- Alistair Darling, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry
- Hilary Benn, Secretary of State for International Development
- Your MP

### You will find these letters and more information at:

- [www.tradejusticemovement.org.uk/epas/shtml](http://www.tradejusticemovement.org.uk/epas/shtml) for emails to Angela Merkel, Alistair Darling, Hilary Benn
- [www.traidcraft.org.uk](http://www.traidcraft.org.uk) for a letter to your MP
- [www.christianaid.org.uk](http://www.christianaid.org.uk) for emails to Angela Merkel, Hilary Benn, and cards to Tony Blair
- [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk)
- [www.tearfund.org.uk](http://www.tearfund.org.uk)
- [www.oxfam.org.uk](http://www.oxfam.org.uk)
- [www.foe.co.uk](http://www.foe.co.uk)

**ACTION**

## What you can do 2

Make a note of Thursday 19 April, 2007 for the Trade Justice actions on EPAs in London and Leeds.

**ACTION**

Here in Leeds we'll be putting our demands to the German Consulate in Park Place. Then, in the evening, there's the fun-packed and business-light TIDAL AGM.

in Africa, and one each in the Caribbean and Pacific. Each 'region' is supposed to conclude a separate free trade agreement or form a customs union with the EU.

Many of the ACP countries were already involved in setting up regional trade agreements with their neighbours. These are an excellent way of developing trade between neighbouring countries based on fair negotiations and cooperation between equals. But the EPA regions cut through the boundaries of existing regional arrangements, destroying them in favour of trade with Europe. Under these new, unequal arrangements, the ACP countries will be forced to remove up to 90% of their tariffs, while the rich and powerful industrial countries manipulate the rules to retain their subsidies and other forms of protection.

WTO rules do allow for 'special and differential treatment' for poor countries, but unfortunately regional agreements do not have this option. For the poorest ACP countries, free trade with the EU will have devastating results. Cheap subsidised agricultural imports will force farmers off the land; local jobs in developing industries will be destroyed by established and highly capitalised European industries. At the same time, the forced removal of tariffs would reduce their government revenues by up to 50% in many countries, which would decimate their spending on health, education and other essential services to the poor.

The approach to EPA negotiations by the EU team, led by EU Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson, has been extremely aggressive, pressing to open up the ACP economies to European imports within ten years and trying to re-introduce in the

EPA negotiations trade conditions that had been defeated in democratic negotiations at Cancun. As 2008 approaches, the pressure increases.

### The resistance

At Edinburgh in 2005 the G8 powers promised to make trade work for the poor. Now civil society is speaking up to call on them to keep this promise. At the end of this year some of the poorest countries in the world could be forced into trade agreements that will reinforce poverty and reverse development.

Hilary Benn, in an open letter to the EC in November 2006, restated the UK's opposition to forcibly opening markets in developing countries and recognised that 'if ACP countries open up their markets too fast, without appropriate policies and support to help them adjust, then they would face very strong competitive pressures from the EU's goods which could potentially result in job losses and a loss of government revenue and ability to spend on important sectors such as agriculture, health and education.'

Development campaigners believe that there is a need to review and renegotiate the WTO rules. The EU and the ACP should jointly go back to the WTO and renegotiate these rules. In a letter to Angela Merkel, the members of the Trade Justice Movement call on her as current president of the EU and chair of the 2007 G8 to take action to:

- listen to and act upon the concerns and proposals of African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) governments and civil society;
- make sure that ACP countries are not pressured to negotiate on issues they have already rejected at the World Trade Organisation (WTO) or do not want to negotiate within EPAs;
- make sure any new trade deals do not force poor countries to open their markets to unfair competition;
- actively foster alternatives to these trade deals so that poor countries have a pro-development choice and the space to have the best trade policies for their people and environment.



## Coffee

by Nebiyu Assefa and Joanna Brown

Published by Jozart Press

80 pages, hardback, 160 x 130 mm

Colour illustrations

£10.00

ISBN 978-0-9555060-0-0

**Coffee is a book of art that is firmly rooted in Ethiopia, the birth place of coffee. It was inspired by Joanna's visits to Ethiopia where she met the painter, Nebiyu Assefa, and visited Fairtrade Coffee Cooperatives in the mountains of Oromia. The book is the story of the collaboration between Nebiyu and Joanna. It contains a collection of their paintings, sketches, photographs and extracts from their correspondence, and touches on issues of poverty and justice, co-operatives and Ethiopian culture.**

**The book will be launched at the Leeds Fairtrade City Fiesta, Friday 2 March, 11am–1pm in The Light Shopping Centre, Leeds. To buy a copy (after 2 March 2007) go to [www.jozartpress.com](http://www.jozartpress.com)**



## TIDAL welcomes...

After a successful appeal for new members of the TIDAL steering group, TIDAL we are very pleased to announce two new faces: Antonia Roberts and Lucy Glynn. These recent appointments do not mean that the search is over however. If you feel you have ideas to share and and motivation to spare, whatever your background, please do get in touch. The steering group meets at lunch-time on the second Thursday of every month at Leeds Civic Hall. We look forward to hearing from you!



### Antonia Roberts

Antonia Roberts has recently joined the TIDAL steering group. She is co-director of Leeds based charity Carplus which promotes car clubs and car sharing across the UK and she used to work for Oxfam's marketing department.

Antonia can be contacted at [antonia@carplus.org.uk](mailto:antonia@carplus.org.uk)



### Lucy Glynn

Hi, I'm Lucy and I'm a new campaigns executive officer for Oxfam, based in the Leeds office. This is just a fancy way of saying that I have taken over some of Ben's work while he's on secondment to Oxford for six months.

I have been living in Leeds for the past two years in what is turning into a mini-tour of the country. Having grown up near Bristol, I studied Economic and Social History at the University in Exeter, I then trained as a journalist in London where I worked for a

variety of publications including *Disability Now*, where I was heavily involved in campaigning. More recently, I have been freelancing as an environmental journalist and am involved in local Oxfam and climate change groups.

I started volunteering in the Oxfam office in November and officially began my new job at the beginning of February. I am passionate about abolishing unfair trade rules, eliminating poverty and halting climate change and look forward to working with TIDAL on this. I am always open to new ideas to raise awareness about TIDAL's work especially in the local media.

My email address is: [lglynn@oxfam.org.uk](mailto:lglynn@oxfam.org.uk) or tel: 0113 394 4293/07855 386955 and I look forward to meeting you all soon.

## Be a carbon cutter

You can't campaign on climate change without cutting your own carbon emissions – which will inevitably mean going against the flow of our consumerist culture. This can be a lot easier when you've got a like-minded support group to share ideas and experiences with and to help you keep to your low-carbon diet.

Colin Challen, MP for Middleton, Morley and Rothwell, is setting up Leeds CRAG, Carbon Reduction Action Group. See [www.leadstidal.org/sccleeds](http://www.leadstidal.org/sccleeds).

Meanwhile, get yourself one of these from Maplins. It's a **Plug-In Mains Power & Energy Monitor** and it's reduced from £26.99 to £14.99 till 20 March. Essential for working out which of your appliances (or habits!) is causing the most damage to the planet.

Plug it into any socket and it keeps a tally of all the kilowatt-hours consumed (and the time that it's been running).

And if you're still not sure why this matters, you could also get yourself a copy of *Heat: how to stop the planet burning* by George Monbiot. (ISBN-13: 978-0713999242)

*Bill Phelps*

**ACTION**



## What's on: spring 2007

### March

#### Thurs 8 **FairTrade Event**

7–9pm, Centenary Gallery, Parkinson Building, University of Leeds, free entry.

Ugandan coffee producer, Samuel Magona, will be speaking directly about his own experience of Fair Trade. Silje Vold from People and Planet will also discuss wider Trade Justice issues, in particular the current exploitation in the cotton industry. The evening will also include short films on FairTrade and Trade Justice issues. Organised by People and Planet

### April

#### Thurs 19 **EPAs day of action in Leeds**

TIDAL campaigners will gather together to deliver keys to the German embassy. The keys symbolise Germany's power, as holders of the EU presidency, to call for a radical re-think of European Partnership Agreements (EPAs), which are trade deals between the EU and 75 poor countries. Do join us. (EPA negotiations will close during crucial meetings in May 2007)

More details will be confirmed in the TIDAL email updates over the coming weeks.

#### Thurs 19 **TIDAL AGM** – early evening

All TIDAL supporters are of course invited! There will be the minimum of official business and the meeting will feature visitors from Nicaragua, music, Fairtrade refreshments, inspirational speakers, and a chance for supporters to get to know each other better. More details will be confirmed in the TIDAL email updates over the coming weeks, or call us at the office if you have any queries.

#### 28–29 **'Wakey Wakey!' UK Peak Energy Tour**

comes to Leeds. Join various Leeds-based sustainability-related groups coming together as part of a synchronised UK tour at the Common Place, Leeds. Two days of lectures, talks, workshops and films will explore the theme of UK Peak Energy. For more information please contact Joe Atkinson [joe@powerswitch.org.uk](mailto:joe@powerswitch.org.uk)

### June

#### Fri 8 **Leeds Oxfam presents: Richard Corbett MEP**

'European aid to the developing world and Economic Partnership Agreements'  
Leeds Civic Hall, 7.30–9.30pm. Details from [joan.machin@ntlworld.com](mailto:joan.machin@ntlworld.com) tel:2564874.

**More details on all the above will be sent out in the TIDAL email updates.**