

--cutthecarbon -- comes to Yorkshire

One of the biggest campaigning events this year will be Christian Aid's Cut the Carbon march – a 1,000 mile protest march, bringing the climate change message to communities, MPs and companies all over the UK and Ireland.

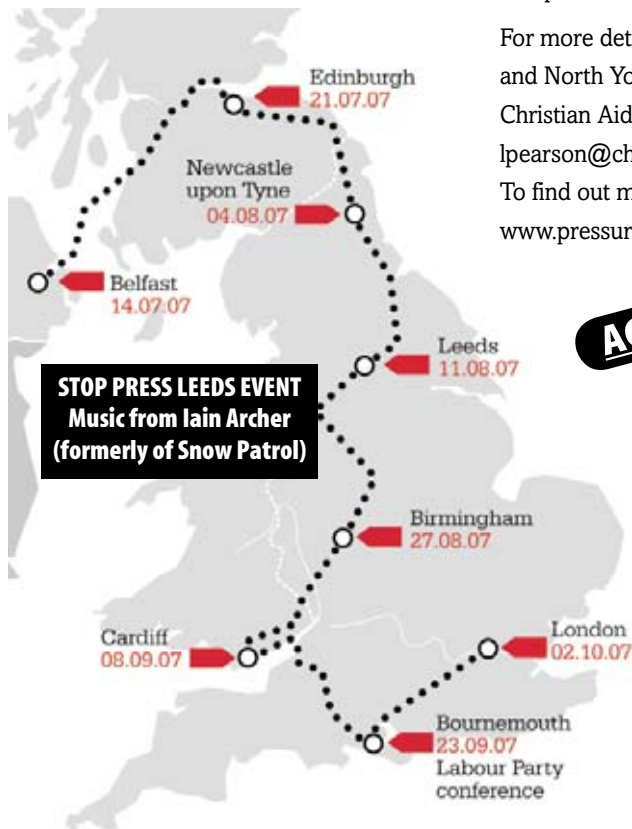
Twenty marchers: 10 from the UK, 10 from Christian Aid partners in the developing world, are walking from Belfast to London, telling how climate change is affecting the world's poorest communities and peoples.

We will be asking the Government to push for a fair international agreement to cut global CO2 emissions by 80% by 2050, and

for companies to publish a full account of their emissions and cut them by 5% a year.

Meet up with the marchers in Leeds on Saturday 11 August, 3.30pm in the West Yorkshire Playhouse car park, and walk with them to Victoria Gardens for the I-count rally at 4.45pm. Hear the marchers, and enjoy the music and stalls with compere Tony Vino.

For more details of events in West and North Yorkshire, contact Leeds Christian Aid office: 0113 2444764 or lpearson@christian-aid.org
To find out more about the event go to www.pressureworks.org



ACTION

We need your help

Urgently needed: crew to set up – needed for 1 hour early on 11 August to set up event, and at the end to take down; and stewards to marshal the event and march. Please get in touch to offer help. No experience necessary!

Debt? Trade? Climate change? What was your message to the G8?



One of the big speech bubbles created for the World Can't Wait campaign. This one was created by Nicky Birch. Story inside.

Plan ahead

Two autumn events for your diary... (plus **CLOTH 07** – see page 3)

Sunday 21 October

To mark International Debt Week, there will be a TIDAL/GCAP stall in Briggate. We'll be featuring JDC's 'Lift the Lid' campaign on illegitimate debts.

Wednesday 24 October

Tearfund's Campaigns Director Ben Niblett is in town, so we've booked him to speak at the Oxford Place Centre at 7.30pm. Ben was coordinator of the Leeds Jubilee 2000 Network before it evolved into TIDAL.

Further details in the TIDAL updates.

STOP THAT PRESS AGAIN

We're delighted to announce that, thanks to The Funding Network, SCC Leeds will shortly be recruiting for a one-day-a-week worker. Details will be posted on www.leadstidal.org

Still working to **MAKE POVERTY HISTORY**

TIDAL Co Ltd

1st AGM accomplished

As most of you will know, since September 2005 TIDAL has been a company limited by guarantee and Tuesday April 19, 2007 was the date that Oxford Place Methodist Hall, Leeds was host to the first ever TIDAL Annual General Meeting.

With official business out of the way personal accounts from animators from TIDAL's outreach project, Surge, and also from TIDAL supporters of their involvement in TIDAL campaigns were shared with the audience. These were followed by emotive speeches about the effects of unfair trade and debt in their country from special guests from the Co-operative movement from Nicaragua. John Battle MP also shared his feelings about climate change and its impact both here and in the developing world. A lively discussion ensued with much interaction with the guest speakers courtesy of interpreters.

Clr Alison Lowe also came along to chair the event, which was attended by around 50 TIDAL supporters who enjoyed lots of free Fair Trade goodies throughout the break kindly donated by United Co-operatives.

Thank you to all involved to make the event such a success, and see you next year!

Link to TIDAL's annual report can be found at: www.leadstidal.org/resources07a.html



Locked out: Protesters wait outside the Leeds German consulate as a core group of TJM supporters try in vain to persuade Honorary German Consul Mark Green to meet the party. Photo: Hilary Thorndike.

TIDAL makes waves at the German consulate

Campaigners from across Leeds gathered outside the German consulate on 19 April as part of a demonstration organised by TIDAL and Oxfam. After meeting in City Square, they headed for the offices of Cobbetts solicitors which doubles as the German consulate in Leeds.

As the party made its way to the consulate's entrance, office workers above looked down to see what all the commotion was about. The group re-convened to spell out their message with the boards: 'Germany: Stop Europe's Unfair Trade Deals.'

A group of campaigners then entered the reception but were told to go away as they had banners and were on private property. So TIDAL's campaigns manager Hilary Thorndike and Christian Aid's Lindsay Pearson went to ask to speak to Honorary Consul, Mark Green. Mr Green had previously told the campaigners that he didn't feel it was necessary to meet as 'the London Embassy was dealing with the situation.'

The group waited for news in front of the consulate where they attracted more inquisitive looks from office workers as well as cheers of support from some builders. Excitement grew when it looked like Mr Green was going to come down to accept the letter – but after a few minutes' wait, he

declined, leaving the campaigners all fired up and chanting: 'Who do we want? Mark Green', before making their way home.

Hilary said, 'We were very glad we came but were disappointed that Mr Green refused to talk to us. We are urging our supporters to write to him to request a meeting.'



TIDAL's Patron, John Battle MP, gives a rousing endorsement of our year's achievements. Also pictured are Nicaraguan community activist Esperanza Hernández with her translator, and Clr Alison Lowe who chaired the meeting.



Photo: Lauren Ashton

Abbi Dodds adding her speech bubble to the heap of messages we collected outside WHSmiths on 2nd June.

The World Can't Wait

Between 6–8 June 2007 world leaders met at the G8 summit in Germany. The gathering this year marked the half-way point to the deadline of 2015 for halving poverty. Unless rich nations take more decisive action, however, these goals will not be met.

Days before the summit, us folk in Leeds had a chance to hold the rich nations to account. We called it 'The World Can't Wait' and we gathered in central Leeds to put our voices against poverty in giant speech bubbles that we displayed for all to see. People from all over Leeds sent the same message that world leaders must do more.

But it doesn't end here! Watch out for us on the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty on 17 October when we'll be urging you to 'Stand Up and Speak Out'.

Leeds Voice

Lucy Glynn was invited to the Leeds Voice Environment Forum 'International Issues' meeting on 5 June to tell them about Oxfam, TIDAL and SCC Leeds. She reports: 'My presentation was generally well received, although some were a bit cynical and I was asked: "What's new about switching off lights?" Unfortunately this is new to lots of people and it doesn't harm to remind others.

Overall, it was a good to meet local people who are interested in some of the issues TIDAL deals with but are unaware of what we do. Hopefully I helped raise awareness of international issues and even made TIDAL some new friends.'



United Co-operatives to work with TIDAL

United Co-operatives has generously agreed to provide some funding to help us reach out to members and to assist in publicity. Community and Member Manager, Linda Gomila, explains...

United Co-operatives is very pleased to be working in partnership with TIDAL and we look forward to introducing ourselves at TIDAL events and to meeting its members. We in turn hope that TIDAL members will find out more about the Co-operative movement and what we are up to that you could become involved in.

A little bit about us

United Co-operatives is the largest regional co-operative society in the UK. With its head office in Rochdale, it employs 18,000 staff and has an annual turnover of £2.2 billion. The Society can trace its history back to the original Rochdale Pioneers Society which was formed in 1844 and is credited with being the first successful co-operative society in the world.

There are six major businesses – Food, Travel, Sunwin Motor Group, Pharmacies, Funerals and Cash in Transit. Like all co-operative societies, United is owned by its shopper members, who appoint the Board of Directors.

Support for co-operatives

The Society has recently launched a new program to provide support to other co-

operatives across its trading area. The C-Change program will enable new and existing co-operatives to receive expert support to develop as successful co-operative enterprise and is managed by Co-operative and Mutual Solutions, a leading British consultancy co-operative, and involves several other experienced co-operative consultancies.

The aim is to provide a full range of expertise for co-operatives which could include business planning, feasibility studies or legal and governance advice. Applicants can receive up to five days of support and training. Follow the links to C-Change at www.united.coop

To find out about other initiatives of the Leeds Members Relation Committee, tel 01274 377331 and ask for Linda Gomila or email Linda.gomila@coop.co.uk



CLOTH 07

TIDAL and its outreach project Surge are pleased to announce the alternative fashion show of the year. Cloth 07 promises to showcase a colourful fusion of Fair Trade and environmentally friendly, vintage and re-cycled clothing with vibes from all over the world to inspire and educate. The message of Cloth 07 is that the growing mass consumerism of cheaply produced, throwaway fashion is not only damaging for the environment, but it also abuses basic human rights by supporting appalling sweatshop conditions and crippling unjust trade rules.

Much more than a fashion show, Cloth 07 will hear from those with first hand experience of poverty caused by iniquitous trade rules and the devastating impact of climate change. Aside from the glittering catwalk, a marketplace of stalls will tempt you with unique fairly traded crafts and delicious snacks, and a raffle will mean lucky winners take home garments hot off the catwalk. All funds raised will go to TIDAL to continue its valuable work on all of these issues.

Brudenell Social Club, Queens Rd, Hyde Park Sun 30 September Tickets on sale soon!

STOP CLIMATE CHAOS LEEDS

SCC Leeds is fortunate to have George Munson, the city's Climate Change Officer, as one of its steering group members. We asked him to introduce himself to TIDAL's supporters and to bring us up to date with the campaign.

I've been involved with SCC Leeds since I joined Leeds City Council last November and have been impressed by the enthusiasm and achievements of this dedicated group of Leeds people. It's been a busy time!

In January a hardy bunch of volunteers conducted a climate change survey on the streets of Leeds. Almost 90% of people were concerned about climate change; hotter summers, warmer winters and increased flooding were issues they felt would impact most on Leeds, and over 60% of people already recycled waste, used public transport and had installed low energy lightbulbs. The results were handed to Cllr Barry Anderson on 9 February and a snowy rickshaw stunt was covered by the Yorkshire Post!

SCC Leeds has struck up a partnership with Leeds Carbon Reduction Action Group (CRAG). This is a group of people who have decided to act together to reduce their individual and collective carbon footprints, supported by an individual carbon trading scheme: www.carbonrationing.org.uk/leeds

We have established two online Wiki pages: one to allow members to develop ideas

outside meetings and the other which aims to gather a compendium of practical advice for climate change activities in Leeds.

On 5 June Leeds SCC joined a host of other environmental organisations at the World Environment Day event in Briggate. We signed up over 60 people to SCC, sold 30 I-Count books and persuaded 21 people to tackle their carbon footprints.

Finally, watch out for the Leeds Climate Change Lectures (see right), that are taking place at Leeds Met over the summer and autumn. www.sustainablefuturesleeds.co.uk

For more information visit the website: www.leadstidal.org/sccleeds and if you have time, energy and skills to offer, please contact chaos@leadstidal.org.

George Munson, Climate Change Officer, Leeds City Council



Campaigning works! 'Unearth Justice' success story

CAFOD recently presented the National Association of Goldsmiths with a gold chain petition representing nearly 45,000 signatures for clean gold. The 45,000 signatures included over 10,000 gold pledge cards, over 32,000 gold chain petition links and 2,000 gold pledge emails.

At Goldsmiths Hall in London, chair of the National Association of Goldsmiths (NAG), Mark Adlestone, accepted the petition, saying, 'I am pleased to receive this paper gold chain on behalf of NAG, as an indication of our support for the CAFOD campaign against dirty gold. As

retail jewellers we have a responsibility to do what we can to ensure that our business avoids damage to the environment and to communities anywhere in the world. We must work with NGOs like CAFOD to find solutions that are in the interests of all.'

His company, the UK jewellery retailer Beaverbrooks – together with jeweller Fraser Hart – have responded to the Unearth Justice campaign and have agreed to endorse the Golden Rules by signing an ethical sourcing policy.

More info about CAFOD and the Unearth Justice campaign at: www.cafod.org.uk

Radio host required

TIDAL Surge is recruiting a volunteer radio speaker. We seek a confident individual with sound knowledge of the developmental and environmental impacts of climate change. Previous experience of talking on a radio show desirable. Full support, supervision and training given as required.

For more information please contact Jacinta Kent: surge@leadstidal.org or 07812140720.

What's on: 2007

July

- Fri 20 **Leeds Climate Change Lectures**
'Adapting Buildings and Cities for Climate Change' with Susan Roaf. *

August

- Sat 11 **Cut the Carbon march comes to Leeds**
Gather at 3.30pm at West Yorkshire Playhouse to meet the marchers then to Victoria Gardens for rally. Details page 1

Sept

- Thurs 20 **Leeds Climate Change Lectures**
'Earth Jurisprudence: Protecting Bio and Cultural Diversity' with Cormac Cullinan. *

- Sat 22 **Leeds Schumacher Lectures 2007**
www.sustainablefuturesleeds.co.uk

- Sun 30 **CLOTH 07 Fairtrade Fashion event**
with TIDAL Surge. See page 3 for details

Oct

- Wed 10 **Leeds Climate Change Lectures**
'Transition Cities: Community Solutions to Peak Oil + CC' with Ben Brangwyn *

- Sun 21 **TIDAL/GCAP event in Briggate**
to mark International Debt Week

- Wed 24 **TIDAL evening** at Oxford Place Centre with Tearfund Campaigns Director, Ben Niblett

* CC Lectures info: 0113 262 7914 or www.sustainablefuturesleeds.co.uk

See also www.leadstidal.org and our email updates

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