

On 6 December, thousands will descend on London to march against climate change. Organised by the Campaign Against Climate Change, and coinciding with the Global Day of Climate Protest, the march has four central demands...

ACTION

NO new runway at Heathrow

NO to new coal

NO to the expansion of agrofuels

YES to a massive scale-up in renewable energy

The March will assemble at noon and end in a major rally at Parliament Square. Confirmed to speak are Nick Clegg (Leader, Liberal Democrat Party), Caroline Lucas (Leader, Green party), Michael Meacher (ex-Environment Minister) and George Monbiot (Honorary President, Campaign Against Climate Change).

Never ones to miss a good march, TIDAL and Stop Climate Chaos Leeds have got together to organise a coach down to the event. We know purse strings are tight at this time of year, so we've kept the prices as low as possible at £16 waged, £12 concession. The coach (emitting a mere 0.08kg CO₂ per passenger km, according to

Leeds CRAG) will be departing Leeds on the 6th December in two locations:

07:00 at the Parkinson Steps (Parkinson Building, University of Leeds, Woodhouse Lane, LS2 9JT)

07:15 opposite the Hilton Hotel near the train station (1 Neville Street, LS1 4BX).

The coach will return to Leeds at around 22:00 and drop off at both locations.



Climate Chaos Café

Social and prop-making session
6.45pm Wed 3 Dec, The Common Place

Stop Climate Chaos Leeds will again host the Climate Chaos Café, but this time with a difference! Co-hosted with LUU People & Planet, the Café will serve as a social and prop-making session for the Climate March. We'll kick off with a brainstorm about what we should make, then devote the rest of the time to making props before settling down to some tasty home-cooked vegan food. It's a great opportunity to meet fellow marchers, or simply to flex your creative muscles. All are welcome, marchers or not – though you'll want to come after seeing all the beautiful props we create!

ACTION

We've enclosed a booking form to make life that little bit easier. Mind you, we realise the march is approaching fast, so if you'd like a seat but are concerned that the form might not reach us in time, simply call us on 0791 203 4920 or email info@leadstidal.org. We can reserve you a seat, and you can pay on the day, no hassle.

Finally – with the prop-making taking place at the Climate Chaos Café (see box), the march should be a bright, colourful, noisy one. In short, it's going to be great fun! If you fancy a good day out before the Christmas rush, and want to help save the planet while you're at it, why not join us? We look forward to hearing from you!



Welcome all to the TIDAL newsletter!

Already we have loads to report since our Autumn update. Dozens 'freezing' in the city centre, hundreds attending the Schumacher North Lectures, and thousands standing up against poverty – it all adds up to development issues being championed all over Leeds.

The Christmas rush is nearly upon us, but before you knuckle down to post cards, fill stockings and stuff turkeys, please join us in our blitz of early December action. In particular, come join us on the Climate March – with the colourful props made at the Climate Chaos Café, it's going to be an early Christmas present for all involved!

Happy campaigning (and Merry Christmas!),
Lizzie & Chris

(Oh yes – Lizzie Fellows is our new SCCL Coordinator. You can find out more about her on the back page. Welcome, Lizzie!)

Stand-Up Double-Up

Between Friday 17th and Sunday 19th October, over 116 million people took part in Stand Up and Take Action, the world record attempt for the biggest mass mobilisation on a single issue. This smashed last year's record of 67 million people, and totals near 2% of the world's population!

Leeds rose to the global call, with 1,600 people in the city standing up and taking action over the weekend. With 55,000 people taking part across England, Leeds can be proud to say it had near double the average number of people standing up in an English city!

Events took place all over Leeds, with households, workplaces and congregations taking part. Activists got creative for this



Photo: Jennie Firth

year's event; for example, at Chapel Allerton Methodist Church (above) participants were treated to a short drama about the rich world's policies towards the poor world, enacted by the young people of the church. And at St Matthew's Primary School, the after school club Global Gang presented a special 'Stand Up'-themed school assembly.

Many thanks to all who took part; we look forward to working with you in 2009 for another successful action.



Photo: Geoff Gilbert



Making it all work

Exciting times are ahead for TIDAL and Stop Climate Chaos Leeds. Between running the campaigns you see in this newsletter, we've been working hard to prepare ourselves for the future and ensure that we're the most effective pressure groups we can possibly be.

We've prepared a raft of changes to increase our impact. In place of the traditional 'Steering Group' meetings, we plan to have three separate meetings with different functions...

- a **Trustee Board** to oversee the running of TIDAL and SCCL
- a **Campaigners Forum** bringing together groups in Leeds working on development issues to plan strategic joint action
- a monthly **Action Meeting**, where members of the public will be invited to meet, socialise and plan campaign action.

The aim is to make each of these different functions of TIDAL more accessible and more effective.

These changes comprise the next step in the evolution of TIDAL and SCCL. Thank you for all your support and interest so far. One thing that doesn't change – we'll continue to need your input. Keep an eye on our email updates and newsletters to see how you can help shape our future.

Could you be a TIDAL Trustee? With the changes implemented in this new structure, we are looking for members for the new management committee/trustee board. If you think you have the time (maybe six meetings a year?), passion and experience to be a trustee of TIDAL, why not get in touch? We're looking in particular for those with skills in the fields of finance, HR, marketing, legal, and campaign strategy, but we're very much open to other skill sets.

Interested? Email: info@leedstidal.org or call 0791 203 4920.



The Great Unfreeze

One hundred Stop Climate Chaos Leeds supporters turned up to create a giant 'global warming sculpture' as part of the city's Light Night on 10th October.

We coordinated our watches and froze on the dot of 6pm for exactly five minutes, causing astonished reactions from people walking through Briggate. Some phoned friends, others walked round frozen people, a few tried to ignore the fact that they were surrounded by people behaving oddly!

SCC Leeds used coverage by the YEP and Radio Aire to draw attention to the fact that we have less than 100 months in which to avert runaway global warming, and to the recent demonstration by politicians that money is no obstacle when the situation is grave enough. What could be more serious than the thermostat of the entire planet running out of control?

The YEP also made a film of the event (check it out at snipr.com/6cll6), and our very own film-making supporter, Izzy Arrieta, came up from London especially to film the event. She's going to make us a film we can use to promote SCC Leeds and to raise awareness of the issues. Thanks Izzy!



Photo: Bethany Clarke

Schumacher North What a mindblowing day!

Exploring the theme 'Transforming the Global Economy: Solutions for a Sustainable World', the Schumacher North Lectures 2008 were a timely discussion of some of the world's most pressing issues.

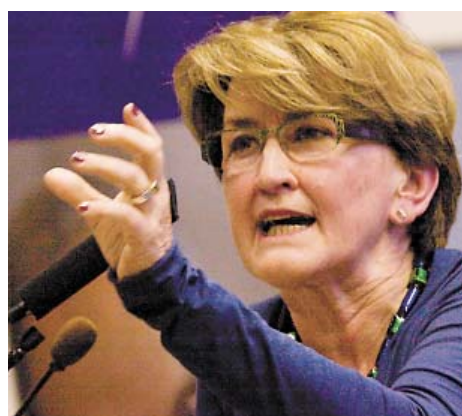


Photo: Matt Carmichael

Susan George kicked off the day with a plea to think global (and big!), not simply local, in resolving the financial crisis. Ann Pettifor (pictured left) then deviated from the script to give her own passionate and highly entertaining take on the causes of the financial crisis. After lunch, Andrew Simms picked up the pieces and led us on a whistle-stop tour of alternative economies, starting from the premise that we're never more than 'nine meals from anarchy'.



COUNTDOWN TO CO₂PENHAGEN

Time to make a difference

Climate campaigners in the UK have recently enjoyed a massive success; the Government has conceded to our last three key demands of the Climate Bill. Thanks to your actions, the UK Climate Bill is now the strongest in the world!

With this tremendous success at home, we must now look to international efforts to tackle climate change. That's why our next key target is the UN Conference on Climate Change in Copenhagen, December 2009. This is where the next international climate deal will be negotiated and, as such, is a tremendous opportunity to agree fair and binding international action on climate change. We need bold and urgent action from the world's leaders, or we may find it impossible to prevent billions sliding further into poverty caused by a changing climate.

TIDAL/SCCL will
be campaigning

ACTION

throughout 2009 to make sure a strong and fair deal is reached at Copenhagen. But right now we'd like you to send the enclosed postcard to Gordon Brown to let him know the Countdown to Copenhagen has begun – and we'll be watching him over the coming 12 months.

For more information about the campaign, see www.christianaid.org.uk



TIDAL hosted the closing plenary session, in which there was much lively and wide-ranging discussion about what action we need to take locally to address these global issues. All in all, it was an enjoyable and thought-provoking day; our sincere thanks to Schumacher North, our plenary chair, John Battle MP, and to our three panellists, Lorna Arblaster, Paul Chatterton, and Paul Ellis.

Introducing Lizzie – our newest worker

We caught up with the new Stop Climate Chaos Leeds Coordinator to find out about her life before joining us, her campaigning passions, and what her role is in SCCL...



Welcome Lizzie! Tell us a bit about yourself...

My name's Lizzie Fellows, I moved up to Leeds in 2004 to study Philosophy at Leeds University, and spent last year working on the Student Exec in Leeds University Union. Now I'm working for SCCL one day a week, and I'm really enjoying it so far.

How did you catch the campaigning bug?

I've had an interest in the environment and social issues since my early teens and when I started at uni, there were loads of groups

and societies to get involved with. I did lots with People & Planet at uni, as well as getting involved with other campaigns that were happening on and off campus.

For those that may not know, how would you describe your job?

My role is to support the volunteers that are involved with SCCL and to act as a point of contact, as well as to support the activities and events that the group do.

What is your biggest concern about climate change?

That we're not going to move fast enough to help prevent potential runaway effects, but also that not enough people seem to be concerned!

And finally... if you could change one thing about the world, what would it be?

Well I would have said George Bush but that wish has been granted! So instead... for the big polluters of the world to understand and care about the impact that their actions are having on the rest of the world, especially the most disadvantaged people. And for me to go and see *Strictly Come Dancing* live!

TIDAL in brief

We don't have space to detail all we get up to, so here's the abridged version of what we left out...

26 Sept TIDAL campaigners meet with Linda McAvan MEP about EU trade deals.

29-30 Sept We have a stall at Leeds University Union's Social Forum.

3 Oct Jubilee Debt Campaign invite input from stakeholders on their new strategy, and TIDAL travels to London to give our views.

7 Oct is possibly the busiest day of the year, where we take the trade campaign to the University of Leeds Fairtrade Fair, give a short talk on development campaigning in Leeds as part of Black History Month at Leeds University Union, and have a stall at the Co-op AGM.

23 Oct TIDAL gives a talk on 'Global Activism' to Ryburn Valley High 6th Formers.

15 Nov We take the trade campaign to the Saltaire Peace and Crafts Fair.

25 Nov TIDAL has a stall at a BME community group networking event.

What's on – 2008/9

DECEMBER

- Wed 3 **Climate Chaos Café: Climate March social and prop-making session** hosted by SCCL and LUU People & Planet. Meet others on the March and make some marching props! See front page.
- Wed 3 **Leeds Oxfam Group: Uganda Today** a talk by Gloria Namande. All welcome Leeds Civic Hall, 7.30pm
- Fri 5 **'What is parliament doing to preserve the planet and its people?' with Fabian Hamilton MP** 7.30pm, Lidgett Park Methodist Church. Details from info@economicjusticeforall.org.uk
- Sat 6 **National Climate March – Leeds coach** The key climate action of the winter. Join us to demand action on climate change. See front page for details.
- Mon 8 **SCC Leeds – Meeting and Social** After a hard year's campaigning, we're off for a Christmas meal after our monthly meeting! The meeting starts at 6.30pm, The Common Place, 23–25 Wharf Street, LS2 7EQ. We're off for a meal at 7.45pm, and you are warmly invited to both – email stopclimatechaosleeds@hotmail.co.uk
- Wed 10 **60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights**

January

- Sat 10 **Yorkshire Against New Coal: Rally** TBC. <http://yancnews.wordpress.com>

February

- Wed 4 **Leeds Oxfam Group: Training Medical Staff from Overseas** a talk by Anne Chamberland. All welcome. Leeds Civic Hall, 7.30pm

March

- Wed 4 **Leeds Oxfam Group: Food Security** a talk by David Hall Matthews

April

- Wed 4 **Leeds Oxfam Group: Water Aid** a talk by Gary Knamiller

See also www.leadstidal.org and our email updates

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