



For Justice & Peace

ONE WORLD CONCERNS in TELFORD

Autumn 1985



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This issue:-

One World Week in Telford - details: centre pages.

The Lifestyle Movement - page 6

Food For The World - Feast or Famine? p2

Peace Tax Campaign - page 3

FIGHT WORLD POVERTY



London Lobby

- October 22nd

ONE WORLD WEEK October 20-27 1985






"Give us this day our daily bread,
We ask our Father's grace:
But while his children cry for food,
How dare we meet his face?"

ONE WORLD HYMNS - SEE PAGE 5



Food for the World - FEAST OR FAMINE?

TRAIDCRAFT 
Christian Aid  

Thanks to the BBC, and the Blessed Bob Geldof, even a hermit living in a hole half-way up the Wrekin must know that people in Ethiopia need FOOD! Many of us have given again and again to buy food for the starving. But how much do we really know about food? Try these:-

"There will always be starving people because there isn't enough food in the world to go round!" TRUE or FALSE?

"The trouble is, they have too many babies!" Do large families make people poor in Africa; or is it poverty that forces Africans to have lots of children?

"Africa is so backward: Western know-how is the answer!" Is it?

"If only they did something to help themselves!" What are Africans doing to feed themselves now and in the future?

Can you solve this riddle: "The Philippines is the 15th largest food producing country in the world: and yet 78% of Filipino children are malnourished." WHY?

Well, how are you doing? If you want stories and information to help you sort out the myths from the facts, then join us at

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH CENTRE, STIRCHLEY
on 10TH OCTOBER.

Come and buy from a big range of TRAIDCRAFT goods fresh from the new catalogue, and a CHRISTIAN AID bookstall and displays. Light meals are available from 6.30 pm. The programme starts at 7.30 pm, and includes slides, discussion, drama and worship.

And help us think about the really big FOOD question: in a world where 500 million people go hungry, is CHANGE possible? Is there more that ordinary people like you and me can do to help change an unjust world, so that all can feed themselves?

Food for the world. So what will it be: feast? or famine?

CHARLES WORTH - CHRISTIAN AID

(The same presentation will also take place at St Nicholas URC Hall, Coleham Head, Shrewsbury, on October 1st: tea and coffee from 7 pm, programme 7.30 pm)



Black...
or
White?

2

World Peace Day Vigil.....


Saturday 19th October, at the Abbey, Shrewsbury: 1-9 pm

A day of prayer and praise, meditation and music, drama and dance. Agape and candle procession.

Principal speaker - The Bishop of Dudley.



* On Wednesday 20th November, Wolverhampton Inter-Faith Group will be at All Saints' Church, Stinchley... 7.30 pm



Peace Tax Campaign

On Thursday 8th August Mr Martin Howard of the PEACE TAX CAMPAIGN (PTC) spoke to an audience crowded into the Meeting House in Telford Town Centre. Some people had come from as far as Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury to hear his talk.

In the 1939-45 War, there were some 45,000 conscientious objectors, who refused to participate in warfare. The right to exemption from military service is now recognised at all times of conscription, so no-one is forced to join the armed services; but each one of us is COMPELLED to pay for weaponry and the armed services through taxation. Therefore in today's world where a relatively small number of trained professionals will control the weapons that could destroy the world, the right to conscientious exemption is insufficient. The ordinary citizen's role will have been to pay, through taxation, for the weapons and training.

Accordingly, the PTC seeks recognition that for those who cannot in conscience fight, it is equally wrong that they should pay through the tax system for others to fight on their behalf. In law a person who hires a murderer shares the guilt of the murder!

This premise forms the basis of the Peace Tax Campaign, which has its origins in the actions of a few peace-seekers who attempted to refuse to pay taxes for arms. Recognising that to be successful a change in the law is required, the Peace Pledge Union, in 1977, agreed to campaign for this change in law, and to draw in the other peace movements.

Since then the campaign has developed, gaining the support of a number of M.P.'s. Some 20,000 people have signed the petition supporting the right to allocate the 'defence' proportion of taxes to peace-building.

There are two main aspects to the campaign: one, to campaign for change through parliament; two, to challenge the existing law through the courts. Many cases have been reported in the media of individuals refusing to pay the proportion of their taxes which goes towards financing the armed forces. Martin outlined the experiences of some such individuals whose property has been seized and auctioned off, others who have been bankrupted, and so on.

As individuals we may think ourselves powerless to change the system, but we can act. We can

- distribute leaflets to friends, in the street, at church, union meetings, etc;
- sign the petition, put up a poster, mention the subject to friends;
- write to M.P.'s, local tax inspector, the Treasury;
- avoid investing in the Government.

For more details, contact PEACE TAX CAMPAIGN, 26 Thurlow Road, Leicester LE2 1YE.



ONE WORLD WEEK

October 20-27 1985



Events in **Telford**

ALL WEEK FROM SUNDAY 20TH OCTOBER

Display of Posters etc., in Mall 1,
Telford Town Centre.

WEDNESDAY 23RD OCTOBER

"Third World Coffee Shop" in the Town
Centre Meeting House.....Coffee, etc.,
and light refreshments on sale all day
(till about 4 o'clock), plus leaflets,
recipe books, Traidcraft items, etc.,
available.

"International Evening" at All Saints'
Church, Stirchley, from 7.30 pm. Music
and drama, etc - come and join in and
CELEBRATE our One World and all the
rich variety of human culture and
experience. Displays, etc., and Stalls
on One World issues. Admission FREE.
Refreshments by V.S.O.

BUY TRAIDCRAFT

Coffee, tea, sugar, cocoa, pineapples -
just some of the many foodstuffs we take
for granted and which come to us from the
Third World. Often they are grown on
large plantations, where the workers may
be poorly paid. The world trade benefits
us by bringing a wide variety of produce
to our table at affordable prices; we
should feel a responsibility to ensure

that justice is done.

TRAIDCRAFT products are a small step in the
right direction.

A proportion of Traidcraft's income each
year is set aside for development work in
producing countries. Tea and pure ground
and instant coffees, and a wide range of
other Traidcraft goods are available locally
through the Traidcraft voluntary represent-
ative :-

Sue Hawthorne,
6 Cherry Tree Hill,
Coalbrookdale.
(Tel: Ironbridge 2561)

Sue's stock will be available for sale
throughout the week 19th to 26th October
(9 am - 5.30 pm; 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm),
including a wide range of Third World
products. The latest Traidcraft catalogue is
also now available.

Local churches and other groups may well be
planning their own events for One World Week.
Please look out for details! If you would
like help, resource material, etc., to do
something locally, contact one of the
editorial team, or Sandra Howes (503242), or
John Forde (595906).

ONE FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE is a newsletter
produced quarterly by the Telford One World
Week Group, to help publicise one world
issues and the work of national and local
groups. Views expressed in the newsletter
are not necessarily those of the One World
Week group or the editorial team. Comments,
contributions and response to articles are
welcome, and will be printed wherever
possible. Editorial team:-

Robert Saunders, 24 Gladstone House, Hadley
Mark Stokes, 7 Burton Close, Dawley
Bill Rowell, 58 Castle View, Red Lake - 612894

We usually think of One World Week as an event which we celebrate in our local community rather than at the national level. This year however we have the opportunity to 'go national' with the mass rally at the House of Commons to be held on October 22nd, organised by the World Development Movement.

Pictures of famine in Africa have stirred the British public to unprecedented generosity. In contrast the government has provided no additional money for the aid programme to cope with the exceptional demands of the famine. Its contribution has come solely from diverting money away from longer term development. Trade and debt problems have further exacerbated hunger. At the same time the amount of British aid is actually falling by £35 million in real terms this year.

The British government must be persuaded to fully accept its responsibilities and act now to prevent famines in the future.

The lobby will urge the government to:-

- 1 - give much more support for local food production;
- 2 - immediately increase aid to the poorest;
- 3 - provide fairer trading opportunities for poor countries;
- 4 - reduce the debt burden on the poorest.

Anyone who cares is invited to be in London to convince the government that this matter is of electoral importance. SO MAKE THAT DATE, OCTOBER 22ND, FREE IN YOUR DIARY NOW.

A coach party is being organised from Telford, with song sheets in preparation to allow us to sing our feelings about One World Week, using familiar tunes, but with new words. Enquiries and coach bookings to

MALCOLM VERRALL,
24 SPAN MEADOW, SHAWBIRCH.
TEL (EVENINGS ONLY)

TELFORD 40820

Churches, etc., that would like a copy of a One World hymnsheet - Bill Rowell has a few copies left for distribution and can produce more if orders justify - phone Telford 612894.



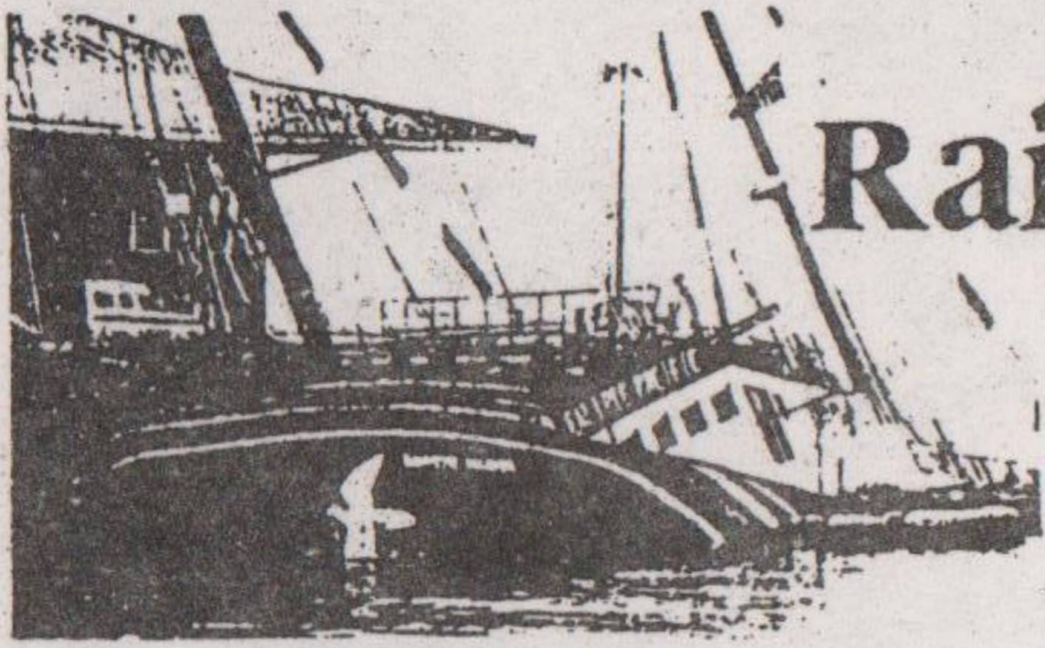
WORLD FOOD DAY
is
Wednesday Oct. 16th
- Come to a **WORLD FOOD EVENING: 7.30** at **Hadley Methodist Church**.....
Games & other events -
- **Traidcraft Stall**



"What's ten percent less than not enough?"

FIGHT WORLD POVERTY
Join Us in a Mass Lobby to
PREVENT FUTURE FAMINE
Tues Oct 22 - House of Commons 2-10p





Rainbow's end

Many people will have been greatly shocked by the sinking of the Greenpeace ship "Rainbow Warrior", and the death of Fernando Pereira, and by the subsequent allegations of French secret service involvement in the affair. The response of Greenpeace, as other ships continue the protest against French nuclear testing in the Pacific, is summed up in the editorial comments in the August "Greenpeace News", from which we quote:-

"Our opponents - whoever they are - have misjudged us. By this cowardly action they have hardened our resolve not to give in to violence and to continue our twelve-year old campaign to halt the testing of nuclear weapons in the Pacific.

"It has, too, reinforced our belief in non-violence. The problems of the world cannot be solved with bombs.

"Nonetheless, we wish to see those who committed this outrage brought to justice.

"There could be no more fitting memorial to Fernando and the Rainbow Warrior than that we should finally succeed in our aim of halting for all time the French nuclear weapons tests on the Pacific atoll of Mururoa."

A street collection in the Wrekin area on Saturday 24th August, organised by the Wrekin Green Group, raised £118 for the work of Greenpeace.



Living More Simply

An award-winning essay explaining and justifying "LIFESTYLE", by Kitty McVey.

Over 1,000 people have decided that they do not want to increase their standard of living this year. They are members of the growing Life Style Movement, who have signed a voluntary commitment to 'living more simply, so that others may simply live'.

They argue that, by making do with less, we can all help the hungry people of today, and the generations of tomorrow, and can help ourselves by leading happier and healthier lives.

We live in a world where 450 million people are hungry or ill-fed, yet slimming foods are a multi-million pound business, and America uses more fertilizers on its lawns and gardens than India can afford for growing food. With one or two exceptions, the rich countries of the world are in the Northern hemisphere, and at least nominally Christian.

In such a world, Lifestylers believe, it is not enough just to give money to overseas charities. We must also recognise that we are part of a 'global village', that the pattern of demand we create when we do our weekly shopping contributes directly to world hunger.

For instance, the world produces enough grain to give everyone two pounds per day. This would provide enough protein and energy for everyone, if used in a sensible way. But in Britain our high-meat diet is wasteful. We feed two-thirds of our grain to livestock, which produce only one pound of meat for every seven pounds of grain consumed.

We also consume large amounts of luxury crops such as tobacco, coffee and sugar. These cash crops are both bad for our health and tie up, world-wide, enough land to feed the world's hungry several times over.

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

Lifestylers therefore try to cut down on meat, tea and coffee, and also to save energy and non-renewable resources which future generations will need. Many find that repairing and recycling household goods gives them an added bonus, which one member described as 'the satisfaction of rediscovering the use of your hands.'

These economies generate cash savings which can be used to support third world projects, especially those which work against the root causes of poverty. And Lifestylers support changes in this country too: changes towards agricultural and foreign policies which give the world's poor a fair deal.

It is not easy to change old habits, and Lifestylers readily admit that they do not always succeed in living up to their ideals. But they give each other support and encouragement through a newsletter and at local and national meetings.

One individual alone may achieve only a little. But the movement's symbol is a candle, which signifies the ancient Chinese proverb 'It is better to light one small candle than to curse the darkness.'

Further information about the Lifestyle Movement may be obtained from Margaret Smith, The Community, Little Gidding, Huntingdon, PE17 5RJ.

Action for Food Production.

On the 1st August Telford people welcomed Brigadier Chandra and his wife at a public meeting organised by the Farmers' Third World Network and Christian Aid. The Brigadier works for Action for Food Production (AFFRO) in India, which provides an advisory and technical service to farmers.

The Brigadier told the history of AFFRO, formed, some 19 years ago, at a time of serious water shortage in parts of India. Though still a small organisation it has grown from solely assisting in the supply of water through drilling rigs to providing advice and finance on irrigation, livestock and agriculture. Today there is also help with the introduction of biogas

plants - the production of methane gas for lighting and cooking from animal dung.

On the financial side, there is assistance from the Indian government, Christian Aid and the Indian farmers themselves who contribute to the cost of cattle, biogas plants and so on. Loans are provided where outright purchase is too costly.

In India some 70% of the 600 million population live in villages. AFFRO therefore concentrates its efforts on villages, where generally landholdings are small, in the range from about 3 acres downward. Due to the tradition of male inheritance of land, a father's plot is divided between his sons, and then subdivided between their sons, and so on. Over time family plots become very small.

The income of such small farmers can be enhanced through subsidiary occupations; animal husbandry in particular is promoted by AFFRO. Cattle and poultry can provide milk and eggs for family consumption and for sale in the market.

The Brigadier's particular involvement is in the cross breeding of cattle to provide the 'ideal' cow - resistant to pests and disease, suited to the climate, and sunshine in particular, having a short period between pregnancies, possessing big bones and a good physique, and giving a good milk yield.

The project has some land donated by the Indian government which is being transformed from an unproductive alkaline soil to a more fertile neutral soil. Crops of rice and wheat are being grown there. A reforestation campaign is in progress with many thousands of trees being planted. Brigadier Chandra pointed out how little forest there is left from earlier times - a point which applies equally in this country. Short training courses are also provided for farmers, short because they cannot leave their land for long.

During questions, comments about 'when they are better educated', 'backward peoples' and so on from some members of the audience struck me as rather patronising - the Indian people with their long history are surely neither unintelligent nor unknowledgeable in farming matters. I believe we can learn from each other.

NICARAGUA —

The Threat of a Good Example?

by Dianna Melrose

"In five years we amaze ourselves with what we've achieved." Ordinary Nicaraguans show justifiable pride in the social achievements they have made since the overthrow of the Somoza dictatorship. It reflects OXFAM's own positive experience of development work in Nicaragua since 1979.

This report is based on Oxfam's experience of twenty years' work there. The new Nicaraguan approach to development, based on the needs of the poor majority and the active participation of ordinary people offers real hope to the poor.

Despite these positive developments, official British aid has been progressively cut back over the past five years. Britain gave more aid to Nicaragua during the Somoza dictatorship.

Today, the social gains of Nicaragua's poor are tragically threatened by war. Attacks by foreign-based forces have compelled more than 140,000 people to leave their homes, and resulted in the suffering, injury and death of thousands more.

Poor people in Nicaragua want peace to be allowed to fight their real enemy, poverty. This report underlines the positive role that Britain and her European partners could play in promoting future peaceful development.

This book should be available at £2.50 from Oxfam in Wellington, or 274, Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7DZ (add 40p p&p); or order it through your local library.

Telford Anti Nuclear Group are organising a coach to the CND national demonstration in London on 26th October.

If you would like more information or to book a seat, please contact

Barbara Lamplugh, 16, Linley Drive, Stirchley (598452)

Maria Wakeley, 15, Fellows Close, Little Dawley (594842)

Some members of TANG are planning to walk to London to raise money for the anti-nuclear campaign and for Greenpeace. If you would like to sponsor, or want more details, contact

Mark Stokes, 7, Burton Close, Dawley.

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WREKIN ANTI-APARTHEID MOVEMENT has written recently to the South African Ambassador, in the wake of recent worrying events in South Africa, and a number of letters of support have been forwarded as well.

WAAM writes:-

Dear Sir,

The worsening situation in South Africa is now a matter of grave concern.

The State of Emergency in your country now makes truancy among young school-children a criminal offence, and swearing at a policeman a crime carrying a mandatory 14 days detention without trial. This would be laughable were it not so serious.

Speaking on 15th August your President stated that it was his wish to confer with black leaders about his country's future. Yet the leadership of the United Democratic Front is in jail awaiting trial, and now Dr Alan Boesak, president of the World Council of Reformed Churches, has been arrested. These are the very people with whom, along with Nelson Mandela, any meaningful discussions should be held.

We, whose names are attached hereto, ask you to convey to your Government our urgent wish to see the end of the State of Emergency, and the early implementation of consultation with the leaders of your black people in order to end the unrest and bloodshed in your country.

Yours faithfully,

B.G. Ellwand,
Chairman,

Wrekin Anti-Apartheid Movement.

