

# Gosport Fairtrade Action

Promoting FAIRTRADE in the Borough of Gosport

[www.portsmouthfairtrade.org.uk/](http://www.portsmouthfairtrade.org.uk/)

(go to Gosport page)



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## Newsletter

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\* As a Fairtrade Borough Gosport meets the required **Five Goals**:

1. the Borough Council passed a resolution to support Fairtrade and to serve Fairtrade coffee and tea at meetings and in its offices;
2. has a range of Fairtrade products sold in at least, 16 shops (now 35) and in 8 cafés and catering establishments (now 14);
3. some local work places and community organisations use Fairtrade products;
4. attract media coverage and popular support
5. has an active Steering Group

## About Gosport Fairtrade Action (GFA)

GFA has been promoting Fairtrade in Gosport since 2006. This year we are celebrating 5 years of achieved Fairtrade Borough Status\* with a flower bed in the Falkland gardens



Members are drawn from voluntary organisations, schools, churches, businesses, various religious groups, political parties and elected members of Gosport Borough Council.

We explain about Fairtrade to local schools, community groups, employers, shops and catering establishments encouraging them to use and make Fairtrade products available. We provide information which enables people in Gosport to choose to deal fairly with disadvantaged producers in developing countries.

Gosport is one of over 1,300 towns (in 24 countries) in the International Fair Trade Towns Movement, which campaigns for Fair Trade globally to make the world fairer today and sustainable tomorrow.

## AGM 2013

At the AGM on July 11<sup>th</sup>, the following were elected to serve until June 2013

Co-ordinator	Sarah Hiron
Treasurer	Tricia Stephenson
Chair of Meetings	Tessa Bloodworth
Press Officer	Vacant
Minutes Sec.	David Bloodworth

Tara Fisher has moved. We thanked her for all her enthusiastic work and support for GFA and wished her well with Havant Fairtrade Group.

**GFA welcomes new volunteers**

## Annual Review 2011-12

## Fairtrade Fortnight Campaign Award



Photo:  
Fairtrade  
Foundation

At the National Fairtrade Supporters Conference in October, GFA received the runners-up award for its "Best Steps for Fairtrade" campaign

**Action Plan** - We made a strong start towards implementing the two year action plan (2012-14). This included new areas of activity such as building relationships with our MP and with new groups in the community. We also identified key areas in which to nurture and develop the good relationships already established.

**Supporters and Links** - We continued to build on good working relationships with Gosport Borough Council whose support for and participation in Fairtrade is essential to maintaining Fairtrade Borough Status

**The Mayor (2012-3)**, Councillor Richard Dickson, supported Fairtrade enthusiastically with lots of activity locally and even internationally. A big 'thank you' to him. He took the Fairtrade message, and some GFA leaflets, to Gosport, Ohio, USA in 2012.



**The Co-op and its staff**, some of whom participated in GFA's Steering Group, worked together to promote Fairtrade at events. We are especially grateful for all their help and donations for the 'Fairtrade wine and chocolate evening'.

This was very enjoyable event and succeeded in raising

funds for GFA's work and introduced the products to a new audience.

## One World Week

As National Nut Day fell in OWW, GFA marked the occasion by presenting all the Councillors with a bag of Fairtrade nuts together with a leaflet about producers in Malawi.



Photo – Town Hall



Sorting nuts, MASFA

© Anette Kay

**Gosport Voluntary Action** - GFA is a member of GVA and greatly values the support it provides.

## Updating the Directory

From 2011 to early 2013 we surveyed the retail and catering outlets.. We now have 35 retail outlets stocking at least four product categories and 14 catering outlets offering at least 2 product categories, plus one B&B. We have updated the website directory with this information. (see: [www.portsmouthfairtrade.org.uk/where-can-i-buy/](http://www.portsmouthfairtrade.org.uk/where-can-i-buy/)). We are planning a new leaflet for Gosport Fair Trade.

## News of Schools and Colleges

Two schools in Gosport could say:



Bay House School from Sep. 2011



Bay House School & Sixth Form

Brune Park School from May 2012

**LATEST NEWS**  
Brune Park renewed its Fairtrade status in July 2013



One primary school that we know of is working towards Fairtrade School status

**Holbrook Primary School**

**GFA congratulates all involved.**

## FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT



We had an information stall with message "Go further for Fairtrade in 2013" in Gosport Town Hall, attended by the then Mayor, Cllr Dickson. We launched the Fairtrade packaging sculpture challenge.

The Mayor presented certificates and prizes, (a book token and a Fairtrade football), to Holbrook Primary School for their collection of sculptures showing how Fairtrade links people round the world.



Brune Park won the Secondary School Award with its "Giant Fairtrade Cup and Saucer with dunking biscuit."

**These sculptures were displayed in**

**Elson and Bridgemary Libraries in April and May, 2013**



Fairtrade Farmer Hero



Connecting the world



Links around the world



Helping hand (trolley full of Fairtrade goods)

## Co-operation with neighbours



### Fareham

Together, we again challenged the Fareham College catering students to put on a Fairtrade dinner.



### Portsmouth

GFA members also attended Portsmouth events, one involving a film, 'Growing Change' about Venezuela. The other, at the University involved a Fairtrade meal and had a speaker from the Fairtrade Foundation.

## Campaigning



### ENOUGH FOOD FOR EVERYONE IF

The Fairtrade Movement used the campaign to lobby the PM and the G8 summit to offer greater support for smallholder farmers around the world. Our petition was taken to Parliament Square by thousands of mini-marchers representing individual petition signers.

GFA was invited to take a display and petition to the Co-op's Sustainability Week at Lakeside, Hilsea. – we were joined by some of the demonstrating mini-marchers from Parliament Square (below)



### Fairtrade beyond 2015

The International Fair Trade Towns Movement, of which Gosport is one of 1,336 (June 7, 2013) members, is sending a declaration signed by Fair Trade Town leaders to the UN's October meeting. This meeting will consider what steps should be taken to reduce poverty after the Millenium Development Goals expire at the end of 2015. The declaration asks for new trade rules that would be much fairer to small-holder farmers. Although they produce most of the world's food, half of them go hungry themselves.



Our Mayor, Councillor Richard Dickson, was 'delighted' to sign, on behalf of Gosport, in May 2013.

## Working with businesses

### Chamber of Commerce

GFA, as one of the Fairtrade groups in the Hampshire Fairtrade Network, is a member of the Hampshire Chamber of Commerce. GFA went to a 'Meet the Chamber Event' in October 2012 at Portsmouth Football Club where we shared a stall with the Portsmouth Fairtrade Group.



At Fratton Park

On the first day of Fairtrade Fortnight 2013 we provided Fairtrade refreshments for about 170 members at a 'Meet the Chamber' event in the Royal Marines Museum in Eastney.

### Working with B&Bs

We are delighted to welcome West Winds Guest House in Lee-on-the-Solent to our list of businesses using Fairtrade products.



We'd love to hear of any other B&Bs or Guest Houses which use Fairtrade products and would like to be recognised on our website and in our new directory; or of anyone who would like to discuss switching to Fairtrade.

### Churches

Being a Fairtrade Church offers a real opportunity to address the hunger of

millions of disadvantaged farmers in developing countries by buying their produce at a fair price that covers their costs.

There have been a number of changes in clergy recently so might this be just the time to recommit to Fairtrade? Choosing Fairtrade need not take much time but it does change lives.

GFA is here to help with a talk, a stall, a poster or a chat about what's involved.

**For more information contact  
GFA on 02392 582140  
or via the Website  
[www.portsmouthfairtrade.org.uk](http://www.portsmouthfairtrade.org.uk)**

GFA attended the **AGM at Havant**, in July 2013 with representatives from



10 Fairtrade groups in the County. The Catering managers of the Universities of Portsmouth and Winchester gave very impressive accounts of their universities' wholehearted commitment to ethical sourcing of food including Fairtrade.

We also had a presentation about small scale tea producers in South India which raised issues about the difficulties for small holders trying to compete with large estates, similarly Fairtrade certified.

Charles Hiron brought us up to date with the progress of the International Fair Trade Towns Movement. We all had an opportunity to network, and examine ideas and resources we could share, so we came away better informed and inspired.

HFN website is: [www.fairtradeinhampshire.org.uk](http://www.fairtradeinhampshire.org.uk)

### Resources GFA can offer

**Locally produced** [phone 9258 2140]:

**GFA can offer exhibitions and/or talks with PowerPoint presentations**, customised for your school, or organisation, on the following topics

Introduction to Fairtrade

Fairtrade towns

Fairtrade churches

Fairtrade schools

Small scale tea growers in South India

Fairtrade in the USA

Fairtrade, environment & climate change

Fairtrade in conflict zones

Fairtrade at work

Fairtrade wine in South Africa;

Informative posters on benefits of Fairtrade for producers of: tea, coffee (women in Nicaragua); sugar; bananas; cocoa in Sierra Leone; Raisins and Rooibos in South Africa.

**Many of these can be downloaded from the HFN website** (see above)

### A date for your Diary

**Thur. 15 Aug 2013, Submarine Museum**

**Gosport - Cruise with Sammy Sardine**

Explore food from around the world and

Fairtrade. Tasty snacks.

**FREE FUN** with Museum entry ticket

**GFA website** - Shared with Portsmouth and Havant with a section for each group.

**Gosport's section** has a directory; forthcoming events; meeting dates; reports of events for Gosport.

**A shared section** contains information & ideas for businesses, schools, places of worship; plus news and commentary about Fairtrade issues in the news.

The Fairtrade Foundation Website has more:

<http://www.fairtrade.org.uk>