

School is one of UK's top improvers

OUR diocese's only church secondary school has been named as one of the most improved schools in the country.

St Luke's C of E School recorded the seventh highest increase in GCSE results in the UK over the past four years.

The number of pupils passing GCSEs with the top A*-C grades rose from six per cent in 2001 to 45 per cent last summer.

Part of the school's success involved creating individual timetables for each pupil so they could study the mix of academic and vocational qualifications that suited them best.

Some also took GCSE and GNVQs one or two years early, helping the school's overall figures.

Pompey Chimes

DEADLINE FOR MARCH 2005 EDITION: Monday 7 February

AVAILABLE FOR PARISHES TO COLLECT FROM DEANERY DEPOTS: Thursday 24 February

AVAILABLE IN YOUR CHURCH: Sunday 27 February

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Help us give Third producers a fairer

COULD you help us to become a Fairtrade diocese during 2005 - and help us gain a reputation for treating poorer countries more fairly?

We are aiming to gain the status of a 'Fairtrade diocese' by showing that enough of our churches use or sell Fairtrade products, for which Third World suppliers have been paid a fair price.

Our diocesan synod will be asked to back a motion that supports the idea, and urges that only Fairtrade tea and coffee is served at diocesan boards and committees. And our cathedral and diocesan offices will be urged to use Fairtrade products.

You can help by letting us know if your parish church already uses or sells such products. If it doesn't, you can encourage it to do so. The Rev Don Varney will collate the information and hopes to gain accreditation by the Fairtrade Foundation as a Fairtrade diocese by the end of 2005.

The initiative for this came origi-



Some of the 500 Fairtrade goods now available in your local shops

nally from the social responsibility group of our Board of Mission. The Rev Nick Ralph, our social responsibility adviser, said: "We think it's important to show that part of our Christian faith includes fighting for issues of justice. Buying and supporting Fairtrade products is an easy, but very effective, way of helping Third World producers."

Our initiative is being launched ahead of Fairtrade Fortnight, which happens between March 1-13 this year. This year's theme is 'Check out Fairtrade'. And there will be a special event in **Portsmouth** - which was declared a Fairtrade city last year -

with a roadshow featuring the patron of the Fairtrade Foundation, BBC newsreader George Alagiah.

He will explain the concept and benefits of Fairtrade to a breakfast of business leaders on February 28 at Portsmouth's Guildhall, with Simeon Greene from the Windward Islands Banana Producers Association and Bruce Crowther of the Fairtrade Foundation.

He will also meet community leaders for a coffee morning later that day before walking across Victoria Park to the Fairtrade Art in the Park café, where a children's Fairtrade poster competition will be launched.

Portsmouth's Fairtrade Forum is also producing 10,000 copies of a Portsmouth Fairtrade guide, which will include a directory of where to find and buy such goods.

And there will be promotional stalls throughout Fairtrade Fortnight in the Cascades shopping centre and Guildhall Square. Anyone who could help man such stalls, or who wants more information can ring Sue James, who chairs the forum, on 023-9225 0267 or see www.portsmouthfairtrade.org.uk.

Christians on the **Isle of Wight** are also behind a drive for the island to gain the status of a Fairtrade County. To do so, campaigners must have the support of the local authority and show that there are enough supermarkets and cafes on the island selling Fairtrade products. For information, see: www.iwff.org.uk

The co-ordinator of the Isle of Wight Fairtrade Forum, Jim Curtis, said: "We hope every church on the island will apply for Fairtrade status, and support the bid to be a Fairtrade County."

Confused? Consult our cut-out-and-keep guide




CONFUSED between Fairtrade and Trade Justice? Want to know the difference between Drop the Debt and Make Poverty History? Consult our exclusive cut-out-and-keep *Pompey Chimes* guide!

You may know that the Make Poverty History campaign was launched last month because 2005 is a key year in the fight to tackle world poverty.

Britain's role chairing the G8 summit in July and chairing the European Union in the second half of the year means we can have a key role in persuading world leaders to challenge the unjust structures that keep millions in poverty.

It's this Make Poverty History campaign that involves people wearing white bands around their wrists. But how does this campaign tie in with issues of trade, aid and debt? And what's the difference between wearing a white wristband and a badge showing a pair of scales? Consult our table (right) to find out more.

YOUR POMPEY CHIMES GUIDE TO CAMPAIGNING

	FAIRTRADE	TRADE JUSTICE CAMPAIGN	MAKE POVERTY HISTORY
Who's behind it?	The Fairtrade Foundation, which was started in 1992 by agencies including CAFOD, Christian Aid, Oxfam and Traidcraft	A coalition of charities, aid agencies, trade unions and faith groups, including the Church of England	A coalition of coalitions including the Trade Justice Movement, Jubilee Debt Campaign, Band Aid 20 and celebrities
Logo	 Guarantees a better deal for Third World Producers		
What's the aim?	Aims to work within existing trade rules to benefit suppliers in poorer countries by guaranteeing them a fixed price for specific goods. Such Fairtrade goods are labelled with the Fairtrade mark (pictured above)	Aims to change the rules of international trade in all goods between all countries. Involves poorer countries being given the chance to prevent their countries being swamped by cheaper foreign imports.	Aims to change the rules and practices of unjust trade, cancel poor countries' debts and deliver more and better aid. Brings together various campaigns under one umbrella for 2005 - a significant year for world development
How's it going?	Sales of Fairtrade goods topped £100m in the UK in 2004 and 39 per cent of people now recognise the Fairtrade mark. Fairtrade products account for 20 per cent of the UK tea and coffee market. Worldwide, Fairtrade goods come from 370 producer organisations in 45 countries	Thousands of campaigners turned up to lobby the Labour government at its party conference in Brighton last September. That event launched 'Vote for Trade Justice', which aims to collect a million signatories in the UK. A worldwide week of action happens in April 2005.	It was launched in January and will last only for one year. It was featured on the New Year edition of <i>The Vicar of Dibley</i> and actress Dawn French joined real-life female clergy to deliver a petition to Downing Street last month. Gordon Brown's recent speeches seem to indicate support.
How can we get involved?	Look for goods carrying the Fairtrade mark in your supermarket, church or cafe. If you can't see any, ask for them.	Hold a trade justice service in your church to raise awareness about the issues. Lobby the government.	Wear the white wristband. Learn about the issues involved and write to your MP.
Website	www.fairtrade.org.uk	www.tradejusticemovement.org	www.makepovertyhistory.org