

Gosport Fairtrade Action

Promoting FAIRTRADE in the Borough of Gosport



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Newsletter 7

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Published by S. Hirom, Hon. Sec. GFA, tel. 02392 582140. Email: gospportfa@tiscali.co.uk; photos by GFA members unless otherwise stated



Fairtrade Fortnight saw the launch of the "Take a Step for Fairtrade" campaign in Gosport.



The Stall in the Town Hall Reception area was in action every day from 12noon - 2pm offering free chocolate tasting, (thanks to the Co-op) and encouraging people to "Take a Step" for Fairtrade.

Seen here are Caroline Dineage MP and Chris Carter, Mayor of Gosport, leading by example.



Taking a step can involve buying a Fairtrade product you've never tried before; buying more, more often; persuading others or organizing an event. The national target is 1.5 million steps – one for every Fairtrade producer.

Stoke Road Methodist's Open Door cafe also offered opportunities to Take a Step and Fairtrade refreshments, every morning.

Fairtrade olive growers from Palestine visited Brune Park Community College

GFA hosted a visit from Zaytoun Olive oil producers, Riziq Abu Nasser and Taysir Arbasi, who talked to 320 Year 7 students at Brune Park Community College.



Photo. Brune Park Community College

Taysir said "the one thing that would help Palestinians would be to buy their Fairtrade olive products as they were the basis of their economy."

Students made 'Dinosteps' around the school for a quiz about Fairtrade, and tasted Fairtrade Chocolate. Staff tasted a variety of Fairtrade Coffees, rating Café Direct their favourite. And much, much more...

Bay House School had a visit from Rita Broni, of the Fairtrade Foundation.

Fairtrade Dinner

GFA worked with Fareham's Fairtrade Group to challenge Fareham College's catering students to produce a Fairtrade Dinner. Following a 2 hour briefing and discussion about Fairtrade, the students designed menus using as many Fairtrade ingredients as possible. They produced a magnificent three course dinner enjoyed by 40 people from Fareham and Gosport.



The student chefs take a bow. (Photo Jeremy Hicks)

Shops supported Fairtrade Fortnight

Many supermarkets made a special effort to promote Fairtrade with discounted prices (the Co-op offered 20% off many Fairtrade products) to encourage people to try them.



Some had special displays such as this one at Waitrose in Stoke Road.

Something for everyone in Fairtrade Fortnight:

Our favourite photo of the Fortnight appeared in The News. (Portsmouth) See it [here](#)

GFA members visited events in neighbouring Fairtrade Towns:

Lord Mayor's Tea Party, Portsmouth Guildhall,

Was hosted by the Lord Mayor of Portsmouth Cheryl Buggy, seen here with Tara Fisher representing GFA



Middle Eastern Evening at the Hub, University of Portsmouth

Three GFA members went to this event put on by Portsmouth Fairtrade Forum. A delicious Middle Eastern style meal was served. Zaytoun talked about their Fairtrade Company which imports and markets Palestinian olive products. Producer, Reziq Abu Nasser, whose village had 2,000 olive trees destroyed by armed soldiers in 2011, said *"By buying our olive oil, you are saving our lives, the future of our children and you are helping to save our land. We will remain steadfast in our resistance to the occupation and, with the support of the international community, we are stronger than on our own"* He and Taysir Arbasi, Zaytoun's Palestinian Director, explained how the better price benefits local farmers who feel their produce and labour is respected by those who buy it, and how the social premium for the community is used for the health clinic and his children's school.

For more information contact: <http://www.zaytoun.org/>



Future Events Some Highlights:

Women and Fairtrade – a display at the International Women's Day event at St. Faith's Church, Lee-on-the-Solent on **Sun. 25 March**

Fairtrade Banner Workshop – Stoke Road Methodist Church, **Sat. 23 June** 10am –2 pm. Help to make and decorate banners, flags and bunting to wave on July 15th when the Olympic Torch passes through Gosport – or at any other event. Fairtrade products will be used in refreshments at the Games so let's celebrate fairness in trade, sport and Gosport!

For more: check out [GFA's website](#) and ...

Please take steps for Fairtrade in 2012!