

17th OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

SURREY HEATH



Young people from Windle Valley Youth project for an alternative, ethical way of shopping



Luthful with Mayor of Surrey Heath, Patricia Pearce at the 2006 event.



A rickshaw costs £130 to buy and lasts about 6 years. The peddler can earn up to £2 a day to buy rice and lentils for a family of six.

'Wherever men and women are condemned to live in poverty, human rights are violated. To come together to ensure that these rights are respected is our solemn duty' Joseph Wresinski 17th October commemorative stone in Paris.

This message is at the heart of the 17th October UN Day for Ending Extreme Poverty. It is written on the commemorative stone laid in Paris on 17th October 1987, and on 30 copies of this stone in countries around the world. The message is signed by Joseph Wresinski, who grew up in poverty and went on to found ATD Fourth World, the international human rights and anti-poverty movement. <http://www.atd-uk.org>

What are people in Surrey Heath doing to end extreme poverty?

Ethical Fashion Show, March 2008, Tomlinscote School

Local young people from the Windle Valley Youth Project recently took action, putting on an Ethical Fashion Show. The event was a chance to see some great new fashions, with a difference - the workers who made these fashionable clothes were not needlessly exploited; they were treated fairly with reasonable workers' rights. Rachel Green, said "We organised the fashion show because we care about the people making our clothes and want to help make a difference to their lives." See <http://www.fairtrade.org.uk>

The Taste of India restaurant, Ash Vale

Luthful Karim, resident of Surrey heath and founding member of the Surrey Heath Coalition Against Poverty, raises funds through his restaurant for local, national and international causes. Current projects include purified drinking water supply and a Rickshaw project in his remote home village of Nimadhal in Bangladesh.

Gurkha Welfare Trust

Surrey Heath has been home to many Gurkhas (soldiers from Nepal). The Gurkha Welfare Trust helps those discharged from service because of injury or military action. Each veteran or his widow is given £20 a month to buy rice, lentils and vegetables. The Gurkha Welfare Trust, P.O. Box 2170, 22 Queen Street, Salisbury SP2 2EX. Tel: 01722 323955 or www.gwt.org.uk

St Peters and St Francis, Frimley

Eric and Sandra Read, with their children, Peter and Atiyah, work with the Community Development Department in the area of Lubumbashi. They have started a grassroots community development programme called Maendeleo Kutokea Musingi in Swahili meaning literally 'continuing from the foundations'. Activities include a micro-finance programme involving lending small sums of money to help local people to start small businesses.

Asian Students Christian Trust

ASCT, based in Camberley, helps extremely poor children in the Philippines by caring for them on a long term basis. They run three projects: a pre-school for 150 children whose parents live on a garbage dump, about 30 children are supported in their own homes so that they may go to school and there are exciting times ahead as they plan to build a new residential home to replace Mango Tree House in Manila, home to approximately 35 young people aged five to twenty. <http://www.asct.org.uk>

Frimhurst Family House, ATD Fourth World

ATD Fourth World works alongside people living in long-term poverty to support them in their refusal to accept poverty as a fact of life and find the solutions to eradicate it together. At a recent seminar parents spoke about the many challenges they face when raising their children, including involvement with social services, the education system and the social exclusion they often face from their own communities. Projects at Frimhurst include families respite stays, fun days and individual support.

www.atd-uk.org/frimhurst/indexfrim.htm



Fun days at Frimhurst

JOIN 17TH OCTOBER IN SURREY HEATH AN ACTION PACKED AND INSPIRING EVENING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE!

Every year events to mark the UN Day are prepared around the country. You can mark the day in your community, organisation, school, church or among friends. For ideas contact the Surrey Heath Coalition Against Poverty at joinoct17th@yahoo.co.uk

Making a Song and Dance about Poverty Friday 17 October 7pm to 9pm at Camberley Baptist Church, Frimley Road (A30 end). An expression of poverty through music and drama.

For information contact Frimhurst on 01252 835489 or joinoct17th@yahoo.co.uk

60 years of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights

The United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948 as a bulwark against oppression and discrimination. People across all boundaries must defend and proclaim the universal principles of justice, fairness and equality that we hold so deeply. <http://www.un.org/events/humanrights/2007/>

ARTICLE 25 STATES:

(1) Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.

(2) Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.

Human Rights 60 Years On United Nations Association Annual Conference 6-7 September 2008, starting at 11am at Chichester University Campus Tel: 0118 942 9467 or email: nsi-damparam@ntlworld.com for details

Amnesty International

Amnesty is launching its Poverty and Human Rights campaign by highlighting the plight of those who have undergone forced eviction. Everyone has the right to adequate housing and protection from forced eviction. In the Angolan capital, Luanda, hundreds of families have experienced evictions, reportedly being carried out to make way for a luxury housing complex. Amnesty is calling on the Angolan government to immediately stop forced evictions. To learn more about Amnesty's Poverty and Human Rights campaign and to take action go to www.amnesty.org.uk

Surrey Heath Coalition Against Poverty

Produced by Surrey Heath Coalition Against Poverty which supports initiatives to mark 17th October UN Day. Its members are drawn from Surrey Heath Christian Aid, Surrey Heath Chamber of Commerce, ATD Fourth World, Amnesty International, Surrey Heath United Nations Association, Gurkha Welfare Trust,

For more information contact joinoct17th@yahoo.co.uk or 01252 835489.