

Fairtrade

in Dumfries and Galloway

Issue 1

June 2017

What is Fairtrade?

Fairtrade is a different way of doing business and a growing international movement for change. Fairtrade seeks to put humanity back into international trade through our everyday decisions. By choosing products with the Fairtrade Mark you can be sure that:

- a fair price has been given to the producer.
- a little extra has been paid to the producer groups to invest in their communities, environment or strengthening their business (projects are chosen democratically by farmers and workers).
- workers' rights and environmental standards are met.

There are over 4500 different Fairtrade products available in the UK including beauty products, beans, beer, cakes, chutney and pickle, clothing, coffee, cotton, flowers, fruit, honey, ice-cream, juice, nuts, oil, peas, sports balls, spreads, sugar, sweets, tea and wine.



Choose products with the FAIRTRADE Mark

www.fairtrade.org.uk

What is being done to promote Fairtrade?

Individuals and groups work hard to promote Fairtrade in Dumfries and Galloway. The work of local Fairtrade Groups in Castle Douglas, Dumfries, Dunscore, Kirkcudbright and Wigtown has been recognised by the Fairtrade Foundation who awarded each place with the title of 'Fairtrade Town'. Campaigners are united in their efforts across the region too and hope this will be recognised with an award of 'Fairtrade Zone' status for Dumfries and Galloway.

To achieve Fairtrade Zone status, campaigners need to meet five goals. Steps that have been taken to reach each of these goals are detailed below.

Goal 1: Local Authority support

Dumfries and Galloway Council strives to be recognised as a council that actively supports and promotes the concept of Fairtrade, ensuring that producers in developing countries get a fair price for their goods and labour.

Where possible, Fairtrade products are purchased and form part of the hospitality provided at meetings.

The Council is a member of the Scottish Fair Trade Forum and provides officer and in-kind support to Fairtrade Groups across the region.

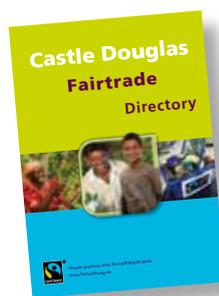
Teaching staff are educating young people about Fairtrade and some schools have achieved a Fairtrade school award.

The Council promotes Fairtrade Fortnight to its employees every February and encourages

supportive activities to take place within the workplace. It does this in the hope that employees will purchase Fairtrade products regularly.

Goal 2: Fairtrade product availability in shops and cafes

Some outlets in Dumfries and Galloway, which serve or sell Fairtrade products, display Fairtrade stickers and literature for customers. Directories have been produced by local Fairtrade Groups which provide details of outlets where Fairtrade products can be purchased.



Goal 3: Business and organisational use of Fairtrade products

Information about Fairtrade has been distributed to businesses across the region and Fairtrade Groups have given presentations to the Chamber of Commerce, Dumfries and Galloway College and Rotary Clubs to showcase the range of products and the commercial benefit of being a Fairtrade business.

Loch Arthur Camphill Community, located at Beeswing, has become the flagship employer for Fairtrade in the region.



Loch Arthur Camphill Community, Beeswing, Dumfries, DG2 8JQ.
Tel: 01387 259669 www.locharthur.org.uk www.facebook.com/LochArthur

Loch Arthur Farm Shop and Café has grown out of the productive efforts of a diverse and vibrant Camphill Community, where adults with learning disabilities take part in meaningful work and make a positive contribution to the local community.

Their Creamery began life over 30 years ago from a simple need to utilise the surplus organic milk from its small herd of dairy cows. It produces a range of hard and soft unpasteurised cheeses and yoghurt which have won numerous prestigious awards both nationally and internationally. With the addition of a Farm Shop (which sells the root vegetables, leafy greens and salad crops grown in the Farm, Greenhouses and Walled Garden) it has grown significantly and now boasts an in-house Butchery, Bakery and Cafe.

In addition to its own produce (meat, cheeses, breads, cereals, cakes, pies and biscuits) it stocks a wide range of speciality organic, local, Fairtrade, fairly traded and ethically sourced food and drink and an array of household, beauty and craft products.

The Café offers a range of daily specials and will always have vegetarian, gluten and dairy free options available as well as Fairtrade and fairly traded teas, coffees and organic juices.

Loch Arthur's highest accolades include being awarded Best Producer within the BBC Food and Farming Awards and it recently won the Artisan Food Category in the Scottish Rural Awards.

Goal 4: The media and general public

Fairtrade is celebrated and promoted through activities and events held throughout the year, particularly during Fairtrade Fortnight.

Local Fairtrade Groups have Facebook and Twitter pages which are used to share information and details of events and many articles appear in the local press.

Goal 5: Working together to sustain momentum

A Regional Steering Group comprising representatives from local Fairtrade Groups, Dumfries and Galloway Council and the flagship employer, Loch Arthur Camphill Community, has been established and is working to promote Fairtrade across the region.

One way it's promoting Fairtrade is through this newsletter which is being sent to its network of over 200 organisations and businesses. If you don't receive this directly but would like to in future then please let us know!

Our Fairtrade Herd

For a bit of fun the local Fairtrade Groups have been making Fairtrade Belted Galloway cows for each town and village that has Fairtrade status. There is Dougie (Castle Douglas), Doonie

(Dumfries), Duncan (Dunscore) and Cuddy (Kirkcudbright) and Dumfries and Galloway Council now has one too (staff are currently choosing a name!).



Council's Beltie along with Doonie (the Dumfries Beltie) and Dougie (the Castle Douglas Beltie).



Duncan, the Dunscore Beltie

Fairtrade Fortnight 2017

Fairtrade Fortnight ran from Monday 27th February until Sunday 12th March and this year's theme was 'put Fairtrade in your break'! Local Fairtrade Groups

and Dumfries and Galloway Council staff encouraged people to choose Fairtrade through a range of activities which took place across the region.

Dumfries and Galloway Council

Activities to celebrate Fairtrade Fortnight by Councillors and Council staff were shared through photos posted on the Council's Twitter pages.



Councillor Ronnie Nicholson, Council Leader (until May 2017) and Councillor Colin Smyth, Fairtrade Champion (until May 2017), promote Fairtrade at the Council Offices in English Street, Dumfries.

The Council's Community Planning and Engagement Unit provides support to the local Fairtrade Groups and generally promotes Fairtrade. Pictured (from left to right) are Ward Officers, Sean O'Toole, Kerry Monteith, Kimberly Phillips, Derek Hextall, Jaime Nicholson and Ward Manager, Stuart Hamilton.



Rhona Macgregor, Community Learning and Development Worker, recently met up with Wendy Jesson, Anti-Poverty Officer, to discuss the role of Fairtrade in releasing people from poverty.



Members of the Dumfries and Galloway Food Growing Strategy Group looked at the importance of Fairtrade in addressing some of the climate change issues in developing countries. They are pictured here with Fairtrade produce.





Councillors Sean Marshall, Richard Brodie, Ronnie Ogilvie (until May 2017) and Ian Carruthers put Fairtrade in their break at a regeneration meeting in Annan.

Twelve people enjoyed a tour around the historic Ewart Library in Dumfries conducted by the Archivist, Graham Roberts. The tour concluded with wide-ranging discussions (fuelled by Fairtrade tea and coffee) around the role of libraries, local history and yes, Fairtrade!



The Fairtrade display in Lochthorn Library, Dumfries

Take a tour around the Ewart Library
Fairtrade Fortnight

Everyone welcome to come along on a tour of the Ewart Library with Archivist Graham Roberts.
Free tea and coffee

Monday 6 March 10am - 12 pm
Thursday 9 March 10am - 12 pm

Customer Service Ewart Library
Catherine Street
Dumfries

FREE
01387 253820
susanib.anderson@dumgall.gov.uk

Dumfries & Galloway

Young people celebrated Fairtrade Fortnight in schools across Dumfries and Galloway.

The picture below shows pupils at Moffat running a Fairtrade tuck shop.



Castle Douglas Fairtrade Group

Posters were on display in the town and the Fairtrade Group held their Annual General Meeting over a Fairtrade coffee in the Mad Hatter's Tearoom.

Sean O'Toole, Ward Officer for Castle Douglas and Crocketford, spoke about Fairtrade in assemblies at Castle Douglas High School. As a result, the Pupil Council are going to discuss the possibility of becoming a Fairtrade school.



The picture above shows Sean O' Toole, S1-3 pupils and Alistair Cathro, Principal Teacher of Humanities.

The Primary School in Castle Douglas also did their bit with Fairtrade in their tuck shop and a presentation at assembly. Sean, along with Liz Manson from the Castle Douglas Fairtrade Group, went along to say well done!



Dumfries Fairtrade Group

Lots of folk took part in Fairtrade Breaks throughout Dumfries - at work, school, church or home - by serving Fairtrade products to friends and colleagues and taking a photo to share on social media using the hashtag #DumfriesFairBreak.

First off were the Anaesthetists at Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary.

Next up was the Film Club at the Robert Burns Centre, where they always serve Fairtrade tea and coffee. They watched the award-winning film 'La La Land' and then had a Fairtrade cuppa.

The cafe at Marks and Spencers joined in as did the Galloway Woodturners.

Fairtrade churches joined in with Fairtrade breakfasts and after service tea and coffee.

Workplace Fairtrade Breaks took place at the Crichton. There was also a Fairtrade coffee morning at Dumfries and Galloway College where we were spoiled for choice with the range of cakes and treats provided by the catering students! Finally we joined with our friends at the Oxfam Shop in Dumfries for a coffee and books morning.

National Activity

Scotland holds Fairtrade Nation status. The application for this was supported by the **Scottish Fair Trade Forum** (www.scottishfairtradeforum.org.uk) which promotes the cause in Scotland and organises activity at a national level.

The Fairtrade Foundation (www.fairtrade.org.uk) works across the UK and provides lots of resources and information about Fairtrade.

Dunscore Fairtrade Group

Dunscore Fairtrade Group held a 'Big Brunch' at Glenriddell Hall during Fairtrade Fortnight. The picture below shows some of the produce that was enjoyed.



The playgroup held an event and the school received a FairAware Award from Councillor Colin Smyth (until May 2017). Photos were taken by Alison Boyes.



Kirkcudbright Fairtrade Group

Representatives from Kirkcudbright Fairtrade Group visited Auchencairn, Borgue, Dalbeattie, Gatehouse, Kirkcudbright and Twynholm Primary Schools. They also visited Dalbeattie High School and Kirkcudbright Academy. They engaged pupils in learning about Fairtrade using talks, films, songs and an activity in which pupils planned and presented a mock radio interview and jingle!



Pupils at Borgue Primary School



Pupils at Twynholm Primary School



Pupils at Kirkcudbright Academy

The Fairtrade Group held a very successful coffee morning in Kirkcudbright Parish Church Hall. Members visited local businesses to promote Fairtrade and distribute the Kirkcudbright Fairtrade Spring Newsletter and a small sample pack of Fairtrade products (which included tea, coffee and sugar).

At Dalbeattie Primary School, Primary 5D pupils and class teacher Mrs Dyson organised and ran a Fairtrade tuck shop for staff and pupils. They offered toast with Fairtrade jam, Fairtrade bananas (which were donated by the Co-op in Dalbeattie) and a selection of Fairtrade cookies and oatly biscuits. This was very successful with pupils from all classes and staff showing support and enjoying a Fairtrade snack. The P5 pupils also organised and delivered a presentation to educate all P1-3 pupils about Fairtrade. Singing, video clips, a story and a quiz ensured an interactive afternoon. A representative from Kirkcudbright Fairtrade Group spoke to the whole school at assembly and explored the issues of Fairtrade in further depth with the Primary 5D class. Since Fairtrade Fortnight, Dalbeattie Primary School has received a FairAchiever Award from the Fairtrade Foundation which means the school has fully embedded Fairtrade into its daily life and works to raise awareness of Fairtrade in its local community!



Pupils at Dalbeattie Primary School enjoying a Fairtrade snack!

A Fairtrade stall was set up in Dalbeattie High School for three days and a talk provided at an assembly for S1-3 pupils.

Contact Us

For further information about Fairtrade, or to get involved in the work in your local area, please find contact details for the local Fairtrade Groups below.

We don't have any Fairtrade Groups in Annandale and Eskdale but would love to hear of people who are interested in being involved in one!

Castle Douglas Fairtrade Group

Email: packpony@btinternet.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CastleDouglasFairtradeTown

Dumfries Fairtrade Group

Email: dumfriesfairtrade@yahoo.co.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/DumfriesFairtrade

Twitter: www.twitter.com/FairDumfries

Website: www.dumfriesfairtrade.org.uk

Dunscore Fairtrade Group

Email: auchenage@gmail.com

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/145842125426026

Twitter: www.twitter.com/fairdunscore

Webpage: www.dunscore.org.uk/dunscore-fairtrade-group

Kirkcudbright Fairtrade Group

Email: kathmnaylor@yahoo.co.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Kirkcudbright-Fairtrade-Group

Fairtrade in Dumfries and Galloway Facebook page

www.facebook.com/Fairtrade-Dumfries-and-Galloway-427730050654578

Dumfries and Galloway Council

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Twitter: www.twitter.com/dgouncil

Website: www.dumgal.gov.uk