

Ten Principles of Fair Trade



Fair Trade

Fair trade aims to improve the lives of the producers and provides a way for consumers to show their commitment to a fairer world, and enables producers to satisfy their basic needs. Its Principles include:

- Paying fair prices to the producers which reflect the true cost of production – often the prices on the world market do not even cover the price of seeds, fertilisers etc.
- Supporting producer organisations in their social development projects – many provide health and education facilities.
- Promoting and empowerment of women and gender equality in pay and working conditions
- Ensuring no child labour or forced labour
- Advising on product development to increase access to markets.
- Promoting environmental responsibility, biodiversity including food sovereignty
- Campaigning to highlight the unequal system of world trade that places profit above basic needs and human rights and threatens our environment.

Thirty Years of the Fairtrade Mark



World Trade

It's important to realise that fair trade is located inside an inherently unfair trade system regulated by the World Trade Organisation (WTO) normally referred to as 'free trade'. This System ignores human rights, diversity, economic inequality and the environment.

Did you know that:

- The rules that govern world trade are written and policed by the world's eight richest countries, on behalf of powerful companies – the 'transnational corporations'.
- Around the world, thousands of young women work in sweatshops that make the products we consume – clothes, shoes, toys... They often have no contracts or sickness benefits and are forced to work long hours. Health and safety provisions are limited. Illegal child labour is common. Unions are usually banned, so it is difficult for workers to improve their wages and working conditions.
- As consumers, we benefit from the exploitation of workers and farmers in Asia, Africa, the Caribbean and Latin America – the 'South'. We can choose from a huge range of products at bargain basement prices, and enjoy fruit and veg all the year round. We shop in a global market place where the benefits are stacked in our favour.



Events programme

If you want to be included in next year's events programme, contact
 T: 0118 958 6692 E: volunteers@risc.org.uk

Further info

Chair: David Sutton E: davidsutton@gn.apc.org
 Reading Fairtrade Steering Group
 c/o RISC, 35-39 London Street, Reading RG1 4PS



Reading fairtrade events 2024





Sunday 10 March

Fairtrade Stall at Park Church

10.30am Sale of fair trade goods after morning service. Easter Eggs can also be ordered along with other fair trade items. Park United Reformed Church, Palmer Park Ave, RG6 1DN Gaye Rees E: gayerees@talktalk.net

Sunday 17 March

Fair Trade Stall at St John's Church

10.30am Stall following the 9.30am family service, selling a wide range of foods, beverages, chocolates, crafts and cards, St John's Church, St John's Rd, Caversham, RG4 8EB Phil T: [0118 9472444](tel:01189472444) E: phil.chatfield1@gmail.com

Sunday 24 March

Fair Trade Stall at Caversham Heights Methodist Church

11.30am Stall following the 10.30am service, selling a wide range of foods, beverages, chocolates, crafts and cards. Caversham Heights Methodist Church, Highmore Rd, RG4 7BG Phil T: [0118 9472444](tel:01189472444) E: phil.chatfield1@gmail.com



Saturday 11 May: WORLD FAIR TRADE DAY



Sunday 12 May

Palestine: News from the fairtrade producers

4pm Cathi Pawson, co-founder of Zaytoun, will talk about the difficulties experienced by Palestinian farmers working under military occupation. Zaytoun Harvest exhibition and stall. Refreshments & Palestinian snacks will be served. Hosted by RISC & Kairos RISC, 35-39 London St, RG1 4PS & **free/donation**



FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT: Monday 9 September - Sunday 22 September 2024

