

## Community

# Beeston resident off to campaign for climate justice in Copenhagen

TEARFUND has been one of the lead agencies working on climate change for many years. Now they are sending a delegation to campaign at the Copenhagen climate change summit in December – and local resident Judith Dare is one of just three people from the UK chosen to go along.

At Copenhagen, Judith Dare (55), an active member of Beeston Baptist Church on Dovecote Lane, will be campaigning at the conference to convince world leaders to recognise that poorer people in the developing world are hit first and worst by climate change, and that a “strong, fair, and legally binding climate deal” needs to be agreed.

But before she sets off for Copenhagen on December 10, Judith will be travelling to London on December 5 to take part in ‘The Wave’ demonstration, a protest march for climate justice.

Hundreds of Tearfund campaigners are expected to swell the numbers of other eco-minded demonstrators to around 40,000 in London. This throng, forming ‘The Wave’, will be dressed all in blue, have blue-painted hands and carry blue banners. They will flow through London as a ‘human wave of support for action on climate change’ from Grosvenor Square to Westminster, where ‘The Wave’ will encircle the Houses of Parliament for a dramatic finale at 3pm.

Judith said: “The Wave will send a clear message to Gordon Brown and the Energy Secretary, Ed Miliband, that people in the UK want the Government to do what it can to stop climate chaos, and to protect the planet’s ecosystems and the millions of people in developing countries who are already suffering from the impact of climate change.

“Malawi, for instance, once

had the perfect climate for growing Arabica coffee. It had a ‘cool season’ that was just the right length and at the right time of year to produce a great coffee crop, its fourth most important export. But now the cool season is so short that it’s become difficult to earn a good income from growing coffee – and they’re thinking of changing the crop to tobacco!”

Judith still appears a little dazed by the fact that she’s been selected to travel to Copenhagen.

“I’m stunned that I’ve been invited to attend. A friend told me about the ‘Stop Climate Chaos Coalition’ that represents 11 million members across 100 UK organisations, from the Women’s Institute to Tearfund and Friends of the Earth.

“The coalition has organised ‘The Wave’, and this friend suggested I apply for a place on the ‘Campaigners to

Copenhagen’ trip as well. I was gob-smacked when I heard that I’d been selected!”

“On my application letter, I mentioned the Fairtrade Fashion Shows I organise at the Baptist Church, and that Beeston has just achieved Fairtrade Town status.

“I added that, should I be selected, I would be talking about Copenhagen to the Beeston Fairtrade Group and to local environmental groups.

“Our own achievements in Fairtrade are all very well, but overall, the West is far too complacent. Any goals in helping people out of poverty will come to nothing if climate change goes too far.”

Whilst in Copenhagen, Judith expects to attend workshops and take part in further campaigning, including a huge international demonstration on December 12 at the mid-point of the summit.

# Logo design wins £100

A YEAR 11 student at the George Spencer School in Stapleford, Hadyn Bowley, has won first prize in a competition to design a logo for the Broxtowe Partnership. He was invited to the Town Hall, Beeston, last week to receive his prize of £100 from the Mayor of Broxtowe, Cllr John Longdon.

The Broxtowe 14-19 Partnership has been in existence for about four years. It is made up of representatives from local schools, colleges, training providers and employers, all working together to improve and expand learning opportunities for the young people of Broxtowe.

The Partnership had reached a point where it was looking for a common ‘visual identity’ that could be used on correspondence and publications, as well as at regional and national conferences.

A competition to design a Partnership logo was launched amongst Broxtowe’s schools and colleges, open to any

student aged between 14 and 19 living or learning in Broxtowe.

Haydn’s entry was chosen as the winner for its professional design and bold colour scheme. He received £100 in Victoria Centre gift vouchers, presented on behalf of the Partnership by the Mayor of Broxtowe.

Carmel Bradley, Partnership Coordinator, said: “Haydn is clearly a highly talented and enterprising student, and we’re absolutely delighted with the logo he has designed for the Partnership.

“We’re already using it widely and are extremely proud of it,” she added.

## New local book launch

### – come and meet the author

IMAGINE a time when education wasn’t compulsory. “Great,” you may be thinking, “I hate school!”

If you were poor, though, ‘no school’ didn’t mean ‘no work’. Most children from poorer homes would have toiled from dawn to dusk on farms or in factories. It was hard for them to improve their lot without basic skills in reading and writing.

People getting married would sign the register by marking it with an ‘x’ because they didn’t even know how to spell their own names.

However, in Toton in the early nineteenth century, Lady Caroline Warren, a local benefactor, set out to change this. She endowed the first school in Toton, arranging a sliding scale of charges to encourage the poorer children to attend. The story of that school – its rules, staffing, finances and holidays – is now told in a new book: “Toton Endowed School, 1829-1933” by local author Gill Morral.

On Saturday, December 12, at Toton Library, Stapleford Lane, between 10 and 12 noon, there will

be a chance to meet Gill and purchase copies of the book. Copies will be available at £4.50 and will make a good gift for someone this Christmas.

You are invited to go along, enjoy some refreshments, and look at a display of some of the research material that Gill collected, including maps, accounts, letters and extracts from Lady Caroline’s will.

If you are unable to make the launch date, the book can be purchased directly from the author at [gill.morral@ntlworld.com](mailto:gill.morral@ntlworld.com)

## Nether Street School Infants

FOLLOWING the success of recent efforts to identify children in a class photo taken at Beeston Fields School in 1945/46, reader

Iris Baker says: “This is my class picture of 1928/29, taken when I was seven years old, at Nether Street School Infants, Beeston.

“I wonder if anyone could help me put some of the names to the picture.”

Please contact *The Beeston Express* if you can help Iris.



Nether Street School Infants, 1928/29