

Kilgetty Family's Eat Fair Trade Chocolate to STOP THE TRAFFIK

1. Kilgetty residents joined STOP THE TRAFFIK in the World's Largest Chocolate Fondue Party, on Saturday 6th December. Organised by New Life Christian Fellowship, the fun filled disco evening was packed with games, a quiz, crafts and plenty of Fair Trade chocolate.

STOP THE TRAFFIK is a global movement working to combat the fastest growing crime, people trafficking. With over 1,000 member organisations in 50 countries, plus thousands of ordinary activists around the world, STOP THE TRAFFIK support people who have been trafficked, and help those who are vulnerable to trafficking.

New Life's Billy Evans welcomed everyone and introduced Pembrokeshire's Media Officer for Tearfund, Sharron Hardwick. Sharron was invited talk about the work of STOP THE TRAFFIK member's: Tearfund.

'Many people are unaware that modern day slavery is the World's second largest crime; men, women and children are being bought, sold, and enslaved. As Christians we believe God loves us and wants us to love our neighbours. Tonight we are here to have fun, and by eating lots of Fair Trade chocolate we're showing love to those who are poor and vulnerable.' Said Sharron.

More than one person is trafficked across borders EVERY MINUTE. People trafficking takes many forms such as: sexual exploitation, sweat shops, farm labour, domestic servitude and rebel armed forces.

As members of STOP THE TRAFFIK, Tearfund work with former child Soldiers in Gulu, Uganda. During two decades of civil war 20,000+ children have been kidnapped and trafficked by the rebel Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) to work as sex slaves, soldiers and porters. Tearfund partner 'Noah's Ark' ran a shelter for thousands of these children in the town of Gulu. Now a peace treaty has been reached, Noah's Ark continues helping children to overcome the longer-lasting emotional and spiritual effects of trafficking. New Life's Fair Trade and table top stalls raised over £100, and all profits were sent to Tearfund's Noah's Ark project.

The evening continued with creative Christmas card making with Sue Adams and games of chocolate drafts by Mick and Kath Parry-Thomas. A story about a Christmas cracker was read by Pauline Evans.

Sharron Hughes was announced as the adult quiz winner and George Macbeth won the young people's quiz. George's mum, Sarah Mills-Macbeth, said:' Tonight was a great way for local children to interact and learn something in the process.'

Before the Chocolate fondue, Sharron Hardwick encouraged everyone to celebrate the birth of Jesus this year by buying Fair Trade gifts and helping to STOP THE TRAFFIK. Kilgetty CO-OP donated a voucher and a display of CO-OP's Fair Trade goods was on show.

'The evening concluded with Christmas carols and everyone went home with a party bag of goodies.

' I loved the family atmosphere tonight, there was a bit of everything going on, with the disco, games and carols. I think everyone has enjoyed it all.' Said Sharron Hughes and Carol Marklew.

New Life Christian Fellowship meet on Sunday mornings at 10.45 in Kilgetty Community Centre. All are welcome and there is a Sunday Club for children. For details call Sally on 01834 831533

or Billy on 07827 293781. For information on STOP THE TRAFFIK and Tearfund call Sharron on 07530708095. Together we can make a difference.

