

Here's to the New Year

Within short time, there will be a new possibility to buy our fair trade products thanks to the kind support of „Food - Fruit - Vegetables Bernd Flüggen“. Six days a week you find some basic products of our assortment at Pützrieschstraße 124 at Alsdorf - Hoengen. The opening hours are: Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. (closed on Wednesday afternoon) and Saturday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

While buying these products, you support the producers who gain a fair price for their goods as well as our projects in Zambia, the same as buying in our shop at Mariadorf does. Our one-world-shop at Mariadorf stays open at the times you are used to and we are pleased to serve you there.

One of the most beautiful things in our association is the open and active contact to people in Zambia. With the following part of a letter we want to let you get into this contact, too. The letter is from Father Bert Otten S. J. who has been a professor at the technical university of Seattle (USA) and now retires at the Jesuit community at Chikuni. He is very much interested in the development of the oil mill and accompanies this project at the agricultural training center at Chikuni where sustainable farming is taught.

"Since last April, I did not take any diesel for the 4x4 - Vanette which the diocese of Monze gave to my disposal. I take sunflower oil. When I pass by, people sniff and then say "chips!", because the exhaust smell as if they came out of the kitchen. I also wrote an article about it for a Zambian Jesuit magazine. Everybody seems to be interested in it. The students at St. Peter Canisius' highschool on the other side of road are enthusiastic. The dream is that the money for diesel that we spend in our region can stay in our region instead of being transferred to international trusts or to the Middle East. Fulltime farmers could cultivate the plants needed for the vegetable oil. Within five or ten years I guess we could see the positive effects on the local economy. We can probably change to use jatropha nut which cannot be used for nutrition instead of sunflower when there is cultivated enough of it. This tree has seeds which can be used as fuel."

The cultivation of jatropha has already started. This uneatable plant is very resistant to dry climate and therefore suitable to be cultivated in southern Zambia.

Herbert Körfer

Autumn activities

In the meantime it is winter, but it is worth it to look back to the autumn because a lot of interesting things have taken place.

Engaged by personal contacts we developed a good connection to Kellersberg. On October, 14th we have been there with a market stand at the traditional book flea market. That was quite entertaining because besides working at the fair trade stand we could look at the books. This book flea market helps the Kellersberg parish to finance their parish library. That means: who wants to give away his old books finds open arms at Kellersberg. Thanks to the kind support of the library team another fair trade sale could take place on November 10th and 11th during the Christmas book exhibition. Many thanks to the team of the catholic public library of Kellersberg!

The first highlight of the autumn was our fair café in November. On the four Tuesdays in November, we offered self made cakes made with fair traded ingredients and our high quality coffees and teas - obviously fair trade products. On the first Tuesday, it was mainly the press that had been invited that visited us, but there were more and more guests each Tuesday. At the end we even had some regular costumers! The atmosphere was friendly and comfortable,

it seems that we had the right idea with our "receipt against grey November feelings". The farewell on the last Tuesday was rather sad, many visitors said that we should repeat this often. Let's see - the next November will arrive surely. The honorary working ladies from our fair handeln - Team offered not only their time with working in the café but also offered the ingredients of the cakes they baked and so we had no costs for the fair café afternoons. We want to thank the ladies warmly who helped this activity by baking and serving to become very successful.

If anybody wants to have receipts of some of the wonderful cakes, just ask in the one-world-shop and we will give them to you. My favorites by the way were the crunchy quinoa-cookies (baked by Mrs Remy) and the fantastic date cake (baked by Mrs Klosky). Oh, and the cream puffs (Mrs Körfer) also have not been bad, and the cherry cake (Mrs Deuster) and and and After that, in quick succession we continued with our activities. On November 18th and 25th we were invited to have a fair trade sale at the advent exhibition at Hilger's flowers at Mariadorf. We say thank you to Mr Hilgers for that good idea. Unfortunately, the weather was very bad and there were only a few visitors. On December, 2nd we could sell our fair trade goods at St. Anna's old people's home. That was very successful and above all it had the big advantage that it was dry (!) and warm indoors.

We missed this with the second highlight of the autumn. Dry - o. k., but warm ...?! We are talking about the Alsdorf Christmas market. For the second time we presented our fair trade assortment to the visitors and worked for our one-world-shop to become more known. It is interesting how many conversations you can have on such a Christmas market. Alsdorf has a really informal atmosphere, the contest with the big, known Christmas markets is not forced to be negative for Alsdorf. It was quite comfortable and in spite of that - or because of that - it was really successful. For good luck we had a wine stand right beside us and with the help of warm punch we could reach a relatively good working temperature. We are looking forward to a new Christmas market next year!

All these activities are only possible with the help of our diligent honorary workers. Would you like to work with us in our happy team? Join us - we will welcome you warmly.

Gertrud Kutscher

Reinforcement for the pupil's job fair

Three months ago, there had been reinforcement for the pupil's job fair team. Klara Pruchova is studying social work in the 5th semester and she helps the pupil's job fair with her youth project.

She developed a girl's club which takes place weekly.

The girls can get knowledge of one another, can try themselves and can talk about their interests and needs. The girls also organized a Christmas party for the pupils and employees of the pupil's job fair.

For this year the pupil's job fair team has many ideas.

There will be a course in baby-sitting and the girls club plans a project for drug prevention.

Kind regards Klara

Half bread-man

The St. Jack's parish at Warden every year supports organizations that deal with children or youth in our region by the proceeds of the St. Martin's activities. The children of Warden find a normal bread-man in their St. Martin's gift instead of the big bread-man they had in former times. The price which is taken for the St. Martin's gift, however, is calculated with the big bread-man. Moreover, there has been surplus money donated from the Warden people which now could get donated during the St. Martin's activities.

This year, the pupil's job fair got 500 € from the "half bread-man"-project. We say "thanks a lot" to our friends in Warden.