

***The field of the poor may yield much food, but it is swept away through injustice.***

*P*  
Proverbs  
13:23

In only a few years, a world-wide movement for fair trade has gained ground and purchasing power. In 2006, consumers around the globe bought over \$2 billion worth of fair trade certified products, an increase of 42% over 2005. Even big retail corporations are beginning to recognize the trend and the movement's role in the market place. Moreover, 1.4 million farmers and workers in 57 countries are finally receiving a fair return for their labours. Buying fair trade products is one way of building an economy that is sustainable and just.

The article by Doug Field "*Put some Justice in your Coffee Cup*" illustrates in greater detail the state of affairs where we pay \$1.50 for a single cup – up to \$20 for some gourmet coffee – and rejoice when the price of a pound of coffee drops, while an Ethiopian farm worker – one of 11 million Ethiopians who are dependent on coffee production – earns 25 cent a day.

You, too, can make a difference if you offer fair trade coffee and tea: -



at your church coffee hour



at home



at your place of work

Such a simple decision has a four-fold effect:



You ensure that small scale coffee farmers from Guatemala to Ethiopia, women in the northern most Andes of Peru to cooperatives in Indonesia get a fair price for their produce.



Furthermore, this coffee is grown organically under shady trees rather than on huge clear cut plantations, thus protecting wildlife and the biosphere.



You raise awareness – in your mind and that of others – about the injustice inherent in our prevalent global trade system and about your power to make a change.



You can turn your action into a fund raising campaign for the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund in support of emergency relief, reconstruction or development programs.

**You will find a list of some local outlets for fair trade coffee, tea and other products on this website. Why not make a start – today?**

## **Put Some Justice In Your Coffee Cup**

by Doug Field

St. Jude's, Oakville

Member of the PWRDF/Niagara Reference Group

It should be enough to say, "It's the right thing to do," but being right sometimes isn't enough. That's certainly true of the gallons of coffee many of us drink each month, at between two and three dollars a cup for ordinary coffee. Lattes, cappuccinos and other fancy coffees can often cost two or three times more. Coffee is the second most expensive legal commodity in the world, after oil.

We should be sensitive and more caring about where our food is sourced. Most of the time, what we're drinking at home or in our favourite coffee shop is being sold at many times the price paid to the grower of the coffee beans. The average cup of coffee bought at one of the coffee chains benefits the grower only a few cents – and, typically, that grower is either a poor farmer or a poorly paid laborer in an impoverished third world country. Much of the coffee produced by the big plantations is grown in sunlight on land which was a forest before it was clear-cut – and that's another issue. Small farmers typically produce shade-grown coffee at higher elevations. Simply put, Fair Trade ensures that the grower of the product receives a fair price; a price which allows a family to live above the poverty line and beyond subsistence level.

Fair Trade products are only now beginning to show up on our consumer radar. In the UK and Europe, Fair Trade is right up there with the other purchasing options, and consumer pressure has forced major supermarkets to offer a full range of Fair Trade products.

The Primate's Fund (PWRDF) is taking the lead promoting the use of Fair Trade products in Canada, and coffee is a high profile product in making Fair Trade a viable option.

Within the boundaries of our diocese there are a number of retailers and suppliers of Fair Trade coffee. Most of the familiar grocery chains offer the coffee, usually in their organic or health food sections. For those parishes who would like to introduce Fair Trade coffee to their

coffee hour, there are several companies who will supply coffee wholesale. One is The Creemore Coffee Company ([www.creemorecoffee.com](http://www.creemorecoffee.com)) and another is The Ultimate Bean ([www.theultimatebean.com](http://www.theultimatebean.com)). Both will not only supply a number of different coffees, but will cooperate with churches in packaging coffee for fund-raising.

Of the major coffee shop chains, Starbucks has made the most noise about engaging in a form of fair trade with its suppliers, and does offer one or two Fair Trade coffees. They are not always displayed prominently and you might have to ask for them.

There's more information about fair trade coffee outlets in the Niagara area at [www.niagara.anglican.ca](http://www.niagara.anglican.ca). (Click on 'programs' and then on 'outreach'.)

Sometimes it seems that individuals are powerless to make a difference when it comes to social justice, but we should not underestimate the power of the market place. Niagara Anglicans can make a difference if every parish in the diocese uses Fair Trade coffee for their coffee hour – and advertises the fact to their parishioners. It could promote something that could grow into more than a niche product, and find its place at the centre of the marketplace.

Using Fair Trade coffee *is* the right thing to do, and we can make a start on a Sunday morning soon.

## **F A I R   T R A D E**

[www.transfair.ca](http://www.transfair.ca)  
[www.fairtrade.net](http://www.fairtrade.net)

**A global movement for a just economy  
An alternative to multinational power brokers**

### **Retail Outlets for tea & coffee in and around the Anglican Diocese of Niagara**

**The Creemore Coffee Company:** [www.creemorecoffee.com](http://www.creemorecoffee.com); 1-877-466-0680

All coffees are fair trade certified, shade grown and organically grown. Also available is hot chocolate and flavoured coffees. Coffee purchased wholesale can be packaged with custom designed labels. Wholesale prices per 300 g: \$5.97 □\$7.77. Customized, fundraising packages available.

**Level Ground:** [www.levelground.com](http://www.levelground.com) (a distributor that supplies Ten Thousand Villages as well as the following local stores). Products can be ordered online.

- Dundas: Horn of Plenty
- Hamilton: Global Village
- Hamilton: Goodness Me
- Kitchener: Basic Bulk and Natural Food
- St. Catharines: The Peanut Mill
- Stratford: The Gentle Rain

**Loblaws/Zehrs:** have fair trade coffees in their organic/health food section.

**Planet Bean.** Guelph [www.planetbeancoffee.com](http://www.planetbeancoffee.com)  
259 Grange Rd. and 51 MacDonell St., Guelph, 519-837-3242

Planet Bean is a co-operative for coffee, tea, chocolate and sugar. All products are organically grown and fair trade certified. *Cafe Femenino* is noteworthy as it is produced in the remote northern Andes of Peru by women who have formed a close link with women in Guelph. Planet Bean will not charge for shipping for orders over \$200. 1lb. regular coffee \$10.85 (11 kinds) or \$11.85 for decaf (5 different kinds).

**St. Jacobs Farmer's Market**, Full of Beans

**Starbuck** offers one a Fair Trade product , **Estima**, a blended coffee

**Ten Thousand Villages:** [www.tenthousandvillages.ca](http://www.tenthousandvillages.ca)

- New Hamburg, 65B Heritage Dr.
- Niagara-on-the-Lake, 109 Queen Street
- Oakville, 226 Lakeshore Rd. East
- Port Colborne, 7 Clarence Street
- Toronto: 362 Danforth Ave; 2599 Younge St.; 474 Bloor St. W; 709 Queen St. W
- Waterloo, 80 King St. S

**The Ultimate Bean** [www.theultimatebean.com](http://www.theultimatebean.com)

supplies the following outlets:

- Elora: General Store and Penhaligan's
- Georgetown: Foodstuffs
- Guelph Farmer's Market
- Oakville: Kerr Frames & Gallery
- St. Agatha (outside of Waterloo): Pfenning's Organic & More
- Waterloo: Eating Well Organically

**The Ultimate Bean** also offers a fundraising packet: Regular coffee (12 oz) is sold @ \$7.50 with a suggested re-sale ticket @ \$12.50; decaf. \$9.00 → \$15.00. An excellent fundraiser for PWRDF!

Various **Alternative Grounds** outlets in Toronto and elsewhere in Ontario

*A listing of products and vendors on this site merely indicates availability; it does not constitute an endorsement.*

