

# CONNECT

THE NEWSLETTER FROM FEED THE MINDS  
EDUCATION MAKES A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE



exercice de Maths:

écrivez puis effectuez

$$3.145 + 209 + 4 =$$

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# WELCOME TO THE SPRING 2008 ISSUE OF CONNECT.

Thank you for all your feedback on the last issue. We've taken on board your comments and as you'll see have incorporated a number of new sections that reflect your suggestions.

This issue contains an overview of our new Organisational Strategy, a project snapshot section that gives you a flavour of some of our newest undertakings, plus a round up of Feed the Minds' book fairs around the country, which every year provide us with an invaluable source of support. You'll also find a Feed the Minds' events calendar on the back page.

# A Strategy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

**The team at Feed the Minds has been working hard over recent months to develop a clear five-year strategy that will ensure the charity remains relevant and true to its original mission, well into the 21st century.**

Josephine Carlsson, Chief Executive of Feed the Minds comments, "We have developed our new strategy in consultation with our trustees and members. It has been a very inspiring process that has enabled us to develop a vision for Feed the Minds into the future".

## Maximise our impact, clarify our niche

As a Christian organisation we have a duty to use our resources wisely and to focus our support on the most marginalised individuals and communities. To do this we need to develop sustainable partnerships, cost-effective programmes with high impact and effective monitoring and evaluation systems.

We will therefore focus our work both by narrowing the types of projects we fund and also by clarifying the kinds of partnerships. We will remain open to applications for projects in all parts of the world, but only in exceptional circumstances fund projects based in the UK.

Literacy will remain the core of our work, because we see it as a means of empowering people and enabling them to gain skills and knowledge, which can increase an individual's material and spiritual quality of life.



Pakistan: Mothers at a Women's Advocacy Centre attending a talk on contraception.

## Theological education

Feed the Minds has a long history of supporting theological education, using specific funds given for this purpose. Whereas our other work normally supports informal education, our support for theological education takes us into a more formal sector, where provision ranges from elementary extension programmes to accredited higher education.

We will continue to support theological education but refuse to support indoctrination. Theological education as we understand helps to expand the mind, develop critical thinking and form transferable skills.

## Supporting the global South

We will develop plans to facilitate learning between Feed the Minds' partner organisations with similar interests and challenges in the global South. This might involve bringing together organisations working on literacy or peace building or churches working on HIV/AIDS projects. ■

# BOOK WORMS SUPPORT FEED THE MINDS

Feed the Minds' book fairs have been running for nearly as long as the charity itself. When the then Archbishop of York, Donald Coggan, initiated Feed the Minds in 1964, he saw book fairs as a relevant way to raise support for Feed the Minds – a charity focussed on information and learning.

Today, Feed the Minds continues to receive invaluable support from used book sales all over the country. Connect talks to some of the organisers to find out more...

**York.** Feed the Minds' book fairs have become somewhat of an institution in York – 2008 is the 33rd year. York's annual book fair is now so popular that its chairman, David Laud, and committee members introduced a second fair last year.

David says: "Last year, as well as our major eight-day book fair in October, we introduced a two-day fair in July. We had a great response with visitors eager to stock up on summer reading or find books for the kids to enjoy during the summer holidays. We're running both fairs again this year.

It's a complete testament to the dedication of the committee and all our volunteers that we're able to run two fairs. It's a year-long commitment collecting, sorting and pricing hundreds of donated books, so that we're ready for the crowds when the fairs open.

We're always looking for more volunteers, especially now that we've got two fairs to prepare for."

Having been involved with the book fairs for seven years, David has learnt which books will fly off the shelf. "York is home to the National Railway Museum - and lots of railway enthusiasts - so railway titles sell straight away.

It's a pleasure watching visitors find their perfect book and makes all the hard work worthwhile – as does being able to send Feed the Minds a cheque for £4,500."

For more details on the York book fairs, turn over for our events calendar, or call David Laud on 0190 470 4600.

**Salisbury.** Salisbury hosts three book fairs a year – a major fair in July and two smaller events in March and November. Organiser David Lilley explains: "We started the smaller fairs six years ago to cope with the sheer volume of books that were being donated. We also have a weekly bookstall to help sell more books.

It's a full-time job but it means we're able to raise the maximum amount possible for Feed the Minds. Last year our total was £10,000, and we're on track for the same this year."

During nearly 30 years involvement, David has learnt a thing or two about books. "We've been lucky enough to establish excellent relationships with local dealers who help us spot and value special books.

They've been a great source of donations too, as they've invited us to house clearances to pick up spare books. We've found many of our most valuable titles in this way.

We once picked up some limited edition books on highland field sports that had been autographed by the then patron, an Earl. We took them to a specialist who valued and bought the books for £235.

Another time we found a first edition of a John le Carré novel, which had been missed



Left: Bargain hunters at one of the tables at the Salisbury book fair

Right: Norwich book fair held at Princes Street United Reformed Church in 1975



because of its post-war economy binding. Our local book dealer informed us that these had been selling for up to £400, although demand wasn't quite so high anymore. We still got £120.

We're getting good at spotting first editions now and dealers regularly come to our fairs from further a field as they know they might spot a treasure."

For more details on the Salisbury book fairs, see our events' calendar on the back page, or call David Lilley on 0172 232 4315.

**Norwich.** Feed the Minds' annual book fair in Norwich is an impressive 38 years old. Organiser Mrs Waltraud Jarrold has been involved from the start. She explains how the fair - every July - has moved around the city with the restoration of Norwich's churches.

"We started in St Michael's at Pleas in 1971 and two churches later, we're now at St Andrew's on St Andrew's Hill. In between, we've held the fair at the Princess Street United Reformed Church and St Gregory's at Pottergate.

We're lucky that Norwich has more medieval churches than anywhere else so we've had plenty of homes for our fairs!"

Over the years, one thing that has given Waltraud and her team much pleasure is coming across books - such as Christian publications - that can be sent to theological

colleges around the world, supporting Feed the Minds' Overseas Book Service.

"The retiring Pasteur of the German Lutheran Church in Cambridge and East Anglia offered us almost all of his theological collection. It was important to keep the books together, so we waited for the right opportunity to come up. Then we heard that the University of Estonia was looking for the books, so we managed to ship them out there. It was an inspiration to be able to get the right books to the right people."

Waltraud feels very fortunate to be in Norwich because the book fair has such support from both the civic authority and the local community. "Perhaps because we've been going so long, everyone knows us and is very generous about donating books. The book fair is always such an uplifting experience filled with surprises!

I'm so grateful to my team but we always need more volunteers. I'd love to hear from anyone who wants to get involved."

For full details of the Norwich book fair, turn over for our events calendar, or contact Mrs Jarrold on 0160 345 4799. ■

If you would like to hold a book fair in support of Feed the Minds in your area, please call our Donor Care Team on 08451 21 21 02.

**PROJECT NAME:**  
WOMEN HELPING  
WOMEN

**LOCATION:**  
PAKISTAN

The aim of the Women Helping Women project is to educate women workers in the brick kiln industry on their human rights and the condition of workers rights in Pakistan.

The project aims to organise and implement 12 'democracy schools' of one week duration covering topics such as the history of democracy, the role of workers in promoting democracy and the challenges faced by women workers.

The 'democracy schools' will target up to 600 women workers with the aim of increasing awareness of their rights and in the long term improve their working conditions, especially with respect to discrimination and sexual harassment.

# New Project Roundup

**Four new projects that have recently begun to receive funding from Feed the Minds.**

**PROJECT NAME:**  
CRAFTSHARE VOCATIONAL  
TRAINING CENTRE

**LOCATION:**  
SOUTHERN SIERRA LEONE

Craftshare Vocational Training Centre provides training in Christian education and basic literacy to members of the local community, many of whom cannot read or write.

Feed the Minds has been able to support Craftshare by providing training guides and coursework materials. To date 2,400 Literacy and Numeracy Study Guides, 150 printed Exercise Books, chalk, pens, pencils, vanguards, flips charts, rulers, erasers and markers have been funded.

This has enabled Craftshare to educate 844 registered participants, with 758 young men and women now able to read simple sentences.

**PROJECT NAME:**  
AFTER SCHOOL GHANA

**LOCATION:** GHANA

Feed the Minds has provided funding to After School Ghana in an initiative to improve literacy and academic performance among children in three rural villages through publishing folkstories for reading clubs.

The project will develop and print the materials for the initiative, identify, recruit and train tutors and implement the workshops, with 50 children being enrolled in the literacy programme at any one time.

It is anticipated that 1,200 children and young people will have access to the workshops and that they will stimulate an increased interest in reading and literacy.

**PROJECT NAME:**  
GLOBAL  
RESCUE MISSION

**LOCATION:**  
SIERRA LEONE

Feed the Minds has helped to fund a series of workshops, run by Global Rescue Mission in Sierra Leone. The objective of the workshops has been to develop the ability of young people to read and understand their surroundings and encourage them to actively participate in processes that lead to the development of their community.

The workshops covered a range of topics spanning everything from culture and literacy to newspapers and the media through to political writing and persuasion.

The workshops have encouraged the participants to read, engage peacefully and increase the effectiveness of community decision-making forums. ■

**Main Image: Pakistan: A young worker at a brick making factory in the Shahdara suburb of Lahore.**

**FEED THE MINDS  
EVENTS CALENDAR  
2008**

**SALISBURY  
BOOK FAIR**

3rd – 5th July 2008 (5–8pm 3rd July,  
9am–5pm 4th July, 9am–3pm Saturday  
5th July), United Reformed Church,  
Fisherton Street, Salisbury

Autumn 2008 fair tbc

Weekly bookstall, (most) Fridays and  
Saturdays, 10am–12.30pm

For more info, contact David Lilley on  
0172 232 4315

**NORWICH  
BOOK FAIR**

2nd – 5th July 2008,  
(10am–5pm except Saturday 5th July,  
9am–1pm), St Andrew's Church,  
St Andrew's Hill, Norwich

For more info, contact Mrs Waltraud Jarrold  
on 0160 345 4799

**YORK  
BOOK FAIR**

Two-day fair: 29th–30th July 2008  
(10am–5pm), St Helen's Church,  
St Helen's Square, York

Eight-day fair: 10th–17th October 2008  
(10am–5pm except Friday 17th October  
10am–1pm), The Guildhall, York

For more info, contact David Laud  
on 0190 470 4600

**PURLEY  
BOOK STALL**

Every Saturday (except August), 10am–  
12noon, Purley United Reformed Church,  
Brighton Road, Purley

For more info, visit the stall and speak to  
organiser Jane Miller

**SCARBOROUGH  
AUTUMN FAIR**

25th October, St Mark's Church,  
Scarborough (greetings cards, cakes,  
books & bric-a-brack)

For further info, contact Ms Patricia Mollon  
on 0172 336 6476

**FEED THE MINDS'  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

17th November 2008, 36 Causton Street,  
London SW1P 4AU

For further info, contact our Administrator  
on 08451 21 21 02.

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