**Fairtrade in East Dunbartonshire**

Having recently achieved Fairtrade status it is important that East Dunbartonshire continues to support the fair trade movement in our shops and community. Fairtrade products should be readily available to all and we should continue to look for areas for improvement. I conducted a survey of major stores in East Dunbartonshire to establish what Fairtrade products they sold, this survey was not exhaustive but provided an overview of what was available. This report contains a summary of the findings.

**Major Supermarkets**

Supermarkets are the biggest providers of Fairtrade products in East Dunbartonshire and many are active in promoting the fair trade message.

**Asda Bearsden:** stocks 74 out of a possible 94 Fairtrade lines stocked by Asda nationwide. Fairtrade lines include fruit, vegetables, flowers, chocolate, biscuits, tea, coffee, sugar, cereal bars, ice cream, rice, wine, condiments and alcohol. Nationwide Asda has seen Fairtrade sales rise by 35% in the last year and sells twice as many Fairtrade citrus fruits as any other major supermarket.

**Asda Bishopbriggs:** as above stocks a wide variety of Fairtrade products.

**Marks and Spencer Milngavie:** stocks 60 Fairtrade food lines including sugars, jams, chocolate and all teas and coffees. Also stocks some fairly traded fresh produce. M&S Milngavie sells 8 clothing lines made from Fairtrade cotton. Last year Marks and Spencer bought a third of the world’s supply of fair trade cotton. M&S are committed to paying a fair price to UK suppliers too.

**Marks and Spencer Bearsden:** as above all tea, coffee and conserves are Fairtrade.

**Morrisons Bishopbriggs:** stocks a range of Fairtrade products including fruit, vegetables, biscuits, chocolate, tea, coffee, jams, flowers, sugar and nuts. Sells a majority of the 102 lines stocked nationwide.

**Sainsbury’s Kirkintilloch:** stocks 59 Fairtrade lines of a possible 91 stocked by Sainsbury’s nationwide, including fruit, vegetables, tea, coffee, jams, sugar, spices, biscuits and cereal bars. All Sainsbury’s roses are Fairtrade, and they stock a selection of Fairtrade wines, alcohol and rice. All Sainsbury’s own-label tea is Fairtrade. Sainsbury’s will be offering triple Nectar points over Fairtrade Fortnight and have established a Fairtrade Development fund in collaboration with Comic Relief.

**Tesco Milngavie:** stocks 95 Fairtrade lines out of a national 140 lines, 45 of which are own brand. Tesco will soon be launching a range of Fairtrade cotton clothing

**Tesco Kirkintilloch:** stock a variety of Fairtrade goods out of a national 140 lines.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Store** | **Fair trade Lines** | **Fair trade lines available nationwide** |
| Sainsbury's | 59 | 91 |
| Tesco Milngavie | 95 | 140 |
| Tesco Kirkintilloch | Unknown | 140 |
| M & S Milngavie | 68 | Unknown |
| M & S Bearsden | Unknown | Unknown |
| Morrisons | A majority of the 102 lines | 102 |
| Asda Bearsden | 74 | 94 |
| Asda Bishopbriggs | A majority of the 94 lines | 94 |

**Smaller Stores**

While smaller stores tend to stock fewer fair trade products than supermarkets due to their respective sizes, many of the smaller stores in East Dunbartonshire are very involved in the fair trade movement and sell a wide variety of fairly traded goods.

**Balmore Coach House:** two thirds of the stock in the Balmore Coach House is fairly traded third world goods, the other third is made up of Scottish crafts, charity goods and environmental products. The Coach House also runs a wholesale business importing fairly traded products and selling them to other shops. Imports of jams, pickles and chutneys from Swaziland resulted in £55,000 worth of sales to other Fairtrade shops last year. The Coach House is currently trying to import sugar and rice from Malawi.

**Oxfam:** sells a variety of Fairtrade tea, coffee, chocolate, jewellery and sauces.

**Peckhams:** sells a variety of Fairtrade coffee, chocolate and flowers

**Scotmid Lenzie, Bearsden**– carries a limited range of Fairtrade products due to the small size of the stores. Scotmid supports many Fairtrade events.

**Further Action**

With Fairtrade sales rising across the country, shops are increasingly offering a wide range of fairly traded goods. In East Dunbartonshire supermarkets should be encouraged to stock more of the Fairtrade lines which are available in their stores nationwide. There is almost universal provision of fair trade tea and coffee and a wide range of fair trade food is available. The smaller stores should be commended for their provision of fairly traded crafts and jewellery. It is also encouraging that Marks and Spencer and Tesco are branching into Fairtrade clothing.

Overall the availability of Fairtrade goods in East Dunbartonshire is impressive and shoppers have a wide choice of stores to shop from for their Fairtrade products. Shoppers can help to put pressure on shops to improve their Fairtrade range by writing to the stores or by sending Fairtrade Fortnight “Stock It” campaign cards (available at <http://www.fairtrade.org.uk>). Those residents wishing to get more involved in Fairtrade events in East Dunbartonshire can contact the East Dunbartonshire Fairtrade Steering Group at sylvia.gray@eastdunbarton.gov.uk or by calling Sylvia Gray on 0141 761 4860.

**Fairtrade Events in East Dunbartonshire**

The following events will be taking place in East Dunbartonshire to mark Fairtrade Fortnight:

**Monday 25 February**:

For one week five Kirkintilloch Primary Schools will serve fairtrade products to pupils at lunchtime

**Saturday 1 March from 9.30am-11.00am**

Milton of Campsie Parish Church is hosting a Fairtrade Breakfast in the Stirling Hall. The cost is £1.50 (75p for children) and all fayre will be fairly traded and ethically purchased.

**Thursday 6 March at 8.30pm**

Douglas Academy will hold a Fairtrade Tasting Session and Quiz. Please contact Sylvia Gray on 0141 761 4860 if you are interested

**Sunday 9 March**

St Andrew's Church in Bearsden will be holding a Fairtrade Fair with local suppliers, fairtrade tea, coffee, cakes and a display of posters made by young people.

**Sunday 9 March 2.00pm**
There will be a free public viewing of 'Black Gold' at Mugdock Country Park cinema. The film is about the coffee trade tracing one man's fight for a fair price. Please call Liz Ferguson on 0141 956 6100 to book a place.