

New business that helps producers

A SOCIAL enterprise and charity dealing in fairly-traded jewellery and hand-made fashion accessories was out promoting the cause at Fairtrade Fortnight.

Mysmallshop set up stands at Smooth Café on Wells Road and at Christchurch, selling fairly traded gifts handmade by artisans in Nepal, Pakistan, South Africa and Indonesia.

The organisation sold silver jewellery, silk wall hangings and fairy gifts to help its work.

Mysmallshop is a social enterprise that donates all its profits to linked charity Mysmallhelp, which is working to provide education for poor children in Nepal, many of them orphans.



One of the leading figures in the charity is Ilkley's Leander Hollings, *pictured*, who was inspired to help children after doing voluntary work in a Nepalese orphanage for six weeks.

She said: "I experienced many things whilst staying at the orphanage which have changed my life forever."

Mysmallshop buys products at fair prices from artisans and invests in the development, empowerment and support of communities.

Mysmallshop aims to create a demand for goods produced in the developing world, which will in turn create jobs, enable business owners to increase wages and improve the standards of living in these countries.

As well as selling fairly traded goods online and at events such as Fairtrade Fortnight, Mysmallshop holds home Fairtrade parties or provides the goods for hosts to hold their own parties. For more information, visit the organisation's website, mysmallshop.org, or telephone 01943 430040.