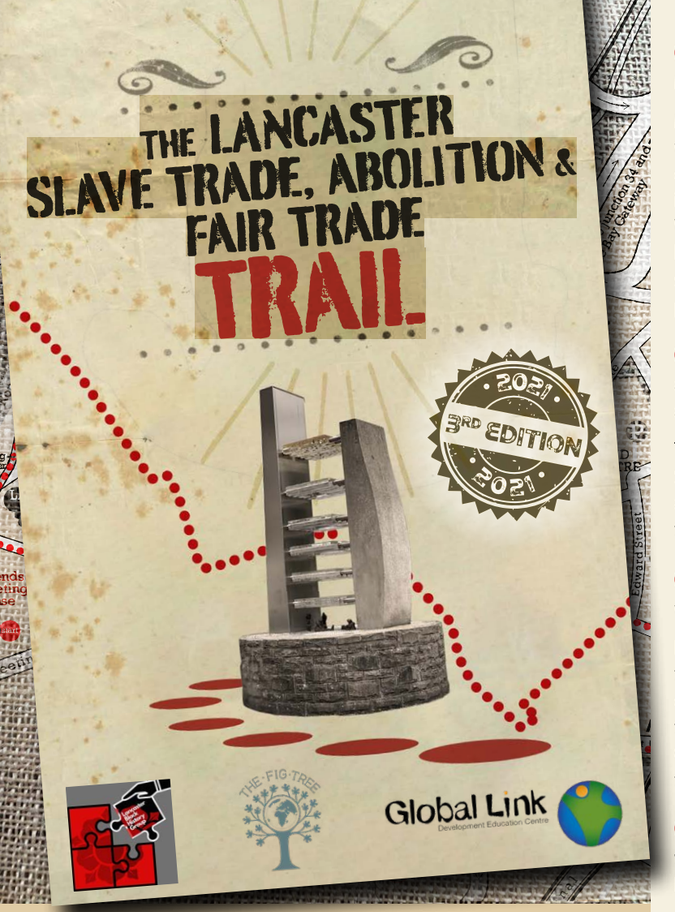


THANK YOU

The Friends of Lancaster Maritime Museum funded the initial trail with an Awards for All Lottery grant. The second version of the trail was edited and updated by Global Link to include Fairtrade and Quaker heritage sites. It was funded by The FIG Tree in Garstang as part of their Heritage Lottery Funded Fairtrade, Slave Trade and Quaker Project **www.fairtradecentre.org**

This revised trail is based on original research by Professor Alan Rice for his regular guided Slave Trade Trails and supported by researchers from **Lancaster Black History Group's Slavery Family Trees Community Research Project** in 2021 (**www.lancasterslaveryfamilytrees.com**). Lancaster Black History Group (LBHG) is a grassroots community group of local residents working to fight racism through education. For information on this contact: **arice@uclan.ac.uk**

With thanks for additional research to Melinda Elder, Jamie Reynolds, Imogen Tyler, Andrew Williams, Clement Mok, Sandra Usselmann, Fionnghuala Sweeney, Drahoslava Machova, Hannah Rose Murray and Amanda Adams.

Funding for this new trail was provided by Lancaster University, the Centre for Alternatives to Social and Economic Inequalities (CASEI), and the Necessity Platform.

Designed by Ivan Frontani – Lancaster Museums

1 FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE Begin at the Friends Meeting House next to the Train Station.

Members of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) have worshipped on this site since 1677. Quakers were some of the earliest opponents of the Slave Trade and Slavery. Nevertheless, individual Quakers in Lancaster were substantially involved in the West-India trade and the African slave trade. The slave trader and life-long Quaker Dodshon Foster was buried here. The unmarked site of his burial is to the right of the Meeting House by the main path. For more on Foster see his house (7).

2 20 CASTLE PARK Turn right past the Train Station up a narrow pathway. Turn right to go up Castle Park, keep right and look for number 20.

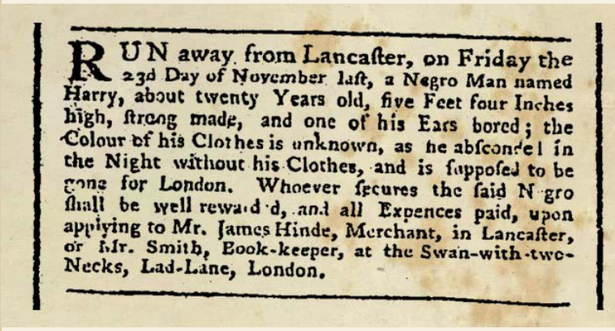
This was the home of the Satterthwaite family from 1781. John Satterthwaite had moved back from St. Kitts in the West Indies after his marriage to Mary (Polly) Rawlins. They brought with them a slave-servant Frances (Fanny) Elizabeth Johnson.

3 LANCASTER CASTLE Opposite you is Lancaster Castle which until very recently was a prison and is still a Court of Law.

It was the only Crown Court and Civil Court in Lancashire until the 1830s. The Gillows witness stand, table and chairs were especially crafted for the Grand Jury Room. Quakers were tried, tortured and imprisoned here for their religious beliefs, including George Fox and Margaret Fell, who both campaigned to improve the inhumane living conditions in the cells.

4 PRIORY CHURCH Turn left and go around the Castle towards the Priory Church. You will see a sign saying 'Public Footpath – St George's Quay 300 yards'.

This Priory Church was built mainly in the fifteenth century. The tower was rebuilt in 1759 and used as a landmark for ships on the River Lune. See if you can spot the memorial inscriptions to merchants William Lindow and Henry Rawlinson (outside the church) and Thomas Hinde (inside the church) who all made money through the slave and/or West-India trades. James Hinde's slave-servant Henry (Harry) Hinde was baptised here in 1761. He ran away in 1764, when he was about 20 years old, and a runaway advertisement was published in London with a reward for his return. Another slave runaway was an *Ibo* boy who escaped



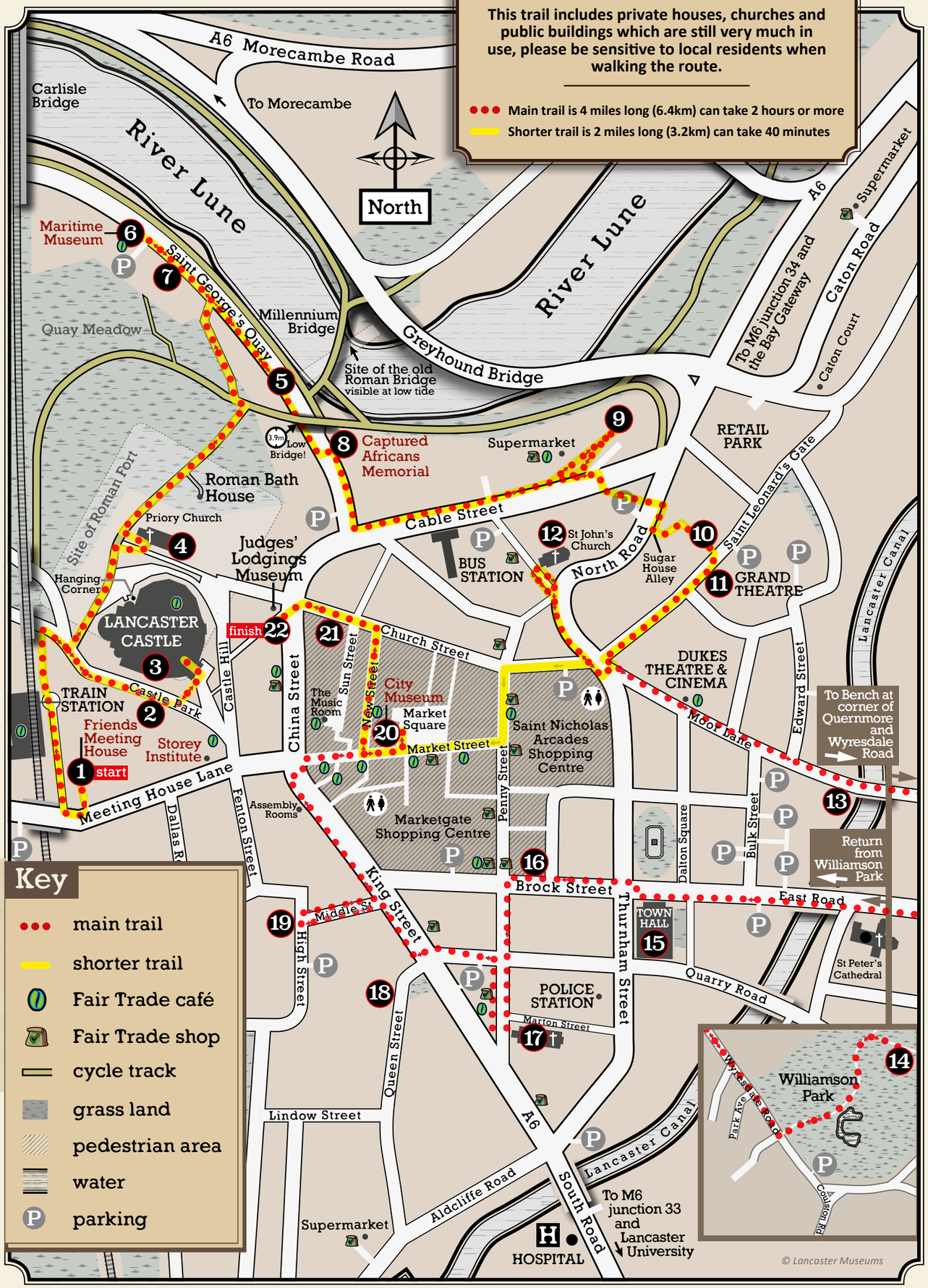
RUN away from Lancaſter, on Friday the 23d Day of November laſt, a Negro Man named Harry, about twenty Years old, five Feet four Inches high, ſtrong made, and one of his Ears bored; the Colour of his Clothes is unknown, as he abſconded in the Night without his Clothes, and is ſuppoſed to be gone for London. Whoever ſecures the ſaid Negro ſhall be well rewarded, and all Expences paid, upon applying to Mr. James Hinde, Merchant, in Lancaſter, or Mr. Smith, Book-keeper, at the Swan-with-two-Necks, Lad-Lane, London.

from his master the Rev. Thomas Clarkson of Heysham in 1765: he had African markings on his face and spoke with a Lancashire dialect. If you look at the small memorial garden at the side of the Priory Church, you will find a stone marking the baptism of Fanny Johnson, enslaved to the Satterthwaite family. A member of the Satterthwaite family has drawn on oral history to describe how Johnson's mummified hand passed down the generations. It was finally laid to rest in the Garden of Remembrance at the Priory Church in 1997 with an inscription 'F.E.J. 2 April 1778'.

This trail includes private houses, churches and public buildings which are still very much in use, please be sensitive to local residents when walking the route.

●●● Main trail is 4 miles long (6.4km) can take 2 hours or more

Shorter trail is 2 miles long (3.2km) can take 40 minutes



5 ST GEORGE'S QUAY Follow the footpath and signs, over the cycle path down to St George's Quay.

St George's Quay was built between 1750 and 1755, replacing the old muddy bank, making it easier to load and unload goods from the ships. Oxford, a black slave-servant from Barbados, is recorded as being here in 1759 in the day-book of the Lancaster merchant Henry Tindall accompanying his master's children William and Edmund Eversley who were attending schools in Kellet and Scorton, Yorkshire. The Eversley family continued owning slaves and Edmund's son was to receive £71 17s. from the British government in compensation for six slaves after emancipation in 1833. Slave-owners were compensated, enslaved Africans still await justice and reparations. Much money was made here. The Quay grew bigger and many warehouses were built.

6 MARITIME MUSEUM Turn left along the Quay until you reach the Maritime Museum.

This building used to be the Custom House and was built in 1764. It was designed by Richard Gillow, architect and furniture manufacturer, to service the expanding West India and slave trades. This was where the merchants paid taxes for the goods they were trading. The museum hosts a permanent exhibition on Lancaster and the slave trade.

7 DODSHON FOSTER'S HOUSE To the left of the Maritime Museum is Dodshon Foster's house and warehouse.

Dodshon Foster was a Quaker and successful merchant whose portrait is in the Maritime Museum. He owned two small ships which during five voyages carried 650 enslaved Africans to the Americas over a tenth of whom died en route.

8 SLAVE TRADE MEMORIAL Retrace your steps along the Quay, passing the footpath you came down, and continue under the bridge. On the left is *The Captured Africans*, a sculpture commissioned by the Slave Trade Arts Memorial Project to mark Lancaster's involvement in the Transatlantic Slave Trade. It is also the end point of the first stage and the start of the second stage of the Fair Trade Way; the six-day Fair Trade heritage trail from Garstang to Keswick.

Kevin Dalton-Johnson ©

Created by Kevin Dalton-Johnson and erected in 2005 it was the first sculpted quayside memorial to victims of the Transatlantic Slave Trade in Britain. The sugar, cotton and mahogany wealth represent the goods that people brought from the Americas with the money they had made selling enslaved Africans. It also names some of the ships, captains, and how many Africans they carried.

9 BROCKBANK SHIPYARD Follow Cable Street down to the Supermarket car park.

It was based on Green Ayre, Cable Street, which is now the site of a Sainsbury's supermarket and its car park. The company was hugely successful and was responsible for the building and launch of over 100 ships from the river Lune in Lancaster between 1738 and 1801. Some of these ships were built for the transatlantic slave trade, others for direct trade in slave-produced goods with the West-Indies and Americas. Brockbank's impact extended beyond shipbuilding by supporting local trades that fitted out the ships, like blacksmiths, anchor-smiths and rope-makers. George Brockbank's wife Mary continued the sailmaking business even after her husband's premature death, and this arm of Brockbanks was a substantial business in its own right.

10 SUGAR HOUSE Cross over North Road and down an narrow allyway (also known as Sugar House Alley) to the right of CityBlock, Gillows.

Today's student nightclub is roughly on the site of Lancaster's first sugar house dating from the late-17th century; a second later (mid-18th century) one was built further down St Leonard's Gate to replace it or reestablish the industry. The sugar houses existed to refine sugar cultivated in the Caribbean by enslaved people, which was imported to Lancaster for over 100 years. Lancaster's sugar industry was a very well connected and lucrative enterprise, situated close to Lawson's Quay on the River Lune, and Brockbank's Shipyard.

11 GRAND THEATRE, ST LEONARD'S GATE Cross the road to St Leonard's Gate and the Theatre is on the right.

This venue when it was known as the Theatre Royal, Lancaster played host to the great African American actor Ira Aldridge in 1827, 1832 and 1840–41. He is thought to have been the first black actor to play *Othello* on the British stage.

12 ST JOHN'S CHURCH Cross the road at the pelican crossing in front of the bus station. Turn left, cross over to the car park and walk around onto Chapel Street, turn right and walk to the end.

St John's Church was built around 1754 when the slave trade was flourishing. On the side you can see a memorial stone to John Lowther. He and two other men named John owned the last Lancaster-owned slave ship called *The Johns*.

13 MOOR LANE NORTH AND SOUTH MILLS Rejoin Moor Lane (where in 1612 the Pendle 'Witches' walked to their hangings) and walk up the hill to the Mills by the canal bridge.

Lancaster was also a cotton town and expanded in the early 19th century with the use of slave-produced cotton. The Lancaster canal (completed 1797) enabled coal to be brought directly to the mills helping speed up the industrial revolution. Lancaster merchants including the slave trader James Sawrey invested in the canal in 1792, a direct link between slave profits and industrial growth. These two mills were purchased by the Greg family in 1822 and 1846. The Gregs' empire included Quarry Bank Mill in Cheshire, which was funded in part through profits from West-Indies plantations. Blankets and clothes made at Quarry Bank were sent to Dominica as clothing for the enslaved people who worked on Greg's sugar plantation. The Gregs were connected by marriage to the prolific slave traders John and Thomas Hodgson, and they acquired Hodgson's Low Mill in Caton in settlement of a debt.

14 BENCH AT CORNER OF QUERNMORE AND WYRESDALE ROAD Continue up Moor Lane past Moor Gate up to Wyresdale Road; follow directions to Williamson Park.

This bench is one of the few signs left of the Cotton Famine (1861–1865). Lancaster was one of 29 towns in the County that handed out extra Poor Relief after the embargo of cotton by the North in an attempt to destroy the economy of the Confederate and slave-holding South during the American Civil War. The consequences for the Lancashire economy were severe with hundreds of thousands losing their jobs. Poor Relief led to work like the laying out of Williamson Park (100 metres up the hill). This bench (along with two others in the park) was donated by philanthropists for rest for the vagrant poor. The sacrifices of the workers was to lead to the ending of the slave economy in the American South and the defeat of the Confederacy. Abraham Lincoln acknowledged this in a letter to the workers in Lancashire in 1863 praising their 'sublime Christian heroism' and sending ships with food relief.

15 LANCASTER TOWN HALL Follow East Road downhill, past the Boys Grammar School and Cathedral, until you reach Dalton Square and the Town Hall.

This is where Lancaster, Morecambe and District Fairtrade status was declared on 5 March 2004. A voluntary Fairtrade steering group works hard to maintain this status. Dalton Square was home to many merchants associated with transatlantic slavery. The town hall was built on plots that were linked to two prominent families – the Bonds and the Hindes. John Bond (1778–1856), twice appointed as Mayor, inherited plantations and enslaved people in British Guiana from his slave-owning uncle Thomas Bond. His inheritance included a cotton plantation called Lancaster. On the abolition of slave-ownership in 1833, John Bond received a significant amount of government compensation. In October 1860, African American abolitionist Sarah Parker Remond spoke at the Palatine Hall, 2 Dalton Square, against the 'despotism' of an American government that allowed slavery. In June 2020, the square saw hundreds gather for Black Lives Matter protests.

16 ODDFELLOWS HALL, 5–7 BROCK STREET Cross the road to Brock Street at the main traffic lights. Straight ahead 20 metres.

After slavery was abolished in Britain and the Empire in 1833 many African American speakers visited to campaign for similar emancipation in the United States to build an 'Anti-Slavery Wall' of solidarity across the Atlantic. James Watkins spoke here twice in late April 1852 and twice in August 1854. James C. Thompson also spoke here on 21 October 1861.

17 ST THOMAS' CHURCH Cross over the road and follow the one-way system for 30 metres, then turn right onto Marton Street. On your left, at the back of St Thomas' Church, you will see the sign for Craft Aid.

Craft Aid opened in 1985 and was the first shop in Lancaster to sell only fairly traded goods. From the time that the Fairtrade Mark was introduced in 1994 it has stocked products with this Fairtrade certification as well as many fair trade craft items.

18 NUMBER 1 QUEEN SQUARE Turn left onto Spring Garden Street until you reach the one-way system again. Cross at the pelican crossing onto Queen Street and look for number one.

This grand Georgian house was owned by William Lindow, a wealthy West-Indian merchant and plantation owner, who in 1766 traded enslaved Africans between several islands in the West Indies whilst resident in Grenada. Living at these premises as a servant was a man called John Chance who had probably been enslaved in Grenada.

19 NUMBERS 2–6 HIGH STREET Join King Street and then turn left into Middle Street, continue uphill.

One of Lancaster's finest Georgian houses dating from 1772–73. Built for the wealthy merchant and West-Indian trader John Rawlinson, who was a third generation Quaker and descended from a Furness family who were important in developing the iron industry and had key links to transatlantic slavery. It is now a combination of houses and flats.

20 CITY MUSEUM Go back down King Street, past the Assembly Rooms on your left. Turn right at the traffic lights at Waterstones onto Market Street to Market Square.

The City Museum was once the Town Hall, where many of the wealthy slave traders were made freemen of the city, or received other honours. Slave ship captain and merchant Thomas Hinde became Mayor here (see 4).

21 THE SUN HOTEL (Formerly the Sun Inn) Walk around the back of the Museum and turn right down New Street. At the end of New Street turn left and you will find The Sun Inn.

This was a coaching inn in the 1700s, where merchants and captains would meet up to trade and make all sorts of deals. The slave ship *Swallow* was sold here in 1756.

22 GILLOW'S WAREHOUSE Continue to the end of Church Street and cross the one-way system. Bear left up Castle Hill where you will see a doorway with the Gillows' Warehouse sign over the door and plaque.

This famous Lancaster furniture manufacturing family was directly implicated in slavery via their trade with the West Indies which involved enslaved Africans harvesting the mahogany. Their ties to local merchants like James Sawrey enabled the import of slave-harvested mahogany which was key to their furniture-making business. For instance, Sawrey's slave ship *Fenton* was packed with 541 planks of mahogany on its return from Jamaica in 1785. The family also had a twelfth share in the slaving vessel *Gambia* in the 1750s.

HISTORICAL SLAVERY

Slavery has existed for thousands of years. In ancient times tribes would capture people from enemy tribes and use them to do their work for them.

Slavery was to expand on a large scale in the 1600s and 1700s with the development of the triangular transatlantic slave trade. This was a three-way trade between the Americas, Africa and Europe. Manufactured goods such as guns were shipped from Europe to Africa. These goods were traded for Africans who were forced into slavery and sent to the Americas on ships. Conditions on the ships were so bad that many people died before they even reached the New World. In the Americas the enslaved Africans were sold and with the money the traders bought tobacco, mahogany, cotton, sugar and rum, which they brought back to Britain.

Lancaster was a major port in the North West and the fourth biggest slave trading port in England. This tour will show you around the houses and buildings connected to the transatlantic slave trade and the campaigns for fair trade.

MODERN SLAVERY

Although the trading of slaves was abolished by Britain in 1807, slavery itself was not officially abolished in British colonies until 1833; enslaved Africans still worked on American plantations until 1865. This does not mean, however, that the cruelty of slavery is confined to the past.

Although no longer permissible by international law, millions of men, women and children are enslaved. For example, in West Africa, children are sold to cocoa plantation owners and beaten or tied up if they try to escape. In Asia, families are tricked into sending their children to work in carpet workshops, where they work 14 hours a day, every day of the week. In this country hundreds of people are 'trafficked' through our borders and forced to work for no pay, with no possibility of escape.

If you want to know more about modern slavery and what can be done about it, visit: www.antislavery.org If you want to ensure that no enslaved people produced the food you are eating or the products you are buying, make sure you buy fairly traded products. For further teaching resources on slavery or fair-trade visit **globallink.org.uk**

anti-slavery
today's fight for tomorrow's freedom