

Indigenous Education; the seeds of lasting peace in Guatemala



Wed 6th December

**La Ruca, Gloucester
Road, Bristol**

**Food at 6.30pm, talk at
7.30pm (Café prices apply)**

Meet Guillermo Chen, director of the Fundación Nueva Esperanza, Guatemala

On the 10th anniversary of peace in Guatemala, Guillermo Chen, director of the Fundación Nueva Esperanza talks about how an inspiring cultural education project is giving hope to the continuing struggle for justice, indigenous rights and identity in Guatemala.

Ffi; Contact Stuart on 07791 034138

www.guatemalасolidarity.org.uk

Voluntary donations requested

‘Education for indigenous children is the only way to combat intolerance, build a lasting peace and improve quality of life for our communities’

This December marks the 10th anniversary of the signing of Peace in Guatemala. The 1996 peace accords brought an end to a bloody 36-year conflict, in which 200,000 people, (the majority indigenous Mayans) died or ‘disappeared’.

The peace accords set out a framework for transforming Guatemalan society through principles of democracy, equality and respect. The reality is that the government has made little progress. Violence and human rights abuses in Guatemala are rife and the justice system is incompetent. Inequalities of land distribution, wealth and access to education are increasing.

Progress has been left to the inspiring and courageous work of civil society organisations.

The Fundaciòn Nueva Esperanza is one such organisation. It has developed a unique philosophy to educate children of Mayan Achi descent to participate and contribute to society whilst maintaining their threatened language, traditions and cultural values.