

Geoffrey Roberts Award 2008 - who needs £3,000/\$6,000?

31 Jan 2008 by JR

The trustees of the International Geoffrey Roberts Award are now seeking applications for their annual travel award worth £3,000 or \$6,000. Who do you know with an inspiring plan to spend that amount on a journey that will make a difference to the world of food and/or drink?

Applicants can be any age or nationality and can go anywhere, just so long as their plan impresses the judges. One of last year's joint winners, for example, was Florida geography teacher Richard Yllobingis who went on a road trip around the United States on a mission to raise awareness of endangered American foodstuffs. His tour and subsequent writings on such delights as Bloody Butcher pre-ordained corn can be followed at www.richardyllobingis.com

International organisations that promote biodiversity in the food supply and promote food education and traditional methods of food production that are good, clean, and fair. We already have over 80 people on our email list to just a few months and there is great interest on a number of local projects to help protect the agricultural fabric of our community. My project (along with the Geoffrey Roberts Award) will be featured in this year's Florida Society of Geographers conference. The other winner Jack Brasada is also American, by coincidence, and his money has been spent in local communities in Southern Sudan where the Universal Hat Shelter - a simple machine designed by Jack's Full Belly Project that needs no energy other than manpower - has helped villages there to add value to their most significant crop.

To apply for the 2008 Award visit www.jancisrobinson.com

fill in the online application form and send it to geoff@jancisrobinson.com

by 31 March, 2008. The winner will be chosen by the usual distinguished panel of judges including Neville Atkinson CBE, Sally Clarke of Clarke's restaurant in London, food writer Jill Duplex, wine merchant Willie Lebus, Nick and me, Jancis Robinson. The winners will be informed by the end of May 2008.

The Award is financed by a charitable trust established in 1986 in memory of the UK's pioneer importer of non-European wines. For more information contact geoff@jancisrobinson.com