



14-YEAR-OLD FRANEK PENS E BOOK ON ECOLOGICAL DISASTER OF THE ARAL SEA



Conscientious young conservationist Franek Bednarski has published his own E Book on one of the great ecological disasters of our time.

The St. Ambrose College Year 10 pupil from Sale has written ‘A Beginners’ Guide to Aral Sea’ in order to alert people to the damage that Soviet style collective farming has wrought on the world’s fourth largest lake from the 1950s onwards.

The brilliant 14-year-old from Sale, who came to England from Central Poland in 2004, when his father was appointed a cultural attaché in the Polish Consulate in Manchester, said: “The Aral Sea spans both Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan and is fed by the great rivers of South Central Asia, the Amu and the Syr.

“Soviet irrigation schemes saw the Lake shrink to just a sixth of its size, while the water that was coming into this great natural basin from the rivers were full of old style pesticides which inevitably built up and poisoned the waters.”

“With natural evaporation the residues of these pesticides and fertilisers became wind-borne and everyone on the planet has been breathing them in for decades. They are so prevalent that they have been found at the North Pole.”

Franek said: “Surprisingly, to me at least, few people, especially in the Great Britain, are aware of this problem, but I have always been fascinated. Great Persian and Muslim writers throughout the ages have chronicled the Aral Sea and even in my very small way, I hope I am adding to the knowledge.”

Franek, who is taking 10 GCSEs and wants to read History, Politics and Latin in the St. Ambrose College Sixth Form ultimately wants to read Law.

St. Ambrose College’s Head of Politics David Lindsay said: “It is always heartening to see a youngster so inspired by a subject they will take up a campaign purely because they believe in the cause.”

“Franek’s Introduction to the Aral Sea is an extremely good read and essential reading for anyone who cares about ecology and the impact of politics has on the planet.” If interest it can be downloaded from Amazon for £1.