

## **DWG: END OF YEAR UPDATE**

### **Fund-raising**

As we come to the end of 2017, the DWG would like to thank the parishioners for their prayers and extraordinary generosity. The projects shown below for this quarter, and throughout the year would not have been possible without their continuing support. The sum raised to fund the projects, which amounted to just over £20,000, by early December, came from: standing orders (approx. £4,600) cash/cheque donations, Green Boxes and Gift Aid (each nearly £2,000) and fun raising events (over £6,000). These included a Spanish wine tasting evening, the Banish the Blues supper and Strawberry Social (both organised by the Ladies Group) a Tea and Cakes Garden Party, manning the Welwyn Garden City "charity car park", the Golf Day, Pop-up-Opera's Hansel and Gretel; there is a further boost anticipated with the Lea singers Christmas concert on December 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **October:**

Sister Mary Joachim (pictured below) came to talk at all the weekend Masses to thank us for our prayers and support. She outlined most compellingly the work she and Father Sartorius carry out in the town of Gode (Somali region of Ethiopia) at the Mission amongst the poorest of the poor. (see <http://missionofhope.co.uk/>)

### **November:**

DWG paid £5,016 for essential medical equipment for safe deliveries in childbirth, especially caesarean sections, at the St Daniel Comboni Catholic Hospital in Wau (South Sudan) namely nebulisers, plus patient and foetal monitors. The beneficiaries include a large number of refugees (a third of Wau's population) from the north, and the poor who often travel from afar for treatment, despite drought and civil war. The group donated to the Comboni Sisters via the International Refugee Trust. (see pictures below)

### **December:**

Ithemba Nenjabulo Youth Project in the Diocese of Dundee, Northern Natal (South Africa)

We donated £680 to provide a wood stove, dining table and chairs for a youth centre (in the high veld township of Embalenhle Mpumalanga) which relies entirely on donations. It mainly helps orphans from across the township, many of whom have lost parents and carers to HIV/AIDS, and who learn practical skills at the centre. The priest working with the local community on this and other local projects is Father Gerald Gosling, who has worked with Sister Regina in the past and met Group members in Harpenden in October.

### **Upcoming events in 2018**

Barn Dance January 20<sup>th</sup>

Green Boxes recall January 27<sup>th</sup> / 28<sup>th</sup>.

Auction of Promises April 21<sup>st</sup>

Golf Day July 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Everyone is most welcome and thank you again!**

If you are interested in finding out more about the Group including helping in any way, please contact the Chair, Julia Roche tel. 01582 760295 or [juliandnigel@gmail.com](mailto:juliandnigel@gmail.com) or the Parish website.



