

FUNDRAISING

Standing orders, cash/cheque donations and Green Boxes (£1418) contributed over £12,000 in 2018. This was bolstered by a HMRC gift aid rebate of £1,835 and a repayment (of funding provided in 2017 to a project put on hold due to heightened security risk). A further £6,191 came from enjoyable Parish events such as the Banish the Blues Supper, Barn Dance, Open Garden/Plant Sale Day, Carmen and a Christmas Concert. The DWG was thus able to commit to the above seven projects. NB Funds will be sent to Nepal in early 2019, and the £800 Christmas Concert proceeds will be sent to Brazil in February, along with those from the 10 February Taste of Brazil event. Should you wish to donate via a Standing Order and/or register for Gift Aid, please see DWG Finance page on the parish website or contact Noel Whittle at noel.whittle@btinternet.com

UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2019

GREEN BOXES RECALL	26/27 JANUARY
TASTE OF BRAZIL	10 FEBRUARY
OPEN GARDEN	1 JUNE
BARN DANCE	TBA (to be arranged)
GOLF DAY	TBA
FELICI OPERA	TBA

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR TREMENDOUS SUPPORT

If you are interested in finding out more about the Group's objectives, projects & in helping in any way, please contact the chair, Jon Carr – tel 0797 4540106 or view the Parish website (see Parish Newsletter section for DWG Project Updates, and the DWG section under Parish Groups).



OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH HARPENDEN

DEVELOPING WORLD GROUP PROJECT REPORT FOR 2018



The group collected over £20,000 in 2018, which has gone, or soon will to seven projects in three continents. Their focus is on clean water, education and health.

1 LUKOME, GULU, UGANDA RAIN WATER STORAGE TANK

This project was designed to construct tanks to harvest rain water in the rainy season, so that the community – in an area ravaged by the brutal 1986-2007 civil war - would have a reliable, all year source of clean water. After technical problems with the initial build, we



engaged the International Refugee Trust, and its Ugandan partner, the Organisation for Community Action (OCA) to manage the final phase. The total cost was £10,000 and the tank, mostly underground, has a capacity of 100,000 litres. The OCA reported that “the work looks professionally done and has raised a lot of hope for the community”.

2 RARE, THAR PARKAR DESERT, SOUTH EAST PAKISTAN LARGE HAND PUMP



In March 2018 we donated £965 to the Columban Fathers to provide a large hand pump in Rare, Khipro parish. Local people contributed the labour required to sink the pump. Columban Father Tomas wrote that: “Rare village is a deserving case. They do not have drinkable water in the

village and the women have to walk every day to fetch water.” The pump will be used by local families who work mostly as bonded labourers for landlords.

3	PHETCHABUN, THAILAND	DROWNING PREVENTION & WATER SAFETY
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Over 1,300 Thai children are estimated to drown each year because they cannot swim. We donated £4,000 to Safe Child Thailand to help roll out its Drowning Prevention and Water Safety Programme to an additional Thai province, Phetchabun. The programme equips children with the skills & knowledge necessary to prevent drowning by providing swimming lessons, water safety measures and basic first aid. Our money will provide the course to over 350 children. It was delayed by major floods, but with preparatory work now under way, it should be completed by June 2019.

4	KISUMU, KENYA	BUSINESS TRAINING & MICROFINANCE
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We supported a programme in Kisumu, Kenya, where a charity, Just Small Change, works with a local Catholic NGO. The programme helps vulnerable women (and occasionally men) who are typically poor, widowed, frequently uneducated, often sick (due to HIV) - whilst bringing up their own children & related orphans. In June we provided £2,850 to enable 25 people to have 5 days business training and a £75 loan each (which they have to start paying back after the first month 'grace' period). The training helps them develop their businesses to provide a sustainable income for their families' needs; or to start their first business. We sent a further £2,850 in the autumn to support the training of another 25 women early in 2019.



5	AYACUCHO, PERU	CHILD HEALTH & EDUCATION
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Anaemia and malnutrition are major problems here for children under 3. Our £1,290 donation to the Columban Fathers in December will be used to improve the condition of the health centre addressing them. The centre also provides food for and teaches hygiene to mothers. It will also help equip a primary school Reading Club.

6	SHAMROCK SCHOOL, POKHARA, NEPAL	FURNITURE
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Nepal is one of the poorest countries in the world. The school was founded as a trust in 2006 to help educate some of the poorest children to become doctors, engineers, nurses, teachers and politicians. The school has just built two classrooms and in December we undertook to buy nearly £600 of furniture for them.

7	BRASILIA, BRAZIL	MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS FOR THE FAVELA CHILDREN
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A collection after the Christmas Carol Concert on 6 December raised almost £800 to support the Recycling Sounds Institute (IRS), a Brazilian charity which teaches music to children in Brasilia who live around the largest rubbish dump in Latin America where many of their parents work. This money and the proceeds of Taste of Brazil musical workshop at St Dominics on 10 February will be sent to pay for musical instruments so that more children can join in. There is no public funding so the children rely completely on donations.

