



OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

DEVELOPING WORLD GROUP PROJECT REPORT FOR 2021




Thank you for your continued support of the Developing World Group (DWG), Harpenden, through donations, Green Box collections and by attending our social events. This has enabled us to support many small scale Projects in Africa where our contributions make a big impact on the community and help to develop their self-sufficiency.





Some of our chosen Projects were severely affected by the global Covid Pandemic last year and this year. However, we can now update you on the completion of a few projects that were put on hold at the end of 2020 and also report on the new Projects that we supported in 2021.

1	OKWEDEROT PARISH, UGANDA Project completed	BOREHOLE	DONATED £4,435 IN 2020
<p>The installation of the borehole in Okwederot Parish, Northern Uganda, was delayed by lockdown restrictions and heavy rain. The International Refugee Trust (IRT), who have been overseeing the project, have now confirmed that the work was completed in Feb 2021. Boreholes are constructed above underground water sources and pumps are used to bring the water to the surface. The local community is now enjoying clean water, thereby reducing the risk of deadly diseases, and it has freed up women's time to carry out their vital domestic or income-generating work. Also children are able to spend more time on receiving education rather than collecting water.</p>			
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>			

2	KISUMI, KENYA Project nearly completed	BUSINESS TRAINING & MICRO FINANCE	DONATED £2,850 IN 2020
<p>Just Small Change (JSC) works with a local Catholic Non-Governmental Organisation to provide business training for vulnerable women who are suffering extreme poverty and food insecurity, widowed, often sick with HIV and supporting extended families. In November 2021, following the severe delays caused by the pandemic, JSC managed to give business training to 17 clients in the village of Kisumi, Kenya. They also each received a £75 loan to set up or develop their business, often selling at market stalls, followed by ongoing training & mentoring. As well as improving their business skills the clients gain confidence and can pass on their skills to their family. The clients are very grateful for our support. The remaining funds will be used in 2022. JSC's impact analysis report is available at:</p>			
<div style="display: flex;">  <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <p>https://justsmallchange.org.uk/Reports</p> </div> </div>			

3	LUSAKA, ZAMBIA Project completed	STARTER PACKS FOR BUSINESS	DONATED £900 IN 2020
<p>Workaid (as part of their Big Give Christmas Challenge fundraising campaign) confirmed that they were able to successfully distribute their 1,200 tool starter kits to 3,500 graduates from the Youth Resource Centres (YRC) in Lusaka, Zambia. This has empowered them to set up businesses in small teams and help escape poverty.</p>			
<div>  <div> <p>Ernest and James</p> <p>Ernest is the oldest of four and couldn't afford his school fees when his parents died. A carpentry kit helped him and James to start their own business when they finished their training and he is now paying fees for his 3 younger siblings – Ernest is now basically father and mother to them all!</p> <p>Project Name: Ricap Skills Project, Lusaka.</p> </div> </div>			

4	NORTHERN UGANDA Project completed	EQUIPMENT FOR MOYO BABIES HOME	DONATED £1,650 IN 2020
<p>The Sacred Heart Sisters, who run Moyo Babies Home in N. Uganda, have now successfully replaced the paste grinder machines, strimmer & chain with our donation through IRT.</p> <p>This will release funds to help babies and children in the home – most of whom have been displaced from S. Sudan and other parts of North Uganda.</p>			

5	KYANGALA, KENYA Project completed	REFURBISHMENT OF BOYS SCHOOL DORMITORY	DONATED £4,000 IN 2021
<p>Our donation was matched by the Kyangala Trust and enabled the refurbishment of the boys school dormitory in Kyangala. The work (which included external drainage and painting) has been successfully completed, inspected and re-occupied. The improvement in the school environment will help the students to concentrate when learning. For more information on the Kyangala Trust go to www.kyangala-trust.org.uk. The 'before' and 'after' photos below show the huge improvements made.</p>			
<div> <div>   </div> <div>   </div> </div> <div> <p>Before renovation</p> <p>After renovation</p> </div>			

6	ZAMBIA, AFRICA Project completed	CONTAINER TRANSPORT OF TOOLS FOR TRAINING	DONATED £2,250 IN 2021
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Part of the funds raised from the Harpenden Jigsaw Festival (organized by the DWG and Methodist Church) have been donated to Workaid in Chesham. Workaid collects unwanted tools & sewing machines, refurbishes them and then ships them to training centres, prisons and self-help organisations in Africa. Our donation will help to pay for a container shipment to help retrain the community in Zambia. Global container costs have risen substantially over the last year so this donation was well received.

7	ZAMBIA, AFRICA Project completed	TRAINING TO REPAIR & SERVICE SEWING MACHINES	DONATED £2,000 IN 2021
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Additional money from the Harpenden Jigsaw Festival has been donated to Workaid for their BIG GIVE campaign. This supported programmes in Lusaka Youth Resource Centre, Zambia, to provide vocational training on sewing machine repair and maintenance. The trained teachers are then able to pass on their skills to 20 tailoring trainees.



'I am so delighted that I have been privileged to acquire a new skill in repairing and servicing sewing machines. I know that my personal life will now change because I will earn an income through fixing other people's machines.'

Ziangani Phiri

Teacher at Lusaka Youth Resource Centre.

8	NORTHERN UGANDA Existing Project	CONSTRUCTION OF PROTECTED SPRINGS	DONATED £3,500 IN 2021
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Funds have been donated to IRT who will ensure access to fresh, clean water for StepUp villagers in the Lira/Alebtong region of Northern Uganda.

Three natural springs have been identified. This free-flowing water will be protected to ensure that it is secured against contamination. Springs are protected by building concrete steps, a wall and a raised outlet pipe to ensure a more sanitised way of collecting water. The spring water is also filtered through an underground pit with rocks to clean the water. We will update you when the projects are completed.



This will ensure that eight villages have access to natural, clean water, serving approximately 3,290 villagers, thus helping to improve their standard of living.

The photo on the left shows the contaminated water that the community are currently collecting.

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR TREMENDOUS SUPPORT IN 2021

FUNDRAISING

The Covid pandemic meant that social fundraising activities were severely curtailed again in 2021 but thanks to the on-going generosity of the parishioners and the wider community of Harpenden we managed to raise £13,583 through the following:

GREEN BOX, MONTHLY AND ONE-OFF DONATIONS	£7,460
HMRC GIFT AID REBATE	£1,268
PLANT SALE	£745
50% OF THE 'HARPENDEN JIGSAW FESTIVAL' PROFIT	£4,110
TOTAL	£13,583

In addition to raising funds for the Developing World Group it was great to work as a team, through Zoom, to discuss potential projects and plan events.

In July, thanks to a member of the DWG, we held our annual 'Plant Sale'. It was a downscaled event due to the Pandemic but gave our parishioners and friends an opportunity to socialise a little, buy homegrown plants kindly donated by parishioners and have tea and cake. The event was welcomed by all.

Meanwhile, despite the pandemic, and after 18 months in the planning, we organized our biggest fundraising event ever – the 'Harpenden Jigsaw Festival', which took place over the August Bank Holiday 2021. The Festival was organised in conjunction with Harpenden High Street Methodist Church (HSMC) and raised £8,220, with the proceeds being equally shared between HSMC's chosen charity Azalea and the DWG's chosen charity Workaid.

We owe the success of the Harpenden Jigsaw Festival to the wonderful community spirit generated by the event. Volunteers stepped-up to donate, assemble and store the made-up jigsaws, source and cut cardboard, sort and display the made-up jigsaws, steward on the day, make cakes & serve teas and coffees. And a BIG thank you to the High Street Methodist Church for hosting the event. And finally THANK YOU for coming along to support us by buying the jigsaws!



SOME OF THE UPCOMING EVENTS 2022

GREEN BOX RECALL	Saturday 23 rd and Sunday 24 th April 2022
OPEN GARDEN	Saturday 28 th May 2022
QUIZ NIGHT	Saturday 1 ST October 2022

Should you wish to donate on a one-off basis or by regular standing order and/or register for Gift Aid please see the DWG Finance page on the Parish website or contact Noel Whittle, our treasurer, at noel.whittle@btinternet.com

And if you are interested in finding out more about the Group's objectives, projects & helping in any way, please contact our chair, Betty Hines elizabeth.hines@gmail.com or view the Parish website. (See the Parish Newsletter section for the DWG Project updates and/or look under the Parish Groups for the DWG section.)