



WorldShare

# window

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Children from the brick kilns of Pakistan



# Editorial

In late March we, as an office, marked one year since we'd been working from home. It was also the day that the UK observed a one minute silence for those who'd lost their lives to Covid-19. As a team, we especially focussed on five people from our ministry partners who'd sadly died from the virus. Please continue to pray for their colleagues and families, remembering the reassuring words of Psalm 23:4.

*"Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."  
Psalm 23:4*

As Covid-19 restrictions ease in the UK, it is easy to forget the different situations our ministry partners face. Not only suffering from the ongoing impact of the virus with, for example, India desperately battling a second wave of infection, but also a lack of access to vaccinations. In the UK we have been immensely privileged with vaccinations freely available on the NHS, enabled by our international buying power as a country.

Many developing countries just don't have this possibility, they can only wait for the WHO Covax programme to make vaccines available.

In each edition of Window, we endeavour to bring you a mix of stories and updates from our ministry partners. This time is no exception; we share with you how God used supporters David and Alison's vision over 20 years ago to develop the work of Hope for Africa Mission in South Africa (pages 12 & 13). Also, did you hear about WorldShare Week? Well, as a staff team, we thought we'd set ourselves a challenge and between us travelled over 100km, by running, walking and cycling. In the end we smashed our target, raising much needed funds for our ministry partners. See how others were inspired too (pages 8 & 9). Finally, we hope you will be inspired to keep praying for our ministry partners using a few of the ideas we have shared (page 10).

*Alan Butler, Chief Executive*

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# ChildAid in Uganda – a new partnership



Welcome to your regular spotlight on ChildAid – our sponsor-a-child programme. In each issue of our magazine, we focus on a different ministry partner. So today, it's Christian Fellowship Ministries (CFM) in Uganda.

CFM is a holistic evangelical ministry which started at the dawn of a new millennium (2000), with the main objective of sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with every house, institution, and person they can reach. This is done through preaching the Gospel, Church planting, training, and equipping leaders. Alongside community empowerment work, CFM help orphans, vulnerable children and widows through their Livelihoods Programme.

Last year, we had the joy of beginning a new partnership with CFM, supporting them through ChildAid to grow their Child Sponsorship Programme.

Through the programme, CFM provides support to orphans and vulnerable children in the communities where they work. This support includes education (school fees/materials), health and medical care and spiritual and social emotional care, which all help meet the holistic needs of a child.



During the last year, CFM have continued where they can, reaching out to the most vulnerable despite Covid-19. Want to find out more? Our affiliate office in Australia recently met up with the CFM ministry leaders virtually – this is still available to watch online and can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3e0ppWc>

## Can you sponsor a child at CFM like Jane?

*Jane Kitonga is 14 years old. Jane's mother has sadly passed away. She is the 8<sup>th</sup> of 10 children but she does not live with her siblings. She lives with her aunt and three cousins in a small mud brick house. Jane's favourite subjects are reading and science. She wants to become a doctor.*



*Jane is supported through CFM's Mbale Community of Uganda - New Generation Orphan Care Programme which works with children, just like Jane, who come from families living in extreme poverty.*

Please get in touch for more details or visit our website. Tel: 01302 775209 or email [clare.hill@worldshare.org.uk](mailto:clare.hill@worldshare.org.uk), [www.worldshare.org.uk/who-we-help/child-aid](http://www.worldshare.org.uk/who-we-help/child-aid)

# Freedom from slavery

In a dusty corner of Pakistan, Shazad, his wife Kalsoom, and their children crouch down with the searing heat of the summer sun on their backs. You hear the tap-tap-tap of metal brick molds being tightly packed and unpacked. Barely a breath is taken, as they work desperately to try and reach their daily quota of 1,500 bricks.

This is just another day's work in the brick kilns of Pakistan. A day's work which earns a family on average just £4.21. A day's work which sees children missing out on an education. A day's work which families are bound to by huge debts inherited from generations of exploitation. A day's work which can force some families to go so far as selling their own organs to pay off debts.

This is a day's work in bonded labour; one of the most common forms of modern day slavery.

A reality which today, praise God, has been transformed for Shazad and Kalsoom's family through the work of ministry partner, Christian Foundation (ChrisFon).

Shazad working at the brick kiln with his family



## Looking back

Two years ago Shazad was bound to his employer by a mounting debt of 250,000 rupees. He struggled to manage the meagre family income and his illiteracy meant few opportunities to access other employment, worker rights or even basic health information.

Shazad and Kalsoom's family faced a life of poverty with poor health, no education, few resources and little knowledge of the hope they could find in Jesus.

## A year without loans

Freeing families from bonded labour, and sharing the love of Jesus, is at the heart of ChrisFon's work among brick kiln communities in Pakistan.

For two years ChrisFon pastor Rehmat, and his wife Samina, spent time with Shazad's community, sharing the Gospel and equipping them with the tools to build a better future.

Through ChrisFon's income generation programme Shazad is now able to earn much needed additional income and is being taught how to manage their money better.

*"Previously during the rainy season we would sit idle because the kiln would shut down and to feed ourselves we would draw more loans from the kiln owner."*

*"The year 2020 was the first year in our lives when we did not draw any further loans."*



*"Pastor Rehmat kept telling us that during the shutdown times we should go and find work to earn money to feed the family, and not draw any further loans from the kiln owner. This time we went to the paddy field."*

Kalsoom has also gained vital new skills: *"I am grateful to Pastor Rehmat's wife who has taught us stitching... and to ChrisFon for the provision of a sewing machine. I am now stitching my children's clothes and also my own. This is a good saving."*



Pastor Rehmat and his wife Samina have been building relationships in the local community

## "We should protect our children"

Shazad and Kalsoom's children are now able to look forward to a much better future. Shazad shares:

*"Our health knowledge was weak, they taught us how important it is to wash hands with soap... to drink water early in the morning and as much as possible.... We did not much*

*care when our children ate dust but we were taught we should protect our children from this."*

*"Now when the schools open I will try to get them enrolled so that our children get educated."*

## Gospel centred

Finally, if you were to listen in as Shazad and Kalsoom's family gather together, you would hear a new sound rising up – prayers and praise to God.

Pastor Rehmat and his wife Samina have established house churches in Shazad's community, introducing people to Jesus and discipling them:

*"We never knew how to pray. Our children did not know any Christian stories or verses or songs. Now Pastor Rehmat has taught us all these things."*

We give thanks that hope has been restored to Shazad's family, and the 18 other families ChrisFon has been serving in Shazad's area. Every day families are moving a step closer to breaking free from bonded labour, and living a fulfilled life in God.

Please join us in praying for ChrisFon as they work to bring hope, sustainability and dignity to those who have been struggling for generations in the brick kiln communities of Pakistan.

# 'Breath of Life' for Brazil



Earlier this year, our ministry partner, the Evangelical Mission for Assistance to Fishermen (EMAF), launched an appeal for desperately needed oxygen tanks for those suffering from Covid-19 in some of the most remote areas of Brazil.

Thank you for stepping out in faith to support them. We praise God that, through your generosity and grants from two charitable trusts, you helped raise enough to deliver 50 oxygen tanks to the areas of Lábrea, Pauini and Canutama.

One hospital director shared his relief:

*"The tanks arrived just in time; we were practically out of oxygen."*

EMAF named the operation 'Breath of Life' and shared with us how important this intervention was, at a time when people were literally dying without air:

*"We are the living rock of Jesus Christ in this place and we need to make a difference in the lives of the people. That way we will continue to save lives and help those communities and regions that especially need to see God's love, need a 'Breath of Life', that need Christ."*

You may have seen on the news, more recently, that Brazil has identified a new variant of coronavirus, which is causing concern because it is thought to be more contagious. Cases continue to rise, hospitals are overcrowded, and people are dying as they wait for treatment. In some cities family members are queuing daily to fill oxygen tanks for their loved ones who are dying at home.



## Support is still needed

Brazil's fight against Covid-19 is far from over. Please pray for EMAF as they continue to raise funds for further oxygen tank deliveries, and support communities in need. They are perfectly placed to help as they already serve isolated riverside communities in Brazil, who are only accessible by boat, sharing the good news of the Gospel and practically demonstrating God's love.

If you would like to donate to 'Breath of Life' then feel free to use the donation form on the back page of this magazine, indicating that your gift is for EMAF. Thank you.



# Reaching the isolated



When Covid-19 restrictions began last year in Moldova, the Beginning of Life team quickly adapted and brought their vital services online to ensure no one was left isolated. To reach out to young people, they launched a social media campaign with videos, resources and livestreamed events. For teenager Dana these proved to be a lifeline.

The pandemic left Dana feeling lonely and hopeless, with nowhere to go for help. This all changed when she stumbled across a social media post on Instagram by Beginning of Life, offering to visit people at home.

Through Instagram Dana connected with the team, who just a few days later visited her in her garden and linked her up with the Urban Centre – a safe space for teenagers to gather and learn how to respond to the challenges around them, such as drug abuse and trafficking.

Once offline meetings resumed, Dana attended the centre regularly. During these meetings, she shared just how desperate her situation was. Dana was growing up without a father, and her mother had lost her job during the pandemic. That week they had run out of food and had no one to turn to.

## A vital support network

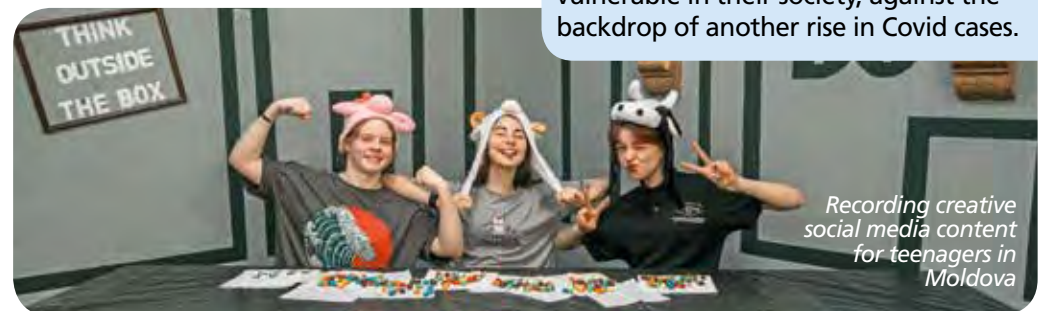
Immediately the Beginning of Life team mobilised, putting together food supplies and clothes donated by other young people. They then hand delivered these to Dana and her Mum.

Through the ongoing support of the Centre, Dana is now thriving. She has found friends at the club, has become a volunteer to help others in her situation and is being empowered to make a real difference in Moldova.

Through the pandemic, the Beginning of Life team have also grown in their understanding of the importance of communicating with young people:

*"This situation encouraged our team and gave a great lesson to be more open to dive deeper in teenagers' lives and communicate with them about different issues they are bothered about."*

Alongside teens, Beginning of Life also serves single mothers, who have been abused and struggle to look after their children, and victims of human trafficking. Please pray for the team as they continue to serve the most vulnerable in their society, against the backdrop of another rise in Covid cases.



*Recording creative social media content for teenagers in Moldova*

# WorldShare Week round-up



From Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> March, WorldShare supporters, staff and trustees took part in a variety of activities to celebrate WorldShare Week. If you engaged during the week by praying for the work of our ministry partners, donating, or sharing stories with family and friends, thank you so much!

Here are some of the FUN-draising events that contributed to over £3,000 being raised!

## Chris's DIY skills challenge

To mark WorldShare Week, 76 year old supporter Chris decided that instead of hiring a tradesperson to repair and repaint the fascias across his porch and garage, he would embark on a DIY job and donate the money he saved to help our ministry partners across the world. Although the job wasn't without its challenges, the weather was kind and the final results were amazing. Great work Chris - thank you for thinking creatively about how you could take part!



*"I have enjoyed having a project which has been within my problem-solving capability, and the sense of achievement I got out of it."*

Chris



## Anthony & Cecilia's cycling challenge

WorldShare trustee, Anthony, and his wife, Cecilia, decided to take part in their own challenge for WorldShare Week, cycling 106km between them 'in all weathers', on their exercise bike at home. And, in addition, they donated the cost of a takeaway and several coffees that they'd normally have out and about to support the important work of WorldShare. They were delighted to be part of the celebrations and enjoyed helping to raise the profile of our ministry partners.



*"We thank God for the opportunity to share with our ministry partners around the world."* Anthony & Cecilia

## WorldShare staff smash their target

The WorldShare staff team surpassed their 100km collective target by walking, running, cycling and stair hiking during WorldShare Week to celebrate and raise funds for our ministry partners around the world, who every day step out in faith to support their local communities. It was a great team effort and springboard for something bigger next year when hopefully group events will be restriction free!

*"Thank you to everyone who supported and cheered us on along the way!"*

Jenny, Alan, Harriet, Vanessa & Clare



The 100km challenge is complete!

## Youngest supporter joins the fun



Our youngest supporter, three-month-old Simeon, and his lovely mum Emily walked a total of 44km during WorldShare Week. Emily, who is a member of the WorldShare staff team and is currently on maternity leave, shared her progress with friends and family on Facebook and Instagram during the week and raised an incredible £651 - WOW!

*"I'm so grateful! It's certainly been a challenge, but a really fun one and I'm excited to think of all the people whose lives are being transformed through the amazing work of WorldShare and its partners."* Emily

## Looking ahead to 2022

It's never too early to start thinking about WorldShare Week 2022 and what you could do to raise the profile of our ministry partners, as well as much needed funds.

We continue to pray for the opportunity to safely enjoy larger gatherings, car boots and cake sales again. If you have any ideas for fundraising events for next year's WorldShare Week, drop us an email at [info@worldshare.org.uk](mailto:info@worldshare.org.uk)

# Five ways to pray for our ministry partners



What a joy it is to be able to come to the Lord in prayer and have a conversation with the one who cares for us more than any other. Today we want to inspire and encourage you, as you pray for our ministry partners. Below we have shared a few different ideas for ways you can be praying for them.

*"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people."*  
Ephesians 6:18

## 1 Work your way across the world

Print out a map and each day pray for a ministry partner from a different part of the world, pop a pin in for each one. Did you know our ministry partners stretch across five continents in 17 countries?! Find out where they are: [www.worldshare.org.uk/who-we-help](http://www.worldshare.org.uk/who-we-help)

## 2 Pray through Window

Each day spend a few minutes reading a different article in this magazine. Pray for the featured ministry partner and praise God for the ways he is using them to change lives and bring hope to their communities.

## 3 Share your prayers

Let our ministry partners know you are praying for them by sharing a prayer, message of encouragement or favourite Bible verse with a specific ministry. Send these to [info@worldshare.org.uk](mailto:info@worldshare.org.uk) and we will pass them on for you.

## 4 Join our monthly prayer team

Sign up to our monthly prayer calendar and receive the latest prayer and praise points from our ministry partners direct to your inbox or door. Visit [www.worldshare.org.uk/pray](http://www.worldshare.org.uk/pray) or email [info@worldshare.org.uk](mailto:info@worldshare.org.uk)

## 5 Pray with urgency

Follow us on social media to see the most up to date prayer requests. We post urgent requests when they come in from ministry partners. You can find us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter – details on the back cover of this magazine.

Your prayers and support really do make a difference in the lives of our ministry partners, thank you for faithfully standing with them!

*"We are so thankful for all the people that hear our stories and answer our prayers. I can't believe how many people from different countries care about us. God brings us together no matter where we live." Pifò Haiti teacher*

# Thank you for your amazing support

Thanks to your generous donations and faithful prayers, we are delighted to report that this year, you have helped to raise...

Over £7,800 for our **Hope & Redemption Appeal** supporting the victims of violence against women and girls in India & Uganda.



Over £10,000 for the **Evangelical Mission for Assistance to Fishermen's appeal for oxygen tanks** to distribute to those dying from Covid-19 in remote areas of Brazil. (see page 6)



Over £5,000 for our **Easter Appeal** equipping our ministry partners around the world as they share the hope of the Gospel.



# Join us for our next Ministry Meet-up LIVE!

On 21<sup>st</sup> April we held our fourth **Ministry Meet-up LIVE** with ministry partner, the **Evangelical Church in North Macedonia**.

It was fantastic to hear direct from Petre and Marino about how the Lord is moving in that country! If you missed out, or want to watch it again, please visit the **NEWS** page of our website where you can access a recording of the event: [www.worldshare.org.uk/news](http://www.worldshare.org.uk/news)



*Petre and Marino from the most recent event*

Ministry Meet-up LIVEs are designed to bring the reality of what it's like to serve on the ground as a ministry partner, into your home in an impactful way. At a time when we are unable to have ministry leaders over to the UK to meet with you to share their vision and latest news, this is the next best thing. And, even better, because no one needs to travel, people can tune in from across the UK and even the world!

There are recordings of all the previous Ministry Meet-up LIVE events on our website and YouTube channel, so it's easy to view them at your leisure.

- 21<sup>st</sup> April 2021 – The Evangelical Church of North Macedonia
- 17<sup>th</sup> February 2021 – JKPS and Mahima Homes in India
- 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020 – Beginning of Life in Moldova
- 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020 – Potter's House in Guatemala

And to avoid missing out on future events, sign up to our email list by visiting our website or by emailing [info@worldshare.org.uk](mailto:info@worldshare.org.uk)

# Following God's call — a supporter story



Earlier in the year, I (Alan) had the joy of talking with WorldShare supporters David and Alison Bracey. They shared their story of faithfully following God's call in the midst of life's challenges. A journey which began 20 years ago and led to the foundations of Grace School in South Africa.

The Braceys describe their story as like the one in Matthew 14 of Jesus multiplying the 'five loaves and the two fishes', that one boy offered:

*"We gave a small amount, but God really worked with it... it is amazing to see what God did."*

Some 20 years ago, David and Alison had a God given desire to open a Christian orphanage in the developing world. They began pushing on doors, and one opened to WorldShare and Hope for Africa Mission (HfAM).

After meeting with WorldShare trustees, David and Alison made the amazing commitment to give an initial donation, followed by monthly sums over 20 years. Through this generosity, God began to grow their vision and multiply their offering.

WorldShare connected the Braceys with HfAM ministry leader, Bishop Hendrick, and together they laid out plans for a school which would give orphans a safe home, an education and the tools to build a sustainable future.

## A fight for survival

God had given David and Alison a clear vision, but in the midst of those early discussions David suffered a massive heart attack. He effectively died three times and was given a 50/50 chance of survival.

With David's fight for his life came a difficult decision - continue with their vision or play it safe and hold onto their funds?

We praise God that David survived and so did their vision.

Even with family pressuring them to rethink their plans, they didn't go back on their commitment. They saw it as a choice between; higher paid jobs and bigger cars or, following the plan that God had laid on their hearts.



*Some of the Grace School students who now have access to an education*

## God's plan

In June 2003 Grace School opened with 43 pupils, including 23 orphans. Fast forward to today and there are now over 600 pupils, and the school offers some of the best education in South Africa. And, as the school has grown, the Braceys have faithfully kept giving, and working closely with HfAM as they have developed the school in response to the local community's needs. They praise God for what it is today:

*"Ultimately it's Jesus Christ's project and he had plans for the children and he has worked everything out to his glory and for the good of those children."*

Their vision mobilised others too - their church helped provide a borehole for clean water and some friends provided a washing machine for the dormitories.

The Braceys ended by sharing how blessed they have been through

## God's perfect timing

*"Back in the early 2000s God gave me a dream about opening a Christian school in South Africa. Around this time, HfAM were approached by WorldShare, asking us to submit a proposal as they had a supporter wanting to fund an orphanage in the developing world. We laid out a proposal for something that combined both our visions - a school which not only provided a home, for the many orphaned by the HIV/AIDS pandemic, but also a place for them to reach their God given potential through receiving an education. David and Alison agreed and with their 20 years of financial commitment, Grace School was born."*

*It was unimaginable that the bold and generous commitment, of a family over 13,000km away, who were so passionate and so committed, could make such a difference and build community."*

*Bishop Hendrick, HfAM ministry leader*

offering up what they have to God and partnering with HfAM:

*"We have got an awful lot more out of it, than we have put in. It's been an adventure, it's rewarding to have at least a little part in God's kingdom."*



*20 years on and Grace School now has space for over 600 students*

We are thankful for each and every one of our supporters. If you're inspired by David and Alison's story, then maybe we could start a discussion and shape your story? The need in our world is vast, and God can do amazing things with all sizes of gifts.



*HfAM ministry leader Hendrick and his wife Evelyn*

## Latest news

In March we said a fond farewell to trustee, Richard Carlidge, who has been a valued member of the WorldShare Board since 2012. Richard will be dearly missed, as will his insight, wisdom, and contribution to the governance of the organisation for the past nine years.



**WorldShare is looking for two or more capable, energetic and committed people to join our Board of Trustees.**

This is an exciting opportunity for you to partner with ministries across the world as they practically share the love of Jesus, and use your skills to serve the poor, vulnerable and marginalised.

If you share WorldShare's vision and values, have a heart for the Gospel, are familiar with the charity sector and have a sound understanding of good governance then this might be for you. For more information and how to apply, please visit our full advert on the Global Connections website: [www.globalconnections.org.uk/vocations/voluntary/83972](http://www.globalconnections.org.uk/vocations/voluntary/83972)

## Have your say! – Supporter Survey 2021

**Can you please help us?** From time to time supporters share feedback with us, which can be really helpful. We thank each one of you who has contacted us in the past.

We would love to build on this feedback and gather even more valuable supporter insights, so if you are an individual (rather than an organisation) you will see that we've included a Supporter Survey with this magazine, with the aim of getting to know you and your needs better.

The survey is completely anonymous and we will use the collective results in our planning so that we can serve you, and your church, even more effectively. Of course, if you would like us to follow up with you about a particular comment then please email us at [info@worldshare.org.uk](mailto:info@worldshare.org.uk) and we will contact you.

You can either fill in the paper copy and send it back in the included freepost envelope, or access and complete it online here: [www.worldshare.org.uk/supporter-survey-2021](http://www.worldshare.org.uk/supporter-survey-2021)

**It should only take around 10-15 minutes to fill in. We look forward to hearing your feedback, thank you!**



## WorldShare

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We would love to share with you information, updates and appeals for the amazing work of our partner ministries around the world. Please tick to let us know how you would like to receive communications from us.

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