



WorldShare

window

the newsletter of www.worldshare.org.uk • issue 2021/3

"I never give up on Jesus Christ"

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Providing vital relief to India

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Thank you for having your say

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JKPS serving families in Kolkata



Editorial

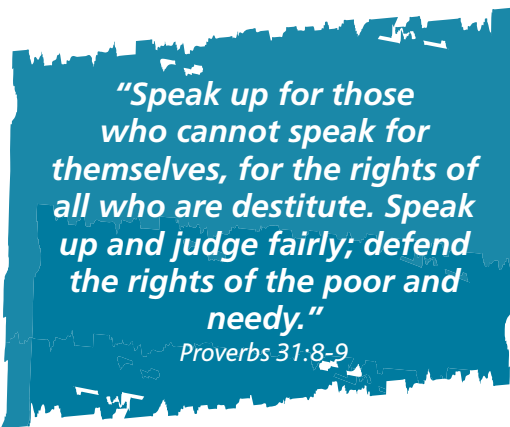
Over the last few weeks there has been a lot of discussion about 'freedom'; freedom from the restrictions introduced by the government to prevent the spread of coronavirus, freedom of choice and individual responsibility. Especially, in how we each choose to exercise our freedom of choice after 19th July, when the legal restrictions of lockdown are lifted.

Our annual alternative gifts catalogue is called 'Freedom Gifts' for a reason www.worldshare.org.uk/how-to-help/freedom-gifts. These gifts are a way to help the poor, vulnerable and marginalised, those less fortunate than ourselves.

Freedom of choice is very much a wealthy country issue. For example, the Covid-19 vaccination is offered to all adults over the age of 18 in the UK. Some people have exercised their choice, not to take up the offer of vaccination. Elsewhere in the world, where our ministry partners work, many do not have access to Covid-19 vaccinations or healthcare generally and therefore quite simply are unable to exercise this freedom of choice.

Proverbs 31:8 – reminds us of the duty we have as Christians to speak up for those who cannot speak up for themselves. Each day and in different ways, we at WorldShare, through our ministry partners, speak up for those who cannot speak up for themselves.

We have the privilege of relative wealth in the UK and can exercise our freedom of choice, many of God's children, do not have that privilege.



"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."

Proverbs 31:8-9

Thank you for standing with us, though your prayers and giving. Do read on and see how our ministry partners are making a difference for those who cannot speak up for themselves.

Alan Butler, Chief Executive

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ChildAid in India

For an amazing 25 years, with your support, we have partnered with JKPS who serve the slum communities surrounding Kolkata, India.

Only 50% of India's children complete their education, so our partnership with JKPS aims to provide children with the opportunities that they deserve.

During my time administering ChildAid I have seen many hundreds of children's lives changed for the better through the amazing work that JKPS do, and the faithful support of our child sponsors.

I have also seen the heartbreak of children like Ayush. He lost his parents, his sister was murdered and he now lives with his grandmother, who is old and frail. Through the ChildAid scheme and his sponsor, JKPS has been able to support him as he has gone through so much loss at such a young age.

The ChildAid sponsorship scheme at JKPS does more than provide education, it also provides books, stationery, uniforms and study support through tutors.

JKPS, as you will read later (pages 8 & 9), has been dealing with the devastating impact that Covid-19 has had on Kolkata, and the need is great. In the midst of this, there are still many children that need support at JKPS. Today, with your help, we are wanting to reach out to them.



Children like Manab

Manab comes from the city of Ramjibanpur in West Bengal. His father, Nitai, is a fisherman and his mother, Brihaspati, is a housewife. He has a younger sister. He lives with his grandparents, parents, uncle and aunt, and younger sister.

Apart from his studies, he likes to draw and aspires to become a police officer in the future. Manab attends children's fellowship every Saturday and likes to learn stories about Jesus.

Clare Hill



Manab from the West Bengal region of India

Can you help?

Please get in touch for more details or visit our website. Tel: 01302 775209 or email: clare.hill@worldshare.org.uk www.worldshare.org.uk/who-we-help/child-aid Thank you!

The fresh water of Jesus in Haiti



As waves crash onto the shores of the Haitian island, La Gonâve, fishermen launch their boats into the clear blue sea and rabbles of children rush to school up lush green mountain paths, local PiFò Haiti worker, Monal, walks through the community praying for all those in need around him.

Today the fresh water of Jesus overflows from Monal, but during his youth it was barely a trickle.

Life began for Monal on the mainland of Haiti, where he first heard of Jesus through his Catholic upbringing and friends at school. But at the age of just 15, pressure to provide food and a home left Monal with no choice but to leave school and begin moving drugs around the city of Port-au-Prince for his cousin.

A new source of life

After eight long years of transporting drugs, one day Monal felt something strange bubbling up: *"I didn't feel happy, I felt something. I was very scared.... I felt something inside my heart talking to me. It said Monal, you have to go to church."*



Monal - PiFò Haiti's assistant manager

With no way to support himself, other than working for his cousin, Monal felt trapped and feared what would happen if he left it all behind. But the voice inside his heart wouldn't go away.

"One day I decided, I remember that day in 1999. I went to church. After the worship I felt something say, 'Get up, go, ask the Pastor to pray for you.'"

As Monal stepped out in faith to ask for prayer, a new source of life came flooding in.

"I feel water, fresh water coming down inside me. I say really Jesus is powerful!"

Rejecting his old life wasn't easy but Monal knew he had to walk away. Over the coming weeks and months, his life instead became soaked in prayer and Bible study, with one particular verse bringing great encouragement: 'What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?' (Romans 8:31)

Even with no income, no support from his family, and no food to eat, Monal knew he wasn't alone.

"God provided for me, he sent me someone who asked me, 'everyday come to eat with me'. I think only God can do that for me. That's right! I never, never, never give up on Jesus Christ."

Praise God that after three months Monal accepted Jesus into his life and was baptised.

A new door opening

Faithfully following a call on his life to teach the Gospel brought Monal to La Gonâve to study theology. A place where he quickly became, and still is, a well-respected and loved member of the community.



Local young people taking part in a PiFò Haiti gardening project

In 2018, now married with two children to care for, a wave of uncertainty swept through Monal's life when his work as a translator dried up and his only job option seemed to be an offer from his brother-in-law overseas.

"I didn't want to leave my family. My heart was breaking thinking about it. I prayed and prayed that God would help me find work, so I could stay on La Gonâve with my wife and two children."

As Monal cried out, a new door opened – one to ministry partner, PiFò Haiti.

On a recommendation, the PiFò Haiti team, who were in need of a translator, approached Monal. And quickly realised he was much more than a translator, he had a passion for God, his family and the community.

The team share: *"We decided to spend time in prayer looking for God's wisdom and direction for Monal and PiFò Haiti. God very clearly opened that door and we have been blessed every day since."*

Today Monal serves as PiFò Haiti's assistant manager and spiritual mentor, as well as directing one of their schools with his wife Maccia. They, along with the rest of the local PiFò Haiti team, shine Jesus' love into the community daily by providing vital education, training and food programmes.

Having seen his own life transformed, Monal also remains passionate about wanting young people to know there is something more for them besides drugs and alcohol: there is a hope, Jesus Christ, who is more powerful than anything.

Harriet Robson



Students from one of the PiFò Haiti schools

Please pray for Monal today

Pray for the Lord's wisdom and continued provision as Monal's school begins a three-year project to build a new, bigger school to enable more children to access education.

Thank you for your support

Thanks to your generous donations and faithful prayers, you have helped to raise...

Over £64,000 for our Emergency Relief for India Appeal, helping ministry partners, JKPS & BFM, to respond to the needs of those impacted by the devastating second wave of Covid-19 in India. The outpouring of your generosity, in response to this crisis, blew us away.

More about how your support is enabling our ministry partners to provide vital emergency relief in India and, neighbouring country, Nepal can be found on pages 8 & 9.



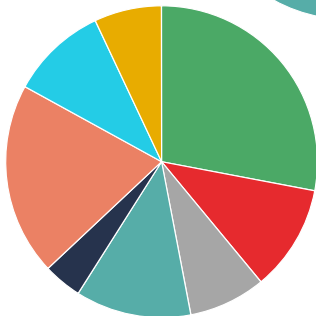
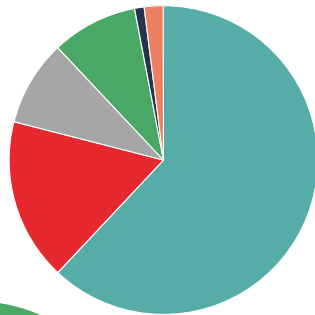
Your impact in 2020

2020 was a year like no other, with the impact of Covid-19 on our supporters and donors, ministry partners and UK operations. It was a challenging and uncertain year, but it has been exciting to see God at work in our needy world.

Thank you for standing with us through it all, with your prayers and gifts. Together you helped to transform the lives of over 200,000 people! Our overall income (£462,237) and expenditure (£434,290) for 2020 were both up on 2019, the split of which is shown below.

Your generosity

- Individual Donations 62%
- Trusts & Foundations 17%
- Alliance Income 9%
- Gift Aid 9%
- Legacies 1%
- Other income 2%



Where it helped

- Education 28%
- Health 11%
- Community 8%
- Church Planting 12%
- Injustice 4%
- Emergency Relief 20%
- General Running Costs 10%
- Governance 7%

20 years of prayer and fellowship in Albania



You may be wondering whether, in the last 18 months, Gospel outreach has taken a back seat whilst our ministry partners dealt with the implications of Covid-19, and the overwhelming needs of the communities they serve, but you would be mistaken.

Around the city of Korçë in southern Albania, our ministry partner, the Medical Ambassadors Foundation (MAF), has been continuing to bring the message of hope in the Gospel to impoverished communities around Korçë. This mission that God put on the hearts of the MAF team 20 years ago hasn't vanished this past year, but they have often been sharing food parcels alongside Bible stories!



The MAF team sharing the Gospel and delivering vital relief during the pandemic

From the start, MAF's ministry has been focused on meeting in groups for prayer, Bible study, health training and community development, all with the Gospel at the centre. Back in 2015, during a visit there, I had the privilege of joining a few of these

meetings, some quite large and formal, some small and personal held within homes and churches. In these, the team understood the importance of fellowship, having space to talk about God and faith and letting the Spirit take hold - something I feel blessed to have in my own church.

New doors opening

Over the past year, with restrictions in place, some meetings have moved online, but that hasn't stopped a growing desire to hear the Gospel. One church member, a young man named Ylli, has been praying all year for an opportunity to reach out to the village next to his, Kolanec. Finally a door opened and he has now begun a men's group in the village, alongside children's ministry. Through training run by the MAF team, and the grace of God, many new meetings have been set up, just like Ylli's, with people wanting to hear the message of hope and love, brought to earth in Jesus.

Jenny Hunt

If you are part of a small group, the next time you meet why not take a moment to give thanks, that whilst you are all coming to know God more deeply, many hundreds, if not thousands, of individuals in Albania will be joining you in prayer, thanks to the vision God placed on MAF's heart 20 years ago.

Standing in the storm – India and Nepal



In May, a devastating second wave of Covid-19 began to sweep through India and Nepal. The outpouring of generosity from supporters, just like you, in response to this crisis, was amazing, and has enabled our ministry partners to provide vital relief.

India food relief

With lockdown now in place in the West Bengal region of India, where ministry partner JKPS serve, those who rely on daily wages are now struggling to feed their families. In response, JKPS has been providing dry ration kits to those living in the Tollygunge slums in Kolkata, and the Jagacha community in the neighbouring city of Howrah.



JKPS preparing to deliver vital food rations

Alongside Covid-19, those living in the West Bengal coastal regions, have been facing the impact of an additional crisis - Cyclone Yaas. Having barely recovered from the effects of last year's Cyclone Amphan, they have again faced much destruction.



Flooding caused by Cyclone Yaas in West Bengal

Thousands of homes were swept away by the floodwater, forcing villagers to leave everything and seek shelter on higher ground. Though floodwaters have receded, salt water from the sea has destroyed many acres of agricultural land. To support those who have lost their homes, JKPS has provided food rations and tarpaulins.

Caring for the isolated

Early in the second wave, life was one of isolation for many of the girls and boys supported through Mahima Homes in Kolkata, with 11 girls and 5 boys testing positive for the virus. Although asymptomatic, they were immediately placed in quarantine. The Mahima Home's team worked tirelessly to care for them, upholding strict safety protocols and providing food, medication and daily activities.

"I was afraid when I learned I was Covid positive, but the aunties have taken good care of me. All of us are thankful as they sacrificed time with their family to stay with us in our difficult times." Tanaya, Mahima Homes

Beyond West Bengal

Our ministry partner in the southern region of India has also been reaching out to their local community. They continue to provide food kits, medical assistance, vaccine registration support, prayer and counselling for the many left grieving or traumatised.

Nepal medical relief

The open border between India and Nepal, and Nepal's heavy reliance on India for goods, has meant that the second wave of Covid-19 has also swept through Nepal.

Thousands have lost their lives, cases continue to rapidly rise and the virus has now spread to rural villages. The country has limited health resources to fall back on, with few ventilators or oxygen cylinders, leaving people desperate.

With your support however, Good Friends of Nepal (GFN) has been able to shine a glimmer of hope into this dark situation. The team has been focusing on rural areas where the few medical centres that do exist, don't even have basic facilities or access to PPE.

In early June, the team were welcomed with great joy by rural villages in Nuwakot, the closest district to the capital city Kathmandu, Bidur and Dupcheshwar. They travelled through heavy rain with vehicles full of vital medical items including PPE, oxygen cylinders, soap and hospital beds. The Lord protected and guided them throughout, and in one area they arrived just in time to save a patient from dying by providing life-saving oxygen.

It is amazing to see the commitment of GFN as they travel into such high risk areas day after day. Ministry leader Bhim Lal, who himself suffered from Covid-19 in the first wave, shares his motivation:

"This is the life I have chosen and committed to live serving the Lord by serving his people whom he has so loved and created in his own image."

As our ministry partners, even in the midst of their own grief and suffering, step out in faith to provide this relief, we are reminded of Jesus standing in the storm with his disciples:

'He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.' Mark 4:39

In both India and Nepal, the battle with Covid-19 is far from over, and a potential third wave has now been forecast. Please pray for our ministry partners as they continue to faithfully stand in the storm with those suffering.



GFN delivering medical supplies to remote rural communities

Thank you for having your say



Thank you to all those who took the time to fill in our recent Supporter Survey, sent out with the last edition of Window. We received an amazing 142 responses, full of helpful data, encouragements, and suggestions. Your thoughts are important to us and we are excited to build on these findings. In the meantime, here is a snapshot of your collective responses.

- It was a joy to learn that 88% of respondents pray for WorldShare in some form or another – what an amazing team of prayer warriors, thank you!
- The most common way people first heard about WorldShare was via friends or family, so by talking about WorldShare with others you are helping to increase support for our ministry partners.
- Here is a taster of what inspires many people to keep supporting after that first encounter:



"I love that WorldShare partners with local people doing their work to reach people for Christ... people who know and love their communities and understand the culture and the needs." Survey respondent

- It was an encouragement to hear that 75% of respondents thought our frequency of communications are 'just right', and that they help people connect with our ministry partners, in particular through our magazine.

"I just love to get the letters and magazines that tell of where we have invested money and prayers to see the world being reached and blessed with the good news." Survey respondent

- Your feedback also highlighted some thoughts on key areas to improve, including the need to increase engagement with our Ministry Meet-up LIVE events, grow our church links and reach out to a younger audience.

Over the weeks ahead we will be working hard to incorporate your feedback, prayerfully considering where we can make improvements and build on our strengths, to bless both our supporters and ministry partners.

Thank you for your feedback!

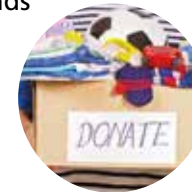
Please note the survey was completely anonymous, so we are unable to respond to any specific requests from individuals. If you have a specific request, please email: info@worldshare.org.uk

Summer inspiration for everyone



What do you have planned for this summer? Are you looking for things to do with your children or grandchildren? Are you thinking about getting together in person as a church congregation? Well maybe we can help.

There are lots of ways in which you can combine your summer social calendar with sharing about the work of WorldShare's ministry partners and even raising a few pounds to support a cause close to your heart in the process.



Have a clear-out

Missed the spring clean season and need to declutter? Why not set up a stall outside your home in return for donations or venture to a car-boot and donate the money you make. Or if you prefer to sell online, visit www.ebayforcharity.org.uk to find out how you can donate some, or all, of the proceeds of items sold on eBay to WorldShare.

Car washing

This fundraising classic is often in great demand in the community and people are happy to swap their regular commercial car wash to support a charity. Perhaps this is something you could set up as a church and get families involved?



Bake off!

If you are a budding bake off contestant, why not put your talents to good use. Ask friends, family, neighbours, or colleagues for a donation in return for making their favourite cakes or bakes. Or, when restrictions allow (and you feel comfortable), why not have a coffee and cake morning, and share what WorldShare means to you with your friends.



Use your skills

Whether it's making bird boxes or bunting, greeting cards or scarves, perhaps you could use the hobbies you enjoy to raise money for WorldShare. Sing, sew, craft and create to bring hope to those in need.



You may remember our young supporters, Ezra & Joey Woof, who made and sold cards to support WorldShare during lockdown last year:

"We wanted to raise money for WorldShare, to help people who don't have as much as we do."

And don't forget, if you fundraise for WorldShare you will receive a special water bottle as a thank you!

35 years of faithful ministry



Today join Potter's House, in Guatemala, as they praise God and celebrate 35 years of ministry! Thank you to everyone who has faithfully supported them, each prayer, pound and encouragement has had a huge impact.

As Potter's House continue with their ministry, they are holding onto the promise they have in Jesus:

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."
John 15:5

Looking back

In 1986 God began to unfold an unexpected plan in the lives of two Guatemalan women, Lisbeth and Gladys. A plan which took them to Guatemala City, and the heart of the biggest landfill site in Central America, to distribute blankets to those scavenging in the rubbish. Never in their wildest dreams could they have imagined that this small act would result in such wonderful hope over so many years. Shocked by the extreme poverty they found, Gladys and Lisbeth returned year after year, and through this Potter's House was born.

Potter's House continues to be run by an entirely Guatemalan team, enabling them to understand and

respond to local needs. Initially the Lord called Potter's House to serve the poor living around the landfill site in Guatemala City, but in recent years God has opened their eyes to the high levels of poverty in other areas of the country. As a result, today they have extended their reach to also serve the city of Chiquimula, and the Western Highlands.

Ministry leader Hector Rivas reflects:

"35 years is easily said, but for us they have meant growth, sacrifice, pain, hope and joy. This year we celebrate God's calling, we celebrate his faithfulness each day and we celebrate the Treasures who have had a personal encounter with Jesus and decided to follow Him. We have learned that following in Jesus' footsteps is always an adventure; it requires that we tune our ears to his voice while he guides us and that we see others with his eyes in order to see the potential he has placed in them."



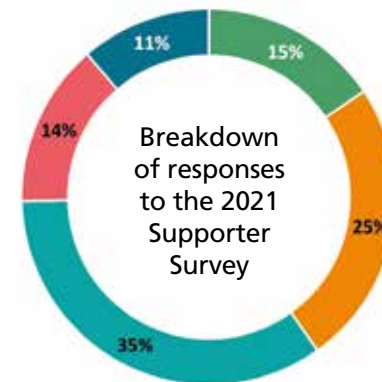
Potter's House supported Estrella for seven years inspiring her to study at university, and trust in God. To help ensure other children have this opportunity, Estrella is today part of the Potter's House sponsorship team.

Your gift of faith, hope and love



Through the generosity of supporters, just like you, and the hard work of our ministry partners, we believe that we are called to share the Gospel, provide opportunity, and restore hope to vulnerable communities in some of the most difficult, least-resourced, and least-reached parts of the world. One of the very best ways you can play a part in this and create a life-changing and eternal legacy is to leave a gift in your Will.

We are honoured that so many of you indicated in your 2021 Supporter Survey responses that you have already included a gift in your Will to WorldShare or are planning to do so. Thank you for pursuing the kingdom of God on earth so that everyone can know the fullness of life promised in Christ.



- Leaving or planning to leave a gift in my Will
- Not considered yet (but may do in future)
- Not considered yet (and don't intend to)
- Already considered and decided not to
- Other or blank

Share your story

For those of you who have already pledged to leave a gift in your Will, thank you! We would love the opportunity to recognise this support during your lifetime and share your story so that it can help to inspire others who are considering this type of giving. You may also want to let us know how and where you would like your legacy gift to make a difference.

If you are happy to share something of your journey, please email legacy@worldshare.org.uk in total confidence. Please be assured that we will respect your wishes if you would rather share your story without revealing your name.

'And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.'
1 Corinthians 13:13

Your gift of faith, hope and love in your Will, no matter how big or small, will be used to support WorldShare's ministry partners and will leave a legacy for generations to come.

Vanessa Riley

Together, loving like Jesus, we can restore hope and bring transformation to the poor, vulnerable and marginalised.

Cleaning a village to help a town

Richard Hudson (pictured) and his friend, Roger Hovell, have been clearing litter from the roads and verges in and around Upper Basildon to raise money for Grace School in Siyabuswa, South Africa, run by ministry partner Hope for Africa Mission. They have set up a fundraising page through Stewardship and look to be on track to reach their target.

"We are aiming to pick up 150 bags of litter to raise £2,500 towards the cost of a kitchen and dining room. This would enable the children (many of whom have a poor diet) to get a decent meal each day."



Thank you Richard & Roger for your amazing fundraising efforts!
For more information visit: www.stewardship.org.uk/pages/graceschool2021

Replay our last Ministry Meet-up LIVE!

On 13th July we held our latest Ministry Meet-up with ministry partner, Hope for Africa Mission, live from South Africa.

It was an inspirational time, hearing first-hand from ministry leader, Bishop Hendrick Mahlangu, about the vision and recent progress of Hope for Africa Mission, as well as the current challenges that they are facing, particularly in the context of the pandemic.

If you missed it, or want to watch it again, either visit the NEWS page of our website: www.worldshare.org.uk/news or visit our YouTube channel to access the recording of the event (or previous events).

To avoid missing out on future events, please sign up to our email list by visiting our website or by emailing info@worldshare.org.uk

What is Ministry Meet-up LIVE?

Over the last 18 months or so, we haven't been able to invite any of our ministry leaders over to the UK to spend time updating you, our supporters. So instead, these free online Ministry Meet-up LIVE events give you the chance to hear directly from our ministry partners from the comfort of your own home!

"We have very much enjoyed the webinars which have enabled us to find out first-hand about specific projects." Ministry Meet-up LIVE attendee



WorldShare

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WorldShare where most needed

No need to acknowledge my gift (please save postage)

Other (please specify)

I enclose my cheque/postal order/charity voucher made payable to **WorldShare**

Please debit my debit card/credit card/CAF card:

(We are not able to take American Express)

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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I want my gift to be worth 25% more

I would like to Gift Aid my donation*

giftaid it

*I want to Gift Aid this donation to WorldShare and all donations I make in the future. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference. WorldShare will claim 25p for each £1 I've given. I will notify WorldShare if I want to cancel this declaration, change my name or home address or no longer pay sufficient tax on my Income and/or Capital Gains.

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