

WILMSLOW WELLS FOR AFRICA



Registered Charity No: 328330

www.wilmslowwells.org

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NEWSLETTER No 91 – Spring / Summer 2021

Geoff and Diannah Trust Marakuru Borehole - Project 289 2020-21

The photo shows the ceremony to inaugurate the new well and pump at Marakuru village in West Kenya. Our YouTube channel has a [short video](#) of the celebrations (also a video of my [recent talk](#)).



We have supported the Geoff and Diannah Trust since its formation in 2009, providing encouragement and support as the charity got under way. I was privileged to represent WWA at G&DT's inaugural meeting, where I met several Kenyan Bishops and many other trustees and supporters, and we heard first-hand of the work and people there.

We first met Geoff in 2007 as he and colleagues from Crick Diocese near

Peterborough returned from a trip to the Bungoma Area of Kenya, with many needy parishes and villages scattered around the lower slopes of Mount Elgon. Some locations are good for shallow wells, others more suited to rainwater harvesting or spring protection schemes. Geoff used his engineering skills to develop projects and local teams. As the work took off, the new charity was born.

WWA have now supported 11 projects with G&DT, typically 1 per year, involving several tanks, shallow boreholes and spring protections. An important feature of the work is the building up of local skills, then taken to neighbouring villages. The water has led to the development of new schools and new skills. On the video you can hear the excitement of local young lady Elizabeth, Project Manager and rapporteur extraordinaire. The Geoff and Diannah Trust is an excellent model of developing sustainable water supplies and local skills; we look forward to continuing this happy partnership.

Dave Tonks

THANK YOU:

Because of your continuing support, project funding has not been reduced.

Wilmslow High School – despite COVID restrictions, Bollin House fundraised throughout the year and raised an amazing £1394.36! Thank you so much.

Christmas cards £1085 was raised from their sale. Higher than recently. We thank Rosemary Stubbs who designed such an attractive card and James Townsley who printed them at no cost to us.

Souperweek, 25th -31st October. 4 soup recipes and a quiz on offer raised £1300.

Highway One Trust Our thanks go to the trust for continuing support (see Projects 294, 296).

Capesthorpe and Siddington WI for their generous donation of £245.

Our **“Soap and Water Appeal”** has raised £1,694

David Cash **“Favourite World Gardens”** raised £844

ELEVEN PROJECTS COMPLETED including:

Project 299 - The ten springs were protected within two months, collectively serving over 4,000 with clean water daily.

Project 255 Zambia, Siamoono Primary School A photograph does not always tell the whole story –



setbacks, the rethinking of a project. Started in 2018, 3 failed drilling attempts at the primary school, the planned site, but the 4th at the nearby secondary school was successful. The water was then pumped to the primary school – so the two schools now had water, including water for the teachers’ housing. 2019, the driest year in Zambia

for 56 years, the well dried up! A booster pump is being installed to maintain the water supply during future droughts. 2020 after a bumpy road – smiles all round!

Project 279 -Uganda *“I want to show you how you have helped us from drinking dirty water, this is the water we used to use, this is how we could fetch it. This pond -risky for our children, the water unsafe to drink but we had no alternative but to use it “ a resident of Mugulu “Thank you for giving us a borehole.”*



NEW PROJECTS SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER:

289 Kenya, Marakuru, East Bungoma, deep hand-dug borehole with hand pump -for 2500 households, with Geoff and Diannah Charitable Trust
£2867

290 Uganda Busia District, Aso well -a shallow well for 872 people with Afrinspire £2079

291 Uganda, Busia District, Katu Well- a shallow well for 876 people with Afrinspire £2079

292 N. Uganda, Kinene Village, Gulu District, - borehole for 294 households with Amigos £4500

293 S. W. Burkina Faso, Kora Village- “Joyce’s Well”- a borehole for 880 people. Named in memory of Joyce McClure a longstanding supporter and volunteer. With Myra’s Well £5,260

294 S.W.Uganda, St. Matia Mulumba Primary School, in Kyankoolle Village , Maska– sanitation – the toilet block will have handwashing tank and soap. Part funded by Highway One Trust. With EVC (Empowering Vulnerable Children) £4,500

295 Tanzania, Rondo College plus a clinic used by the surrounding 3 villages and beyond, - water harvesting for 4476 people with Bishop James, Diocese of Masasi £2160

296 S.W.Uganda, St. Matia Mulumba Primary School, Maska - 3 water harvesters (6 tanks in all) for 350 children and 19 teaching staff. Part funded by Highway One Trust. With EVC £5602

297 Uganda, St Francis de Sales Special Needs School, Jinja - 90,000 litre underground water harvester. A school for teaching deaf children unable to access mainstream education due to a lack of provision for them. At present 125 children. With Helping Uganda Schools £ 5,000

298 Malawi, Nazambe and Nkhulambe districts – 9 borehole repairs, including one primary school, 5500 beneficiaries including 1386 students. With Aid Africa £2874

299 Uganda, Midpro, Mecdo and Busia districts - 10 protected springs with Afrinspire £2220

300 Zambia Handwashing Stand, funded by the “Soap and Water Appeal” with Build it International £1800

301 Zambia, Siamoono Primary and Secondary Schools 465 pupils water harvesting with African Revival £6832

PLEASE SUPPORT THESE EVENTS

Saturday June 26th, GARDENS DAY 10.30-4.30. Operating social distancing, 18 gardens will open, 5 of which are new. Refreshments at a number of gardens (no lunches at St. John's). Advance tickets, £11, from Chelsea Flowers, Chapel Lane, Wilmslow or The Potting Shed, London Road, Alderley Edge or Primrose Cottage Nursery, Altrincham Road, Styal or phone 01625 520193/528664. *Tickets on the day, £13.00, from **any** garden. Tickets, with a map, give admission to **all** the gardens. Descriptions of the gardens will be on our website nearer the time.*

TRIBUTE TO MARGARET LEWIS AND PAT PARFETT

I first met Margaret when I joined the committee in the 1980's. She was one of its founder members when the charity was launched by Brenda Mottershead. The first committee consisted of members from the different Wilmslow churches and Margaret belonged to St. Theresa's.

Shortly afterwards, Pat and Alan Parfett became the URC representatives and I took over much of the running of the charity, leaving Brenda free to raise awareness of the great need for clean water through her many talks.

I was hugely dependent upon my wonderful, but very small, team. Both were extremely supportive and made valuable contributions at meetings. At most events they would be there, bearing cakes (Pat's lemon drizzle cake and lemon meringue pie would put Mary Berry's in the shade!), raffle prizes etc. and they would stand behind stalls or wash up for hours on end.

The charity grew and I was sad when Margaret told me that she was returning to Ireland. However, she recommended a friend in her place and many of you will remember Betty Fish, who, also, worked tirelessly for the charity for many years.

I was blessed to work with these two generous, kind, Christian ladies and I was especially fortunate to have been able to call them "friends". I am sure that all who have known them through Wilmslow Wells and beyond will join me in sending love and sympathy to Alan and both families. **Joanna Southgate**

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