

# FUNDRAISING UPDATE



October 2019

This month's Local Group Fundraising update features news of an amazing achievement from the Cardiff Amnesty Group, a wonderful intimate fundraiser organised with the support of the Oxford City Amnesty Group and a request for your feedback on your local group's bank account. Read on for more!

## Cardiff Amnesty Group's Amazing Year

The Cardiff Amnesty Group have had a fantastic year of fundraising so far, donating an incredible £5,100 to Amnesty International UK. One of the events that helped them raise such a large sum was their 'Stand-Up in the Park' event held back in July at the Open Air Theatre in Cardiff's Sophia Gardens.

Comedian Clint Edwards compared the event which featured sets from some great comics including Dane Baptiste, Angela Barnes and Robin Morgan. The Open Air Theatre, who put on the event, generously allowed the group to keep 40% of ticket sales after costs. This along with a bucket collection ensured it raised extensive funds to help support human rights work locally and further afield through Amnesty International UK.

The Cardiff Group have been working closely on Nazanin's case and so used the event not only to raise funds but also to highlight the injustice of her continued imprisonment. Nazanin's husband Richard spoke at the event shortly after finishing his 15-day hunger strike in protest at her treatment. Cardiff Group members also coordinated the 'Knit for Naz' campaign where they encouraged Amnesty International supporters and others to knit links for a knitted chain. Each link had 1,090 stitches to mark every day Nazanin had been in prison. They had a remarkable response to this campaign with 2,810 links being knitted making a 500-meter-long chain!

Read more about this amazing event on the [Cardiff Amnesty Group's website](#).

Cardiff Amnesty Group have also many collections throughout the year including at an IDLES gig in Cardiff. IDLES generously allowed Amnesty Groups to collect at several shows on their last tour, raising nearly £2,000 nationwide.

Another way the Cardiff Group raise money is through a voluntary group subscription, which raises close to £400 every year.



Nazanin's husband Richard at the event  
© Natasha Hirst



Dane Baptiste on stage © Natasha Hirst



Cardiff Group members unraveling the Knit for Naz chain  
© Natasha Hirst

**GET IN TOUCH:** [fundraise@amnesty.org.uk](mailto:fundraise@amnesty.org.uk) / 020 7033 1650

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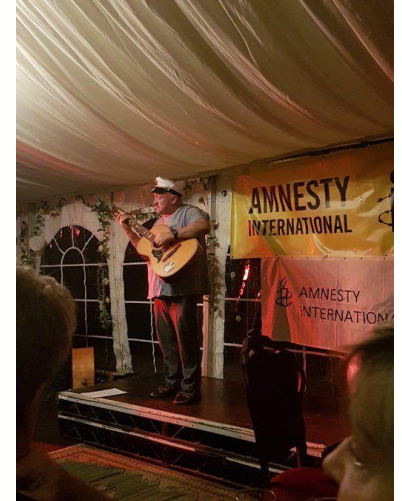
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## Oxford Acoustic Nights

Amnesty International supporters in Oxford have had recent success with a couple of live music fundraisers. Oxford Amnesty Group member Jeremy Cunningham held an acoustic concert where people donated to attend. It was a great success, raising over £300. The Oxford Amnesty group also held an acoustic evening last month at the Isis Farmhouse in Iffley Lock. The event featured May Tumi, an Oxford-based singer/songwriter and musician Matt Chanarin. It was hosted by another local musician, Simon Davies, who performed with his band. This event raised £240 for Amnesty International UK. Thank you to everyone who helped put these events together and to anyone that came along and contributed.



Jeremy's Acoustic Concert



Simon Davies performing at Oxford Group event

If you're interested in organising an acoustic evening with your group, get in touch! We'd be happy to help you by offering advice, providing free resources and helping you promote your events.

## Local Group Bank Accounts

Many local groups have recently reported that they've had trouble either setting up bank accounts or even keeping their bank account open. Some banks have insisted that local groups be registered as charities in order to have accounts or that they raise money exclusively for a registered charity. This is impossible for local groups, who are affiliated to the Section (not a registered charity) and often raise money to fund their own activities, some of which aren't considered charitable.

If you have experience problems with your bank, we'd like to know. We're also eager to hear from groups who have had a positive experience with a bank branch. Ultimately, we'd like to be able to recommend particular banks or bank accounts. Email [richard.glynn@amnesty.org.uk](mailto:richard.glynn@amnesty.org.uk) to share your experiences with banking as a local group.

## Richard Back from Sabbatical

Richard Glynn is back from sabbatical and is again your contact at Amnesty International UK for all enquires relating to fundraising and group finances. You can reach him by email ([richard.glynn@amnesty.org.uk](mailto:richard.glynn@amnesty.org.uk)) or by phone (020 7033 1650) during office hours.

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