

# FUNDRAISING UPDATE



January 2024

Happy New Year! It's been a blistering start to the year with many local groups sending us the proceeds from fundraisers that took place last year and letting us know about their plans for 2024. In fact, it was difficult to fit in all the amazing fundraising events we have heard about in this last month! Read on for just a few highlights and a reminder to complete your local group's Financial Return Form if you haven't already.

## Cardigan and North Pembrokeshire raise £2,500 in memory of long term members

We were sad to learn last year that Celia and Graham Lang, both active members of the Cardigan and North Pembrokeshire Amnesty Group, died last year. The regular event that they helped make happen for many years was held in their honour in 2023 and group treasurer Stuart got in touch to tell us how it went:

*"In partnership with the Rhosygilwen Venue in Pembrokeshire, the Cardigan and North Pembrokeshire group have been organising an annual concert for about 15 years. Sadly, both Celia and Graham Lang who had been driving forces of the group for many years and have always organised this event in conjunction with the venue owner, Glen Peters, both passed away in 2023. Glen wanted to continue the tradition and arranged an eclectic mix of performers for the evening in November. The group supported the event through some publicity, staffing the door and holding a Write for Rights stall on the evening.*



Performers and organisers pose with a banner remembering Celia and Graham

*"The concert was a sell-out and included a very motivating speech by Ceredigion MP, Ben Lake along with superb performances from soprano Ffion Thomas and the Cardigan Rugby Club male voice choir. The evening was rounded off with dancing to a varied mix of Elvis Presley, Tom Jones and Englebert Humperdink from the wonderful Des Perenara. The evening provided an opportunity to recognise the passing of Celia and Graham who would have been delighted to see that £2500 was raised. We miss them greatly.*

*"The organiser, Glen Peters said '200 people turning up to support Amnesty and dance their hearts out was wonderful to see.'"*

It is a credit to the legacy of Celia and Graham that this event is still happening after 15-years and raised an amazing £2,500 to support human rights. Thank you to Glen and everyone in the Cardigan and North Pembrokeshire Group for making this concert happen.

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

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## Ely Group Quiz

Events like the concert organised by Cardigan and North Pembrokeshire bring in a lot of money but they also take a lot of work. Many groups prefer to organise smaller events and quizzes are the perfect smaller fundraising event. At the end of last year, the Ely Amnesty Group raised £260 with a quiz and I asked them to tell me how they did it to inspire groups interested in organising their own:

*“The Ely group took part in the national quiz organised by Amnesty International in 2019. It was a fun event and we raised some money for the charitable arm of Amnesty International UK, and so we decided to try another one. We chose to hold it in a local art gallery. There was just enough space for six tables. The gallery also provided the quizmaster and a bar (which meant it made some money). We sold the tickets for the quiz at £30 per table for up to six players. Three group members bought tickets and then we approached individuals who had attended previous fundraising events or expressed an interest in our work, including a local councilor. We also ran a raffle to increase our fund-raising effort.*

*“Two group members put the quiz together. We decided on 5 rounds of 10 questions, plus a novel letters and numbers sheet (instead of photos) for the table. Having decided on our categories we each researched 5 questions (there are quite a few quizzes available on the net) and then asked two members to do a dummy run to check difficulty/fun levels.*

*“In the end, it was a close-run competition with only a point separating the winning team and two others. (Tip: Make sure you have a tie-breaker question in hand – just in case!). The prizes for the winning table were provided by AI and both we and they were very appreciative.*

*“We raised £260 with minimum stress and quite a bit of fun. And are very likely to run another quiz next year.”*

Let us know if you would like to organise a quiz with your group and we can help support you through the process.

## Mid Warwickshire Group Host the Oriflamme Orchestra

Fundraising events are often judged by how much money they bring in – and this is, of course, very important! Local group fundraisers help bring in vital income to the Amnesty International UK Section and Trust that funds important human rights work here in the UK and all over the world via Amnesty International UK’s contribution to the International Secretariat. Income from local group fundraisers also goes towards supporting human rights activity on a local level organised by groups themselves. However, fundraising events can also be a great way to reach out to the wider community and recruit new members.

On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January, the Mid-Warwickshire Amnesty group, which covers Warwick, Leamington and Kenilworth, hosted their annual fundraising concert at St Mary’s Collegiate



Group Chair Fiona Clayton with Matt Western, MP for Warwick and Leamington at the concert

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Church, Warwick. The Oriflamme orchestra, conducted by Antoine Mitchell, treated the audience of over 100 people to a wonderful evening of Strauss, Stravinsky and Mozart.

The group were delighted to welcome Matt Western, MP for Warwick & Leamington along to the event. Getting your local MP along to an event is a great way to build a relationship and will help when you'd like to raise a case or human rights issue with them. Events like this are often an easier sell than those with more of a campaigning focus.

We'd like to extend our thanks to all the musicians and the concert goers, who helped contribute to a fundraising total of over £1500 and recruit a new member to the wonderful Mid-Warwickshire Amnesty Group!

## Local Group Financial Return Form

We ask all groups to fill out a Financial Return Forms to help give us an idea of the financial health of groups and how best we can support them. Thank you to everyone who has filled out one of these forms already. For those that haven't, you can request a hardcopy by contacting us using the details below or you can use one of the links below to access the form online.

[Download a PDF of the Financial Return Form](#)  
[Follow this link to fill out a digital version of the form](#)

## Support for your Fundraising

Our Community Fundraising and Events team is on hand to help you make your fundraising plans a reality. Get in touch with Richard using the details below to discuss what you want to do and to order free fundraising materials (including collection buckets and card readers!) and help promoting events:

Email: [richard.glynn@amnesty.org.uk](mailto:richard.glynn@amnesty.org.uk)

Phone: 07827 694 313

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/amnestyukrich](https://www.facebook.com/amnestyukrich)

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