

JULY 2022

CORRESPONDENT

Apollo is set for *Success*

Read Apollo's story. pg16

What *Really* happens to donated clothes

What we do with our clothes
has never been more
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Where is God in the Ukraine Crisis?

BY DALE CAMPBELL

As we watch the news of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, it raises all kinds of questions for many of us. Here are just three of the questions you might be wrestling with as we try to make sense of world events in the light of our faith.

1. Where is God in all this?

It depends on the kind of God you believe in. Is “god” a small, aloof deity, who doesn’t pay attention until we do something that warrants it? Then that “god” isn’t involved at all. But we know God as Jesus has revealed him. God is the Father who is “close to the broken-hearted” (Psalm 24:18). God is the Spirit who suffers along with us and the suffering creation (Romans 8:22-27). God is the Son who entered this world afflicted by evil and sin and overcame it through the cross and resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:54-57). I certainly don’t have all the answers, but one thing I’m convinced of is that God is a God of love, who loves his people and whose heart breaks for the hurting.

Can we see God at work in this crisis? Yes and no. God is involved in diverse ways. At one level, we should remember that God is never not involved in the world. God is the Creator who is always holding up his creation and carrying it forward.

At another level, God is involved in ways we don’t immediately or visibly perceive, shaping circumstances and events. There are miracles we cannot see, that won’t make the news. There are stories we will never hear, but God is there. At the most visible level, God uses the humans that he created to embody his love. The ultimate way God got involved in our world was by becoming human as Jesus Christ. God is involved through the Church, through Tearfund, our supporters and expert partners in the field. God is active in the families willing to host refugees, the thousands of volunteers giving hot meals, clothes, water, and

essential items. God is in the pain of those in danger, and in the efforts of those working to bring peace.

We can see glimmers of the imprint of God’s goodness through stories of Ukrainians caring for a surrendered Russian soldier by giving him a hot drink and letting him Facetime his mother. We see it through innovative gestures like people who have paid for Airbnb rentals which they will never use to channel funds to war-affected families.

We see it through the people in neighbouring countries who have intentionally left prams at train stations, so mothers have a way of

transporting their little ones as they arrive. God is close to the broken-hearted, he is weeping with those who weep and mourning with those who mourn. His love is clear in this crisis, and when we believe in Him, there is always hope.

God gets involved through humans.

2. How is the Bible relevant in situations of war?

The Bible is no stranger to war and conflict. Sure, we might struggle to understand some of the times in the Old Testament that are so different to our own, but what is clear is that Jesus instructed his followers to work for peace (see Luke 14:32; 19:42) and to lay down the sword (Matthew 26:52; John 18:11). Another way to use the Bible right now is to pray through Psalm 31 along with scores of Ukraine Christians doing the same.

So much of the Bible was written out of deep pain and conflict, so it should be no surprise that it is so relevant in times of suffering.

3. How should we pray?

Prayer is not about waking God up or causing God to care. God already cares more than we can imagine. Prayer is being honest to God about our fears, needs and concerns. It’s offering the world and ourselves to the One who holds it all and simply asking for help with childlike faith. When we pray, we nurture in ourselves a healthy dependence on God.

So, we can be simple and honest in our prayers, and be open to God asking us to be the answer to the prayers we pray. We can pray for God to show mercy, to bring justice and peace.

To stop violence and to protect the vulnerable. We can pray for the work of politicians and humanitarians working to help their global neighbours, using whatever influence and resources they have.

And finally, we can pray for ourselves, that we would be people of compassion and peace, rather than those who join in hasty judgment and feed conflict.



Tearfund's partners are meeting the needs of some of the millions of refugees fleeing the Ukraine.

PICTURE Medair

Inside Out

BY IAN MCINNES, TEARFUND CEO



Tearfund CEO, Ian McInnes.

If ever there was a time in recent history when we might question whether God was still paying attention to his world—it is now. Over the last year, Covid-19 has continued its sweep across the world; the government in Afghanistan has fallen; Haiti was rocked by another large earthquake; the Tongan volcano sent a shockwave twice around the world. Then, the world fell apart for Ukrainians as Russian forces rolled across the border.

If all of this isn't bad enough, a tsunami of need is coming as food shortages and price increases impact everyone, everywhere, and the poorest most of all.

In all those places mentioned, Tearfund and our partners have been at work. In 17 years of relief and development work, I have never seen a year like the last one. We are super busy.

It would be easy to conclude that God had ceased to care and left us to it. But he has not. Instead, we are called to pray more than ever before—precisely because we might be having such doubts, and we alone are not the solution. My colleague Dale reminds us, “Prayer is not about waking God up or causing God to care. God already cares more than we can imagine. Prayer

is being honest to God about our fears, needs and concerns.”

If you are feeling some fear or concern for the world right now, you are no different from me—we are called to pray.

And while natural disasters unleash their destruction in a moment, war and conflicts can get bogged down, as the conflict is now in eastern Ukraine, and that can take a terrible toll on a nation, its families and especially children, as their future hopes and dreams fade and trauma sets in.

Please pray with me for God to be ever-present among all impacted by disasters over the past year. And thank you to Tearfund supporters who have raised a staggering \$2.5 million for disaster relief through Tearfund in that time.

Whether through prayers, financial offerings, or both, God takes these offerings from the altar and puts them to work in areas where help, healing and salvation are needed now more than ever.

The need may be overwhelming, but God is the multiplier, the shepherd and the judge. He has not stopped caring, so we will not stop praying and helping.

Kiwi kids making a difference

BY GRACE ELLIS

Kiwi kids have shown their heart for refugees by making sacrifices of time and money to raise funds for Tearfund's work. We were blown away by their efforts.

A Sunday school at Woodlands Community Church in Invercargill raised \$950 for Ukraine by selling

sunflowers made of felt (Ukraine's national flower).

“We weren't expecting to raise so much! It was awesome to see the whole church getting behind it,” says Therese Gray, a Sunday school teacher at the church.

“The brains behind it was my colleague Trish. She was really concerned with what was happening in Ukraine and wanted to do something about it.”

Trish used her creativity and craftiness to come up with the idea and her little crew of Sunday school kids to help make and sell 30 felt sunflowers at church on Sunday. Once they had sold them all at church, Trish didn't stop there. She had leftover materials and was in Covid-19

isolation for a week, so, along with the help of her family, she made another 40 sunflowers to sell. The church's youth group got on board to help sell the rest. They sat outside Kmart and Bunnings and sold a few at a local market.

“We sold them for \$10 each, but some people would donate \$50 or even \$100. We were amazed by people's willingness to give,” says Therese.

Six-year-old donates pocket money to help Afghans

Six-year-old Lily earns 20c of giving pocket money a week for setting the table at the Purdy's house.



Six-year-old Lily has set an example by working hard to make a difference for victims of conflict. INSET: Kids at Woodlands Community Church in Invercargill sell sunflowers to raise money for Ukrainians.

PICTURES Supplied

“I get money for spending, for saving and giving,” says Lily. It took Lily 41 weeks to earn \$8.20c. “I gave my giving money to Tearfund for Afghanistan. Once I heard Afghanistan was getting controlled more by the Taliban, I knew that's where the money had to go.”

Lily says, “It's important to donate because people might not have enough money for food, and if you don't have enough food, you don't live as long. Giving is important because I don't want wars to happen in the world.”

She says, because of the Taliban, the girls in Afghanistan won't be able to learn, and she hopes her \$8.20 can make a difference.

Lily also came up with a plan to raise money by selling ice blocks on her street.

“I was going to do a fundraiser during the lockdown, but Mummy said no. It was during Covid-19, so I couldn't do it,” she says.

Grace's Response

As I left the Purdy's, Lily came up to me and gave me another \$2.80 in a named bag called “Lily's giving money”. I said, “Lily, what's this for?” She replied, “It's for the people of Afghanistan.” That simple act almost brought me to tears. If a six-year-old girl could spend 41 weeks setting the



table for \$8.20 to help girls in Afghanistan, what could I do to help someone in a hopeless situation?

How you have helped people in their *Darkest Hour*

In this broken world which has seen a huge upsurge in suffering, supporters like you have helped us to respond to those affected by disasters and conflict. First, it was the people of Haiti and Afghanistan, followed closely by the devastating volcanic explosion in Tonga and the invasion of Ukraine. Grace Ellis has captured a glimpse of how you have helped those caught up in the latter of these two traumatising world events.

On February 24, Ukrainians woke to the sounds of sirens and explosions. Russia had just begun a full-scale assault on Ukraine with missile strikes and air raids.

Residents in Kharkiv, Kyiv and Kherson, the first cities under fire, fled their homes or hid underground in bunkers. Within the first week of the invasion, almost one million Ukrainians fled to neighbouring countries in search of safety.

Since then, the need for humanitarian assistance has grown to levels not seen since World War II. Today, more than 14 million people have been displaced, approximately 7 million refugees have fled Ukraine, and 8 million are internally displaced. That's almost three times the population of New Zealand.

As soon as the invasion began, we knew we had to respond. Thanks to the generosity of Tearfund supporters, we raised enough to help thousands of traumatised people.

Tearfund has partners in Ukraine, Poland and Slovakia helping refugees and people who have been internally displaced by the conflict.

Here's how you have been helping:

Ukraine

100,000 medical treatments were dispensed to more than 30,000 internally displaced people.

Health packs were also distributed. The kits contained antibiotics, pain relief and water purification tablets.

Slovakia

Churches, schools and local families were resourced to provide food, shelter and support to refugees.

Poland

Distressed refugees were offered emergency psychosocial support.

Local families were supported to meet the needs of refugees with the provision of basics such as hygiene items and warm clothes.

Often, the first people on the scene in a humanitarian crisis are human traffickers who prey on the vulnerable. Our partner is working to ensure refugees are informed of the risks through protection messaging.

Nath Fauveau manages a team at the Polish border. Her team registers the refugees. "We are their first point of contact when they arrive. We welcome them, share information about services

and protection issues and give them a wristband that gives them access to the centre. Refugees are assigned a room with a bed and given food and referred to medical assistance and a psychologist if needed, and the kids can go to the playroom. When it's time for them to leave, one of the drivers takes them to where they are staying," she says.

"After a long journey, we are the first faces they see, so we make sure they feel looked after and welcomed."

One of the refugees Nath met was Anna*. Anna and her two children fled their house in Melitopol, not far from Mariupol. Their trip to Poland took five days. They spent a night in a school and a night in a warehouse, but the rest of the time they were travelling.

"When they arrived at the refugee centre, they were relieved that they didn't have to wait long to get registered and be assigned beds," says Nath.

"We were warmly received by Tearfund's partner, and we slept very well. The best sleep in a long time," says Anna.

Anna's husband is in Russia. He was working there when the war broke out and hasn't been able to get to Ukraine since.

"Although we speak to him every day, I'm very concerned for his safety," says Anna.

"We will go back to Ukraine one day. But right now, our country is no longer Ukraine. The soldiers are stealing and firing weapons, so that's why we had to leave," says Anna's son Vadim.

"Most of our friends are staying in Melitopol. They didn't want to leave their homes. I worry about them," says Anna's daughter Karolina.

Anna says she hopes they can return to Ukraine soon. "My children were born there. I had a job as a hairdresser. We've left everything behind because my husband and I decided that was the safest thing to do for our children. It's been horrible to see them exposed to such violence."

Anna says she wants to thank everyone for their support.

"It's so amazing to see people from so many different countries supporting us," says Anna.

Anna and her children plan to travel to Germany to stay with her brother.

Anna shares the same experiences as millions of other refugees forced to flee their homes and everything they have ever known. Donations from Kiwis like you have helped lighten the burden that she and so many others must carry. Thank you!

The need for help is ongoing in Ukraine. All donations will make a huge difference as more people are affected by this conflict.

You can give online at tearfund.org.nz

*Name changed to protect identity

How your donations are helping Tonga's recovery

On December 20, 2021, a powerful eruption of the Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai volcano generated a gigantic ash cloud and triggered a devastating tsunami, killing four people and leaving around 300 homes damaged or destroyed.

Families livelihoods were left in ruins by the ash and five-metre waves. But amazing Kiwis like you rallied around Tonga, supporting them through prayer and generous donations. Since the explosion, our local partners in Tonga have used your donations to impact thousands.

Here's how.

In the first month, our church partner helped about 5,000 people by distributing urgently needed items. This included food, water, materials to repair or replace damaged roofs, basic hygiene items, and generators to provide electricity while main power was being restored.

Our other church partner organised two containers of urgently needed materials to be transported from Fiji to Tonga. This included non-perishable food, drinking water, education

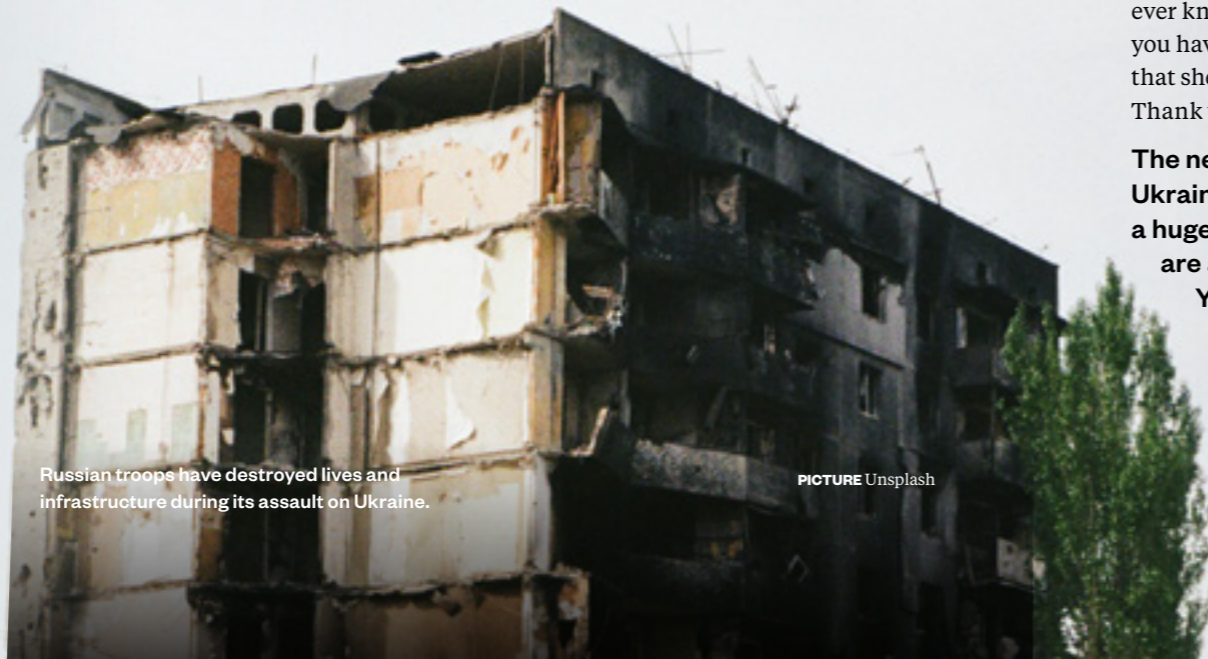
materials for children, and dignity items for women and girls.

Because of generous donations from our supporters and funding from the New Zealand Government, Tearfund supported these two local partners with their longer-term recovery efforts.

This includes supporting farmers and households whose crops have been destroyed by the thick ash or tsunami. Many families in Tonga rely on their crops as food and a source of income.

Our partners will support these families by clearing their damaged land and planting new crops, providing them with hand tools and new seeds. They will also mobilise the community to help the elderly and those living with a disability.

Our partners are also working to repair damaged water tanks for drinking water and irrigation and installing new water tanks. They are also providing psychosocial support to ten communities and helping increase the ongoing food security of five affected communities. This includes constructing greenhouses.



Russian troops have destroyed lives and infrastructure during its assault on Ukraine.

PICTURE Unsplash



Our Partners distribute emergency goods to Tongans affected by the recent disaster.

PICTURE Supplied

Airing the *dirty* laundry on donated clothes

BY MORGAN THEAKSTON

If you support Tearfund, you will likely be familiar with our work to reduce worker exploitation in the fashion industry. Recently, we've been focusing on the environmental impacts of clothing. The clothes we buy, how we care for them and how we dispose of them has never been more important.

The recent rise of “fast fashion”, where companies turn high profits by selling large volumes of cheap clothing, has encouraged rapid rates of clothing consumption and disposal. This has also meant the number of times an item is worn is rapidly decreasing. Aware of the harm this is causing the planet, keen shoppers have turned to donating and buying second-hand clothes to care for people and the planet. This has been seen as a more guilt-free way to consume large quantities of clothing.

Since 2018, the second-hand market has grown 21 times faster than the retail apparel market¹. For many, donating to op-shops and charities makes them feel good. We get to keep shopping, our unwanted clothes get a new home, and charities can raise funds for their causes. It's a win-win-win, right?

Unfortunately, because the rate Kiwis go through clothing is at an all-time high, New Zealand's second-hand clothing market has become overwhelmed.

Op-shops and charities are inundated with low-quality garments. Retailers are only able to sell 15 to 30 per cent of donations—nearly half of them are in an unsellable condition. So, where does it all go? The majority end up in our landfills.

A whopping 34.9million kg of clothes are dumped in New Zealand each year, with textiles accounting for nine per cent of Auckland Council's landfills. This is expected to rise to 14 per cent by 2040, making clothing one of our fastest-growing waste streams⁴. Globally, 80 per cent of clothing ends up in landfills, creating substantial greenhouse gas emissions from decomposing fabrics. Each year, New Zealand's collective textile waste emits nearly 400 million kg of CO₂e, the equivalent emissions from 144,770 round-trip flights between Auckland and London. Because second-hand retailers don't have the resources to sort and store all donated clothes, quality clothing ends up in landfills too. In Wellington landfills, it's estimated that 25 per cent of clothing is in re-sellable condition. Ironically, the increase in unsellable donations is hampering charities' ability to raise money because of high landfill costs. Not such a win for charities.

What about clothes that don't get resold or thrown away? Globally, only 10 to 20 per cent of donated clothing gets sold in the country where it's donated. After that, clothes not landfilled are exported to lower-income countries to be resold. For example, Kantamanto Market in Accra, Ghana, receives 15 million used garments per week.

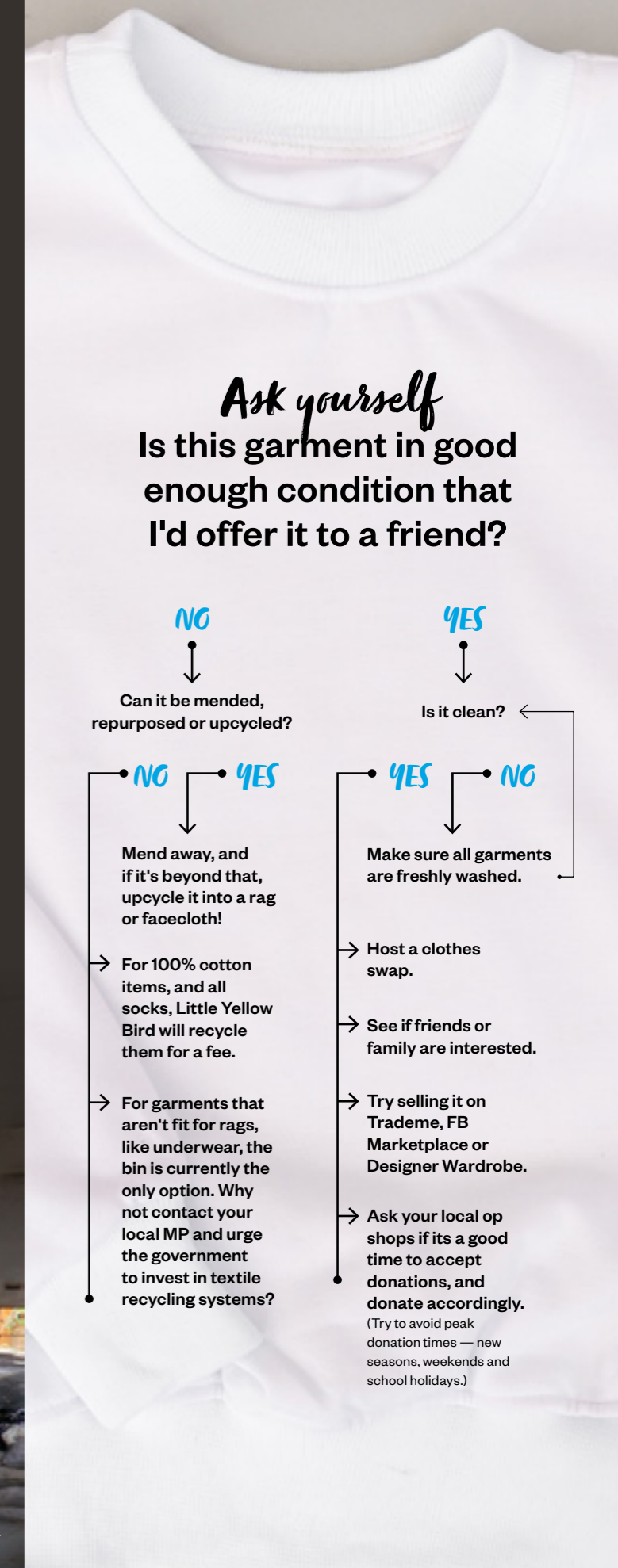
In New Zealand, charities give their unsellable clothing to Savemart, which annually exports 4.2million kg of used clothing to be resold in the Pacific, particularly Papua New Guinea.

While this may increase affordable clothing, it severely undercuts the local clothing industry. It also perpetuates the idea that exporting unwanted garments to countries with even less waste management infrastructure than New Zealand is charitable. In 2018, the owner of Savemart said, “even unsaleable items are saleable to a third-world country”, while an employee said, “anything that was stained or ripped just beyond sale in New Zealand, was thrown into the Papua New Guinea bale”. Some African countries are starting to ban unwanted clothing imports in support of their own clothing industries.

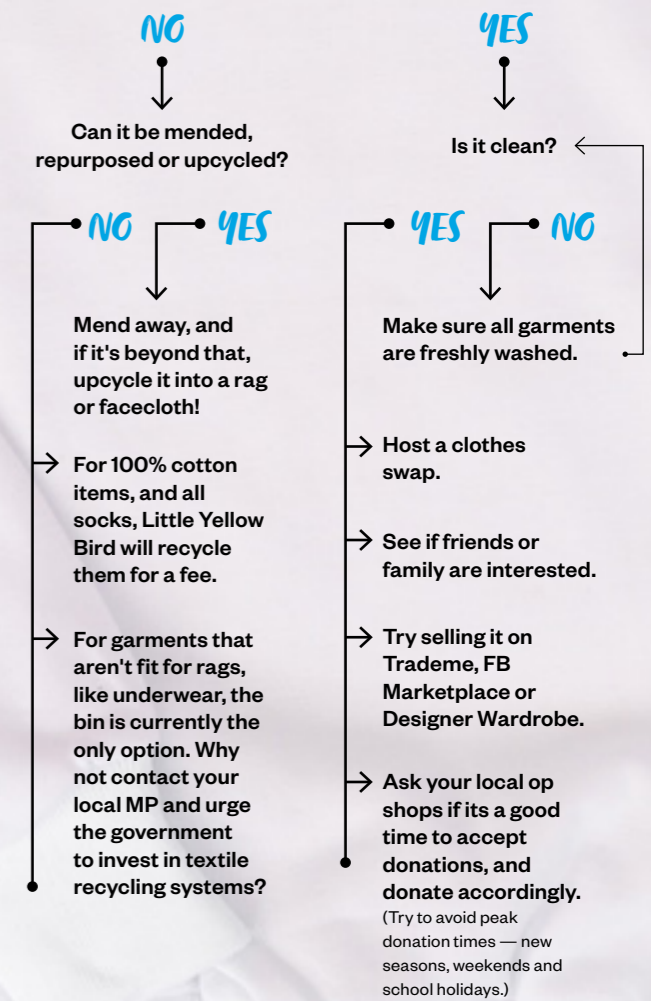
The second-hand clothing market is rooted in good intentions and is incredibly beneficial when stewarded well. However, it's currently bearing the brunt of overproduction, Kiwis' unsustainable consumption and disposal of clothing, and New Zealand's lack of textile recycling solutions. It's no coincidence that the clothing waste problem in Aotearoa has largely coincided with the arrival of fast-fashion brands.

At Tearfund, we envision a clothing industry that prioritises the well-being of the people and the health of the planet. We believe landfilling and exporting should not have to be key parts of a second-hand business model. To help resolve this, the best thing you can do is buy less. This means you can save and invest in quality clothing which you're more likely to take care of. It also means you will have less to donate. When you're in need, buy second-hand clothes instead. But remember—second-hand clothing isn't a licence to consume at fast-fashion rates. It's still important to consistently challenge our need to add new items to our wardrobes.

So, how can we be good stewards of our clothing, and when needed, donate well? Have a look at the chart on the right for some positive actions you can take!



Ask yourself
Is this garment in good enough condition that I'd offer it to a friend?



Donated clothes have become a huge nightmare for charities as we continue to buy more clothes.

PICTURE Unsplash

Your Gift for Life Mission

Are you looking for a way to help relieve poverty among the world's most vulnerable people? Do you love our Gift for Life catalogue? If your answer is "yes", then we have a mission for you!

Gift for Life is a charity catalogue filled with unique and meaningful gift cards Kiwis can buy to support Tearfund's projects overseas starting from as low as \$10.

This Christmas, we are doing something a bit different, and we'd love your help to reach even more communities by promoting it widely in your church. We need willing volunteers over November and December to set up a Gift for Life Shop to promote and sell Gift for Life products in churches across Aotearoa.

"This is my small way of helping to bring about a better tomorrow for communities facing poverty." Sarah (Tearfund volunteer)

Anyone can run a Gift for Life Shop! We'll post you a kit containing everything you need. All you need to do is run your GFL shop in your church's foyer with the materials from your kit.



Scan the QR code to register your interest. Thanks so much!



The Big Quiz is back

BY VICTORIA HANNA

For the past couple of years, Covid-19 has interrupted this annual event, but not this year!

Tearfund's Big Quiz is an annual fundraising event hosted at your local church. Gather all your friends for a fun night, to raise money to help vulnerable people caught in poverty.

For only \$10 per person, you can make a difference for people across our four causes: Farming and Enterprise, Disasters and Conflict, Modern Slavery and Child Development.

We have eight categories for the quiz, with ten questions per round: Arts and Culture, History, Geography, Food and Wine, Science and Nature, Sports, TV Themes and, everyone's favourite, Music. And we have very exciting celebrities this year: Life FM morning crew, Frank Ritchie, TVNZ reporter Joy Reid, celebrity chef Jo Seagar, and underwater cameraman, Steve Hathaway. And, due to popular demand, this year we have included a bonus Bible round—this is based on fun facts and trivia, no Theology degrees are needed.



So chat to your leaders, offer to host it at your church, get the sausage rolls cooking... and we'll see you on August 20. It's Quiz Time. To find out more or to host the quiz, visit tearfund.org.nz/quiz



Three great reasons to come to The Justice Conference

BY KEITH RAMSAY

Conference details

When: Saturday, 3 September

Time: 9.00 am

Where: 3 Lakewood Court, Manukau, Auckland.

BUY YOUR TICKETS AT:

events.humanitix.com/tjc2022

With so many things cancelled due to the pandemic, we are pumped to announce The Justice Conference Aotearoa/NZ is back, and we will be gathering in Tāmaki Makaurau/Auckland for one power-packed day on Saturday, September 3.

If you have a heart for Biblical justice, this conference is for you. The Justice Conference is a global movement of Christ-followers who are passionate about living out the message of Jesus and participating in God's story of justice for this world. Inspired by Isaiah 58, this year's powerful theme is Lift Up Your Voice (Te Nui o Tōu Reo), exploring the voices of Humanity, Scripture, Creation and the Church.

Here's what past attendees have said about The Justice Conference:

"I love seeing the church engage with justice, Te Tiriti, te reo, modern-day slavery, and racism. Thank you for your work. Ka rawe tō koutou mahi!" – 2020 Conference

"I now have a greater understanding of the issues we are facing as New Zealanders, but also globally. Not in an overwhelming sense, but with hope and determination to do what God has placed in my hands to do." – 2018 Conference

Here are three great reasons to come along.

1. You will be inspired

We have an impressive line-up of contributors for you. We are excited to announce that Uncle Ray Minniecon from Australia is one of our dynamic contributors. Ray is an Aboriginal pastor with roots in the Kabikabi and

Gurang-Gurang tribes of Queensland. He has dedicated his life to supporting the thousands of Stolen Generations of Aboriginals—children from the late 1800s until the 1970s, who were forcibly removed from their families by government agencies and church missions to assimilate them into the culture of white Australia. You won't want to miss his session.

We also have many local voices, such as Rev Frank Ritchie, Dr Sarah Harris and Rev Pane Kawhia, and event host, Petra Bagust.

See the list of engaging contributors at: thejusticeconference.org.nz/contributors

2. You can bring your kids

If you have young kids to factor into your Justice Conference plans, we have you covered. For just \$20, we have all-day childcare for two to six-year-olds, and if you need to tend to your precious young ones, you can catch all the sessions on the screen in the Parent's Room so you won't miss a thing.

3. You can even watch from home

For those who can't make it in person, we haven't left you out. You will be able to join our Livestream sessions from the comfort of your home or gather some people and watch together in a bigger space. The online tickets are available from our website, and there is even a discount for four or more and 10 or more people. So, be sure to invite your friends. Already got your tickets? Why not tell a friend so they don't miss out?

Check our website and Facebook page for special announcements and info.

A heart for stopping human trafficking

BY GRACE ELLIS

Matthew Valentine spent 14 years of his life as a detective with the New Zealand Police. Little did he know his passion for fighting crime would take him to the streets of Thailand working for an organisation combating human trafficking. **WARNING: This story contains disturbing content.**

Valentine is now a law enforcement supervisor and anti-trafficking specialist for Tearfund's partner, LIFT International, based in Thailand.

As part of his job for LIFT, he trains Thai Police officers. "We focus on topics that will improve their investigative ability and their care for victims of abuse. This year, we have trained more than 100 members from law enforcement agencies," says Valentine.

He also works with the Thai Police to build cases and remove victims from harm.

"We work in some very remote locations. We make sure the perpetrator is arrested, execute a search warrant, locate the victim or victims, speak to them with a qualified social worker, and assess their home situation. If it is unsafe at home, they will be moved to a shelter or an aftercare facility. Then we assist them on their journey to recovery. For instance, they might learn the skills to become a barista. We also support them when they relocate to a healthy home environment."

Valentine says since he started working for LIFT at the end of 2019, he has been a part of a team that has helped rescue 75 to 100 victims from harm.

"Removing children from harm is one of the best parts of my job. I'm so proud to be a part of this team."

While Valentine was working for the New Zealand Police, he did a few years

in the child protection team.

"That was when I realised that this was what I wanted to do. Children are the most innocent victims—they are often born into their situations. They don't have any control where they end up," says Valentine.

"I knew that working for LIFT was where I could make the most difference. It was an opportunity I couldn't pass up."

Valentine says children are most often exploited by a family member or someone they know. He also said sex trafficking is moving online due to the rise in technology and the pandemic.

"Thailand has been in and out of lockdown for two years. Crime online has increased. Children are online for schooling and their parents need to leave the house to work—leaving children at home by themselves."



Valentine says he was working on a case where a six-year-old girl was exploited by her mother online.

"Her mother started engaging with a man in Sweden and formed a relationship with him. As the relationship grew, he became interested in her daughter. Her daughter was only four years old at the time. Her mother sold her daughter for "entertainment" and that went on for a couple of years.

"We received a tip-off from abroad, so we built a case. Through investigation and analysis, we matched the images of the abuse to a person and started linking the evidence. Then we executed a search warrant and found items that matched the content of the abuser's videos.

The mother was convicted and put in prison. The Department of Special Investigations (DSI) coordinated with the Swedish police and also arrested the man.

The girl is now living in a safe home environment with some family members.

Valentine says the job can be very tough emotionally.

"I have two boys—one eight-year-old and a seven-year-old foster child. Being a father, it's difficult to deal with exploitation cases where children are of a similar age to my own—it's absolutely heartbreaking."

But he says even though it can be emotionally draining, you feel like what you are doing really makes a difference.

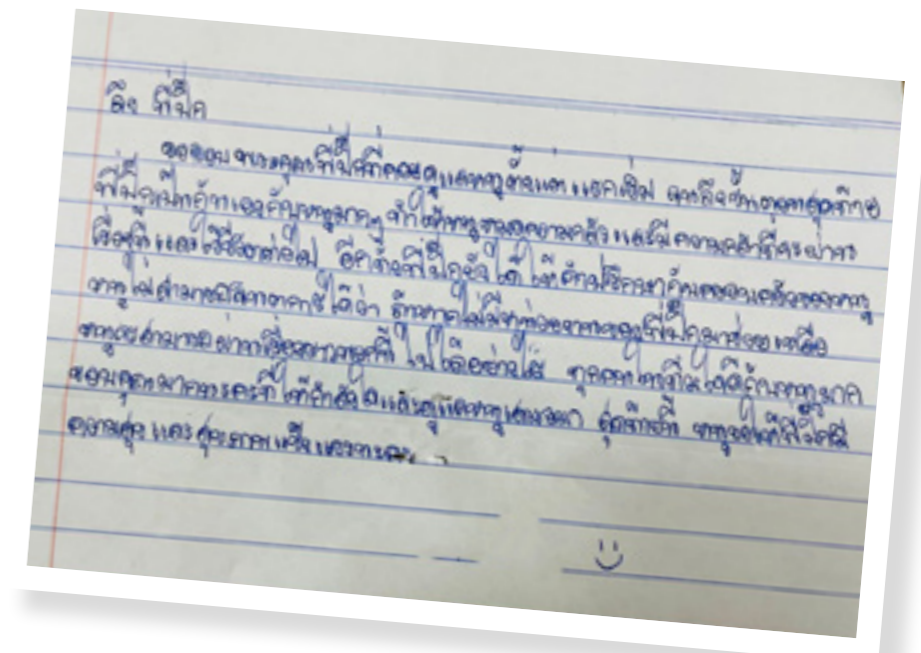
"I just keep thinking that if we'd never found that little six-year-old girl, her life would have stayed the same. In my job, you really feel like that if you weren't there, nobody else would intervene."

He says that his faith drives a lot of his work.

"It gives me a lot of comfort in dark times. It plays a big part in what I do."

Over the 10 years LIFT has been operating, the work has developed.

"It used to be very dark and undercover—breaking down the doors



and rescuing victims. Now, the focus is on preventing the problem and ensuring justice is served. The police are trained, the perpetrators are prosecuted, and the survivors have the care they need to reintegrate into society. It's about breaking the cycle and stopping generational abuse."

Valentine says if survivors aren't rehabilitated correctly and they've been groomed, there's an incredibly high chance they'll become a perpetrator.

"That's why our rehabilitation process is vital." He says he has interviewed multiple perpetrators.

"They've learnt this behaviour because most of them have also been a victim of abuse," he says.

Another story that has stuck with Valentine is the story of a 13-year-old girl.

"A young girl was abused by her neighbour who lived 30 metres away. He found out the parents had left for work, and he went over to her house with a knife to rape her. It went on for a year. She never told her parents what was going on." The man was eventually arrested and charged with rape of a minor and sexual exploitation, says Valentine.

After the offender was arrested, she was given a safe place to live.

"She flourished with her schooling after receiving LIFT social work support and achieved excellence in her grades. She is one of LIFT's real success stories."

After the offender was arrested, the girl wrote Valentine this letter.

**Dear Uncle Matty,
Thank you for helping and taking care of me. Uncle Matty, although he's a foreigner, speaks a different language, and I know that he doesn't expect anything in return. I would like to thank Uncle Matty for suggesting a new accommodation for me. Moving out of the house where the crime scene was, my mental state continued to improve. In this regard, I would like to thank you very much. Finally, I wish you a happy life Uncle Matty, and continued good health.**

Valentine says, even though he has been a part of helping hundreds of children, they are never a statistic.

"They all have faces, dreams, vulnerabilities like my kids have. It gives me massive motivation to keep doing what I'm doing."

He says the amount of money it takes to change a human trafficking survivor's life is so small.

"For example, a survivor pack is just NZ \$35—they are given teddy bears, soap, toothpaste; things that make them feel human again. I just think I could use that money to buy a nice Sunday lunch, or I could actually change a child's life. I can tell you, the impact from the donations is real and it has a lasting impact for little children," he says.

By supporting Tearfund you help our front-line partners, like LIFT, to achieve more.

Chocolate's *dark* secret

BY MORGAN THEAKSTON

We all love curling up on the couch to watch an episode and indulge in our favourite chocolate treat. So, it's not surprising that many of us turned to chocolate as a familiar friend when Covid-19 reared its ugly head. So, why do we need a rethink before we take a bite?

Just look at the numbers: in 2020, Kiwis spent \$146 million on chocolate—a whopping \$7.2 million more than in 2019. But how many of us stopped to consider the people behind the bar? Who made our chocolate and under what conditions? Were they treated fairly?

Cocoa is in the top five imported goods at most risk of using slave labour. An estimated NZ\$14 million of risky cocoa is imported into New Zealand from West Africa annually, where around 30,000 people are enslaved on cocoa farms. But if we pause to consider the people behind the bar, we can help create change.

Tiny hands and exploitation

In 2019, a journalist asked a boy on a cocoa farm how old he was. The boy answered “19”, but in the moment the farm overseer looked away, he wrote “15” in the sand. He'd been out of school, harvesting cocoa beans since he was 10.

More than 1.5 million children work on cocoa farms in West Africa, some as young as five. The children work from sun-up to sun-down, hacking weeds, cutting down cocoa pods and carrying 50kg sacks long distances on their

heads. Some develop hernias from heavy loads and the majority have scars from machete wounds.

Why? Chocolate companies compete for the cheapest labour to ensure the



highest profit. This leaves impoverished farmers desperate for cheap or free labour.

In Cote d'Ivoire, children are tricked onto buses and trafficked to cocoa regions. They're promised a decent wage, an education, and a new bike, but they soon discover false promises and physical violence if they try to go home.

What are companies doing about all this?

To find a solution, some companies have turned to certifications and organisations that work to provide fairer payment and reduce child labour. These include Fairtrade, Rainforest Alliance and World Fair Trade Organization. Companies are also choosing more transparent suppliers like Uncommon Cocoa, as well as sourcing from regions where there are no known issues of child labour in the cocoa industry, such as Samoa.

But even with these actions, exploitation is so prolific in the major cocoa-growing regions and the cocoa market is so unfair, that it's nearly impossible to guarantee slave-free chocolate.

Certifications are critiqued for not being rigorous enough and the high costs of maintaining certification sometimes mean the extra payments for cocoa beans aren't even translating to higher wages. So, does this mean you should avoid chocolate altogether? Not quite. There are definitely options for buying better!

How do you choose better, not bitter chocolate?

Given the current industry, Tearfund believes the best approach is to choose chocolate that is both Fairtrade and organic. Second-best would be to choose brands that are Fairtrade

certified, a WFTO member, or use single-origin Samoan cocoa. If you still can't find something, go for brands that are Rainforest Alliance certified or show they're paying more for their beans. The image below shows brands available in your supermarket as well as some boutique brands.

The truth is many chocolate companies rely on exploitation to maintain their level of profitability.

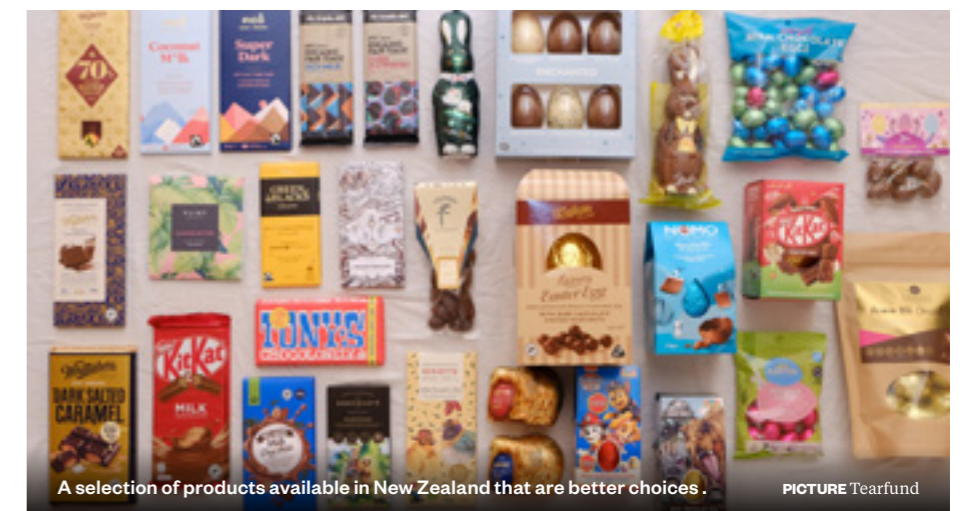
The only way the chocolate industry will create lasting change is by paying a price for cocoa beans that allows a living wage for farm workers. It's up to chocolate companies to raise the bar and it's up to us to make better purchasing decisions and use our voices to demand change.

How you can help

If your favourite chocolate brands are not transparent about wages and labour rights in their supply chains, contact them! We have a template as a guide to email your favourite brands and urge them to increase their transparency by providing information about their supply chains. You can find the template on our website using the link below.

Your email could be the catalyst for brands to include more specific information on their website for all chocolate lovers to find!

Check out our full article, Spilling the Beans: The Bitter Truth of Chocolate by Tearfund NZ at tearfund.org.nz/the-cocoa-industry



Child Sponsorship launches Apollo to success

BY GRACE ELLIS

Most school children worry about their homework, or whether their best friend is going to be in class, but that was not Apollo Kagwa's experience growing up in Kampala, Uganda.

From the age of five, Apollo feared being abducted by a local witch doctor, bitten by a poisonous snake, run over by a car on the narrow, dry and dusty road as he walked to school barefoot, or getting beaten by his teacher for not paying his school fees.

Apollo grew up with 13 siblings, including four sets of twins. He lived with his parents and his siblings in a two-bedroom shack made from mud bricks, with no power or running water. The children would take turns fetching water from a lake nearby.

“Our living situation was considered ‘normal’ in my village. My parents were in one room, and the 14 of us were in another. It was refugee camp living,” Apollo says.

Apollo's dad was a freelance carpenter, and his mum was a market vendor who sold roasted bananas for a living. “They brought us up on a very meagre income. Even the poor considered us poor,” says Apollo.

He would have one meal during the day, and some porridge at night, if he was lucky. “Our meals would consist of cassava, leftovers from my mother's bananas and fish. We never ate the flesh of the fish—we made fish soup from the skeletons. We could never afford a whole fish.”

Every night his family would pray no one would get sick because, if someone did, his parents couldn't afford the

medical fees. These weren't the only things he had to worry about.

“Fear gripped me because of the things I saw growing up. Our village is known for its witchcraft, voodoo and satanic spirits. I saw sheep and chickens slaughtered, and children would go missing every day. There was a huge wave of child sacrifices, and I feared I would be sacrificed to satanic gods.”

Apollo says there were also a lot of dangerous snakes in the village and that he was beaten many times for not paying his school fees or wearing a uniform. Little did Apollo know that his life was about to change. Apollo's church pastor was an electrician and went to fix connections at a Compassion office in Kampala.

“My pastor told the Compassion staff that he pastored a church in my village. They said his village was a real candidate for Compassion's child sponsorship programme.”

So, Compassion started partnering with his local church. They sent out a team from the church to look for the poorest in the community, and Apollo's family were the first on the list! “I was sponsored at the age of 10. I hope to thank my sponsors one day,” says Apollo.

Because Apollo was sponsored, all of his siblings had access to medical care. His family never had to live in fear of getting sick again.



The Kagwa family: From left, standing: Aquila, Gabriel, Mathias, Alitza. Sitting: Annette, Ariana and Apollo.

“Sponsorship helped me feel like I belonged somewhere. I didn't have to worry anymore—it made me feel special and loved. I was given shoes, my family were given mattresses, clothes, uniforms, sweets, powdered milk, and soap,” he says.

Sponsorship gave Apollo the opportunity to go on a safari. “We travelled in an open lorry and I saw lions and giraffes for the first time.”

He also went on church camps. “There'd be guest speakers, songs, challenges, games, and we'd go to the local church for 'Centre Day', where we'd sing worship songs and learn more about God. Compassion helped me stay in the church—without their help, I would have left,” he says.

Apollo says the letters he received from his sponsor changed his life and how he viewed himself.

“I don't remember the exact words they wrote, but I remember how they made me feel. I remember how amazing it was to see pictures of my sponsor's family and how they would send me pictures of the snow. That was incredible, as I had never seen snow before.”

After Apollo graduated from school, he went on to study environmental management at university for three years. “I only did it because it was

a good, secure job, and my parents encouraged me. But it wasn't my passion.”

Apollo's passion had always been for the Church. “My pastor mentored me, I would follow him around and learn from him. He saw something in me.”

In 2005, Apollo went on a mission trip to the Democratic Republic of Congo to preach. “It was after that, I knew that I wanted to be a pastor.” Apollo is now the pastor of Christ Way Church in Uganda, northeast of Kampala.

He's also married with three daughters and two foster sons.

When we asked Apollo why someone should sponsor a child, he said:

“Sponsoring a child changes someone's destiny. It is not an issue of whether I should or shouldn't sponsor a child, it is an issue of life or death. If someone didn't help me, I wouldn't be talking to you right now. I wouldn't own a house, I wouldn't be leading a church—I don't think I'd even be married.”

He says, if you don't help someone, they remain in their situation, and if you don't help, no one else will. “When you sponsor someone, you are actually leaving a legacy in the life of someone you don't know. That's also what Jesus did.”

He also says that when you choose to sponsor, you are not just sponsoring one child, you're sponsoring an entire family and helping the village as well. “Thanks to the person who sponsored me, I am now touching an entire city. Once we sow the seed, that seed will not go to waste.”

Apollo Kagwa's life was changed by child sponsorship.

PICTURE Supplied



Three ways you have changed lives during the pandemic

BY ZOE NOAKES

Unprecedented. It's a word I find myself cringing at now. For more than two years, those five syllables have been shorthand for the chaos caused by Covid-19. It always seems to be followed by unpleasant news. But as I reflect on this time and how Compassion's church partners responded, I realised something. They flipped the world's script.

When confronted with the unprecedented, they became unstoppable. In the face of the unknown, they exuded understanding. As they supported some of the world's most vulnerable children, they were undaunted. You may have heard how they stepped into action. Get ready for some astonishing numbers! Since the pandemic began, Compassion's partners

have delivered **20,300,492** food parcels. Restoring dignity, they have made **466,992** unconditional cash transfers to families who had lost their income. They organised **2,768,608** cases of medical support and distributed **14,322,297** hygiene kits. Critically, they also supported millions of children to learn at home when schools were closed.



This family from Colombia enjoys making meals from a Compassion food pack.

Yet there were other unexpected ways they provided vital help and care.

Here are three surprising ways your support has empowered church partners to change children's lives—turning an unprecedented situation into an unparalleled response.

1. By shining light into the shadow of this pandemic

As people were confined to homes, cut off from school, workplaces, and normal life, surveys revealed a major spike in stress and anxiety. The children in Compassion's programmes were not spared. However, Compassion's church partners were there blasting light into this darkness. In Ethiopia, centre staff called children in lockdown each week to pray and speak words of hope and encouragement over them. Fourteen-year-old Fetire became so paralysed by anxiety about contracting the virus, she was scared to go outside.

"I was excited to hear the voices of the staff from the project," she says. "My heart leapt with joy. For the first time since I had been at home, I felt hopeful. I told them I was depressed and didn't know what to do. They prayed for me. As always, it worked."

Her mother summed up the impact by saying: "the weekly phone calls brought back my daughter's beautiful smile".

2. By celebrating the special moments

Over his time, little felt normal, but your support meant Compassion's partners could continue to make the special moments count.

"At home, we don't celebrate my birthday because we do not have money. I felt excited when they arrived because I didn't expect them," he says. "When I saw them, I was thrilled."

For a child living in poverty, a birthday can't always be marked by a special gift for a favourite meal, but for a child living in poverty during a pandemic, it is a far-off dream.

That's why Josue was delighted when he opened the door on his eighth birthday to the sight of grinning centre volunteers dressed as clowns. Waving and dancing, they held out a gift for him.

3. By preparing for Omicron

The highly transmissible variant saw Covid-19 cases spike all over the world. While the vulnerable countries Compassion works in reported a surge in cases, Compassion's partners have remained undaunted and innovative in the face of this new challenge.

Your support has equipped and empowered them to adapt to the challenges this pandemic creates. They responded by delivering urgent food and supplies, enabling online learning, sharing the message of God's love, facilitating medical care and promoting initiatives to create long-term stability and generate incomes. One example took place in Indonesia.

At one point, the Southeast Asian country topped the world in new Covid-19 cases and deaths. The resulting restrictions left families in poverty struggling without a sustainable supply of food. On Java Island, catfish are a popular local delicacy.

When 18-year-old Dika was taught by his centre how to manage a catfish farm, he was equipped with the skills to open a business of his own. "I am confident I can create my own catfish pools now," he says.

Thank you for helping the local church to be the unfaltering hands of feet of Jesus throughout this unprecedented time.



Babies survive in first year of Mums & Bubs

BY KELLY BURGESS

One year ago Tearfund launched our first Mums and Bubs programme through our partner, Compassion. Kiwis responded, and this year we were able to support two amazing groups of mums and their little ones in Kupang and North Maluku, Indonesia.

PICTURE Compassion



Indonesia has one of the highest mother and child mortality rates in Southeast Asia. Extreme poverty puts pregnant mums particularly at risk because often, they can't access critical medical and social services. Thanks to this first full year of support, 30 mums and 31 babies have a different story, a story of connection, protection and hope.

We've heard such amazing things! On top of the care provided by our group specialists around nutrition, breastfeeding, and infant care, we have heard about the safe, emergency birth of twins and life-saving assistance for a baby with Dengue fever. Praise God that these precious lives were saved.

Our work is just beginning in these communities, and our goal is to increase the number of groups we care for each year and support these babies as they grow and thrive through Child Sponsorship. We have been humbled and honoured that many of the group's

wonderful donors have decided to continue this journey alongside mums and their babies into the future.

Here's what one of the beautiful mums had to say:

"I am thankful to all sponsors and donors for supporting us this year. I have been equipped with the knowledge and skills to raise our children. There is so much I have learned during the group activities, like essential nutrition, hygiene, proper clothes for my baby, and cooking skills. I am happy because my baby can grow and develop well. Finally, I pray for all the donors that God Almighty will bless and protect them. Lord Jesus, bless us all."

Yatris, Onri's mum.

Tearfund partners with Compassion International to deliver our Mums and Bubs groups and Child Sponsorship Programmes. Some of the older babies in groups, like Onri, have graduated

Inset: Yatris is grateful for the help she has received for her baby Onri, who can be sponsored now. Katrina's baby, Gilbert is thriving because of the start he received through the Compassion programme in Indonesia.

into Child Sponsorship—you can sponsor Onri or another little one from his neighbourhood by visiting our website at: tearfund.org.nz/sponsor-a-child/digital

What an amazing journey to go on.

In the year ahead, we would love to work with our partners to form a circle of protection around more groups like these in Indonesia. You can support mums and their babies in their first critical year for just \$30 a month. Over the year, you'll receive two reports to keep you up-to-date with each group.

tearfund.org.nz/mumsandbubs

Zoom in on Child Sponsorship

Want to chat about Sponsorship? Whether you are a child sponsor or just thinking about becoming one, you are warmly invited to a Zoom call with our Tearfund CEO, where you can learn more, ask questions and go behind the scenes of our child sponsorship programme through Compassion International. During this call, you'll hear about the impact child sponsors are having on children all over the world and have your questions answered! These Zoom calls have been incredibly popular so far. Here's what two attendees recently said:

"I enjoyed being part of a group of like-minded people and listening about the different countries the sponsorship children come from. Having visited one of our children in Ghana several years ago, I found it interesting hearing what others had to say when they also visited their child."



"It was a well-balanced session covering the history and video stories, as well as sharing and question time."

To book your session, go to tinyurl.com/impact-call and find a date that suits you. We'd love you to join us!



Tearfund is celebrating the transformational power that can happen through an act of self-sacrifice with our My Life was Changed tour coming to Auckland churches.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Windsor Park Baptist, August 7. 9 am, 10.30 am, 6 pm
Glenfield Community Church August 14. 10 am
See tearfund.org.nz for the latest information

Two Filipino former sponsor children, Danny and Joyce, will speak about how the act of one person amid the tragedy of losing a family member changed their lives.

Danny

For Danny, tragedy struck his life when his older sister, Merriam, died in an accident. She was 18 and Danny was 16. Merriam had been sponsored by a man named Gregg for 12 years. Even though Danny was 16, Gregg was adamant a sibling should take Merriam's place in the sponsorship programme. This saw Danny supported through to the completion of his university degree.



Joyce



For Joyce, help finally came when she was six. After her father was fatally shot, Joyce's mother fell deeply depressed, eventually being committed to a mental health facility. Joyce and her sister were separated. Joyce, only six, went to live with her aunt and uncle. Her sister, just four at the time, went to live in a remote village with her grandparents. They did not see each other for 11 years, only meeting again as teenagers. Joyce was one of the first children to join the Compassion child sponsorship programme when it opened in her area. Joining Compassion, not only changed her life, but also the lives of her aunt and uncle.

Come and hear more about their journey of loss and finding love through their shared experiences, made possible by an act of self-sacrifice.

David Ellison's Legacy

BY ROSLYNN SHEARMAN AND IAN BOLTON

David Ellison lived a life dedicated to the service of children and education, so it is not surprising that his charitable trust supported children living in poverty through Tearfund during his lifetime and a bequest.

David Ellison had impressive credentials and great talents. He was an energetic and eccentric Christ's College master (1969 to 1991) who had a strong commitment to the boys' education and welfare, in and outside of the classroom. David was born and educated in England. He was an officer in the British Royal Artillery and served in the Korean War. Outside of his army service, David obtained a degree in mathematics from Oxford University, which saw him teach at Cheltenham College in Gloucestershire.

In 1964, David's sense of adventure led him to New Zealand. He took a position teaching maths at Wanganui Collegiate and became the Director of Music. He is remembered as a humble man with boundless energy. David loved the outdoors, and he was happiest when tramping, climbing mountains and camping in the bush. Following his retirement, David remained involved in ski trips, allowing the boys to ski during the weekends.

After suffering a stroke, David's determination helped him slowly

improve after a lengthy and arduous rehabilitation. This became a defining moment for him. Grateful to have survived, he was spurred to donate to charities. David lived a frugal life, and his humbleness combined with his strong Christian faith inspired him to establish the David Ellison Charitable Trust to support work around the globe.

After moving to Rannerdale War Veterans' Hospital, David passionately continued to run his trust. He did this for as long as he was able before passing the duties to his trustees. David particularly wanted to help children, and this desire led him to partner with Tearfund through his trust. His trust sponsored nine children during and after his lifetime. Poverty tells children they have no future—but through sponsorship, David told his sponsored children otherwise. David did all he could to provide life-giving opportunities to these sponsored children so they could thrive.

For more information on including Tearfund in your Will, visit our website tearfund.org.nz/gifts-in-wills or discuss your wishes in confidence by calling our Gifts in Wills Manager on 0800 800 777.



“The David Ellison I really got to know was admired not only for his wish to help others in life, but his ability to survive and cope with incredible health challenges over a long period. He has achieved his ultimate goal in life—setting up a trust to help the less fortunate. His name will always be remembered, and his trustees will ensure that his generosity continues in perpetuity.”

Ian Bolton

David Ellison's commitment to stand with those in need shows deep, heart-warming compassion, which has been life-changing for his sponsored children—each one, a living reminder of David's legacy.

What impact would you like to make, and how will you be remembered well into the future?



Join our cycle warriors fighting against human trafficking

Jack Gilchrist outside the Beehive in Wellington.

PICTURE Supplied

It's time to don your lycra and get training for the Tour of NZ cycle race to help Tearfund combat human trafficking and exploitation overseas.

Join us for an adventure beyond your expectations that will bring freedom to those trapped in modern slavery. Long-time Tearfund supporter and cycling enthusiast, Peter Yarrell, started the event in 2012 to help charities raise funds for their causes using his passion for cycling. He invited Tearfund to be part of the tour because he believed in Tearfund's work, especially in the area of Modern Slavery. The event is held every two years, and well over 2 million dollars have been raised for charities. Your funds will help support Tearfund's work in Nepal, Asia and the Pacific. Every year an estimated 4.8 million people become victims of forced commercial sexual exploitation, 98% of them are women and children.

Over five days, covering 517km, The Tour of NZ 2023 event will take cyclists through some of the South Island's most spectacular scenery, but more importantly, you will be riding for a great cause. The event will wrap up with a gala dinner and prize-giving at the Gondola in Queenstown.

You can enter as an individual or form a team of up to five riders and get fundraising.

Jack Gilchrist reflects on his tour in 2021

Cyclist Jack Gilchrist from Roxburgh joined the last tour in 2021 and thoroughly enjoyed the experience of riding for Tearfund. He shares his story.

I first saw the Tour of New Zealand advertised at our local cycling club and thought it would be a great opportunity to explore some of New Zealand, whilst raising money for charity. It sounded like a win-win to me! I contacted my friend in Dunedin and managed to coerce him into blowing the dust off his bike and doing it with me. We both had an absolute blast through both sun and rain.

There was no hesitation about choosing Tearfund as a charity to raise money for. Here in New Zealand, we are so privileged to be able to live in a land of plenty and freedom to do whatever we choose.

As a Christian, I wanted to be able to support those overseas who have been trafficked and forced into the sex industry, to help give them the freedom they deserve.

My grandparents have been loyal supporters and regular givers to Tearfund for several years, so it was a privilege to raise funds for Tearfund.

I loved the camaraderie throughout the tour and it was an excellent way to meet like-minded people who love cycling, but also raising funds for their selected charity. It also turned out that Peter and Jill Yarrell who organise the tour are long-lost friends of my grandparents, and it has been special for me to connect with them.

I am looking forward to the 2023 Tour of New Zealand, and I have already completed my registration! It is a great honour to represent Tearfund again, and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who sponsored me as I rode the 2021 Tour.

So, will you join a movement for freedom and use your bike to combat modern slavery?

The event starts on Monday, April 10, 2023. To register, visit: tourofnewzealand.co.nz

You can also email us at tonz@tearfund.org.nz for more info and register for the event at: fundraise.tearfund.org.nz

Donate to Tearfund

Please use my gift where it will make the most difference:

Amount:

\$35 \$50 \$100

Other \$

or

Sponsor a child for \$56/mth

Call our team on 0800 800 777, or scan the code and find a child to sponsor online.



scan me →

Or visit tearfund.org.nz/sponsor

Your details

Please complete your details if you are returning this form to Tearfund

Supporter No.

(If known)

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Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Tick to receive our monthly e-news

Have you considered leaving a Gift in your Will to Tearfund?

- I'm considering including Tearfund
 I intend to include a gift to Tearfund
 I have already included Tearfund in my Will
 I would like more information on including a gift in my Will

Payment details

Donate online at tearfund.org.nz

Card Details: Visa Mastercard

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Expiry:

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Cardholder:

Signature:

Sponsor a child today!

Can you find room in your family for one more? With the impact of Covid-19, many children lost their sponsors due to financial hardship. But there has never been a time when children living in poverty need your help more than now.

For the first time, we are also giving you the opportunity to sponsor children graduating from our Mums and Bubs programme. These young ones are ready to take the next step in the child sponsor journey. We have selected a few for you on this page.

For just \$56 per month, you can sponsor a child and help give them protection from the pandemic and exploitation. We can match a sponsor child to a date that is special to you, to the age of one of your children, or you can sponsor a child from a country close to your heart.

Visit tearfund.org.nz for more info and other children awaiting sponsorship. You can also call us on 0800 800 777.



Protap

Bangladesh
DOB 22/02/2018

Protap lives in Bangladesh with his mother and father. He is 4 and speaks Bangla.



Dinusana

Sri Lanka
DOB 25/06/2020

Dinusana lives in Sri Lanka with her mother and father. She is 2 and speaks Tamil.



Amanuel

Ethiopia
DOB 14/10/2018

Amanuel lives in Ethiopia with his mother. He is 3 and speaks Amharic.



Miracel

Indonesia
DOB 18/01/2018

Miracel lives in East Indonesia with her mother and father. She is 4 and speaks Indonesian.



Arli

Indonesia
DOB 19/06/2013

Arli lives in East Indonesia with his mother and father. He is 8 and speaks Indonesian.



Peris

Kenya
DOB 20/02/2016

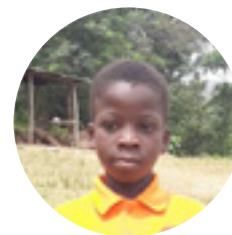
Peris lives in Kenya with her mother and father. She is 6 and speaks Giriama.



Khainapa

Thailand
DOB 11/08/2009

Khainapa lives in Thailand with her mother and father. She is 12 and speaks Karen.



Kwasi

Ghana
DOB 26/02/2012

Kwasi lives in Ghana with his mother. He is 10 and speaks Twi and Wassa.

OUR PURPOSE

Motivated by Jesus, we encourage Kiwis to act for justice and relieve poverty among the world's most vulnerable people.

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