



# Newsletter



No. 10 April 2021

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## Online Donation Platform



We are now using Virgin Money Giving for online donations.

- Visit [uk.virginmoneygiving.com](http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com)
- Search for Future Pillars

Or

- [Click Here to go straight to our page](#)

## Welcome

I hope that you and your loved ones have managed to stay safe and that you are close to getting the vaccine, if not the other side of it. This has been a truly testing time for us all, but there would seem to be room for cautious optimism. Since our last publication, there has been much activity surrounding our support for the work going on at the Family Future Community School in Kabwe. Like us, Zambia continues to face the threat of Covid, and yet they cope, and we applaud Moses Kopa and his colleagues for the progress being made at the school. The feeding programme, recruitment of pupils and progress in learning are all areas for serious celebration. The new building project is well underway with the footings excavated and the filling of concrete expected any day now.

On a personal note, since the last newsletter Becky and I have moved house. This is a big decision in the most 'normal' of times. After 5 years in Blandford, we defined a preferred future elsewhere and with the professional assistance of others, we are now back near the water at Barton on Sea. In a not too dissimilar way, Future Pillars, in discussions with our friends in Kabwe, dared to define a preferred future – one school, with pupils from pre-school through to Grade 12. The only way that this could be achieved was by the construction of more classrooms and, hence, the new building project. It is only with your huge financial assistance that we can start to see that the jointly owned preferred future in Kabwe will be realised, at the same time as continuing to meet the recurrent costs of running a busy school. On behalf of Emma, Kathryn, Nick, Peter and Rosemary, please accept our sincere thanks for your most generous support.

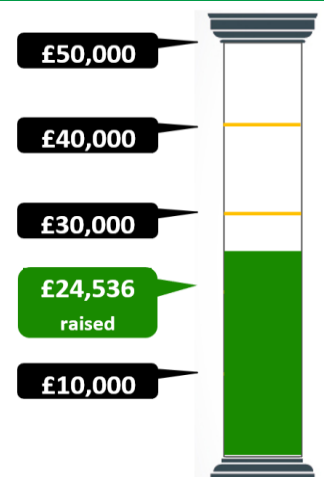
*Barry Gransden, Chair, Future Pillars*

## Building Appeal; you're a real brick!

Thank you!

Thanks to your generous response to our appeal, we have already raised **£24,536** of the **£50,000** needed to complete the new building on the Kabwe site. We have been thrilled by support for the events we have held since the appeal launched in September.

As Future Pillars' Treasurer since the day we were formed you'll forgive me for not beating about the bush! The building of the new classroom block is the biggest project we have undertaken. By the time you read this we will be well on our way to completing the ground floor. The Trustees are so



Since launching the building appeal in September, we have raised **£24,536** Thank you!

excited to see photographs of the construction work and are keen to visit as soon as we are able.

The Building Appeal is being boosted by various fundraising activities which you can read about in the newsletter: Trustees Tackle The Thames, 2020 Hindsight book, the regular quizzes and the Week of Wellbeing. But I'll be frank with everyone. We need more funds to be able to complete the top floor and the roof. So today I am delighted to announce our Brick Sponsorship for large donations.

### Brick sponsorship



What does this involve?

#### Gold Brick Sponsor

An individual supporter or organization\* donates **£2,500** (or £2,000 if they can Gift Aid the donation, and we claim the Gift Aid to make up the difference).

#### Silver Brick Sponsor

An individual supporter or organization\* donates **£1,500** (or £1,200 if they can Gift Aid the donation).

#### Bronze Brick Sponsor

An individual supporter or organization\* donates **£750** (or £600 if they can Gift Aid the donation).

*\* An 'individual supporter' could be a family or a street perhaps? A local community maybe. An organisation could be a business, a school, another Charity or a Church for example.*

What the donor receives is our eternal gratitude and their name on a lovely plaque (funded by the UK Trustees) on the wall of the building. Imagine being able to say that you were part of providing funding for a new classroom block including science labs? But look beyond the tangible asset and what supporters are giving is hope of a better future for (over the years) thousands of children in Kabwe, Zambia. These are not ordinary children. They are highly vulnerable. Most are either single or double orphans. But they are not beyond hope – neither are we - and we can help empower them through the provision of quality education in a professional setting they deserve.

Please e mail [trustees@futurepillarszambia.org.uk](mailto:trustees@futurepillarszambia.org.uk) if you would like to donate or call me on 07766 111647. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

*Peter McAughey, Treasurer*



## News from Kabwe

### Headlines

Hi everyone,

I wish to share a few among many happenings at Family Future Community School in Kabwe since the last newsletter. I will mention three things that have taken place this term at FFCS. Firstly, it is the innovativeness of the lower primary teachers in the making of teaching and learning aids using locally available resources, secondly the CPD on computer basic skills for all the staff and thirdly the general cleaning of the school.



The lower primary teachers underwent some basic training on how to make various T/L aids using locally available resources such as used carton boxes, disposable water or soft drinks bottles among others, enhancing the resources already supplied from UK on previous containers. The good news about this is that the teachers are implementing their new skills very well. The idea is to enhance teaching and learning using play focused methods and this is really helping the learners. Notably the Pre-School Grade and Grade 1 teachers are doing very well.



On the 26th March, 2021, we had CPD on computer basics coordinated by Audrey who is our school In-Service Coordinator and facilitated by Dingase our Computer Studies teacher and member of the Senior Leadership Team. The teachers were so appreciative for the skills acquired and this will enhance their performance in record keeping and work preparation. As a matter of interest, we have improved on the reporting system of our school report forms with components that require every teacher to have some computer skills to do a thorough report form in good time.

On the 27th March, 2021, the school staff and learners from Grade 7 to 9 met at the school premises to clean the school to keep up with high levels of cleanliness in order to remain safe amidst Covid -19 and the looming Cholera outbreak due to increased rains experienced this year which has possibly contaminated underground water where most of the people get their supply from unprotected wells. We also took advantage to create room for the incoming 4th Container at FFCS for the equipping of the school especially the new build under construction.

Kudos to Barry and Becky, Future Pillars Trustees and all the people that donated the items on the container. We understand that container 4 is now at Beira in Mozambique and is now set for its road journey to land-locked Zambia. We are so blessed to have you all as part of FFCS.

Warm regards,

*Moses Kopa, Headteacher FFCS*

Donate while  
shopping online –  
at no extra cost



Following lockdown, more of us are now shopping online. Why not support us as you shop? Easy fundraising will give us a donation from your purchase!

- Log on to [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)
  - Search for Future Pillars and join us
  - Start shopping
- Or
- Click Here to go straight to our Easy fundraising page and join us
  - Start shopping



## News from UK

### St Valentine's Eve Quiz, Saturday 13th February 2021

Our second on-line quiz, courtesy of Zoom, was another great success with 19 teams battling it out over six rounds of competition. The organising team was the same as in November with our daughter, Heidi, running the quiz whilst Becky and I collated the scores. Areas of knowledge tested included song 'intros', back

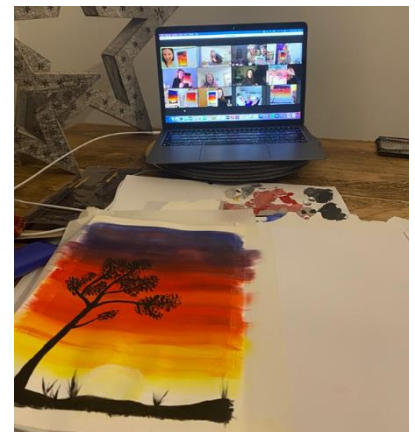


to school questions across the curriculum subjects, cities, celebrity face-mushing, linked pot-pourri, and, yes, if you missed the quiz, this list is not much help to you!! So close was the competition that we had to introduce a tie-break to settle who was champion – Les Quizerables. We congratulate all the teams for their keen participation. Of course, this event was a fundraiser for the new building project and @£1300 was raised. Grateful thanks to all and let's hope the next one\* will attract even more interest.

*Barry & Becky Grandsden* \*See below; next quiz May 8 2021, 7.30pm BST

### Week of Wellbeing, 14<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> March

Trustee Emma Berry organised a virtual Week of Wellbeing, fundraising for the new classroom block. The week was run with the help of over 30 professionals from the wellness industry. We had yoga and pilates teachers, nutritionists, tai chi and qigong specialists and artists involved - something for all the family. We ended the week with a relaxing sunset painting evening, the perfect way to wind down after a busy week (see picture).



The week was not only a great way to raise money, it also allowed us to raise awareness of the charity with over a hundred new individuals attending sessions. Many have expressed an interest in supporting Future Pillars in the future.

We are pleased to say that £2370 (inc. gift aid) has been raised from the week so far. This money will go a long way to support the completion of the new classroom block.

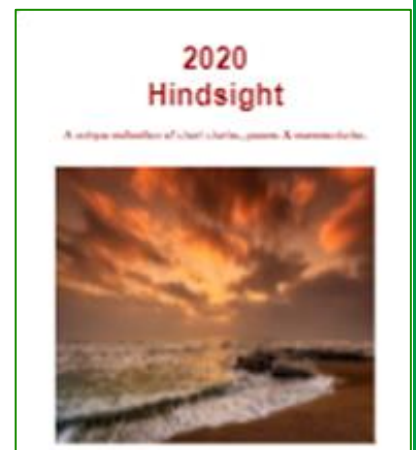
A huge thank you to everyone involved in leading events and taking part. I am sure we will organise another Week of Wellbeing in the future.

*Emma Berry*

### 2020 Hindsight

Our unique publication will be published in the next couple of weeks. Some 54 authors have contributed a hugely varied set of articles, poems, reflections and stories and in excess of £1,500 has been raised for the building fund. The book will be available as an ebook and will be on the website shortly. Please 'dip in', there is something for everyone to enjoy.

*Nick Andrews*



## Knitting through lockdown

We think of Zambia as a warm country, but our students are always pleased to receive knitted green jumpers for the colder weather. Judith, an amazing member of All Saints Methodist Church, Abingdon has been knitting jumpers for our children for many years. She has knitted all these during lockdown.



If you enjoy knitting and would like to add to Judith's pile of finished jumpers, please speak to a trustee or email us for a pattern. We can always find room in our bags to take jumpers out to Kabwe and look forward to doing so on our next visit – whenever that may be!

## Easy fundraising; raise money while you shop online

Did you know you can raise money for Future Pillars Zambia simply by shopping online at no extra cost to you?

Future Pillars Zambia is registered with easyfundraising, which means over 4,700 shops and sites will donate to us for FREE every time you use easy fundraising to shop with them.



We are all likely going to be doing more online shopping now and in the future, so this is a great tool for us to raise a considerable amount of money. Everything from your weekly online food shop to large home items or small clothing purchases are all eligible for donations through the platform. 32 people have already raised £777 for us by shopping. Why not join them? Follow the link below to sign up for free, get shopping and raise money from the comfort of your own home every time you shop:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/futurepillarszambia>

## Social Media



Our newsletters give a snapshot of our activities over the last few months. We use social media to share pictures and stories as they occur.

Follow Future Pillars Zambia on Facebook and/or Instagram to see news as it happens - and many more photographs!

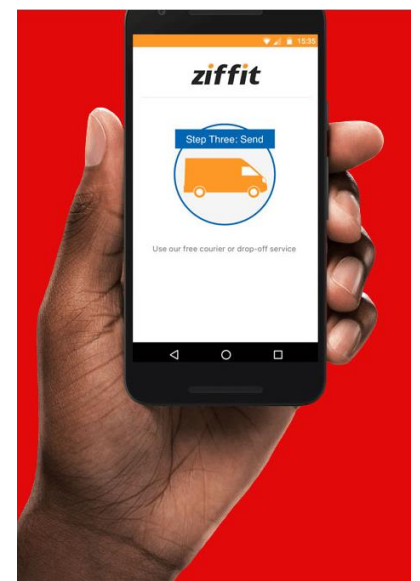
## Ziffit; declutter and donate

Virgin Money Giving, our main fundraising channel, has partnered with Ziffit so you can easily get rid of unwanted books, CDs, DVDs, Blu-rays and games. Money raised from the items is donated directly to Future Pillars. With charity shops closed and many of us staying at home, now is the perfect time to declutter.

You will get an instant valuation for your products by inputting the barcode or ISBN number online. The items can then be packaged and sent to Ziffit completely free of charge.

To read more about Ziffit you can do so here, search for Future Pillars Zambia and you're ready to start donating.

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/giving/worldofbooks/fundraisers/>



## Looking Ahead

### Quiz night Saturday 8th May 2021 7.30pm BST

Back by popular demand!

Join us again for some fun, some challenge and sure knowledge that your donations will make a difference.

Make a note now of the date. More details to follow shortly.



### Trustees Tackle the Thames (part 2!)

You will remember that in October we took on a new challenge, Trustees Tackle the Thames. Peter was joined by other trustees most days, and over the course of a week he walked / waded 112 miles, raising over £1,800 towards the Building Appeal.

Peter was all set to resume the walk in early December and was disappointed to be foiled by new Covid restrictions. He was hopeful that by now he would have completed the remaining 90 miles.

We hope to be able to tackle the remainder of the Thames when we reach step three of the government's roadmap out of lockdown. Peter will walk from



Reading to the Thames Barrier, and will again be joined by some of us – and supported throughout by Rosemary – during the week.

In eager anticipation Peter has booked accommodation for the week commencing **May 17**.... Watch this space and visit our fundraising page to support us if you are able.

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Team/Tacklethethames>

### The Third Future Pillars Walk; Woolacombe, 19 June 2021!

It seems a long time since our phenomenally successful group walks in July 2018 and June 2019. Obviously, June 2020 wasn't meant to be. The Trustees tried to make up for it by walking along the river Thames and doing laps of our gardens, but I'll be honest we've missed you all!

#### **COVID restrictions**

Whilst we cannot be sure what restrictions will be in place in June, the current guidance suggests that by then mass gatherings of up to 30 people will be allowed. The main change therefore is that each of the three groups cannot exceed that number (including support teams) nor can they congregate together. But we can still do the walks pretty much as originally envisaged. The local WI are primed to help with the catering so you shouldn't go hungry. We will be able to have drink stations on the routes as well. A lovely supporter has pledged all the water we need for the day.

#### **A reminder of what are we planning:**

We plan to follow a figure of 8 walk starting and finishing at Woolacombe Village Hall. The earliest start time is 7:15am and the last group should be back not long after 8pm. They are guided with walk leaders at front and back. Definitely not a race!



## Our Website

Visit our website for more information on Zambia, Kabwe and our programmes.

On the Events page of the website you will find route maps and an application form for the sponsored walk.

[www.futurepillarszambia.org.uk](http://www.futurepillarszambia.org.uk)

## Contact Us

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### How far?

There are 8 options with the maximum distance just over 28 miles. Some options are all day, some are morning, some are afternoon. Total distances of the options are 5, 10, 11, 14, 16, 19, 21 and 28 miles. Something for (almost) everyone then! Blisters are an optional extra, hopefully to be avoided.

The walk will be in three groups: one for hares at a slighter faster pace and one for tortoises. If you prefer an early evening summer stroll, then the Beach & Downs Amble is designed for you. This starts at 5pm and finishes around 7:30. It's a leisurely five and a bit miles of which about 2 miles is on that wonderful stretch of golden sands.

### Interested?

Speak to any of the Trustees or visit the [events page](#) on the website to find out more. There is no entrance fee, but we do hope that walkers will gather sponsorship from friends and family. The first two walks raised £36,000 between them; can we bring that total to £50,000?

If you can't attend but would like to contribute then please click here [Virgin Money Giving | Woolacombe Figure of 8 sponsored walk for FPZ](#) or search Woolacombe on the home page for Virgin Money Giving. Thank you so much.

### Can you help?

We hope you have enjoyed news of the projects you have supported, and our plans for the future.

Can you help us to keep up the good work:

- Could you [organise an event](#) to spread the word and raise more support?
- Could you make a [regular donation](#)?
- Could you [help us apply for grants](#)?
- Could your [company adopt us](#) as their charity of the year?

Speak to a trustee or contact us using the details provided if you would like to talk about these or any other ideas you may have.

**Thank you**

