



Jacob's Well Appeal

Christmas 2022 Newsletter



Ukraine Winter Appeal

We are appealing for warm clothes, blankets and heaters to send to help get the Ukrainians through this cold winter. People are living without electricity often in buildings without doors or windows due to the conflict. Whilst temperatures are cold in the UK, in Ukraine they often reach -20°C . We are also in desperate need of food and money to pay for future shipments to Ukraine.

A View of the Ukraine Conflict - By Our Ukrainian Partner

On February 24, 2022, the world was shocked by the news of the beginning of the war between Russia and Ukraine. No one expected that Russia would decide to launch a brutal war of aggression against a peaceful country in Eastern Europe. 9 months have passed since the courageous resistance of the Ukrainian nation to the incessant terror committed by the giant country of Russia without any remorse. And so far, unfortunately, there are no signs that this will stop anytime soon. The situation in Ukraine is currently very difficult. Millions of Ukrainians were forced to become refugees, hundreds of thousands of people's homes are uninhabitable due to destruction from shelling, tens of thousands of Ukrainian lives have already been taken by this war. And Russia carries out forced deportations on occupied Ukrainian lands and does not shy away from torture and executions (Bucha and Irpin). But the Russian military destroys not only people, but also animals of Ukraine. Thousands of livestock were killed by the occupiers, 4 million chickens died at the largest poultry factory in Europe, located in Chornobayivka, Ukraine. Tens of thousands of domestic cats and dogs have become homeless and are dying from explosions, hunger and cold. Wild animals were also no exception. Thousands of dolphins in the Black and Azov seas died as a result of hostilities. Currently, Russia is committing genocide and ecocide on the territory of Ukraine. And now Russia added a new type of terror against Ukrainians - the destruction of the country's energy infrastructure. As a result of massive missile attacks aimed simultaneously at the entire energy system of Ukraine, the population may be plunged into darkness and cold for a long time this winter. People, even in big cities, have been without power supply, mobile communication, Internet, water supply and home heating. At the same time, the Russian government does not hide that in this way it wants to induce Ukraine to retreat from the struggle for its freedom and capitulate. We will not allow this to happen!

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Ambulances

We are trying to raise money to send 4 ambulances to the front line in Ukraine. The vehicles like the one picture below can be bought in Germany for £1,500 each. Since the conflict began Jacob's Well Appeal has sent 25 trucks of aid to Ukraine, with aid valued at over £7.1 million.



We are currently paying for a large warehouse in Vinnitsia from where our aid is sent out to Hospitals and front line military medical center's throughout Ukraine, including some of the places shown on this map.



Ghana

This autumn Jacob's Well Appeal sent two delegations to visit Northern Ghana. First Liz Lyle, our pharmaceutical lead went with Helen Hyams to look at some projects and do some physio work. Then later our Medical Directors, Margaret and Alistair Robertson went to look at some other projects. They were devastated to see how very bad the harvest has been for the Northern Regions in particular. One community they visited had planted 5 bags of soya over 5 acres of land as one of our seedbank projects with Saraha Advocates of Change, run by Ruby Yap. Those who planted had hoped to harvest at least 30 bags and would 'pay back' 5 bags to maintain the seedbank. Unfortunately, due to poor rains, the harvest was so poor they only got 5 bags of soya beans. All their hard work over the months in the heat had been effectively wasted – they might as well have kept the soya beans we had given them in the first place! When Alistair and Margaret arrived to discuss the project the ladies, who are all very poor and struggling to survive, were despondent as they knew we could ask for the 5 bags back, which had been the agreement. They were overjoyed that we allowed them to keep the 5 bags and would supply the seed for another planting next year in the hope of a better harvest. We all prayed that God would bless them and send the rains so that next year they would be prosperous. It was not just the soya that had been a poor harvest, we also heard of poor harvests of bambura beans, ground nuts and maize. We will try to support these communities as much as we can. If you would like to support JWA's work with seedbanks please send donations with the reference "seedbank".

Farming

In our last newsletter we mentioned that we had received a donation to buy a tractor and a machine that strips the grain from the stalks, nuts or peas from pods etc which is called a multisheller, pictured to the right. These have now arrived in Northern Ghana and are being used with our seedbank project which is run by a local charity called REDO (formally C4C). This project supports over 150 women. Before this equipment arrived REDO had to pay for commercial ploughing and threshing which is very expensive. Now, when they are not working on our projects the tractor and multisheller can be used to earn money from other local farmers which helps to subsidise our projects. Alistair and Margaret spent a day travelling to the Upper East area of Ghana to watch these machines in action.



Water

There are still many communities in Northern Ghana and Burkina Faso which don't have boreholes. When the rainy season ends they struggle to get water, with many of them having to walk miles to the nearest water source. One community we visited had a broken borehole which the contractors had said was not fixable. They were using a dirty pond for water. When that dries up they have to walk 7km to the nearest alternative water source. When a community has no borehole it means that the community is likely to suffer from frequent sickness and diarrhoea from drinking dirty water. Dirty water also leads to other serious issues such as blindness from trachoma, a chlamydial infection spread by flies which is prevented by face washing with clean water. We arranged for a contractor we trust to visit this borehole and he told us that the borehole could be fixed for £1,000 instead of needing a new borehole for £4,500. The District Inner Wheel (West and North Yorkshire) are collecting money towards a borehole in this region.

Jacob's Well Appeal would like to say a big thank you to Paul Brown and Alpha Omega Engineering who have invested a large amount of money and time in designing and manufacturing a specialist well drilling rig which has just arrived in West Africa. We have a team of water engineers going out from Iceland to drill our first well in Burkina Faso in January. They also plan to train a team of local African engineers how to use this equipment. The provision of this drilling rig will enable us to give more communities access to clean water for a lower price.

Well drilling machine on a low loader en route to Tilbury docks pictured to the right.



Appeal to build a new Paediatric Ward

Whilst in Ghana, Alistair and Margaret visited a medical clinic which was a 1.5 hour drive away from any other hospital or medical facility. In addition to 20 beds for inpatients, it also carries out surgeries such as caesarean sections. In addition over 100 patients attended the clinic each day, referrals from this Hospital have to go along a rutted road laid in the back of a 3 wheeled motorbike. All this is run by one Doctor who had been on call for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for the last 18 months with no holidays in sight! This clinic was struggling because it had insufficient beds for the patients. The Doctor asked for help to build another small ward to house the paediatric patients so that they would not have to sleep on the floor. A 10 bed extension would cost £13,508. If you would like to support this project please send donation with reference "paediatric".



Women's Literacy and Small Business Project

JWA supports various women's' groups with projects that teach them to read and write and then help them start up a small business doing things like making soap, crafting jewellery or processing shea butter which is used for cosmetics. The Doncaster and St Ledger Inner wheel club have been collecting money to support this project which teaches women to make jewellery and soap. The women on these projects are so very grateful to be given the chance to make some money which they can use to send their children to school.

Pictured left are some of the items made by the women.

Appeal to renovate operating theatres in Ghana

The municipal hospital in Wa, Northern Ghana has asked for our help in renovating their operating theatres which are in dire need of new tiles, paint and general repair(pictured to right). The government does not even have enough money to pay the cleaners, so it is impossible to find money for such necessary improvements. This Hospital is used for many caesarean sections and hernia repairs. For just over £8,000 the theatres could be renovated and would then provide a much safer sterile surgical environment. It has not been renovated since it was built by the British in 1930.



Value and Destinations of Aid sent in 2022

Education	£17,481	Albania	India	Pakistan
Food	£45,141	Burkina Faso	Iraq	Philippines
Agriculture	£99,240	Cameroon	Jordan	Sierra Leone
Household	£89,948	England	Kenya	Uganda
Medical	£8,038,032	Ethiopia	Malawi	Ukraine
Total	£8,289,842	Ghana	Moldova	Zimbabwe

A View of the Ukraine Conflict - By Our Ukrainian Partner - continued

Today, there are practically no countries left on our planet that have not felt the consequences of this war. Under these circumstances, helping Ukraine and its people becomes a priority task for most countries at all levels of society. Presidents, prime ministers, businessmen, figures of culture and science, influencers, charitable organizations and foundations, ordinary people around the world are organizing and will send various aid to Ukraine. And "Jacob's Well Appeal" is no exception! During the 9 months of this terrible war, Ukraine received over 200 tons of humanitarian aid. Mostly focusing on medical cargo, but we also received food, clothing, pet food and hygiene products. Thanks to your donations, thousands of human and animal lives have been saved in Ukraine. After all, every day there are several hundred wounded. Medical facilities and military medics are always in need of dressing materials, antiseptics, medicines and many other medical supplies. And recently, Ukraine has a critical need for generators and means of heating. Because it is extremely difficult for doctors with headlamps and cold rooms to save the lives of soldiers and civilians on operating tables. People and animals, even in homes, find themselves on the brink of survival. Their lives are in danger of death this winter. But all of us, even thousands of kilometers away, feel how this war changes our usual life. And we cannot stand aside. Only comprehensive support of Ukraine will help stop Russia and restore the world balance.

Therefore, we are sincerely grateful to you for continuing support of Krynitsya Jacova/ "Jacob's Well Ukraine" in these difficult times. We still have a lot of work to do in Ukraine.

God bless all, who provide their support to Ukraine. You are all a part of our victory.

Completion of Hospital Repairs

The Source de Vie hospital in Ouagadougou would like to thank all our generous donors who have supported them after their terrible fire. They have now completed their repairs and are fully operational again. We have a container of medical aid waiting to be sent to them once the fridge for the mortuary that was previously built by JWA arrives on site.



Sanitary Pad Project

We have now done 5 sanitary pad projects helping over 1,120 girls and young women, teaching them how to make their own re-usable sanitary pads and also giving health and sexual education. This has been so well received in the area that we have been asked to continue providing this by the educational director of the Wa region.

Cold Storage Room

Just as the covid pandemic started we were asked by the Municipal Director of health services in the Wa region if we could help them complete their cold storage facility for vaccines. They had some funding from the government but this was insufficient and they had nowhere adequate to store their vaccines for the childhood immunisation program. One generous donor paid for this and we were able to see it in action. It is a wonderful facility, filled with donated fridges from several other charities. The timing of this also



DONATIONS: - Via Internet Banking

Account Name: Jacobs Well Appeal
Account Number: 67235135
Sort Code: 08-92-99

Do you have email? If you would prefer to receive the newsletter by email, save costs and the environment, please email office@jacobswellappeal.org with your name and postal address, so we can update our database. Thank you!

meant that they were able to safely store their Covid vaccines when they arrived. They were very grateful to receive this help.

MEDICATION

Sadly we are no longer able to send patients' medication abroad. If you send us your medication, even if it has never been opened, we will have to pay to have it destroyed. Please return it to your local pharmacy.



A HUGE thank you to all our amazing volunteers and to all those who support us by donating money, medical supplies, items to sell, knitting blankets and making shoe boxes. **If the monies raised exceed the amount needed for the projects mentioned in this newsletter, we will use the extra money to fund similar projects.**