

# FUNDRAISING UPDATE



January 2020

This month's local group mailing features a reminder for local groups to fill out and return the Financial Return Form for 2019. For the first time, we are now offering a digital version of the form for those groups that would like to be as paper free as possible. We also have news of an exciting matched funding opportunity that will allow you to double your fundraising contributions in March and April. Read on for more details

## Upcoming Matched Funding Opportunity

One of Amnesty International UK's major donors has offered us £18,000 in 'matched funding' for local groups. In March and April local group contributions up to this amount will be doubled until that sum has been used up. The donations from groups will go directly to the Section but the matched funds will ongoing human rights research on the ground in Syria.

Keep an eye out for updates in future local group fundraising updates and start planning fundraising activities now so your group can make the most of this opportunity.

## Local Group Financial Return

Thanks to all groups who have sent in their local group Financial Return Forms for 2019. For those that haven't, you should have received a hard copy in November last year. If you didn't, please email [fundraise@amnesty.org.uk](mailto:fundraise@amnesty.org.uk) to request one, or download one here. Alternatively, you can fill out an [online version of the form](#). This is the first time we've offered an online version of this form, so we'd appreciate feedback from anyone who uses it.

## Telford Amnesty Group Sponsored Walk

On Sunday September 8th Telford Amnesty Group – plus a child and four dogs! – held a Sponsored Walk around Coalbrookdale in Telford raising £200.

The walk was challenging in parts - including negotiating steep paths; climbing many steps up and down the hillsides; striding over bridges; and walking through many fields, coppices and woods. Despite this, it was enjoyed all.



Telford Amnesty Group on their walk

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On the way various points of historical and environmental interest were pointed out by Beryl Taylor, the group's Treasurer who had planned the walk. These included the Darby Toll House, Oil House Coppice; a wooden pipe sculpture and the Lodge Field.

It was a great way to explore the local area, which is described as 'The Birthplace of Industry' and a very enjoyable way to raise funds for Amnesty International UK.

If your group is interested in organising a sponsored walk in your local area, get in touch with our Community Fundraising team (contact details below) who'll be able to help you by offering advice, support and materials.

## Join an Existing Trek

If you don't have the capacity to organise a trek as a group but would like to take part in one, then you can participate in one of our 2020 UK treks. We have teamed up with the events company Action Challenge to offer a number of routes across the country, with a variety of distances to suit all capabilities. The challenges take place at different times throughout the year (all at weekends) so there will be a date for everyone's diary! By taking on one of these challenges you will be having an adventure you will never forget, whilst raising vital funds for Amnesty International UK's work protecting individuals and groups whose basic rights are being compromised.

[Read more about how you can get involved and see the full list of treks that we have on offer.](#)

Unfortunately, we don't currently have any treks on offer on outside of England. This is because Action Challenge, the company we are currently partnered with, only work in England. If you know of any companies that offer fundraising treks in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland then let us know.

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