

FUNDRAISING UPDATE



January 2021

Welcome to the first local group fundraising update of the year. Last year was, of course, a difficult year for fundraising. Amnesty local groups are famous for putting on amazing public facing fundraising events including quizzes, live music, bake sales, film screenings and more. For most of last year, these sorts of events were either not allowed or could only happen with significantly reduced capacity. As a result, scores of activist led events that would have raised significant money were cancelled and others could only raise a limited amount. Despite this, local groups managed to donate nearly £70,000 to the Section and the Trust. Thank you to everyone involved in raising this sum. We really appreciate your support in these difficult times.

This fundraising update will feature some inspiring stories of groups who have managed to organise successful virtual fundraising events. Hopefully some of these stories will inspire your group to try a virtual event. If they do, please get in touch for assistance (contact details at the end of this update.) It also has a link to the Financial Return Form that all groups are required to submit every year.

Christmas Concert for Human Rights

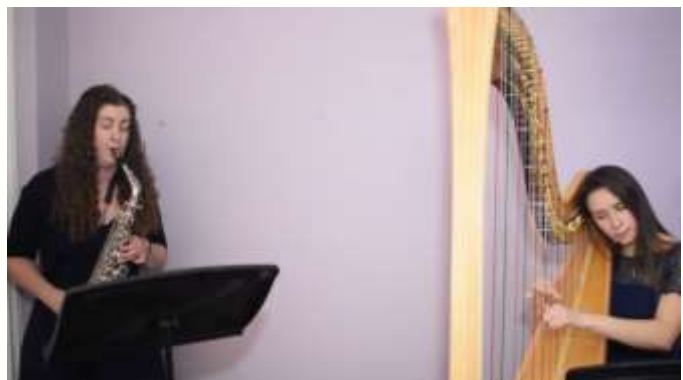
The Bournville Amnesty Group hold a regular Christmas Concert for Human Rights, raising money for Amnesty International UK and Freedom From Torture. It soon became clear that the 2020 edition of this event wasn't going to be able to go ahead and so the Bournville Group set about making it a virtual event. Artists were asked to send videos of themselves performing and these were stitched together into an hour-long video. Performers include Michael CT Lam, Anna Vienna Ho, Matt Windle, the "poet with punch", Casey Bailey and many more. The video went live on YouTube when the concert would have started and those watching were asked to donate to the Virgin Money Giving page they setup. The event has raised over £900 so far and donations are still coming in!

[Watch the full event](#)

[Donate to their Virgin Money Giving page](#)

Polaris Duo and the Hull Amnesty Group

The Hull Amnesty Group did something very similar working with the Polaris Duo comprised of Gillian Blair (saxophone) and Elinor Nicholson (harp). They performed on YouTube with the video going live on a Friday evening in September – the perfect time for some live music! Those watching were asked to contribute to a Just Giving Crowd Funding page raising money for the group.



Polaris Duo performing on the stream

[Watch the full set](#)

[Donate to their Just Giving page](#)

GET IN TOUCH: fundraise@amnesty.org.uk / 020 7033 1650

We are committed to the highest standards in fundraising.
Read our promise to you: [amnesty.org.uk/promise](https://www.amnesty.org.uk/promise)



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Creative Writing Contest

It's not just live music events that can raise money in lockdown! The York Amnesty Group have organised a creative writing competition. They're asking people to contribute 500-word pieces on the theme of 'locked'. Participants pay for entry and the winner will receive a cash prize of £50.

[Read more and learn how to submit your entries.](#)

Local Group Financial Return Form

Every year, local group treasurers fill out a form that outlines their group's income and expenditure for the year. Ordinarily we send this out at the end of the year with an appeal for donations. This didn't feel appropriate this year so instead we're including it in this mailing. You can find a PDF form and a link to the digital version of the form. Please fill out and return this for by April 30th. If you have any questions, get in touch using the details below.

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

Get in Touch

If you have any questions about your group's finances or would like help organising a fundraising event, then please don't hesitate to get in touch with Richard, our Community Groups Fundraiser, using the details below:

Email: richard.glynn@amnesty.org.uk

Phone: 020 7033 1650

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