

Flush Away Poverty At Your Summer Fete By Sharron Hardwick

With sunshine, fetes, carnivals and car boot sales occurring across Pembrokeshire there is nothing like a cool glass of fresh water to quench our thirst. This summer Tearfund Wales are asking locals to support some of the world's poorest communities for whom clean water and decent sanitation are only a dream.

Tearfund, recognised for professional expertise in development, disaster response, disaster risk reduction and advocacy have a vision to see 50 million people released from material and spiritual poverty.

Two particular Tearfund initiatives that have gained local support are Tearfund's Water and Sanitation Project and Toilet Twinning. For the last few years there have been water based games in aid of Tearfund at Kilgetty's Fun Day and in Broad Haven with Broad Haven Baptist Church's famous "Soak a Baptist" stall; providing entertainment whilst gaining great public support.

Many local people are astounded that almost 900 million people live without clean water, with unclean water being the second-biggest child-killer, and more than 2.5 billion people not having a safe place to go to the toilet.

Local schools are showing interest in Tearfund's Toilet Twinning, with Broad Haven and Deer Park (Tenby) Baptist Churches and New Life Christian Fellowship, Kilgetty, joining more than 9,000 people helping to flush away poverty by twinning their loos with latrines in Africa and Asia.

With 10,000 Olympic Game's toilets now in place, Toilet Twinning is sprinting towards its own 10K triumph cheering on the race to reach the 10,000th twin in record time.

The money raised through Toilet Twinning is used by charities Cord and Tearfund to improve access to clean water and safe sanitation, and promote hygiene. Twinners will receive their own gold: a framed certificate, with a photo of the twinned latrine and its exact global positioning system [GPS] coordinates.

"Having decent water and Sanitation is something that people can really relate to. This summer why not fundraise in a fun way, you could even twin your toilet or toilet block too?" encourages Pembrokeshire based, Tearfund Wales Volunteer Manager Fiona Michael.

Monthly or regular gifts are also welcomed to enable Tearfund partner organisations all over the world to unlock spiritual and material transformation by providing essential services in poor communities.

Why not join our online community via the Tearfund Wales Facebook page. Here you can keep up to date with Tearfund's latest news and share what you have been doing for Tearfund this summer.

Together we can make a difference.

To find out more visit:

www.facebook.com/pages/Tearfund-Wales/206670882730911

Water And Sanitation: www.tearfund.org/get_involved/give/give_main/one-off_donations/water_and_sanitation/

www.toilettwinning.org