

TEARFUND PRESS RELEASE: 3rd October 2006

Pembrokeshire praised for Asian earthquake generosity one year on

Dear Mr. Neil Dickinson,

On behalf of Tearfund I would like to thank you and the people of Pembrokeshire, for playing your part in raising more than £ £3058 in aid to help rebuild the lives of people affected by the earthquake that hit Pakistan and India a year ago this week.

Last year 'The Tenby Observer' featured an article asking locals to pray for and support financially, the victims of the earthquake. I thank you so much for your support of this appeal and I am sure that your coverage ignited the generosity of Pembrokeshire people to help the earthquake victims. Your continued support is helping communities to slowly rebuild what was lost, from homes, to health care and clothes, to a clean water supply. Thank you also to all Pembrokeshire people who prayed for and gave money to help Tearfund support those who suffered the devastating effects of the earthquake.

The quake, measuring 7.6 on the Richter scale, struck the region on 8 October, killed some 80,000 people and left a further 3.5 million without a home. It devastated communities in a region extremely difficult to reach with emergency relief.

Thanks to more than £3 million donated since the quake by the British people and supporters worldwide, Tearfund and its partners have provided tents, shelter kits, toilets, washroom kits, blankets, clothes, stoves and mattresses. In addition, they have helped to rebuild a hospital, provide medical assistance and rebuild damaged water systems.

One year on from the crisis, Tearfund and its partners continue working with local communities in northern Pakistan to help rebuild homes to earthquake-proof designs, as well as helping communities prepare for future disasters. While earthquakes cannot be prevented, massive loss of life and suffering associated with them can be - if measures are put in place to protect vulnerable communities before a disaster hits.

One again I offer my thanks for your continued support of Tearfund's work.

Together we can make a difference

Sharron Hardwick (Tearfund's Voluntary Media Officer for Pembrokeshire)

