

pestalozzi

NEWSLETTER



Autumn/Winter 2019

[www.pestalozzi.org.uk](http://www.pestalozzi.org.uk)

## About

Pestalozzi is more than just a scholarship. Our vision is to inspire young people to make a difference in the world. Our mission is to produce globally conscious young leaders by supporting their further education in a multi-cultural, multi-faith environment. Our core values of Respect, Integrity, Diversity, Commitment and Fun are central to everything we do.

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## Thank you

"I want to say thank you to everyone who is part of the Pestalozzi family for giving me the opportunity to meet amazing people!"



**Lemson Mureya**

## Stay in touch

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# Chief Operations Officer update

Welcome to the final Newsletter of 2019. It's been a very busy time for the charity with lots of goodbyes as well as new beginnings. Our last cohort of students at the Village in Sedlescombe achieved some fantastic A-level results, which have helped them to secure scholarships at some of the best universities in the world. We were delighted that our Patron, HRH the Duke of Gloucester, was the guest of honour at our Leavers Ceremony and awarded the students certificates in recognition of their hard work.

As we waved farewell to the students, we also said goodbye to a great many of the Pestalozzi staff, including Carol Blythe and Dick Johnson who between them have 66 years of loyal service to Pestalozzi. The summer was spent tackling the enormous task of condensing 60 years of history at Sedlescombe, ready to move to the new office.

Pestalozzi International Foundation has commenced an exciting new partnership with United World Colleges and the first 5 Pestalozzi-UWC scholars are already settling into life in South Wales. A recent trip to meet them and the wonderful team at UWC Atlantic, has confirmed that this evolution in our scholarship programme was the right decision. Pestalozzi scholars will receive an excellent International Baccalaureate Diploma education, but equally as important, exposure to a worldwide network of cultural and developmental experiences.



**Lesley Russell-Dean**

It was heart-warming to witness how being in a different setting hasn't altered the marvellous attitude of all Pestalozzi students and alumni; to strive towards a better future for the whole world through the efforts of head, heart and hands. On the following pages you will hear a lot more about these amazing individuals, and the new Pestalozzi Development Fund initiative.

Thank you for being part of the Pestalozzi family; to those donors who give so generously to help bright and driven young people realise their dreams and to our alumni who go on to pay this gift forward, helping others in their own communities and globally, embracing each other to strive towards a better world.

Lesley Russell-Dean

# Pestalozzi welcomes new trustees

**Pestalozzi is delighted to welcome a new chair and trustees to the board.**

Over the last year Pestalozzi has had a number of new trustees join its board, to increase the skills, experience and diversity of its members.

Dan Bennett, Principal Lecturer in Marketing at the University of Brighton, has been appointed as the new Chair, having served as a trustee for seven years. Dan's knowledge of Pestalozzi, paired with his marketing expertise mean he will be well placed to guide the charity into the future.



**Dan Bennett**

*"I am delighted to take on the role of Chair of Trustees as the charity starts to explore new and exciting developments under its revised form of the Pestalozzi International Foundation. I'm excited by the possible areas that the PIF will be able to support both in terms of education and community/enterprise development and whilst the challenges facing the charity sector remain very real, feel that with a new focus and team to drive the charity forward, we will be capable of doing some amazing things to benefit many individuals and communities around the world."*

We also welcome Aaron Eckhoff (Director of Sixth Form at Claremont Senior School); Sandra Elkins (former Pestalozzi staff member); David Little (Volunteer chemistry tutor at Pestalozzi); Carol Hodgson (Councillor on Catsfield Parish Council and former Pestalozzi host family); Alexandra de Meyrick (Associate/ Consultant at Fulbright & Jaworski/ Norton Rose Fulbright) and former CEO Susan Walton following her retirement in August.

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We'd love to stay in touch. Visit us at [Pestalozzi.org.uk](http://Pestalozzi.org.uk), @PestalozziTrust, PestalozziUK and PestalozziUK, email [office@pestalozzi.org.uk](mailto:office@pestalozzi.org.uk) or call 01424 870444



# Pestalozzi-UWC Scholars

In the last Newsletter you would have read about our new scholarship programme and partnership with United World Colleges. Our five scholars have commenced the IB Diploma course at UWC Atlantic in Wales, where they are already making a big impression.

The Pestalozzi team had the pleasure of visiting UWC Atlantic during their recent RICE conference; a student led event aimed at providing insights into the prosperity and struggle that East Asian societies and cultures experience.

Pestalozzi-UWC scholar Dechen, a Tibetan refugee, was part of the student team delivering the conference. She participated in the opening ceremony by performing a traditional Tibetan dance with two other Tibetans who attend the college. Dechen also held a cultural food workshop demonstrating how to make



## Dechen performing Tibetan dance at Opening Ceremony

'Thenthuk', a traditional hand pulled noodle soup.

The visit allowed for time with the other Pestalozzi-UWC

scholars, Alvin from Uganda, Kazembe from Zambia, Rufaro from Zimbabwe and Aryan from India discussing IB subject areas, Creativity, Action and Service activities, roommates, the British weather and ambitions for the future.

The Pestalozzi-UWC scholars have been busy since they arrived, taking part in a host of orientation

activities, making friends and adjusting to the culture. One highlight was a treasure hunt based in Cardiff, which was a great way for them to see some of the city and work together with their peers. A three day camp in Pembrokeshire fast tracked the first years bonding process and



## Rufaro at Tibetan Food workshop

## Pestalozzi staff and Pestalozzi-UWC scholars

Rufaro commented that after eating the same food for three days and trekking for 8 hours it made him appreciate the food and surroundings of the college, giving him a sense of feeling at home.

During the college visit we were given a tour of the facilities and St Donat's Castle, the central hub of the college. The 13th century Castle was purchased in 1960 by the son of the businessman and educational philanthropist Antonin Besse. Atlantic College is the founding college of a global education movement called United World Colleges. Today the castle is home to 350 students from 90 countries.

Our visit has enabled us to engage with the students and to see just how similar Pestalozzi and UWC are in outlook and ethos. Chief Operations Officer Lesley stated, "We were all blown away by the passion, commitment and positivity that everyone at Atlantic College possesses, especially the Pestalozzi-UWC scholars."



St Donat's Castle – UWC Atlantic

# Meet the students

## Aryan

**Country:** India

**Studying:** Higher Level: Physics, Maths, Economics

**Standard Level:** DT, English Lit & Lang, Spanish abinitio

**Interests:** Swimming in the Bristol Channel, football and biodiversity

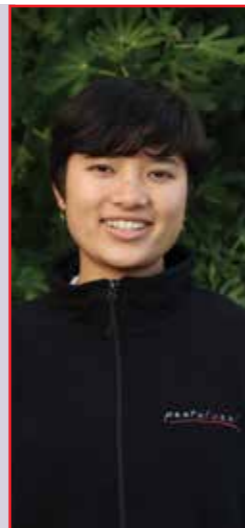


## Dechen

**Country:** Tibetan Communities in exile

**Interests:** Medicine and Tibetan issues

*"I express my heartfelt gratitude to the Pestalozzi International Foundation and all of its supporters for their generosity. I am looking forward to making the best out of this grand opportunity and be the reason of success and joy for the organisation."*



## Alvin

**Country:** Uganda

**Studying:** Higher Level: Economics, DT, English

**Standard Level:** Maths, Physics, French abinitio

**Interests:** Finance, the stock market and sports



## Rufaro

**Country:** Zimbabwe

**Studying:** Higher Level: Maths AI, Biology, Chemistry

**Standard Level:** French abinitio, Economics, English Lit & Lang

**Interests:** Medicine, learning to swim, youth council work



## Kazembe

**Country:** Zambia

**Studying:** Higher Level: English Lit & Lang, Chemistry, Biology

**Standard Level:** Spanish abinitio, Maths, Economics

**Interests:** Tennis, medicine and civic engagement



Keep up to date with what our students and alumni are up to by visiting [pestalozzi.org.uk/news](http://pestalozzi.org.uk/news) for the latest news articles



# Vella Abur: improving sanitation and waste management in Uganda

Great news about Pestalozzi alumna, Vella Abur, who was awarded 3rd prize in the McGill Dobson Cup for Entrepreneurship for her company Yonja in April 2019. The award included seed funding of \$3000 to invest in the company, which they are about the launch in her home country of Uganda. The Dobson Cup is McGill University's flagship annual start up competition where over \$150,000 in seed funding is awarded to the most promising McGill start-ups. Vella updated us on developments since winning the award.

'Yonja is a Geographic Information System-enabled mobile application for waste management and sanitation service delivery in urban areas of Uganda. In the future we hope to expand into neighbouring countries focusing mainly on solid and fecal waste.

Over 45% of the solid waste in Kampala alone goes uncollected, leading to a number of health concerns and risks for both the population and the environment, which can prove to be very costly. There is an information gap between the service providers, the population requiring the



services and the city authorities who are unable to monitor the service quality. At Yonja, we are currently working with the city authority in Kampala to ensure that we get all the service providers on board and to roll out the system in the central business district. Urban dwellers will now request garbage collection, pit-latrines emptying (majority of the population do not have access to flush-toilets) and also home cleaning services through our application and pay directly with mobile money.

With Yonja, we shall ensure standardized prices for everyone with a clear routine/schedule for service provision that will be followed and monitored. The GIS locator will enable access to previously inaccessible areas and save more time as they reach more customers. The owners of the companies providing the services will also be able to manage their businesses and improve monitoring of their garbage truck drivers. These changes will ensure that the waste management and sanitation service delivery in the



urban areas will be more efficient, reliable and affordable to most of the population.

My dream is to focus on the management and disposal of used menstrual products and diapers, because they are one of the biggest challenges for the treatment of fecal waste from pit-latrines. Barely any companies handle this issue. Some institutions like schools, hospitals, commercial buildings have incinerators, but they are mostly the old-fashioned ones without material separators. The combustions could be very harmful to the environment and to the population as they are always located within very close proximity.

As well as the grants from McGill University and the MasterCard Foundation, we have also received funding from the Ugandan government, the city authority and Ministry of ICT in Uganda. The mobile application is now in the last stages of development and will be ready for launch before the end of the year.'



Vella receiving the award

# Project 1000 Pad continues

Inspired and humbled by Pestalozzi alumna and former Claremont student Ruramai Chivasa's amazing initiative, Project 1000 pad <https://uk.gofundme.com/project-1000-pad>, Claremont tutor Bettina Komaier decided to run a weekly co-curricular project in order to help Ruramai sew sanitary pads for schoolgirls in Zimbabwe. Ruramai initiated the project in 2018 after attending a talk about period poverty. Since then she has raised over £2000, making her first donation of pads in December 2018 to a secondary school. Ruramai also raised funds to support those affected by hurricane Idai.

The project got off to a successful start, with a very generous fabric donation from a local seamstress, two sewing machines, plus four very keen Sixth form students joining the sewing club, including Pestalozzi students Bernice, Kinzang



Sanitary pads



Bernice, Kinzang and Mingyur with the pads

and Mingyur. The students did everything from drafting, pinning and cutting out fabric and then sewed the parts together. Most of them had never used a sewing machine before, but as keen as ever to learn, they soon became proficient.

"It was my most memorable co-curricular at Claremont, because we knew that our pads would help many girls in Zimbabwe. Ms. Komaier was always kind and sweet, sharing cakes with us every time we made the pads" explained Bernice from Belize.

At the start of 2019 production slowed down due to a broken sewing machine and other school commitments taking priority for the students, but they continued nevertheless, but at a slower pace.

They had aimed to sew 100 pads during the school year, but limited resources and time meant that they only produced 70 pads, which was still a great achievement. The sanitary pads were taken to Zimbabwe in July

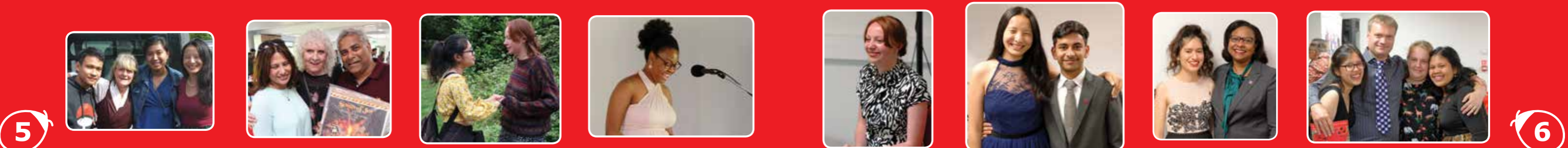
by fellow Pestalozzi student, Ruvimbo, who passed them on to Ruramai. The day they arrived Bettina received an email from Ruramai who informed her that the pads would be given to girls living on the streets.

"I've really enjoyed this project and am very impressed by the girls' commitment. They all worked so hard. Thank you to everybody who supported this amazing project" commented Bettina.



Mingyur sewing

We are keen to hear from more of our Alumni. Get in touch and share your story since leaving Pestalozzi on [alumni@pestalozzi.org.uk](mailto:alumni@pestalozzi.org.uk) or 01242 870444



# The power of education: Paving the way for children in Nepal

Education in Nepal has seen a vast improvement in the last 70 years, with an adult literacy rate of only five per cent in 1951 increasing to 64.7 per cent by 2015. However, there are still barriers to education, such as a curriculum that is not orientated towards practical skills and many public schools not providing quality education. Access to quality education is hindered by poverty and social exclusion.

Pestalozzi alumni are continually working towards a better future for Nepal by initiating and running their own NGOs and providing educational services to support their communities. Vital initiatives like Bloom Nepal School pave the way for other Nepalis to follow in their footsteps. Pestalozzi alumni Chandan and Dipin explain how they are committed to helping others gain access to quality education in Nepal.

After graduating from Pestalozzi in 2013 Chandan Mishra went on to study Civil Engineering at New York University Abu Dhabi. Chandan is now the Executive Director of Bloom Nepal School and Managing Director of Telford Institute and Engineering Services.

Bloom Nepal School is a network of schools that is focused on promoting the idea of interest-based education in Nepal and bringing about a change in the teaching-learning process in the country. Founded and led by Nepali youths educated at some of the most prestigious universities in the world, including fellow Pestalozzi alumnus Ram Rijal, Bloom currently educates more than 600 students across our two residential campuses based in Kathmandu and Itahari, a major city in the East of Nepal. In the near future, we aim to establish one residential school in each of the seven provinces.

I'm also the Managing Director for Telford Institute and Engineering Services (TIES). I set it up alongside my friends who have been trained as engineers and architects from colleges within and beyond Nepal. The main aim is to refine the way STEM education and the design services are delivered in Nepal. So far I have trained around 20 engineers and architects in BIM (Building Information Modelling) software and Project Management software. The design and construction industry in Nepal is still very much manual intensive



Chandan with Bloom students on summer trip

and inefficient. As an engineer educated at NYUAD and trained in some of the most recent practices in the field, I'm aiming to promote these methods in the field of design and construction in Nepal. We've also put together a team of students and graduates from reputable colleges around the world who will be guiding a select group of applicants applying to US/UK universities this year. We'll help them to prepare for the SATS

and TOEFL, advise on the writing of personal and supplement essays, preparing for interviews and financial aid applications, using our own experience and successes to guide them. Four Pestalozzi alumni form part of the team, including Surya Tripathi, Nigesh Prajapati, Prabidhik KC and Chandra Bhandari, highlighting how our alumni are giving back to young people who are in a similar position that they were.



Chandan (centre) with TIES team



Dipin (centre) with BES team

During his Sophomore year at Duke, Dipin Bishwakarma founded 'Budhanilkantha Education Services'. It provides free counselling services for those who want to study in the US, as well as educational support and tutoring for A Level students across a range of subjects. His business now has two offices in the Kathmandu Valley and has ten full time employees and thirty part time staff. They have helped three thousand Nepalese students so far. Dipin updates us on their future plans.

"BES is doing very well right now. Since opening our first branch in New Baneshwor, BES has been very accessible to a lot of young high schoolers in Kathmandu. In addition, we have been trying to expand our services to focus more on entrepreneurship and leadership. We're currently working on two exciting projects." Dipin and his team are creating a weekend course for entrepreneurship and leadership. Students will be taken for an out-of-valley trip aimed at improving their confidence and team building skills. They're

also setting up a Model United Nations style event for Nepal, Model United Nepal. It will allocate each delegate with a district, focusing solely on Nepal and its issues. "We're planning this as a huge event, especially designed to be a mini youth parliament for Nepal. The outcomes of the discussions will be combined in a report and presented to the Nepalese parliament as the voice of today's youths" explained Dipin.

Dipin and his team want to grow businesses all over Nepal within the educational sector and to also branch out into the agricultural market. It is fantastic to see how Pestalozzi alumni are helping their communities and providing new opportunities in their home countries. Their commitment is a true representation of how every donation made to Pestalozzi International Foundation has such a positive impact on the lives of people and their communities. Your donation contributes to a better global future, as Pestalozzi supports social enterprises such as these through the Pestalozzi Development Fund, which has been established to provide seed funding for future alumni initiatives.

BES team with students



# P.A.U.S.E. – The Pestalozzi Alumni United States Expedition

This autumn, Nancy, our Student Programme Assistant, has been catching up with our alumni who are studying and living in the US. With many of them studying and working in the US, we wanted to find out what life has been like since leaving Pestalozzi in the UK, how their studies have been progressing and what projects and plans they have for the future. Since 1997, when the scholarship programme evolved to support students through their further education, 141 PIVT and PIF alumni have gone on to study at 48 different universities and colleges in the US, mainly due to the generous scholarship opportunities available.

Here's a snapshot of where Nancy has been and who she's met on her whirlwind tour. You can read more about the P.A.U.S.E. project on our social media profiles and website.



# Pestalozzi Development Fund

## Supporting ideas for a better future

The main outcome of a Pestalozzi scholarship is to make a real and lasting difference in the world. The amazing stories from our alumni on previous pages highlight their social enterprises which help their communities and the wider world. These projects help to boost the economy in those communities, increase educational opportunities, improve health and sanitation and protect the environment, contributing to a better world for the next generation.

We listened to our alumni and expanded the charitable purposes of Pestalozzi International Foundation and have introduced an exciting new way of supporting 'home' communities. The **Pestalozzi Development Fund**

enables us to offer seed funding to alumni of the Pestalozzi International Village Trust UK



and the Pestalozzi International Foundation to set up or expand current projects and activities that benefit communities in developing countries. Through this initiative you are enabling action to be taken where it will make the most direct impact on the lives of others and bring about improvements where most needed. It will empower alumni like Vella, Chandan and Dipin to make an earlier and greater difference to the lives of others.

Alumni may also apply for support towards their undergraduate studies, where match funding is already in place from a university, college or other source. This will provide extra help for Pestalozzi students who have not had the advantage of a fully funded scholarship at university.

## Alumni - How to apply

Is there a project that you want to initiate or expand, but have not been able to because you have lacked the financial resources to do so? Will the project empower women, benefit the health of a community or allow other young people to continue their education? If so, we would like to encourage you to submit an application to the Development Fund.

There's more information about the criteria for funding and how to apply on our website – [pestalozzi.org.uk/Pestalozzi-Development-Fund](http://pestalozzi.org.uk/Pestalozzi-Development-Fund)



## Want to support?/ Get involved?

You can help support projects like the ones highlighted in this newsletter and enable our alumni to continue to make a difference in the world. Sign up to our mailing list and we will let you know about individual projects that are looking for support and provide updates on projects that receive funding.



# Last, but by no means least – Thank you to the Village team

A huge THANK YOU to the entire staff team at the Pestalozzi Village, who despite many of their number facing redundancy, continued to carry out their duties with good humour and sheer determination. Through the years a small army of staff embodied the ethos of Johann Pestalozzi, in that they applied their head, hands and hearts to ensure that everyone was well cared for in a homely environment with grounds that were tended for their use as well as the myriad of wildlife at Ladybird Lane.

Many of the staff spent considerable periods of their working life working for the charity and all have fond memories of growing close to the students that, with the staff, make up the Pestalozzi family. Leaving the site that we all loved was never going to be easy.



### Facilities team

To all the staff, who so very often were the quiet engine room that kept the Village heart beating, your efforts were all worth it, even when the going got tough. The Care staff for providing the students with support and reassurance, or raising them from the dead to catch the school bus, the Catering team for tireless meal

preparations and washing up, Housekeeping for keeping things fresh in spite of the occasional room that looked like chaos, and last but not least the Grounds staff who dealt with everything from a temperamental tractor to drains, boilers to water leaks. THANK YOU! You are the unsung heroes, with whom Village life would not have been the same.



Pestalozzi staff on the last day at the Village

Find out more or apply to the Pestalozzi Development Fund on our website [Pestalozzi.org.uk/Pestalozzi-Development-Fund](http://Pestalozzi.org.uk/Pestalozzi-Development-Fund)



# Celebrate your birthday while supporting Pestalozzi on Facebook!



**Pestalozzi has received nearly £3000 in donations through Facebook since they added their fundraising feature back in 2017. You too can set up fundraisers for specific events or 'birthday fundraisers' suggesting people donate to Pestalozzi rather than giving you a gift.**

It's easy. All you need to do is:

- Click on the fundraising icon – on the left of your Facebook home page.
- Search for Pestalozzi from a list of non-profits
- Then in a few, easy steps you can ask your friends to reach into their virtual wallets to make the world a better place.

So please think of Pestalozzi International Foundation when your birthday comes around, as every donation makes a difference.

Thank you to everyone who has raised funds for Pestalozzi on Facebook.

Help us raise money on Facebook here - [www.facebook.com/fund/PestalozziUK/](http://www.facebook.com/fund/PestalozziUK/)

# Join #TeamPestalozzi in the Hastings Half Marathon

We are once again inviting runners to support Pestalozzi in the Hastings Half Marathon. You can help us and get involved by joining #TeamPestalozzi as a runner or volunteer on our stand. Thanks

to your generosity in 2019, we raised nearly £2000 which was amazing! This year, we are determined to raise even more to help cover the educational costs of our young scholars. Help us achieve this by volunteering and taking part! Request a Hastings Half Marathon Pack today by emailing [martin.colvin@pestalozzi.org.uk](mailto:martin.colvin@pestalozzi.org.uk) or you can visit our JustGiving page to donate.

Step by step, together we can make a difference



# London Marathon 2020 - Sunday 26th April 2020

We have been successful in securing a charity place in the Virgin Money London Marathon 2020. For the opportunity to run in this prestigious event whilst supporting Pestalozzi, please get in touch as soon as possible. If you are fortunate enough to have already secured a place please consider supporting Pestalozzi as your charity of choice.

For more information please contact Martin on [martin.colvin@pestalozzi.org.uk](mailto:martin.colvin@pestalozzi.org.uk) or call us on 01424 870444.



# Remembering Pestalozzi Alumna

Jantrawan Chongnoncee, was in the 2nd group of Thai children to arrive at the Village in 1970, and stayed until 1979. We were saddened to hear of Jan's sudden passing in August. She was dedicated to the work of Pestalozzi and was Secretary and Treasurer of the Thai Pestalozzi Foundation for many years.



# In memory of Anne Hudson: 8th January 1934 – 13th March 2019

We were very sad to hear of the passing of Anne Hudson, who had been a supporter of Pestalozzi's work for many years. Anne with her husband Andrew had been a committed host parent to many Pestalozzi students. A service of thanksgiving took place on Tuesday 2nd April. The church was filled with family, friends, Pestalozzi students and alumni celebrating the extraordinary and full life that Anne lived. There were readings and musical contributions from friends, family and fellow Soroptimists and Anne's host-daughter, Mingyur Paldon, recited a Tibetan prayer. Tributes from Pestalozzi alumni, who were unable to attend the service, were also read.



We would also like to remember these dedicated Pestalozzi supporters who have made a massive difference to the lives and aspirations of those at Pestalozzi, who sadly passed away this year:

- Betty Charles:** Friends of Pestalozzi Polegate
- Geoffrey Shelley:** Pestalozzi supporter and legator
- Richard Partridge:** Friends of Pestalozzi Lewes
- David Nelson:** Friends of Pestalozzi Lewes

# MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD DONATE TO PESTALOZZI

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Family name:

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Postcode:

Telephone:

Email:

I enclose a cheque for £  made payable to Pestalozzi International Foundation

I wish to give regularly and have completed the Bankers Order Form (below)

Please stop claiming Gift Aid on my donations as I am no longer a UK taxpayer

I would like to receive/continue to receive news and updates from Pestalozzi International Foundation

email  post

How did you receive this newsletter?

## BANKER'S ORDER

Please send to Pestalozzi, not to your bank.

Your bank:

Bank address:

Postcode:

Sort code:  Account number:

Account name:

Please pay to Barclays Bank plc, 207-208 Queens Road, Hastings, TN34 1QP. Sort Code: 20-27-91 For the credit of Pestalozzi International Foundation Account Number: 60716383

the sum of £  (please repeat in words)

Please take my gift:  Once  Monthly  Annually

Commencing:  D  D  M  M  Y  Y until further notice

Signature:

Date:

## GIFT AID DECLARATION

**Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate.** Gift aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year.

I would like Pestalozzi to reclaim gift aid on:

My donation of £  only

My donation of £  and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years

I am a UK tax payer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/ or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Please notify the charity if you want to cancel this declaration, change your name or home address or no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/ or Capital Gains.

Signature:

Date:

To donate online visit [www.pestalozzi.org.uk/donate](http://www.pestalozzi.org.uk/donate)







**Our mission is to produce globally conscious young leaders by supporting their further education in a multi-cultural, multi-faith environment.**