



*Peru fundraiser event £5.00 7.30 pm St Basil's Club December 16th 2011*

Since my first experience in Peru in 2009 I have had the privilege of working at a clinic founded by two dynamic Presentation Sisters, Eileen and Margaret. Some 20 years ago they started a mission in a filthy area, which was at the time a vast rubbish dump on the outskirts of Lima, Peru. Throughout these years Margaret and Eileen have walked alongside the people in this desperate place, they have worked tremendously hard clearing the dump and then eventually building their clinics, persevering in their mission to improve lives, armed above all with love for those whose miserable fate it was to exist in this unfit place. Here I must assure you that Margaret and Eileen are two of the most entertaining and cheerful women I have met!

There are now 2 clinics run with and by local people; all are volunteers - many of whom do not have a penny to their name but it is clear that they have found wealth in the dignity of being able to help their own shanty town neighbours. In one clinic those who come for help are abused women. They are cared for, listened to and if they wish, they can train to become practitioners of the beautiful Healing Touch therapy taught by the Sisters. I was trained by the Sisters and worked with poor, disturbed, neglected and, most regrettably, abused children. These little ones come for love, care, some respite and professional medical attention. Poverty does terrible things to us.

Running the clinics, training the practitioners, caring for the children, teaching them how to play and giving them the opportunity to be children for a while, to sing and to dance, obviously all costs money.

The funds you have raised since my first visit have achieved marvellous things. Through the work of the Notre Dame Sisters we have set up community dining rooms in San Clemente (the earthquake area where children had nothing to eat) and workshops teaching groups of women to provide for themselves and their families. We have bought medicine and medical supplies for the poorest people. We have funded retreats, days out, books and training. Most recently your generosity has facilitated the pipework system for a reservoir in northern Peru where the rains often fail. Most of all, our brothers and sisters in Peru, both little and big, know that you care and they love you for it. We are all in their prayers - which has to be the best pay off we could aspire to!

So, if you can come along, please do. The funds from our hot pot supper this year will go to Eileen and Margaret at their clinics where they will use them to train more people, care for more of the many in need and buy toys and fund the kind of fun that children should have.



I am unable to thank you adequately, perhaps these smiles might.

Mim x