

# Westnell

## Nursery News

### News from Peru

#### Yolanda visits Westnell

Yolanda Williams has been a Westnell supporter for many years – firstly through her role on the Anglo Peruvian Society's committee and latterly as one of our Westnell Trustees. She recently visited the nurseries in Peru and wrote the following account of her visit:

*'It was a delight to see the children in action and I was very impressed by their good behaviour; the outstanding level of their work and the confidence with which the children so proudly showed off their achievements. They were all very welcoming and highly appreciative of all the support they receive from the UK.'*



*'It was great to hear all about the activities, which Margarita, the parents and staff organize to promote interaction between parents and their children and at the same time help raise funds for the school. As a Peruvian I felt very moved as I saw, once again, a lovely bunch of happy children receiving such a great start to their lives, whilst at the same time thinking of what their lives would have been without Sally and Debby's vision, the dedication of the committee and the generosity of Westnell's supporters.'*

Thanks to Yolanda for sharing these positive comments.

#### The school band



Aside from organising the usual family activities – such as Mothers' Day and Nursery Education Day, Margarita tells us that nursery parents have joined together to form a Westnell band that accompanies events in the shanty towns. This is an impressive achievement not least because the team in Peru had to fundraise to purchase all instruments and to pay for the band's teacher, since many parents had no musical knowledge. This is also an important way for parents to develop new skills and work together.

#### Impact of the economic crisis

Margarita tells us that global economic issues have had a major impact on Peru. The falling Peruvian currency and dollar mean that while a year ago Westnell Peru received 16,500 soles each month from us, this year they have received around 15,000 for the same sterling amount. This has made it hard to meet basic costs of salaries and social security payments. In the country in general, the rise in prices of basic foodstuffs, medicines and fuel, combined with the government's removal of subsidies on the cost of these commodities have badly hit the poorest people. The increase in public transport fares is particularly damaging. Widespread strike action by medical staff and other public service workers are also making life difficult. The Peruvian manufacturing industries expect the North American crisis to lead to reduced purchasing of Peruvian-made goods, which will lead to spiralling unemployment and increased poverty.

On a more positive note, a group of business colleagues have formed a committee and are working with Margarita to promote specific fund raising in the Peruvian business community.



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#### In this issue

##### • News from Peru

- Yolanda visits Westnell
- The school band
- Impact of the economic crisis

##### • U.K. News

- Giving & Fundraising
- Other ways to help
  - Amazon shop
  - Give a Gift of Education
  - Sell a Box of cards

#### Your UK Organisation : -

Chairman - Mark Patchett  
Secretary – Debra Westlake  
Treasurer – Ede Fehrenbach  
Correspondence – Diana Gower

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#### We're on the Web!

See us at:

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



## U.K. NEWS

### Diana Gower, our Correspondence Secretary, walks for Westnell:

A number of kind Westnell supporters used the BMyCharity website to make online donations earlier in the summer and sponsored me for my 100 mile walking extravaganza on The Two Moors way from Lynton on the North Devon coast, south over Exmoor and Dartmoor back to my home. THANK YOU!! Westnell has benefited to the tune of **£396** as a result.



My two friends and I were extremely lucky with the weather, having a clear run of 5 hot, dry days at the beginning of the summer holiday. We walked 17 or 18 miles a day over beautiful landscapes, staying in small B and Bs and venturing to the local pub every evening. The only map-reading mishaps were when we were too busy talking to notice the signs we should be following! Having finished, it was a relief to stop walking and rest the weary feet, but I missed the camaraderie of my two good friends and the sense of achievement at the end of each day's walk as we relaxed with a cup of tea!

### Rotary Club links

Long time Westnell supporter Margaret Clayton nominated Westnell as a charity for a donation from Seahouses Rotary Club. Margie Craig and I made the scenic trip to Seahouses on the Northumberland coast to receive a donation of £200 in a lovely ceremony in which 17 other charities were honoured. A week later we made the same trip to give a talk about Westnell. Seahouses Rotary members warmly welcomed us and we were hugely impressed by the interest and goodwill that Rotary extended to Westnell. A 20-minute Powerpoint presentation is available from Diana Gower for any other supporters who might like to establish links with their local Rotary Club - they are a great organisation. (Suzanne Moffatt)

### Brunswick are best!

Brunswick School must qualify for nomination as our longest supporting school! They keep sending in those Happy Jar pennies! We are delighted to announce that since they started supporting us they have raised a total of £2714.50. Which goes to show that if you look after the pennies...the pounds mount up! THANK YOU BRUNSWICK!

### Support Westnell - buy from Amazon

If you and your friends make purchases from the online store **Amazon** then you can now fundraise for Westnell at the same time with just a couple of extra clicks. Amazon, very cleverly, is able to monitor how purchasers get to their site and reward their affiliate partners for sending buyers their way. If you go via our stores every time you want to make a purchase, Westnell gets anything up to 8% of what you spend and at no extra cost to yourself! All you need to do is to get to the main Amazon site via our Westnell Amazon Stores.

The website addresses are –

<http://astore.amazon.co.uk/westnell-21>  
if you are in the UK or

<http://astore.amazon.com/westnell-20>  
if you are ordering from US.

Don't forget to save these as favourites to make life even easier. Why not attach a note to a school newsletter or company magazine suggesting others help too!



### Westnell Gift of Education – a gift for life not just for Christmas.

In this bumper Christmas news pack you will find our updated Gift of Education offers. The form is easy for you to photocopy and pass to your friends so they can also give a meaningful gift – if everyone gave one to 5 friends think what a happy Christmas that would mean for the children in Peru! We will use the beautiful new photo cards to enclose the news of your special gift.

### Sell a Box – Share the Christmas Spirit!



This year we are launching the Sell A Box scheme. As well as buying cards for your own use, how about having a go at selling cards to friends, family or colleagues? Or maybe you're involved in a Christmas or other event, which would be a great opportunity to promote the cards. Each box will contain a mixture of either 30 or 50 Christmas and photo cards, an information sheet and a poster advertising prices and other details. If you'd like to give it a try, please ring either Rachel or Gareth on 01751 430116.