

The Bishop of Kingston

The Rt Revd Dr Martin Gainsborough

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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

This August, my faithful border collie Jem and I will be running 267 miles in ten days along the Pennine Way, sponsored by people in churches in the KEA to raise money for children's education in Zimbabwe.

I'm inspired to take on this challenge - running a marathon a day for 10 days - by the incredible children and teachers I met on my trip to Matabeleland last year, many of whom are currently forced to walk long distances in remote areas to get to school. The money raised will help build local schools and improve children's education.

If everyone in our churches each sponsored me £5, I would smash my fundraising target.

The money raised will be used to build schools like the brand-new St Cecilia's School in Lupane, still under construction, but already offering an education to local children. When I met fourteen-year-old pupil Ntokozo she said "Before we had hope, but now we have hope realised."

Please encourage people in your congregation to consider giving £5 each to help children like Ntokozo access education. Enclosed are some posters and leaflets to display and distribute, and we have also made a short film about this challenge, which can be found <u>HERE</u>. My Just-Giving page can be found <u>HERE</u>.

"but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint." - Isaiah 40:31

Jem and I set off on August 1st, and you can follow our progress on X, Instagram, and other channels.

Thank you.

Best wishes and prayers,

+ Martin

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