



LEMON TREE TRUST

Donor Impact Report

Report Date	October 2019
Donor(s)	Inner Wheel, District 6, UK
Project	Community fundraising events to support ongoing work of the Lemon Tree Trust including the creation and distribution of Home Garden Kits in Domiz camp, Kurdistan Region of Iraq
Project date	Fundraising ongoing

LIBERATION GARDEN, DOMIZ CAMP



New season plantings in the Liberation Garden, Domiz Camp, Kurdistan Region of Iraq. Photos: Aveen Ibrahim

The Liberation Community Garden in Domiz I camp in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq continues to gain momentum. Led by Aveen Ibrahim, the garden receives daily visits from more than 50 women to take tea, socialise and spend time cultivating vegetables, herbs and flowers for their home cooking and to distribute to vulnerable families in the camp. It is a place where children can play safely and learn about growing. A group of children recently helped paint tyres to be turned into seats for the office, and mixing barrels for herbal tea ingredients. Their reward was a fizzy drink and they loved it!



Children painting tyres in the Liberation Garden, Domiz Camp, Kurdistan Region of Iraq. Photos: Aveen Ibrahim

We have plans to further develop this important community space over the coming year and will keep you updated on progress.

“The majority of our gardeners say that they come more for psychological comfort than a need for food. When they are here in the garden, they put aside all their daily problems to enjoy the view and the act of gardening. Just by looking at all this green, we can forget our soreness and pain.” – Aveen Ibrahim, Community Outreach Manager, Lemon Tree Trust



Radishes, bougainvillea and beans thriving in the Liberation Garden, Domiz camp

HOME GARDEN MANUAL

An illustrated manual for home gardeners is in progress. It will form part of the next batch of Home Garden Kits that we are creating with help from donors in 2019 including Inner Wheel. The manual includes everything you need to know to start growing a simple home garden – how to grow in a limited space, water reuse, monitoring plants in hot climates with ideas for creating shade, equipment such as biodegradable containers and organic fertilisers, and more. The manual will be included in our new garden kits, which we are aiming to start distributing to vulnerable families in refugee and IDP camps before the end of the year. We are working with a UK-based illustrator called Shaun Cuff (sample illustration below) and are excited to be able to share the finished manual very soon.



GARDEN COMPETITION 2020

We are in the early stages of planning next year's garden competitions in eight refugee and IDP (internally displaced person) camps in Kurdistan. Year on year our annual competition continues to grow – 2018 received 1,000 entrants across five camps; 2019 saw 1,500 entrants in seven camps – and with us launching the competition in an additional camp in 2020, its popularity among gardeners of all ages is set to continue.

GARDENER OF THE MONTH

Following the success and high levels of participation in our annual garden competition, a new "Gardener of the month" programme has been set up to more regularly celebrate camp gardens and shine a light on innovation and creativity throughout the whole year. Every month, in a different neighbourhood in the camp, a garden is selected to win a certificate and a plaque for their wall.



LTT 'Gardener of the Month' winner, September 2019, with Aveen Ibrahim (left) and Jiyan Ahmed (right)

THANK YOU

Thank you for your generous support of the Lemon Tree Trust. Our shared love of plants and gardening is helping to transform communities of refugees and people who have been forced to flee their homes, one garden at a time.

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