

# Rare whisky sale raises £42k for destitute children

A HYDE charity that helps house and educate India's destitute children has received a £42,000 boost from the auction of a rare bottle of whisky.

The limited edition 55-year-old single malt bottles of Scotch were created to commemorate the life of Janet Sheed Roberts, granddaughter of the famous Glenfiddich distillery founder William Grant. Aged 110, Janet was the oldest living woman in Scotland before she died last month.

The top bidder for the bottle, announced at London's Mall Galleries on May 1st, was the airport retail chain World Duty Free Group. Proceeds were donated to Women In Travel, a worldwide association of women connected to the travel industry, who chose Hyde-based charity the Lotus Flower Trust as a worthy recipient of the funds.

Founder and unpaid CEO of the trust, John Hunt, said: "The auction of this rare bottle, one of only 11 produced, generated an amazing £42,000 for the charity. We are thrilled with this generous donation

which will fund the building of a disabled school in Ramnagar, close to the Corbett National Tiger Park in India."

Ramnagar is in Uttarakhand State, where there are nearly 11,000 children aged between six and 18 with special needs and currently no educational facilities.

Mr Hunt, who has worked with the poor in India for 20 years, set up the Lotus Flower Trust three years ago with a mission to help disadvantaged young people in the more remote areas of India. During this time he has raised funds and helped

create more than 15 much-needed schools and buildings, with more planned.

He makes up to five visits to India each year, overseeing projects from start to finish and his time back in the UK is spent fundraising for the charity.

John will be revealing more about his projects with the Lotus Flower Trust at a fundraising curry night in Hyde War Memorial Village Hall in October (date to be confirmed).

For information go to [www.lotusflowertrust.org](http://www.lotusflowertrust.org)

