

NEWS

# Lifesaving bid for caring pair

**BOSTON SPA**

**Janine Griffiths**

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 @LeedsNews

A LEEDS couple have embarked upon a mission to eradicate rabies across the world and to help educate school children about its dangers.

Veterinary nurse Vicky O'Neill 32, and her husband Piers, 32, broke world records and helped to save lives after travelling to Malawi to vaccinate dogs against the disease.

The project was arranged by the World Veterinary Service which supports animal welfare charities all over the world.

While Vicky worked directly with the animals, Piers was involved in teaching children about the dangers of rabies.

Whilst teaching in Africa, Piers, along with other volun-



JAMES HARDISTY

**CARING COUPLE:** Piers and Vicky O'Neill are on a mission to educate people about the dangers of rabies.

teers, entered the Guinness Book of World Records after teaching 1,800 students in a single class, breaking a previous record of 250.

Speaking about the mission, Vicky, who lives in Boston Spa, told the *Yorkshire Evening Post*: "The project makes you feel that you are making a differ-

ence and it is a real eye-opener. Children are at the highest risk in Africa because they are the ones that will be handling the dogs and puppies."

The World Health Organisation states that in order to eradicate rabies within a country, at least 70 per cent of affected animals need to be vaccinated.



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