

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT APRIL 2022 – MARCH 2023

This was just quite the year! We have been so busy with events and meetings.

First, sad to say – war had broken out in the Ukraine in March. Our Treasurer Yvonne, on hearing the news, decided we could help in some small way. Suddenly, we had arranged for our mobile to be open for 3 nights to receive goods that were urgently needed for the displaced women and children who were fleeing literally for their lives. F3 and CHC (where Yvonne works) donated medical and pharmaceutical supplies and a local toy store also made a substantial donation of toys to this appeal as well. This shipment of goods was going to Poland – and we were overwhelmed by the response we got. Not only that but we made some great friends who came along and helped us to collate the shipment, as everything had to be in order to pass customs borders on route.

In May we held a big clean up to tidy up the area. This was especially concentrating on the loads of tyres that are continually being dumped in our hedges around the Birches. These are obviously coming from businesses that won't pay for the disposal of used tyres, and it is causing us a headache.

Neighbourhood watch is very active in the area – and our social media is being used regularly to warn folks if there is anything suspicious around about.

Chris held meetings in our mobile and got together with parents and children of both local primary schools, to arrange a plant sale in Peatlands Park to encourage people to help butterflies and bees and help the eco system. This was set up as a business challenge and had a competition for boys versus girls. This was a great success.

In September the Chill Cart visited Birchwood Grange for a couple of hours to enable the young people to drop in and see what all was involved. There was gaming, DJ music and VR. This was to help the young folk to chill out and look after their mental health.

Our usual classes continued to run – yoga, cozy club, and day care. This is an invaluable facility for our community.

Thank you to all volunteers for their continued hard work – and special welcome to our 2 new committee members at our AGM, who we recruited from our Ukraine appeal. Looking forward to working with you.

17:00



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Posted by Yvonne Woods  
7 Mar 2022

Just wish we could do so much more to help. But fantastic team effort from all involved - and made some amazing new friends over the course of the weekend. Thank you so much - all of you.

F3 Engineering · Follow

7 Mar 2022

We are so proud of our F3 Office Manager, Yvonne who has been volunteering her time to arrange the collection of essential items to donate to... See more



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Posted by Yvonne Woods  
5 Mar 2022 · 🌐

For our Ukrainian humanitarian collection - A massive thank you to each and everyone of you who donated, sorted, packed, boxed, carried, made inventories and kept the paperwork in order. Not forgetting the tea makers who kept us all going.. I know at one stage we thought it would never be done - but you were all amazing. Friends of the Birches, BARN, Milltown Parish Church and all from the community - we thank you.. And to Nigel and his able team in the vans who took it all away for us.. we are so grateful to you all. Lets hope our small act of kindness can help those in need. Ukraine - we stand with you. 🇺🇦

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