

# Noeleen's Helping Hands Markethill

## Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023.

### Trustees

Mr George Ballentine

Mr Philip Hawe

Miss Alison Gates

### Objectives and activities

#### *Objects and aims*

To help relieve poverty and suffering through the provision of humanitarian aid.

To provide donations in support of missionaries and missionary societies as agreed by the trustees' to those charities based in NI and UK for the advancement of religion in promoting faith in Jesus Christ.

The advancement of health by providing donations to charities such as cancer care and research or other debilitating diseases in NI and UK.

#### *Public benefit*

The Charity operates from buildings at 22 Seaboughan Road, Markethill, Co Armagh. The site is manned by a team of volunteers, mostly retired ladies and men, and one employee who does general maintenance and driver for collection and delivery of goods.

Members of the public generously donate large quantities of good quality clothing, footwear, bedding, household goods, furniture, building materials, tools, medical aid and cash donations. These are all sorted and transported by container to Project Romania Charity Centre based in Sighasoara, Romania. The distribution of these goods is undertaken by a missionary couple from NI (resident in Romania for 20 years) who are familiar with the desperate needs of people who are deprived, exploited, suffer from poor health, lack of housing, education and employment.

The aim of NHHM charity is to send at least one container of aid per year to this area. The direct benefits are to help clothe, feed, provide bedding, repair shelter, build and furnish new homes for these extremely deprived people, which in turn enables children to go to school, improve general health and reduce stress levels.

Alot of donated goods not suitable to go to Romania. are sold in the charity shop at 22 Seaboughan Road, this helps with the cost of transporting containers to Romania.

To provide funding in support of missionaries and missionary societies as agreed by trustees' for the advancement of religion in promoting faith in Jesus Christ. Volunteers man the charity shop 2 days weekly (Wednesday & Saturday), also use social media to advertise goods, and arrange 1 or 2 sales in the year when the shop is open every day. Fundraising events include coffee mornings, cake sales, fireside quizzes, Christmas sale. Any additional funds have enabled donations to be sent to suppoer missionaries overseas as agreed by the trustees and to support charities who provide care for terminal illness, eg. hospice services.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

### Achievements and performance

## Noeleen's Helping Hands Markethill

### Trustees' Report (continued)

This year 2023 has been off to a very good start and things have finally started to recover since the outbreak of the Coronavirus Pandemic, everything has returned to normal.

We convey our appreciation to all our hard working volunteers who gave extra time and commitment to achieve the purposes and aspirations of the charity over the entire year.

We sincerely thank the generosity of the general public for donating so much valuable goods to send to Romania or sell in the shop and for all who gave cash donations. Without their support the charity would not be able to operate.

#### January/February/March 2023

The volunteers returned to open the shop after the Christmas Holiday period and got goods sorted and displayed which were donated in December, as well as attend a steady stream of customers.

#### April/May/June 2023

Our first committee meeting of the new year was held on 5th April.

Donations of clothing, household goods and offers of good furniture from house clearance required ongoing collection. Sorting, storage, and displaying kept everyone busy. Shop was busy with a steady flow of customers giving a good turnover of sales.

Ongoing correspondence, record keeping, accounts and administration attended to.

#### July/August/September 2023

Shop closed for two weeks from 8th-22nd July for summer break to give volunteers a chance for family holidays.

Ongoing correspondence, record keeping, accounts and administration attended to.

Good turnover of sales in shop.

On 23rd August we sent a cheque to Restore Ministry for £2,000.

Family box appeal letters were prepared and mailed to schools, churches, organisations, clubs and individuals.

Response to family box appeal very encouraging, deliveries coming in every day during last week in September.

#### October/November/December 2023

October was a very busy time for all volunteers collecting and packing items for family boxes, recording, checking contents, labelling and packing into cartons.

On 2nd October we sent a cheque to Friends of the Cancer Centre for £2,000.

The lorry of aid consignment went out on 17th November 2023.

Committee meeting was held on 13th December.

On 18th December we presented a cheque to Southern Area Hospice for the sum of £3,000.

The shop closed for two weeks over the Christmas period.

### **Structure, governance and management**


#### *Nature of governing document*

The charitable trust deed is administered and managed by the above trustees' under the name "Noeleen's Helping Hands Markethill. Supporting Romania and others in Need"

**Noeleen's Helping Hands Markethill**

**Trustees' Report (continued)**

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 14 October 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Mr George Ballentine  
Trustee

  
.....  
Miss Alison Gates  
Trustee