

It never ceases to amaze us that so many come along regularly to this Coffee Shop, to come in for a warm-up; to meet with friends; to have a safe quiet space to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee; or to check out the cakes \triangle .

In doing so, enables us to give support to so many people / projects throughout the year.

We started off immediately in January as we had £100, which was brought forward from the previous year, to send to Ventzi in Bulgaria. Through the rest of the year, we have been able to send a further £1,000 to him.

Appreciating the constant support we receive from the church prompted a small donation towards their running costs, with another in June and one in December.

Compassion UK provide so much in the way of education and supporting the families of children living in poverty throughout the world. Through them so far this year we have sent £393 for Pedro in Brazil (see the small table next to the counter) including small gifts for birthday & Christmas.

The devastating earthquake in Syria & Turkey prompted a donation of £250 through the charity DEC (Disasters Emergency Committee).

Deciding to look closer to home, in April it was agreed we should support Love Dereham Ltd (who run the Community Fridge; Community Lunches and Let's Chat) and St Martins Housing (who support rough sleepers; sofa surfers and those at risk of becoming homeless). Both charities receiving £200 each.

In memory of a local man, The Listening Post was set up and went live in December 2022 (part of the nationwide Shout initiative where those who text 'LP' to 85258 car seek free, confidential support from a trained volunteer). A donation of £100 was sent in support of this initiative.

Save the Children received £250 in September; Cancer Research UK £100 and finally, not forgetting the incredible amount raised for Macmillan Cancer Support also in that month of £360.

Afghanistan has the highest infant mortality rate in the world. Our final giving this year of £300 went there to support an amazing project called BLiSS / LaBBS (Birth Life Saving Skills). This project teaches about maternal-child health issues – covering basic health, pregnancy, birth, new-born care & family planning – to both men and women in villages and socially-deprived neighbourhoods.

A fantastic £3,853.00 – thank you so much (\bigcirc)

