

St Austell Inner Wheel Club - International Report 9th November 2023

International is truly a team effort at the Inner Wheel Club of St Austell.

Inner Wheel Day 2023 was a huge success, thanks to two of our club members – Faith and Val - who organised a lunch in support of **The SMILE Train**. £105.00 was raised for this worthwhile cause.

Rita has taken several bags of bras to **Oxfam** which sends them onto parts of Africa where women wearing bras are treated with more respect. Ruth has taken 74 pairs of spectacles to **Vision Express** for onward delivery to India. Members also continued to donate drink can ring pulls for **The Purple Community Fund** which Val has kindly passed on “up-country”.

Club members have donated 33 children’s books to **The Book Bus in Zambia** and a further 2 boxes have been donated by Cornwall Library Services, courtesy of Stephanie, the daughter of one of our members.

In April, the club decided to donate £100.00 each to the **Pakistan and Turkey Appeals**, and throughout the year members have continued to contribute to the pennies pot for **Water Aid**.

Mission Moldova

Over the last year, we have packed and sent 30 banana boxes/suitcases and crates of donations to Moldova.

A last-minute “coach party” was also formed of 25 cuddly toys who were really looking forward to meeting Moldovan and Ukrainian refugee children.



Since the closure of the charity, Mission Moldova, we have moved over to supporting the **Lions Appeal for Ukraine**. Alison reported back to the club on a meeting held by Fowey River Lions about the efforts being made by a huge number of people in Devon, Cornwall and Ukraine to make sure that donations reach those in desperate need. St Austell IW Club is very grateful to all the individuals, local community and faith groups who are supporting our efforts locally too. In November, we handed over 7 boxes of donations to the appeal. Amongst other things, there were 116 items of clothing, all beautifully knitted and crocheted, for babies and children along with 6 child and cot blankets; 15 small teddy bears courtesy of one of our members, Pamela; brand new children’s clothes; toiletries and paracetamol.

Members are also packing shoe boxes for the Rotary Shoebox Scheme and supporting the 100 for 100 Inner Wheel by collecting bars of soap and tubes of toothpaste. Who knows what else will be on the list as we move into 2024?!

St Austell Inner Wheel Club, International Team

Alison, Rita and Ruth and Val.