

# The Beckmead Trust Newsletter



## The Beckmead Express February 2023

The 5th trip of The Beckmead Express took place between the 10th and 13th of February, not so much snow this time but it was definitely still a cold winter in Eastern Europe.



*This was an extra trip informed by the fantastic reception we had for the generators we took on trip 4.*

*We pushed hard to try and raise £20,000 to solely take generators and power packs, in the end thanks to the fantastic generosity of individuals, companies and churches in Burford and Cheam we topped out at just over £22,000 taking us past the £60,000 mark, we have raised overall for this project to date.*

We took one minibus to the border packed with forty power packs, six generators and £4,000 of anti-fever medicine. These goods were all bought at less than cost price through our purchasing agreements.



We unloaded at a familiar warehouse and were helped by new friends from Ukraine.



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*We heard from our network in Poland and Ukraine that the aid from this trip crossed the border and was distributed in the Donbas region within 48 hours.*



*The goods we took support civilians who are stranded in this region and spend the majority of the week living underground. Most of these people have literally lost everything and are further trapped by Ukrainians in the West of the country hiking rental prices in an attempt to profiteer.*



The pictures on the previous page were shared by our network in Ukraine.

Relationships and friendships flourish on The Beckmead Express. Callum on his first trip reduced the average age of the driving pool as well as increasing its average height - significantly! As well as being a fantastic fundraiser, Callum also produced our first celebrity donor - John Terry - who chipped in on the Sunday afternoon with £260 (number 26 x 10).

This trip saw a new format with an overnight stay at a hotel by Warsaw airport. This is the future!! Sleeping for 8 hours meant we returned in much better shape albeit at midnight.

All travel expenses were met by the volunteer driving team. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you again for your love and continued support.

All enquiries should be sent to [information@beckmeadtrust.org](mailto:information@beckmeadtrust.org)

