

# The Beckmead Trust Newsletter



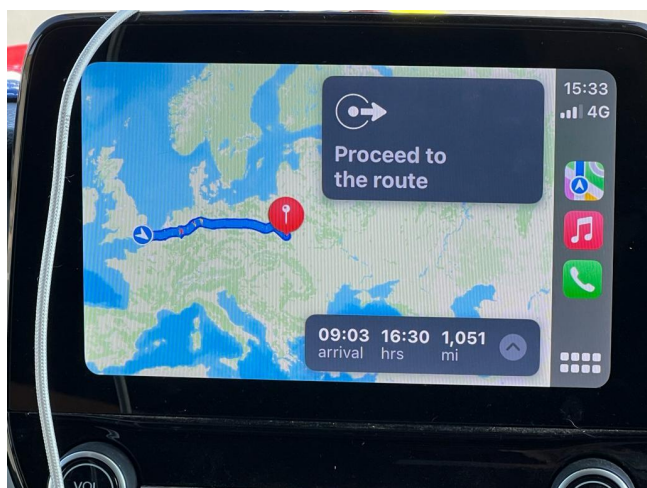
*The eighth trip of The Beckmead Express*

*31st May - 3rd June 2023*



One bus, three drivers this time - Adrienne, Jonty and Nigel the pastor at Cheam Baptist Church on his 4th drive!

Food from 3food4u as usual with thanks to Paul and Joe for giving their time for loading in Essex. Also our biggest haul of medicine so far with over £5K purchased with a retail value of over 20K



The sat nav showing Folkestone to Lublin...we know the France, Belgium, Holland, Germany Poland road well and without trying now seem to always stop at the same service areas.



The warehouse outside Lublin was very full and again, lots of medical supplies. The delivery lorry left as we finished unloading - driven by another friendly, familiar face. The juggernaut returned the following day and we were thrilled to see pictures of the goods we delivered near the front line less than a week later







Although Ukraine is effectively resupplying the west of the country and some food and medicine is available there is a lack of goods in bulk throughout the country - including the boxes of meds we are able to deliver containing tens of thousands of pills. In the east of Ukraine, the need for supplies remains critical as evidenced by the many pictures we have received of civilians queuing for food.



The volunteers who distribute our aid have said that the 25km's behind the front line is devastated and intentionally laid to waste by the Russians so there is little or no cover.



Amongst the many pictures recently sent by our network were images of cemeteries... old and new. The message accompanying this picture was 'the graveyards are full of children and soldiers'.

From Lublin we headed south for 2.5 hours to Rzeszow (about an hour from the border) where we were hosted by Headteacher Gosia, her husband Adam and lots of other members of their wonderful family. A slap up meal in a Czech restaurant in the beautiful city centre and staying in a family home was

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a lovely interlude in the middle of our busy schedule.

Five minutes from Gosia's and Adam's house is the small airport of Jasionka. This is where the majority of military aid is flown into.



Every couple of hundred yards or so down each side of the landing strip are batteries of Patriot missiles facing east.

At the beginning of the war military planes were landing 24 / 7 but recently all supplies are flown in by night and dispersed into unmarked lorries.



We saw a lot of military hardware on the move in Poland - many many more than before. This is a picture taken on the motorway of a 'Rosomark' amphibious armoured personnel carrier. Crew of three - driver, gunner and engineer - and capacity to carry eight additional soldiers.

They were huge and barreling along at 60 mph with a range of 500 miles, twin propellers to the back can be seen on the rear of the vehicle.

