



QUEEN MOTHER'S  
CLOTHING GUILD  
FOUNDED 1882

# Annual Report 2022



HELP US TO HELP OTHERS

[www.qmcg.org.uk](http://www.qmcg.org.uk)  
Charity Registration No. 211764





*Photo Credit: Adrian Myers  
'The Pearly Queen of St James's Palace' by Ann Carrington, November 2022*

The special anniversary year of the Queen Mother's Clothing Guild has been an opportunity to reflect on the great achievements of so many loyal knitters, stitchers and fundraisers who have worked tirelessly to provide new clothes and bedding for those in need since 1882.

One hundred and forty years after the first items were knitted, I would like to thank you, the Trustees, Executive Committee and all Guild Friends who continue to work hard to enable QMCG to continue providing new clothing and bedding to those in need across the UK.

I am very proud that this unique charity is celebrating the great achievement of 140 years of helping those in need.

*Alexandra*

HRH Princess Alexandra, The Hon. Lady Ogilvy, Patron



Trustees:	Teresa Myers - Chairman of Trustees Sharon Stewart - Hon. Treasurer Linda Thompson - CEO until May 2022 Ruth Briant - Executive Chair from May 2022 Mary Guppy Julia Knight - from January 2022 Roisin Tierney Susan Wallace - until May 2022 Helen Whitbread Matilda Woodford - from June 2022
Secretary to the Trustees:	Susan Wallace
Executive Committee:	Linda Thompson - CEO until May 2022 Ruth Briant - Executive Chair from May 2022 Victoria Spendlove - Vice Executive Chair Sharon Stewart - Hon. Treasurer Julia Buckmaster - from June 2022 Hadley Denny Susan Hammond Vicki Meakin - from June 2022 Natalie Meehan - from December 2022 Abigail Sarfaty Sherry Watson
Secretary:	Heather Mears
Charity Number:	211764
Registered Address:	22 Stamford Brook Road London W6 0XH
Independent Examiner:	Heyburn Bennett Ltd 9 Bridge Street, Walton on Thames Surrey KT12 1AE
Investment Advisors:	Investec Wealth and Investment Limited 30 Gresham Street London EC2V 7QN

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

### **For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

The Trustees present their accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the statement and notes to the accounts.

#### **Purpose of the Queen Mother's Clothing Guild (QMCG)**

The aim of the Queen Mother's Clothing Guild is to make, buy and source new clothing, sleeping bags and linen and to distribute these items once a year to British charities, operating only in the United Kingdom, to help the vulnerable, the homeless and those in need.

#### **Why our work is important**

QMCG is one of the oldest charities in the United Kingdom and, from its inception 140 years ago in 1882, its purpose has been to support those in need. QMCG responds to requests from charities across the UK for new items they have difficulty in sourcing or funding themselves. QMCG knows that the gift of brand new clothing and linen provides not only warmth and comfort but, importantly, also helps to restore dignity and self-respect.

#### **How we work**

Our list of 63 supported UK charities includes refuges for women and children escaping violence, homeless shelters and outreach units, hostels providing support and rehabilitation for ex-servicemen and women, neonatal units and hospices providing respite and end of life care for children and adults - and many others. Each year we ask the charities that we support to complete a list of items they most need, and that will make a difference.

For 140 years QMCG supporters all over the country have been making and still continue to knit and stitch beautiful handmade items.

The timing of our annual distributions works particularly well for charities helping the homeless as their need is greatest during winter months.

#### **Where we work**

QMCG works with charities across the UK, but its main activities are in England and Scotland.

#### **Public Benefit**

In setting the objectives and activities of the charity, the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidelines concerning public benefit. QMCG continues to place great emphasis on its commitment to support other charities in their work, providing brand new clothing and linen to help where the charities have difficulty in sourcing these items themselves.

The public benefits of QMCG's work are wide reaching through the varied charities it supports and can be seen as both direct and indirect in their nature. Direct, through the practical help that is given to the charities QMCG supports in response to their actual needs. Indirect, through the positive effect of these donations of new clothing and linen on those who receive them, helping to restore their sense of self-worth and dignity - both essential to those facing hardship. Direct also through the friendship, purpose and sense of belonging that knitting and stitching gives to the many supporters all over the country.

#### **Fundraising**

Under the Charities Act 2016, all charities in England and Wales that spend more than £100,000 a year on fundraising are expected to make a voluntary contribution to the regulator's running costs.

As QMCG spends considerably less than £100,000 a year on fundraising it is, therefore, not eligible to pay the voluntary contribution to the regulator's running costs that would be required under the Charities Act 2016.

#### **Risk Assessment**

Again this year, in making decisions, the Trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission Guidance on public benefit, in compliance with section 4 of the Charities Act 2006, and have given due consideration as to how the activities of QMCG contribute to its charitable status.

The Compliance Committee ensures that the Governance document is kept updated and used as a guidance framework for the Executive Committee and Trustees.

All supported charities, existing and proposed, are regularly visited by members of the Executive Committee, and Guild Friends and Trustees are encouraged to join these interesting visits. Through these visits, either by Zoom or in person, QMCG can gather information about the charities, their current needs, and how best the Guild can assist them. Importantly, visits help to guard against inappropriate use of QMCG donations and help us monitor whether our donations are relevant and reaching those we aim to help.

The other main areas of risk are QMCG's two annual events: Packing Week and the AGM. Public Liability insurance continues in place.

### **The Guild in Scotland**

Guild Ambassadors in Scotland, co-ordinated by Clare Russell and Shona Docherty, supported 19 charities through distributing 857 purchased items of clothing and bedding, and 1600 handmade items. These far flung charities, one on the Isle of Lewis, work to help people in need in their communities. The Executive Committee visited a selection of these charities by Zoom during November to December 2021 and one in person visit in September 2022.

### **Chairman of the Trustees' Report**

2022 was our 140<sup>th</sup> year as a working charity and led to a very busy fundraising time for us all at QMCG. Our AGM, on 4<sup>th</sup> May, was held at The RAC Club, followed by a champagne reception to launch a new QMCG booklet "Musings and Memories Knitted Together Across the Years". As suggested, this booklet contains memories from past and present members of QMCG and was brilliantly edited by Gillie Jackson and Linda Thompson.

At the AGM Linda Thompson stood down as CEO, having completed her term of office, and has been succeeded by Ruth Briant as Executive Chair. We wish Ruth a happy tenure during the next three years. Our thanks go to Linda for coping during the difficult pandemic period and we wish her well in her new role as QMCG Fund Raiser.

On July 6<sup>th</sup> QMCG was delighted to host a service, presided over by Canon Thomas Woodhouse, at The Queen's Chapel of the Savoy, followed by a small reception for all who attended. Our Executive Committee regularly hold meetings at this Royal Chapel, and we are eternally grateful for the support they give us throughout each year.

Julia Buckmaster, Vicki Meakin and Natalie Meehan have recently joined the Executive Committee. Hadley Denny has now retired, and we thank her for all her hard work during the past three years.

Due to the sudden death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth we were unable to hold Packing Week and View Day at St. James's Palace as planned. Once again Hendall Manor Barns stepped into the breach and hosted us. We would like to thank Peter and Nicky Young for their co-operation in managing to arrange this at such short notice. This year we were able to donate 40,133 new garments and linens along with 35,000 items of PPE to 63 British Charities.

To date we now have 124 Friends, 9 Ambassadors and 12 Honorary Ambassadors across the British Isles.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> November we held our 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Dinner at The Goldsmiths' Hall in the City of London. The artist Ann Carrington donated one of her "Pearly Queen" works of art to be auctioned during the evening. It was a brilliant evening and much enjoyed by all who attended, including the Pearly Queens from Greenwich and Woolwich. Ann Bease, a QMCG supporter from the Bahamas, who was staying in London for a few days, was also able to attend. Our thanks go to Linda Thompson and her team for making it such a memorable evening and for successfully raising such a large amount of money on the night.

We record our heartfelt thanks to HRH Princess Alexandra for her continued and valued support over the last year. We look forward to another year of being able to provide vital new clothing to those in need across the British Isles. We confirm that the accountants Heyburn Bennett Ltd and the financial advisors Investec Wealth and Investment Limited have both been reappointed to act for the Guild for a further year.

**Teresa Myers, Chairman of the Board of Trustees**

## **Fundraising and Events in our 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year**

We marked our special Anniversary Year with a number of both social and fundraising events throughout the year, raising significant funds that will enable us to keep helping those in need. Thanks to Guild Ambassador, Diana Dix, the AGM in May was held at the RAC club in Pall Mall, with celebrated author Joanna Trollope as our guest speaker before Friends enjoyed a delicious tea. Many Friends stayed on, and others plus guests moved to the Terrace Room at the RAC for an early evening champagne reception launch of the fabulous Guild book "Musings and Memories Knitted Together Across the Years". The book proved so popular that every copy there on the night was snapped up, and we will soon need to do a re-print.

To celebrate 140 years we commissioned a range of English gold rimmed fine bone china featuring the Guild Cypher, which has been selling at events and is available through our eBay shop online.

In early July, Guild Friends gathered at The Queen's Chapel of The Savoy for a lovely service celebrating 140 years of helping those in need, followed by a glass of fizz and a chance to catch up in the Chapel gardens. A late July week saw Friends across the country hosting teas or picnics to get together and raise funds, celebrating 140 years.

The finale of our Anniversary Fundraising year was the Gala Dinner on 22<sup>nd</sup> November at Goldsmiths' Hall in the City of London, where 140 Guild Friends, family and guests gathered for a fabulous dinner while bidding on superb silent auction items, all generously donated, including a lithograph signed by King Charles when Prince of Wales. The highlight of the evening was the live auction of 'The Pearly Queen of St James's Palace', created and donated to raise funds for the Guild, by artist Ann Carrington, who was there to see her iconic artwork go under the hammer. Together with a silent auction, QMCG successfully raised just over £34,000 which will go towards buying clothing for distribution this coming autumn to the charities we continue to support.

**Linda Thompson and the Fundraising Team**

## **ACCOUNTS** **For year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

**Summary of income and expenditure account for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022.**

**Please refer to the separate signed Accounts 2022 document for more detail.**

In the current year, total income exceeded expenditure by £39,293. Our total income was £148,284 and our total expenditure was £108,991. This compared to a deficit of £2,433 in 2021.

Our fundraising total in 2022 was £79,681 compared to £8,523 the previous year. The live auction at our Gala Dinner contributed £34,834 towards the fundraising total. We raised an additional £10,488 by selling Guild merchandise, the Guild Book and novelty items, knitted by our supporters, on our popular Etsy shop.

We were delighted to be able to spend £59,424 purchasing clothing and linen for the charities we support. Our running costs were £43,124 which included £24,140 spent on our anniversary fundraising events.

Our grateful thanks go to all those individuals, organisations and grant-giving trusts who continue to support us and contribute to our work.

**Sharon Stewart, Hon. Treasurer**

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) b of the Charities Act, and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

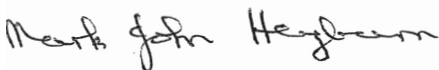
### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. Which gives me the reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act,
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met;

OR

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Mark John Heyburn  
Heyburn Bennett Ltd  
Chartered Certified Accountants and Registered Auditors  
9 Bridge Street, Walton on Thames, Surrey KT12 1AE

Date: 3 APRIL 2023



# QUEEN MOTHER'S CLOTHING GUILD

## Receipts and payments account for the year ended 31 December 2022

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
		£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>					
	NOTES				
Donations, Legacies and Grants	1	33,392		33,392	26,011
Fundraising events	2	79,681		79,681	8,523
Other Charitable Activities	3	10,488		10,488	7,585
Gift Aid	4	769		769	634
Income from Investments	5	23,955		23,955	20,584
<b>Sub total</b>				<b>148,285</b>	<b>63,336</b>
<b>Asset and investment sales</b>					
Receipts from sale of investments	6	57,122		57,122	102,325
<b>Sub total</b>				<b>57,122</b>	<b>102,325</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>				<b>205,407</b>	<b>165,661</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
Purchasing of Clothing and Linen	7	59,424		59,424	45,384
Running Costs	8	43,124		43,124	15,853
Other Charitable Activities	9	6,443		6,443	4,532
<b>Sub total</b>				<b>108,991</b>	<b>65,769</b>
<b>Asset and investment purchases</b>					
Purchase of investments	10	49,218		49,218	117,114
Investment Administration charges	11	5,964		5,964	5,825
<b>Sub total</b>				<b>55,182</b>	<b>122,939</b>
<b>Total payments</b>				<b>164,173</b>	<b>188,708</b>

## Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

### Balances at Bank

Bank Current Accounts		73,139	33,846
Investec Wealth and Investment	12	7,021	3,303

### Investment Assets

Investec Wealth and Investment	13	543,455	544,023
		<b>623,615</b>	<b>581,172</b>

### Accumulated Fund

	<b>623,615</b>	<b>581,172</b>
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These accounts were approved by The Board of Trustees on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

*Teresa Myers*

MRS TERESA MYERS  
Chairman

# Notes to Receipt and Payments Account

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>1 Donations, Legacies and Grants</b>		
Donations and Subscriptions	33,392	26,011
Legacies	-	-
Grants	-	-
	<u>33,392</u>	<u>26,011</u>
<b>2 Fundraising Events</b>		
Raffle	6,055	2,099
Auction	34,834	-
Other Fundraising	38,792	6,424
	<u>79,681</u>	<u>8,523</u>
<b>3 Other Charitable Activities</b>		
Sales of Aprons/Tea Towels/Bags	568	534
Sales of Notelets / Cards	1,316	753
Sales of Badges	50	91
Sale of China	1,182	-
Sale of Book	1,637	-
Donations for knitted items	5,610	6,147
Miscellaneous Income	125	60
	<u>10,488</u>	<u>7,585</u>
<b>4 Gift Aid</b>	769	634
	<u>769</u>	<u>634</u>
<b>5 Income from Investments</b>		
Main Fund	16,769	14,409
Mrs Pipe's Fund	7,187	6,175
Cash withdrawn from Portfolio	-	-
	<u>23,955</u>	<u>20,584</u>
<b>6 Sale of Investments</b>		
Main Fund	39,985	71,627
Mrs Pipe's Fund	17,137	30,698
	<u>57,122</u>	<u>102,325</u>
<b>7 Purchasing of Clothing and Linen</b>		
Purchase of Clothing and Linen	49,219	44,377
Purchase of items distributed to Scottish Charities	10,205	1,007
	<u>59,424</u>	<u>45,384</u>

# Notes to Receipt and Payments Account

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>8 Running Costs</b>		
Packing Week and AGM expenses	7,608	5,764
Fundraising Events	24,140	-
Printing/Stationery/Postage	1,786	1,519
Website & Communications	1,027	1,309
Insurance	701	682
Secretarial Fees	7,145	6,106
Miscellaneous Expenses	80	375
Bank Charges	637	98
	<b>43,124</b>	<b>15,853</b>
<b>9 Other Charitable Activities</b>		
Purchasing of Merchandise	6,443	4,532
	<b>6,443</b>	<b>4,532</b>
<b>10 Purchase of Investments</b>		
Main Fund	34,453	81,980
Mrs Pipe's Fund	14,765	35,134
	<b>49,218</b>	<b>117,114</b>
<b>11 Investec Administration Charges</b>		
Main Fund	4,175	4,078
Mrs Pipe's Fund	1,789	1,747
During the year Investec charged an additional £4,540 (2021 £4,893) as a collective funds charge for managing the portfolios.	<b>5,964</b>	<b>5,825</b>
<b>12 Investec Wealth &amp; Investment Cash Balance</b>		
Main Fund	4,915	2,312
Mrs Pipe's Fund	2,106	991
	<b>7,021</b>	<b>3,303</b>
<b>13 Investec Wealth &amp; Investment Assets (at cost)</b>		
Main Fund	380,419	380,816
Mrs Pipe's Fund	163,036	163,207
	<b>543,455</b>	<b>544,023</b>
The market value of investments at 31 December 2022 was £605,294 (2021 - £644,102)		

**BENEFICIARIES 2022 (\*Newly supported in 2022)**

<b>Charities supported in England</b>	<b>Neo Natal Units Supported</b>
Age UK, Wiltshire	Northwick Park Hospital, Harrow
Alabare, Salisbury	Royal London Hospital, East London
Barons Court Project, West London	St Thomas's Hospital, London
Berkshire Women's Aid	Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Buckinghamshire
Cardinal Hume, Central London	
Caritas Anchor House, East London (now Your Place)	
Changing Pathways, Essex	<b>Charities supported in Scotland</b>
CHESS Homeless, Chelmsford*	AberNecessities, Aberdeen
Companions of the Order of Malta, London	Bethesda Hospice, Stornoway
Crawley Open House, West Sussex	Cameron House, Inverness*
Croydon Refugee Day Centre, Croydon	Cardinal Winning Pro Life Initiative, Glasgow
Emmaus Brighton	Church of Scotland Care Home, Golspie*
Emmaus Greenwich, London	Cyrenians, Aberdeen
Emmaus Hastings, East Sussex	Erskine Home, Renfrewshire
Glassdoor, London	Highland Hospice, Inverness
GSTT Charity Samaritan Fund, London	Hungry Horse, Inverness*
Havens Hospice, Essex	Kat's Second Edition (Supporting The West End Community Centre), Ross-Shire*
Home of Comfort, Southsea	Kindness Street Team, Glasgow*
Kairos, South East London	Rachel House, Kinross
Leonard Cheshire St. Cecilia's, Bromley	Robin House, Dunbartonshire
Little Village, London*	Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Glasgow*
London City Mission, Central London	Simon Community, Glasgow
Manna Society, Central London	St Vincent's Hospice, Renfrewshire
Nelson Trust, Swindon	Women's Aid, Dundee
Ollalo House, Central London*	Women's Aid, Dingwall*
Pottergate Arc, Norwich	Women's Aid, Glasgow
Pram Depot, London (supporting Birth Companions, Doctors of the World & Happy Baby Community)	
Ronald McDonald House Charities, London	
Salvation Army Hoxton, East London	
Seaview, East Sussex	
Spitalfields Crypt Trust, East London	
SSAFA, Central London	
St Anne's, Little Sisters of the Poor, North London	
St John's Ambulance Brighton	
St Luke's Hospice, Essex	
St Peter's Home, Little Sisters of the Poor, Lambeth	
Stonepillow, West Sussex	
Swindon Domestic Abuse Support Service	
The Upper Room, Central London	
Warming up the Homeless, Bexhill*	

**FRIENDS OF QMCG 2022/3** \*AMBASSADOR \*\*HON. AMBASSADOR

Allan, Ms Angela	Hime, Miss Roz	Richardson, Mr Andrew
Beevers, Mrs Katherine	Hurley, Mrs Kathleen	Rivaz, Mrs Fiona
Beltrami, Charlotte	Jackson, Mrs Gillie**	Robins, Mrs Naomi **
Berthon, Mrs Alex	Johnson, Mrs Wendy	Royden, Lucilla
Blake, Mrs Susan	Jones, Mrs Liza**	Russell, LVO, Mrs Clare*
Briant, Mrs Ruth (EC &T)	Keen, Mrs Anna	Sarfaty, Miss Abigail (EC)
Briant, Mr Julian	Kernon, Mrs Sonja	Sharma, Mrs Anvita
Briant, Miss Celia	Kettridge, Mrs Jane	Shepherd, Mrs Jennifer
Buckmaster, Mrs Julia (EC)	Knight, Mrs Julia (T)	Sherry Archer, Mrs Mary
Carter, Miss Pamela	Laverty, Mrs Linda*	Smallwood, Mrs Kathrin
Carrington, Ann	Littleton, Miss Jeni	Smith, Mrs Susan
Carver, Mrs Elizabeth *	Mackanness, Mrs Mary	Spendlove, Mrs Victoria (EC)
Chichester, Mrs Jane	Manners, Mrs Lucy	Spendlove, Mr Thomas
Clarendon, Dowager Countess**	Marchant, Mrs Barbara	Stewart, Mrs Sharon (EC & T)
Clarke, Mrs Daphne**	Mardon, Ms Sarah	Stewart, Mrs Kate
Craufurd, Lady Georgina	Marsh, Miss Wendy	Tham, Mrs Jane **
Crawford, Mrs Tessa	Mathewson, Mrs Susan	Thomas, Mrs Sylvie**
Darby, Mrs Susan	Mavor, Mrs J. Elizabeth	Thompson, Mrs Linda*
Daughtree, Mrs Sheilah*	Mawdsley, MVO Mrs Dorothy	Thornton, Mrs Catrin
Davies, Dr Diane	McCaughey, Mrs Margaret	Thorpe, Mrs Suzie
de Pelet, Mrs Richard	McDermott, Mrs Sarah	Tierney, MVO Miss Roisin (T)
de Quincey, Ms Nicola	Meakin, Mrs Victoria (EC)	Trinder, Mrs Kate*
de Souza, Mrs Caroline	Meehan, Mrs Natalie (EC)	Vandenwijngaerden, Mrs Su
Denison-Pender, Hon. Mrs Robin	Miller, Mrs Catherine	von Pistohlkors, Amelie
Denny, Mrs Hadley	Morton, CVO Miss Theresa-Mary	Wallace, Mrs Susan*
Denny, Mrs Carol	Mount, Mrs Gabrielle	Wallace, Mr Philip
Dix, Mrs Diana*	Mulryne, Mrs Eithne	Watson, Miss Sherry (EC)
Docherty, Mrs Shona*	Munden, Mrs Elisabeth	Webster, Mrs Maureen
Edney, Mrs Jean**	Myers, Mrs Teresa (T)	Wellemeier, Mrs Louise
Eliot Cohen, Mrs Susie**	Myers, Mrs Louise	Whitbread, Mrs Helen (T)
Everall, Mrs Anne	Neale, Ms Rachel	Wilkinson, Mrs Caroline
Fitzalan Howard, Ms Sarah	Newman, Mrs Sharon	Willcox, Ms Carol
FitzGerald, Mrs Jane**	Nolan, Ms Gilly	Williams, Mrs Gabrielle
Franks, Mrs Sarah	O'Brien, Mrs Ela	Windham, Mr C Will F
Gerard-Pearse, Mrs Madeline	Oswald, CVO The Lady Angela	Woodford, Mrs Matilda (T)
Goulden, Mrs Siegrith	Orlebar, Mrs Nicola **	Wright, Mrs Fiona
Grindley, Mrs Mary	Parry, Mrs Rachel	
Guppy, Mrs Mary (T)	Peach, Mrs Ann	
Hammond, Lady Susan (EC)	Peel, Mrs Andrea**	
Hart, Mrs Donna (EC)	Peters, Mrs Sarah	
Hathorn, Hon. Mrs Eric	Phillipotts, Mrs Emma	
Hawkins, Ms Sallie	Rathbone Jupp, Mrs Nadia	
Helliard, Ms Norma	Rathbone, Pamela	
Hess, Mrs Ann Marie	Rawlins, Mrs Edna	



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## THANK YOU LETTERS

### **Berkshire Women's Aid, Reading**

'In the current climate having bedding, clothing and blankets makes a real practical difference to the women and children in our services. Even more importantly, as one mother said, "The kindness of strangers towards me and my children is overwhelming, thank you isn't enough." Our huge thanks to you and all of the team of incredible volunteers who make this happen every year, you are truly amazing!'

### **Ollalo House, Central London**

'As you may know, one of our three values is hospitality (followed by compassion and respect). When a new resident walks through our doors for the first time, often they're met with a kindness they've not experienced in a long time. Sometimes it may be difficult for them to accept acts of kindness, though one thing they do definitely appreciate is a warm bed and a fresh set of clothes. Having access to brand new linen and clothes will therefore have a huge impact, not only on those who are new to Ollalo, but to those who have been with us for years.'

### **CHESS Homeless, Chelmsford**

'Thank you for the donation of clothing and linen for CHESS Homeless. We have already distributed some of the items to our Outreach team to take to people rough sleeping. Now the weather is getting colder, they will need the thermal underwear provided to help keep warm. The knitted blankets will be used for our women's only house. This is where the residents have suffered domestic violence. We want them to feel appreciated by providing an item that people have taken the time and effort to make for them.'

'Whilst we provide towels and bedding which are functional, they are mostly second-hand so being able to provide new items enables us to make new residents feel more valued.'

### **Northwick Park Hospital, Neo Natal Unit, Harrow**

'Thank you so much for your support each year. Every item is beautiful and very much appreciated by all the staff, babies and their parents. We can never have too many clothes, blankets and sheets. The octopus, teddies and rabbits are particularly cute and will make lovely Christmas stocking presents this year.'

### **Kat's Second Edition supporting The West End Community Centre, Ross-shire**

'The West End Community Centre would like to say a big heartfelt thank you. We have lost count of how many families have benefitted from your knitted items. The detail and variety of garments was amazing. There was many a child kept warm this past winter, having received a jumper, hat, scarf or gloves. Thank you again for your kind donations.'





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