



2021 SUMMER NEWSLETTER

Our dear friends and supporters, I apologise for the long wait you have had for our next instalment about the journey of Alexandra House of Joy. With Covid and all the uncertainty, I am sure, you, like us, became very unsure about whether we could make future plans or not. The past 18 months have been so strange, but due to the incredible vaccination programme that our country has been involved in, we are slowly beginning a realisation that we can take little steps towards the routine of life that we once knew. So, it was on April 16th that



our wonderful volunteers, Carol, her son Matthew, and Rita were able to return once again to running the AHJ market stall in Sheep Street, Bicester. It felt

as if we were finally heading in the right direction!

But....before I embark on the what we have been doing since April 2021, I am longing to share with you about the news we have all been waiting for!!

Yes, finally, at 7.45pm last night – Thursday, Sept 9th 2021, Rick Howarth (from our Design Developers, Montpelier) rang our doorbell, and on opening we were presented with our much sort after and longed for piece of paper declaring **“The Cherwell District Council, as Local Planning Authority, hereby GRANTS outline planning permission for the development described in the application”**.



God’s wonderful Vision can now be realised. Not without a great deal of very hard work of course!! We are now embarking on to a very full on and demanding role of fundraising for a very large sum of money, in order to bring the Vision into reality. I have complete trust and faith in God that it will happen. Jesus Himself said”with God all things are possible”.

So, we leave it in His Hands, and we carry on with commitment and dedication with all that there needs to be done.

After our start with the market stall in Bicester, Ian and I decided to go back to the car boot sales at Finmere Market so on April 17th we did and had a very successful morning. It is always very hard work



running a car boot stall, but as we have so much stock now, which has very kindly been donated by people in our local community, we felt we needed to try our best to sell as much as we can wherever we can!!

April 24th, we had the opportunity to have



a stall in the grounds of The Red Lion Pub in Islip. It was a lovely day but sadly not many customers! We

must try these things though!!

The month of May we carried on much the same with the Friday Market stall, and the Finmere car boot sale every week, and then in June we had a new venture. After a successful discussion with a lovely chap called Tom Duckham, head of the



Banbury Markets,

he agreed that we could run a Charity stall in the Market Place centre of

Banbury, and we had our first one on June 3rd. It was brilliant. We loved it! They set up the table and gazebo for us so all we had to do was unload, arrange, sell and pack up at the end! The Market traders are wonderful, and we felt 'at home'



immediately. The photo shows Ian and I with Tom on the right and Richard on the left. Great guys!

July has been much the same pattern but on July 7th, our amazing volunteers ran a Fundraising event in Upper Heyford which



was a big success

August has been a very busy month for events, which has been greatly appreciated. Our weekly events have continued, but we also had five other events in different places. I am always pleased when we have a stall at these other events as it is spreading our profile around the County. It has been really tough to publicise the Charity, so we still remain relatively unheard of. I long for that to change!

August 7th Carol & Matthew Malone and Rita Taylor were in Kirtlington, and then on August 29th they were in Minster Lovell. August 22nd Ian and I with my lovely friend Beryl Chapman had a garage sale outside the back of our home in Chesterton. August 28th two of our other marvellous volunteers, Jane and Lisa Rushby, ran a stall at an event in Deddington, and on August 29th yet another wonderful volunteer, Sylvia Kelly, ran an event put on at The Red Cow in Chesterton. All the events were well attended, we sold well, and we had a fantastic sum of money to bank for our funds.

Now this is September, and this month has proved to be very memorable!! I shall always remember **September 9th'21!!** It wasn't an easy road to getting our planning, but we had especially wonderful support from Barry Wood, Eric Owens, Jane Randall, Bridgette Owen, and brilliant Rick Howarth. He is our knight in shining armour!! Thank you so much everyone.

We continue to be forever thankful for our wonderful volunteers, and all the amazing people who bring such incredible things for us to sell, all the extremely kind and generous people who faithfully send money and donate through our accounts and giving pages, and the many supporters who encourage us and pray for us. We are committed. Our biggest desire is to first serve God with the task He has set us to do, and secondly to be able at long last to provide a worthwhile, beautiful, secure and desirable centre for all the precious adults who utterly deserve to be shown respect, encouragement, dignity and given choices and security. No more cuts!!!

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Please continue to support our Mission, through prayer, funds, time and ideas. We need all of you to help us make this happen.

One way in which you could help is to join others who instead of spending £2 for a cup of coffee every week, they are donating the £2 each week to our Charity. We are then asking, if you would be willing to commit to that for just **one year**, could you then persuade ten of your

friends and family (or more!!) to do exactly the same thing?



If **you** donate £2 every week for only **one year**, you will raise **£104** for Alexandra House of Joy. If you then ask ten of your friends to do the same, they would raise £1,040. If each of those ten asked ten of **their** friends, the funds raised would be **£10,400!**

21,000 people each giving up just £2 a week for one whole year in their lifetime would generate for AHOJ £2,184,000!!

It **IS** possible.....but we need **your** help. It only takes a few minutes of your time to set up a standing order, and then to ask friends and family to do the same.

Alexandra House of Joy – Business account - Sort Code: 51-70-15 - Account number: 82920222

Just think how incredible it would be if we could achieve this very much needed Centre by people giving up **one cup of coffee a week** for just one year?

**PLEASE HELP US BE THE VOICE OF
THE VOICELESS.** Love from Rachael

**APRIL – BEGINNING OF SEPTEMBER 2021
FUNDRAISING PROGRAMME**

THE TOTAL BANKED AT PRESENT IS
£145, 331.39 (after all invoices paid)

APRIL 1ST ONLINE SALES - £107

APRIL 15TH BIC MARKET STALL - £147

APRIL 17TH CARBOOT FINMERE - £106.25

APRIL 24TH CARBOOT FINMERE - £70.50

APRIL 24TH RED LION ISLIP - £61

APRIL 24TH ONLINE SALES - £135

APRIL 30TH DONATION - £75

MAY 1ST CARBOOT FINMERE - £141.40

MAY 1ST RED LION ISLIP - £16

MAY 12TH PAY PAL GRANT - £60

MAY 10TH BANBURY MARKET - £51

MAY 11TH BICESTER MARKET - £120

MAY 11TH ZIFFIT FIR BOOKS - £28.15

MAY 12TH BANBURY MARKET - £89.50

MAY 18TH BICESTER MARKET - £25.50

MAY 24TH BANBURY MARKET - £107.35

MAY 25TH BICESTER MARKET - £111.00

MAY 26TH – CARBOOT FINMERE - £70.15

MAY 29TH CARBOOT FINMERE - £63.20

MAY 31ST CARBOOT FINMERE - £119.40

JUNE 4TH BICESTER MARKET - £50

JUNE 5TH BANBURY MARKET - £25

JUNE 8TH BANBURY MARKET - £49.10

JUNE 17TH LADIES KNITTING GROUP -£5.50

JUNE 17TH SALE OF POCKET HUGS - £95.50

JULY 1ST BANBURY MARKET - £65.10

JULY 1ST PAY PAL GRANT - £424.12

JULY 2ND BICESTER MARKET - £106.50

JULY 8TH BANBURY MARKET - £70

JULY 9TH BICESTER MARKET - £106

JULY 15TH BANBURY MARKET - £135

JULY 16TH BICESTER MARKET - £92

JULY 17TH CARBOOT FINMERE - £90.70

JULY 23RD BICESTER MARKET - £103

JULY 25TH UPPER HEYFORD EVENT - £360

JULY 31ST CARBOOT FINMERE - £124.50

AUGUST 4TH SUPERHERO GARTH PARK - £400

AUGUST 5TH CARBOOT FINMERE - £40

AUGUST 6TH BICESTER MARKET - £103

AUGUST 7TH KIRTLINGTON FUN DAY - £200

AUGUST 12TH BANBURY MARKET - £80

AUGUST 14TH CARBOOT FINMERE - £152

AUGUST 19TH BANBURY MARKET - £64.50

AUGUST 20TH BICESTER MARKET - £100

AUGUST 22ND HOME GARAGE SALE - £87

AUGUST 27TH BICESTER MARKET - £104.50

AUGUST 28TH DEDDINGTON FAIR - £120

AUGUST 29TH RED COW FESTIVAL - £152

AUGUST 29TH MINSTER LOVELL FAIR - £210

SEPTEMBER 3RD BICESTER MARKET - £80

SEPT 4TH BANBURY MARKET - £130.50

FACEBOOK:

www.facebook.com/AlexandraHouseofJoy

WEB: www.alexandrahouseofjoy.co.uk

EMAIL: alexandrahouseofjoy@gmail.com

DONATE:

https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/donationweb/charity?charityId=1017955&stop_mobi=yes

****PLEASE NOTE – VIRGIN MONEY GIVING
WILL END ON NOVEMBER 30TH 2021****

Contact person Rachael Scott-Hunter (Chair/co
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