



Total donations
since we started:

522,524

This year to date

8,652

Community Interest Company No. 08422226

May 2022

STITCHING TOGETHER

Making a difference.....

Aren't we lucky to be PLUK Coordinators? We get to see and touch so many beautiful quilts each month. It's like our own private personal Quilt Show! I love the fact that I see patterns and colour combinations that I wouldn't have thought of. It's just so inspirational. I feel as though I am surrounded by such wonderful talent. A huge thank you to the volunteers in East Staffs.

I run a Project Linus Quilting group in my area where like-minded ladies meet to sew quilts for distribution. In March one of our volunteers, Ann Newby, left the group, having been one of our founder members (since 2010), who during that time has made 50 quilts for PLUK, all different! Time has come for Ann to take on new challenges. Thank you, Ann, for your marvellous contribution to our group. We will miss you.



Ann with her flowers and quilt certificate and latest Linus Quilt.



One of my other volunteers, Mary Langston has knitted over 109 blankets for us. She always chooses "on trend" colours for them and I know that they are much loved by the recipients.

I love my Coordinators role, I am so lucky. So if you are thinking of becoming a Coordinator please do! You get to meet such wonderful people, indulge in your passion and most importantly of all get to help some of those young people in need.

Kim Wood East Staffs PLUK Coordinator.

...a year in the life of.....



'Things have really been busy in Bridgend. As Area Co-ordinator I did have some reservations as to how our relatively new chapter would fair with me departing the country in February. With no plans to return until May, I had wondered if we would lose some of the traction which had built up since we were established in November 2021. I am delighted to say that I couldn't have been more wrong!

In addition to the National lottery funding we received in January we have also received funding from Arnold Clarke and also from the Town council, this has all helped as the calls for assistance continue to grow. Our reach now includes a number of local schools with children with additional needs and sensory rooms, and our numbers have continued to climb in line with that need. I am overwhelmed by our local stitchers and the way that they have continued to produce both a steady flow of finished quilts and also the way our members have stepped forward to complete bespoke works requested by local institutions. We have even had the son (year six) of one of our members who wanted to make a quilt for the sensory room of his school despite never sewn previously. What an amazing young man!

In March our local Mayor and Mayoress stepped in to present a National Lottery Community award to a local business which has firmly established itself as the beating heart of our group. Along with providing amazing discounts on fabrics to those making quilts for Linus, this business has become a central hub for picking up fabric and pre-cut fabric packs and for dropping off finished items. It also houses just the most amazingly active donation box for scraps.

A few days later they were active for us again, awarding a plaque to a local school who has been in receipt of a large number of our members wonderful masterpieces. We are so delighted to see the Lottery Funding being used and acknowledged in this way.

Month on month we have achieved and exceeded those targets we set ourselves in January. Whilst wishing for gorgeous summer weather, I am just hoping that our members don't get too distracted by the summer months and we can continue to donate quilts and blankets in the local community, where we see the need is real



Melanie Corbett, Coordinator, Bridgend and County Borough

A Quilt is a hug you can keep

A memory quilt ... And lots more !

In February the Warrington branch supplied a quantity of quilts and blankets to the refugees from Afghanistan based at Daresbury. This was in the local press and Jean Dickeson, our coordinator, received an email from a young woman, Connah, asking if Project Linus could make 3 memory quilts for her family.

I volunteered to do one quilt and the coordinator for Liverpool Caroline Fogell, also offered to help. Caroline and I travelled to Frodsham to meet with Connah. She sadly explained that her sister Ellie, aged 21, had obtained her degree last summer, 2021, was training to go into the Armed Forces and had suddenly and unexpectedly taken her own life in September. Connah asked if we could make three quilts, one for her eight-year-old son, her teenage brother and one for herself. There were 4 large boxes of clothes belonging to Ellie, and some of these could be made into quilts.

Using PJs, blouses, tee shirts and pants, I made a quilt for Connah and Caroline used jeans to make ones for the boys and added the back pockets of the jeans to the quilt tops, as requested, so that the boys could store things in them. We also made a cushion, from a brightly knitted jumper, 3 teddy bears from the garments and a card, which was signed by all the ladies from the Linus group.

Caroline and I delivered the quilts to Connah, she was so grateful and emotional and delighted with what we had made. It has been an honour and a privilege for us to do this. **Sue Aldridge Project Linus Warrington**



A quote from a Thank You letter to all Linus supporters in Edinburgh and Midlothian

First of all, very many thanks to everyone for continuing to support us throughout the pandemic. Things are gradually returning to normal, although we are still not donating quilts to all the organisations we managed before Covid 19 arrived to disrupt all our lives. We are so grateful to you for holding on to quilts when we were in danger of being engulfed in a mountain of quilts in our homes. All best wishes to you—Barbara, Beth and Pip Joint Coordinators For Project Linus in Edinburgh, East and Midlothian

See the full message in next issue of *Stitching Together*. These are good wishes all coordinators would echo—ed.

Thanks—and more thanks

My name is Ashlay, my little girl Poppy was admitted to Wishaw General on 17th Feb and was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes . I just wanted to send you a little email to thank you very much for the blanket that was donated to the hospital, the nurses gave it to my little girl and it's provided her with great comfort since we have been here and she's delighted she can take it home with her when she's allowed home. Thank you so much



*Sent to Lanarkshire and Glasgow East
Project Linus.*



This came from a grateful granny. The quilt was an "I SPY" design. The 5year old boy was in hospital with pancreatitis and Covid .

"He loves it! He hugged it , danced on it, made stories and poems up about the pictures and we played an eye spy game with it. Then he went to bed with it. He is also very happy that your name is the start of Pippin his hamster! Thank you so very much for thinking of him."

*Sent to the Coordinators for Edinburgh,
East Lothian and Midlothian*

I am getting in touch to say a big thank you for the incredible donation you have recently made to us of blankets and for the support you continue to show.

We are so grateful for your support; a donation like yours will have positive impacts on the lives of those at The Haven who are fleeing domestic abuse and homelessness. Thank you so much again for your support

Best wishes Stacey, The Haven Wolverhampton

Supporting women and dependent children who are vulnerable to domestic violence, homelessness and abuse.

Surprises in York

I opened my front door to a lovely surprise. There was a young woman with the quilt she had made. This is her story.

Emilia says

I decided to make a quilt for the volunteering part of my Duke of Edinburgh award because I enjoy sewing and wanted to support Project Linus. I loved choosing the materials and designing the pattern on the front. Making the quilt was not as difficult as I thought it would be because I broke it down into stages and did a little bit every week. Finishing the quilt was my favourite bit because it was the first time I got to see it as a whole. It is the first quilt I have ever made but I'd like to make another one! Emilia Milne, aged 14



Has anyone else been given quilts made for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award? If you have, send details to Stitching Together.

On March 18th Project Linus York was invited to have a work table at a Community Service Day organised by the local Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Lots of people brought their sewing machines, knitting needles and crochet hooks, fabric and yarn, and there was a lot already there. On our table we made Linus quilts and one lady taught several people including teenagers, how to crochet. Refreshments were provided during the two half-days of the event We hope that when things open up again properly we can have a monthly sewing day at the church. ***Anna Briggs Coordinator York and***



Selby

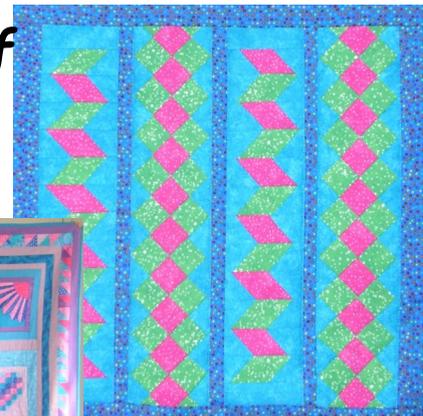


Staff on the Intensive Care Unit at Alder Hey Hospital, Liverpool contacted me to see if any of our sewers could turn these duvet covers into sheets - and of course, they could! Children are not able to bring their own bedding onto ICU due to infection control, and it makes a big difference to patients, families and staff to have colourful sheets rather than plain white ones. **Caroline Fogell—**
Coordinator, Project Linus Liverpool



Photos of her first three Linus quilts

Three in half a million !!!



made by Lynne Adams

Worcestershire Coordinator

Easy Fundraising

Don't forget if you shop online, please sign up to easyfundraising and help support Project Linus UK!

It's a really simple way to raise money for Project Linus UK through your everyday online shopping with retailers like Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com, eBay, Boden, and M&S and it's completely free!

Over £20 million has already been raised for good causes in the UK by easyfundraising shoppers so please help us get our share here: www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/projectlinus

Money already raised from easyfundraising went towards helping our co-ordinators provide fabric and wadding for their volunteers. All proceeds are re-invested in Project Linus and the work that we do together.

www.projectlinusuk.org.uk

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Edited by anna briggs : send your news to projectlinusyork@gmail.com