



Raising cash for Cancer Research

Such a success

help of year-old signs for and on Fa-friends, s to sup- hours of near- raised contin- believe

I raised so much money to help people, it make me feel warm and fuzzy inside!" Eleanor said.

One customer told Eleanor 'she was an inspiration to us all' and another said 'it was great she is thinking of others when times are so challenging'. Eleanor raised an impressive £205.02 for her efforts.

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Window on Union Chapel Kington Langley by Sylvia Chumbley, now available. It contains lots of information about the Chapel, its formation and the current situation. The cost is £9.50 or £11 including delivery. This will be of interest to anyone who has visited or worshipped in the chapel. If you have never been to the chapel you will be most welcome any Sunday morning at 10.30am. Full details may be obtained by phoning 01249 750269.

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Wilbur's Birthday Club

A very Happy Birthday to all Wilbur Club members celebrating their birthdays in January.

- They are:
- January 6
Richard Hancock (12), Corsham; Stanley Belgin (6), Westbury
 - January 7
Travis Elloway (8), Westbury
 - January 15
Charli Seviour (11), Westbury
 - January 21
Joseph Gilmore (12), Trowbridge
 - January 23
Jack Gallagher (9), Trowbridge
 - January 26
George Miller (8), Bradford on Avon
- Wilbur's Birthday Club is

Send your news to communitynews@gazetteandherald.co.uk

date of birth, postal address (not for publication) and if you like a jpeg picture to communitynews@newswilts.co.uk

Swindon Soroptimists and Marlborough Ladies who Latte

Even more important after the issues of lockdown, Swindon Soroptimists maintained their support of the Swindon Nelson Trust Women's Centre in Swindon by presenting their Christmas gift shoe boxes for the sixth year running.

The club has few members but have had great support from friends and also Marlborough Ladies Who Latte club in donating unwanted and freebie items to be included.

Fortunately two members are in a bubble were able to do the mammoth task of sorting and filling all the boxes, each containing 28 different items collected over the year.

The 25 boxes are for the vulnerable women who use the centre, many of whom face hardship and in some cases this may be the only Christmas gift they receive.

Many of the women know us and look forward to our boxes each year. The club also donated other household items for the clients and Christmas chocolates for the hardworking, dedicated staff.

As Lydia Cardew, Soroptimists club Project Officer says: "These women have challenging lives, often made worse by the lockdown situation so we want them to know that people do care. We always make the boxes useful and fun, with items such as scarves, toiletries, and pads/pens as well as a Christmas gift, crackers and chocolate and a Christmas card with a message from members."

The centre, set up in 2014, provides a lifeline for women who are homeless, addicted or at risk of involvement with the criminal justice system. The service has greatly expanded recently and now

has many more permanent staff, due to the recognition and funding received for the work they do.

The staff offer a wide range of services, ranging from Lunch Club, practical help, support in dealing with other agencies, to one to one counselling, group activities and peer support. The Nelson Trust's ultimate goal is to reduce re-offending and help women to become safe, confident and free from abuse, addiction and other dependencies. They have continued to remain open and offer support throughout the pandemic.

Niki Gould, Head of Women's Community Services, commented "Thank you so much for your support. They absolutely love the gift boxes and something tells me they will be extra special this year with the additional struggle of the pandemic."

Rae, senior keyworker at the Centre, said after our delivery "Thank you so much for the presents, they look amazing! We really do appreciate all of your support. Covid-19 has bought a lot of uncertainty for our women during 2020 especially during the Christmas period. Which is why they are so grateful that there are still charities operating to support them during such a difficult time. The Nelson Trust and the women are very appreciative of the hampers and presents provided that relieves that extra pressure that comes with Christmas."

Swindon Soroptimists are part of an international voluntary women's organisation dedicated to improving the lives and status of women and girls through education, empowerment and enabling opportunities.

For more information on Soroptimists work visit our FB page <https://www.facebook.com/Soroptimist-International-of-Swindon-and-District>, website www.sigbi.org/swindon or contact us on siswindon.soroptimists@gmail.com

