

## Barrow upon Soar Good Neighbour Scheme - Summary Of the Year 2021

January – Restrictions were still in place but to try to bring cheer to some of our members we were able to pass on ‘**Letters for our Locals**’ and **hand drawn rainbows from the children of Lime Tree Nursery**.

We held a volunteers **Walk and Meal in September** to say a massive ‘Thank you’ for all of the support provided during the previous 18 months supporting our village cope with the effects of Covid.

It was a wonderfully hot late summer afternoon as 14 of us walked around the river before a total of 20 volunteers sat down for a simple supper at the Soar Bridge Inn.

In October we were finally able to welcome our members to our first event of the year – an **Afternoon Tea at the Conservative Club**. 50 members and their friends enjoyed a wonderful time – some getting out for the first time in months. Thanks to Ginnie for organising this event.

A couple of our volunteers were able to add our tree to the impressive selection at the village **Christmas Tree Festival at Holy Trinity Church** in early December. This is a lovely festival for everyone and its great to be part of this tradition.

Our **Christmas Wreath making** event at the Soar Bridge on 13<sup>th</sup> December went ahead despite growing concerns about a new variant and once again we were all back in face masks and hand sanitiser to ensure as safe an event as possible. Thanks to Sharon for running this event during the day for our members to attend.

The year ending with a 10 of our members each receiving a fantastic **Christmas Hamper**. Staff from Humphrey Perkins School donated almost 16 hampers which were then supplemented by additional donations from the staff at Barrow Health Centre. We were able to pass on half of these hampers to Helping Hands but still gave 10 to our members that are either living on their own or were seen to have had a particular hard time over the past 12 months.

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During 2021 we have had 6 new volunteers register and start supporting our members. Unfortunately we have had to say goodbye to 2 that moved away.

We now have **33 volunteers** of which 27 were able to provide support during the last few months of the year.

We also had 26 new members join us, although we also lost a small number due to illness or moving away to be closer to family. In total we now **actively support 44 members**, 22 of which is on a regular/weekly basis, 7 on a more adhoc basis, such as gardening, and 15 we help with prescription as and when required.