

## Poverty Report November 2022

We have continued to support the mission Cristiana throughout the year, they are feeding and clothing many families who are experiencing hard times. Of course, they continue to help the refugees who land on our shores as do the red cross. At the moment there are about 40 refugees, including women and children who are lodged at the mission house.

At this time of year of course we all think of Christmas and the excitement it brings for the children and so it is especially heartening that the Christmas shoe box appeal instigated by Jacqueline and David Clover has been well supported, thus ensuring that these children will be able to open their presents on twelfth night.

It has to be said that food shopping for the mission is not as affordable as it used to be. The sacks of potatoes have now increased to 25E and the large sacks of flour have doubled from 12 to 24 euros. So the money doesn't go nearly as far as it used to.

We continue to work closely with the feline charities' and in return for donated bric- a- brac they give us clothes and toiletries, so it really is a win win situation.

Donations of food, clothes, toiletries, sundries and money continue, but sadly St James is no longer the major contributor. Due to the notices on our front terraces and word of mouth, donations are frequently left at our doors, and money has been found placed under flower pots, so it seems advertising pays.

So far this year we have spent 900 euros on food, have made 97 runs to the mission and delivered 946 bags of clothes, bedding etc.

So, we are about 500 euros down on monetary donations compared to last year, but on a par with bags being delivered.

As always, we get random donations which this year have included 4 x DVD players, 2 x televisions, 2 microwaves, 100 DVDs, a pushchair, 2 trikes, a bicycle, medication and a medical water filter from the doctors surgery.

Also, a wedding dress complete with bouquet, this was greatly appreciated by the mission, who have a store of clothes that are borrowed for functions, interviews etc.

We continue to do what we can with what we have got!

Up to the end of December 2022 we did:

- 114 runs to the Mission
- Spent a total of €1,379.00
- Delivered 1,003 bags in total

Lynne and Sue