

## **DAR Chair's Report 7 April 2021**

This will be our second AGM in lockdown. It seems incredible this time last year we had enjoyed our member's event at the Quaker Meeting House where we pulled together ideas from the members, asylum seekers and refugees. How our world has changed since then. Steven Piper, from our drop in team, sadly lost his life. He has left a very large hole in the lives of his asylum friends and those of us who knew him. I have missed the hugs and chats with you all, DAR members, asylum seekers and refugees. For the Trustees and Exec Committee Zoom meetings have become a norm with comments like "you're still on mute" being common! Despite these uncertain times, we have managed to reach out in different ways and adapt along with the rest of the world. It is my hope that we can include our asylum seekers and refugees more in our planning in the coming year.

Our Asylum Team have maintained regular contact with those who came along to the drop in to ensure that they are coping with the situation.

The Language Team continues to provide support and teaching to asylum seekers and refugees. Rebecca White has been a rock to the bereaved Syrian family following the tragedy last August. She has continued to teach them and provide emotional support. The team has broadened its work to include a growing number of asylum seekers alongside their continuing work with refugees. They have also been providing more homework assistance for children and young people. Alison Holland, with the support of Corporation Road Primary school, gained approval from local schools for an orientation programme which will prepare children and young people before they start school and support them when they do. This will start after the May half-term.

We have continued to raise funds through the generous support of our members and the wider public, and from charitable trusts.

One of our Trustees, Paul Hamilton, lead our Laptop Project. We acquired 21 reconditioned laptops from the Turin Trust and purchased data for each of the families with children at school, so that they were more easily able to access their online lessons. This was funded almost entirely by the generosity of our volunteers who responded to pleas for financial support by donating £4,550.

With the help of Clarey Wrightson, we were able to respond to the tragic fire at Moria Camp on Lesbos by collecting toiletries and other donations. Darlington folk donated so much that the Choose Love truck was not able to collect all the items but Clarey kindly delivered them to the Leeds depot.

We welcome Rosie Turner to the Executive team as our Partnership lead. Rosie will be linking up with other charities and organisations in Darlington to help Refugees find meaningful work as volunteers and building partnerships towards employment.

One of the challenges that we have faced during the COVID-19 pandemic is how to reach out to the single asylum seekers. These people are normally accommodated in a house or flat, sharing with someone who might not be their choice of a friend, with nothing to do and limited means of communication. Helping them to stay in touch with loved ones has to be prioritised along with food and clothing due to their restricted budget. We are aiming to alleviate this by applying for funds to help with internet connections. We also hope to set up a "bank of activities" that members are happy to share with asylum seekers, as the current lockdown eases. We hope that by linking asylum seekers with members through hobbies and interests this will improve relationships and make them feel more included in our community.

This is all occurring in the context of what appears to be a Home Office policy of creating a hostile environment for asylum seekers. This includes the increasing use of army barracks, restricted movement and the confiscation of mobile phones. The time taken to process claims has also increased and this is creating a growing backlog of asylum seekers in the system. We continue to raise these issues with our political representatives. The Sovereign Borders Bill making its way through Parliament appears to create a two tier system for asylum seekers. Now, more than ever before we need to be lobbying our MPs and asking questions about the lack of humanity in this Bill.

I look forward to seeing you all face to face again and sharing what has been happening in your lives over cups of tea and coffee.

**Fran Wood**  
**Chair**

	Charity Name		No (if any)		CC16 a
	Darlington Assistance for Refugees		1170986		
	Receipts and payments accounts				
	For the period from	Period start date 1/1/2021	To	Period end date 12/31/2021	
Section A Receipts and payments					
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donation	7,106	-	-	7,106	1,583
Fundraising	-	-	-	-	1,000
Collection for White Helmets	-	-	-	-	-
Book Sales	-	-	-	-	-
Bus Hire	-	-	-	-	-
Interest	-	-	-	-	-
Other	700	-	-	700	-
Celebrations, Entertainment & Catering Costs	-	-	-	-	-
NEMP Project	-	-	-	-	-
Toiletries & Household Cleaners	-	-	-	-	-
CDCF Micro Grant School Holiday Clubs	-	-	-	-	-
The Hospital of God Bike Grant	-	-	-	-	-
Bicycle Repairs etc	-	-	-	-	-
Fostering Event	-	-	-	-	-
Laptop Project	-	436	-	436	5,641
CDCF Micro Grant Covid	-	2,750	-	2,750	-
Christmas	30	250	-	280	285
School Orientation Programme	-	3,398	-	3,398	-
Afghan Refugees	-	400	-	400	-
Lesvos Solidarity	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total(Gross income for AR)	7,836	7,234	-	15,070	8,509

<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>7,836</b>	<b>7,234</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15,070</b>	<b>8,509</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Translation expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Stationery, Printing, Office Equipment & Postage	23	-	-	23	120
Bus Hire	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance	108	-	-	108	252
Household Goods	582	-	-	582	-
Travel Costs	-	-	-	-	13
Fundraising Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Donation to White Helmets	-	-	-	-	-
ICO Fees	35	-	-	35	35
Rent - St Cuthbert's Church Hall	338	-	-	338	-
NE Regional Employee DBS checks	96	-	-	96	38
Celebrations, Entertainment & Catering Costs	188	-	-	188	122
NEMP Project	-	-	-	-	-
Emergency Clothes AS Families	-	-	-	-	-
Toiletries & Household Cleaners	-	-	-	-	-
Lesvos Solidarity	-	-	-	-	-
Holy Trinity Darlington PCC re AS Families	-	-	-	-	-
CDCF Micro Grant School Holiday Clubs	-	-	-	-	-
Bicycle Repairs etc	-	-	-	-	30
Emergency help e.g. food, phone top ups	77	-	-	77	10
The Hospital of God Bike Grant	-	-	-	-	-
Book Sales	-	-	-	-	-
Other	715	17	-	732	68

AS ESOL Provision Dictionaries etc.	209	-	-	209	24
For AS - Craft items, toys & other sundries AS Families	54	-	-	54	16
Laptop Project	1,176	2,782	-	3,958	3,294
CDCF Micro Grant Covid	-	1,475	-	1,475	-
Christmas	178	250	-	428	591
IT and Media Costs	284	-	-	284	-
School Orientation Programme	-	125	-	125	-
School Holiday Club	835	-	-	835	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Fostering Event	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>4,898</b>	<b>4,649</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,546</b>	<b>4,613</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>4,898</b>	<b>4,649</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,546</b>	<b>4,613</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>2,938</b>	<b>2,585</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,523</b>	<b>3,896</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>5,092</b>	<b>2,364</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,456</b>	<b>3,560</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>8,030</b>	<b>4,949</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,979</b>	<b>7,456</b>
<b>Section B</b>					
<b>Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period</b>					
<b>Categories</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Restricted funds</b>	<b>Endowment funds</b>	
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Petty Cash	45		-	
	Bank Account - Darlington Credit Union	1,500		-	
	Bank Account - Co-Operative	6,489	4,948	-	

	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>8,034</b>	<b>4,948</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	Agreement Error	OK
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	

[illegible]





































