

# CARESCO NEWS



CARESCO Newsletter No. 1  
October 2021

## COMMUNITY RESPONSE UPDATE

TASKS	AUG 21	SEPT 21
Prescriptions	86	56
Shopping Trips	11	10
Parcels / Post Office	0	0
Phone Calls	10	6
Foodbank Parcels	196	60
Car Scheme Trip (Miles)	620	482
GEDC Meal Deliveries	63	18

September's figures are noticeably lighter than the previous month, partly because of the summer holiday break. The biggest difference is in the Foodbank parcel numbers, which will inevitably have been impacted by the Summer Scheme the team were running. Our continued thanks to the volunteers who support this service.

EMMA FLANZ



## MANCAVE NEWS

The CARESCO Cavers have been keeping themselves busy the past few months, continuing to carry out repairs and upcycling projects for our community. The most recent was repairing some of the wooden toys that live in the Community Centre, that the children play with. They are also continuing to build bird boxes and hedgehog houses for the A14 project and did a fabulous reupholstery project for a customer wanting two chairs upcycling.

Look out for the aprons that will be on sale towards the end of the year, made from recycled fabrics and materials. Beautifully designed and sewn by our CARESCO Cavers at the workshop.

CARESCOCAVERS



## ANNUAL REPORT 20/21



To read our annual report, please head to our website [www.caresco.org.uk](http://www.caresco.org.uk) or ask for a printed copy

## FUNDRAISING UPDATE

In September the **Sawtry Walk to Run** group held a walk and run event to highlight mental health week and afterwards came back to the CARESCO Centre for tea and cakes. They very kindly donated to us along with a donation pot on the day. They are also holding their Santa Run on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December when CARESCO will once again be the beneficiary – look out for further details.

October has been busy too, as we are organising another **Sawtry Pumpkin Trail** to coincide with Halloween.

On Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November from 7.30pm there will be a **Quiz Night** held at Sawtry Social Club. Quizzers can just turn up on the night with a team of 2-6 players and join in the fun. All monies made from this event will go directly to the Minibus Appeal – there will also be a raffle and auction on the night – Hope to see you there.

The **Sawtry Frost Fayre** will take place on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December and CARESCO will be having various stalls there – make sure you come along and say Hello.

Our popular **Quiz Sheet** will be back with a Christmas Theme soon, available from the Charity Shop and the CARESCO Centre.

As always there are continuing fundraisers going on in the background:

**Coins** – There are collection pots in the Charity Shop and the CARESCO Centre for unwanted British or foreign coins and notes.

**Green Bottles** – fill up a small green bottle with any coins and we can collect, count and you get a certificate – let me know if you'd like one.

**Funding Our Future** – make a regular £4 monthly donation to CARESCO to help secure our future – currently we have 49 people and businesses signed up – if you would like any details please let me know.

Keep your eyes peeled for any fundraising events on the lead up to Christmas and as always, if you have any ideas or just want to have a chat then please contact me on 07599 987468 or

[fundraising@caresco.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@caresco.org.uk)

JACQUI HEDINGTON



## FOODBANK UPDATE

Our volunteers were busy during the summer holidays, working extra shifts preparing food parcels to replace free school meals. We gave out a total of 133 food parcels to help feed 348 local children during the holiday period. This was on average an extra 19 food parcels a week to feed 50 children. Thank you to every volunteer who helped to make it a success.

In September, we held our first volunteer meeting since February 2020. It was lovely to see so many of our volunteers together again. These meetings always create lots of useful discussion.

We are now including a welcome letter in our food parcels to new clients. This gives them an intro and detail of how the Foodbank provision works as well as giving information about help and additional support at a difficult time.

This time of year, has brought us many Harvest Festival donations from Churches and Schools in our local area. We want to thank everyone for their generosity and kindness. The support from our local community is amazing. We have also received another delivery of food from Princes Food. This is another welcomed addition to our stock levels.

Finally, we have begun to plan for Christmas! We have to start early as there is a lot to organise. We are preparing ahead for the busy weeks leading up to the Christmas holidays. The Foodbank volunteer team are always ready for a challenge.

**PAT FURZELAND**



## SHOP NEWS

It has been a busy few weeks at the Charity Shop. The month of September saw us receive 442 bags/boxes of donations. We have registered 14 new and updated details for 11 Gift Aiders. All of this is helping us to raise the much-needed funds that are required to help CARESCO continue to support our community.

Our sales are still not where they were pre covid but we are getting there, slowly. I was proud to represent the shop and to be part of a presentation that was given to the Parish Council detailing what the Charity Shop does behind the scenes as well as selling donations on the shop floor. The whole presentation was very well received and will, hopefully, not be the last of its kind.

We had a very successful volunteers meeting in September which welcomed 22 volunteers. It was a very productive gathering with lots of points raised, most of which have been actioned where required.

There is another opportunity to buy a Lucky Square from the shop where there are 4 wonderful sets of prizes up for grabs. At £2 a square it is a real bargain, not to be missed.

Plans have been finalised for our Halloween window and it will be in place by the time you read this Newsletter, it is going to be another great one. Halloween bargains will also be available to buy from the shop.

The Shop Team are looking to expand the team of Relief Supervisors it currently has to support the Shop Managers. If this is something you would be interested in, please contact me for more details.

01487 208026

**SHARON DOUGHERTY**



## CARESCOMINIBUS

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/CARESCOminibus>

In 2019 we were fortunate enough to be able to acquire our very first CARESCO community minibus. This has allowed us the opportunity to provide our own transport for our service users which is an important aspect of the service we provide and allows us to collect members from their homes, bring them to our day centre and take them home afterwards.

Since we purchased the minibus, we have learnt that it has multiple uses. For example, we used it to deliver hot meals on Christmas Day to people who were on their own. Most recently we have used it to collect supplies from companies who have donated food to our Foodbank. Our bus is now 15 years old and like everything time takes its toll and after many repairs and failed MOTs the need for a new minibus is growing increasingly urgent.

A new bus will enable us to continue to do the good work we do at CARESCO and our ever-growing community. Please see our just giving page for all the latest updates of our minibus appeal.



## TRUSTEE VACANCIES

CARESCO are looking to expand our team of volunteer Trustees. Are you wanting to put something back into our community? Do you have time to spare to help guide us with both new and existing projects and services? As our charity develops and grows, we look to our Trustees for guidance and support.

Their knowledge and skillset are invaluable.

To join our team or learn more about the role, email [office@caresco.org.uk](mailto:office@caresco.org.uk) or call 01487 832105

