

The Daventry Area Baby Project Christmas Challenge December 2024 part 4 Advent waiting



Out of the darkness comes the light of loving kindness both near and far.



Dear Friends,

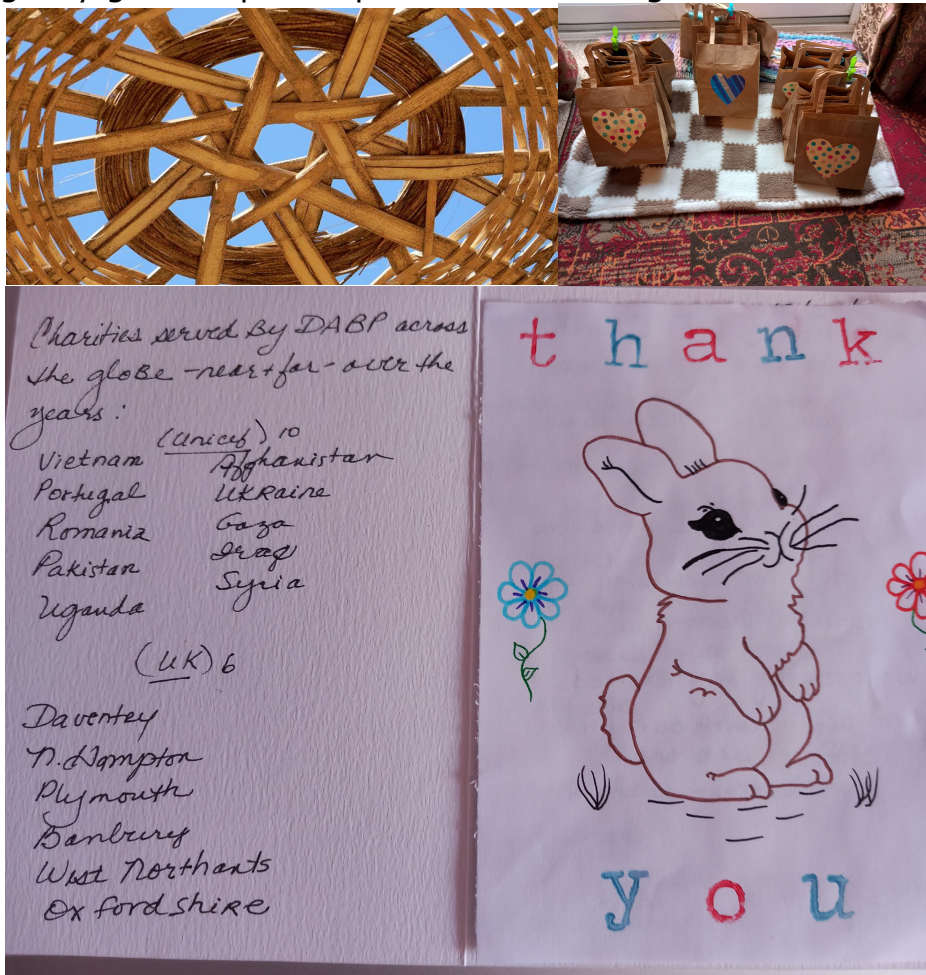
This newsletter serves to communicate the success of our Christmas Challenge so far. As we move into the season of Advent waiting before Christmas Day we use these photographs above. A member of our team Jan K lives in Alaska where communities know long hours of complete darkness in winter. This DABP Advent quilt was made by Jan as she found herself inspired by the list of charities that have received donations from us over years. And the Alaskan moonlight photograph serves to remind us that one moon brings us together wherever we are in the world .The word "together" on the quilt and the Christmas challenge 24 have both awakened us to the gentle light of kindness and compassion that we

can shine in our actions towards the babies we serve, their carers and each other. Thank you Jan K.

NEAR

As the light has faded we have prepared our welcome for babies today. We began in October. We have come alongside prospective carers to touch the reality of listening to a gentle heartbeat for the first time. We have explored the responsibilities that face carers and begun to understand the different degrees of uncertainty many of them face as they anticipate their journey ahead.

Whilst waiting during Advent we can make a real difference. We are not shepherds, kings or innkeepers but we are members of this small DABP community seeking to discover the needs of innocent babies in the midst of our world 2000 years on. We have been weaving our ideas together by creating goody bags full of treats to greet carers and babies, created beautiful items ready for a warm welcome using our busy hands and supplying £50 emergency grants upon request from other agencies.



The list on the left inspired Jan to make the DABP quilt.

The thank you note on the right was recently sent to us .It reads," Thank you very much to all of you .My partner and I are

very grateful for everything we received from you .We are very, very excited to use it with our little one.”

FAR

We are also thrilled to announce that we have received contributions this year sufficient for us to make 4 donations of £100 to charities that serve babies and are so we reach out to these charities to extend our welcome yet again. This year we pay tribute to many charities seeking, like us, to serve needs in these challenging times. We happily want to celebrate with you the many volunteers involved in them.

LOCAL Milk&You peer group volunteers will receive a donation for their New Year Meal. They provide support to pregnant and new parents. New peer group volunteers about to start training have also been invited to the celebration. We recognise the part that Milk&You have played in our growth as a project over the past 4 years. Like us they are members of our Daventry volunteer hub.

REGIONAL Rainbow Hospice for babies and families. The CEO of the Rainbow Hospice is known to some of us in the Peterborough Diocese. The charity based in Leicester serves our region. Hospices are facing real challenges today some even the threat of closure. The rainbow website will be joy to read and hold in our thoughts during Advent waiting. www.rainbows.co.uk

NATIONAL Birth companions www.birthcompanions.org.uk works to improve the lives of women and babies who experience inequality and disadvantage in early motherhood.

INTERNATIONAL Shevet Achim UK serves children in the Middle East born with serious congenital heart defects, but with no access to the advanced medical care they need. It is a community working closely with highly specialised medical teams partnering hospitals in Israel, to assist with funding life-saving surgeries and to raise public awareness of this unique work. They fund hospitality to mothers and babies from Arab countries.

DURING ADVENT



At the time of writing Holly (Big Issue) will shortly be collecting 4 large bags containing good quality second hand, freshly

laundered and warm winter clothing for needy families. 2 baths have been ordered for babies expected over the Christmas season and we plan a delivery to the Community Midwives at Northampton.



Here is a heads up for our arrangements from now until the end of January. We shall be taking a break to reorganise our storage facilities.

Please look out for a **digital the DABP Christmas card closer to Christmas. Our February newsletter will be sent out at the end of January confirming the date when donations can be delivered to the Methodist Church again.**

As we all approach the wonderful season of Advent we shall be holding you in our thoughts and prayers with an attitude of gratitude for all we do together. It continues to be a privilege to be part of this lovely, small, project shining forward our gifts of kindness and compassion.

Happy Advent,

Gilly Beardmore, Hazel Gault, Sarah Parry, Fran Deeley, Anna Barfield, Jan Wall and Jan Krehel. The Daventry Area Baby Project Team.

TO UNSUBSCRIBE Contact Gilly text only 07807011205 or email beardmoregillian@gmail.com or use our DABP answer machine 01327 876747

DONATIONS to our project can now be made to this account **Daventry Area Baby Project**

Sort code 30-99-50

Account Number 22798862 **OR**

Send a cheque made out to that account to 27 Claydon Road Daventry NN11 8AZ. Please add a note of your contact details so that we can send you a receipt.

