



FEBRUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER

MEETINGS:

NIGHT MEETING

WHEN: Wednesday February 22, 7 pm

WHERE: Salvation Army London Citadel (555 Springbank Drive – the corner of Springbank Drive and Wonderland Road)

DAY MEETING

WHEN: Thursday February 23, 10 am

WHERE: Eastern Star Temple (800 Fanshawe Park Road East, London)

Masks continue to be mandatory to be worn at the meetings. The Board members feel it is still for the best of our members (being of the vulnerable demographic) to have this practice continuing. Of course should you feel ill or have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, we ask that you do not attend the meeting and reach out to one of our board members should you require anything in the meantime.

MARCH CLUBHOUSE DROP IN DAY:

Tuesday March 14th from 1 pm to 4 pm @ the Clubhouse (111 Waterloo Street, Lower Level).

Please ensure to sign up via the link below to show us your intention to drop in:
<https://volunteersignup.org/BTPEC>

CROCHET CLUB MARKETPLACE

As most of you know, we raise a reasonable amount of money every year through online sales of donated yarn that can't be used for our blankets.

We also sell other donated items like embroidery kits and fabric and want to make more members aware of this in case any of you have items you would like to donate for us to sell online to raise funds.

We are looking for fairly small items in good condition, no furniture, clothing, breakable items or knitting needles please. Examples of good sellers are:

- Crafting items
- Fabric
- Embroidery and sewing items
- Collectibles
- Storage totes and containers

If you have anything that you think might be suitable, please contact Sian or Marion at sian.roberts154@gmail.com or marion.honsberger@sympatico.ca to check with them before bringing it to a meeting.

If your item sells we can provide you with a tax receipt for the amount.

1st ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DRIVE

Even though we have reached, let alone surpassed, our donation fundraising goal already, we are still budgeting that we will have a deficit this year of \$1413 - so please keep those donations coming in.

SURPRISE DONATION

A few months ago we received an email from CAF Canada, an organization who assists in distributing donations on behalf of companies. An employee had chosen our club to donate to, and their employer matched their donation through the Bright Funds Foundation. We received a total donation of \$668.22.

A MILESTONE TO CELEBRATE

Pauline did some calculations for us and it brought big smiles to our faces when typically numbers and calculations would not have. As of January 31st 2023 our club has donated a total value of \$1,045,300!!

That's a grand total of:

3950 - Baby 6129 - Lap 6759 - Single

487 - Silent Auction & Raffles 3098 - Pet

If you are also a numbers person, we arrived at the million dollar plus total by valuing the blankets as follows:

Baby \$30

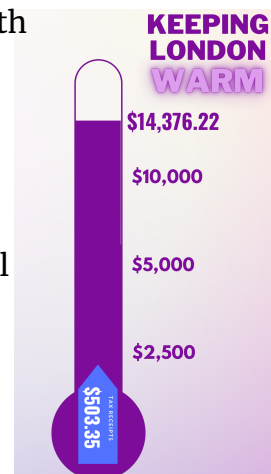
Lap \$50

Full \$80

Silent Auction \$100

Pet \$10

Of course that value is only the value of the yarn used in each blanket size. If we were to determine a value for our members' time and efforts we would certainly be double if not triple millions of donation value. A milestone to certainly be proud of congratulations to all who helped make this a reality!



THANK YOU NOTES ...

Bethany's Hope for their event in October, for which we provided two blankets, one was a bear as that is their logo. The bear blanket brought in \$75 and the second blanket (cream coloured) went for \$50, so the total made was \$125.

People Care Oak Crossing - blankets were given as gifts opened by residents on Christmas Day



Exeter One Care -

SILENT AUCTION BLANKETS (JANUARY & FEBRUARY)

Pet Blankets

In January 45 pet blankets were dropped off at Heavenly Hills Pet Sanctuary.

Total given for the year is 109 and total given is now 3098.

Silent Auction Blankets

Epilepsy Foundation Southwestern Ontario for their 37th Annual Spring gala "Diamonds and Denim" on Saturday, April 1. Guests can attend in person or virtually and the goal is to raise \$35,000.

Alzheimer Society for their annual Cabin Fever Reliever 2023 dinner and auction on February 11, 2023 which will be in person this year.

Eastern Star for use in one of their fundraising events this year.



In February 4 silent auction blankets (two adult and two kids) were given to L'Arche London, to support two upcoming events.

This is an organization that provides homes, community life and programs for people with intellectual disabilities. They are holding an online auction in February "To Gather Toward Tomorrow Gala".

More information can be found at <https://larchelondon.ca/>

They will hold another event in April to support their day programs which support over 200 people through events such as arts and crafts, music, drama, and life skills, helping create an inclusive community where barriers are removed and diversity is valued.



BLANKETS COLLECTED IN DECEMBER:

At our last meetings we had the following # of blankets turned in:

Full: 42
Lap: 53
Baby: 16

Blankets donated over the past month:

Lap: 15 to Mount Hope

We had several yarn donations but no purchases this month.

MESH BAGS

If anyone has mesh bags at home and you have not been able to come to a meeting or get to the Clubhouse, please notify Marion at marion.honsberger@sympatico.ca or 519-642-0246. She will arrange to have them picked up as we are very short of bags.

IN MEMORIUM

Mabel Haddad - at the end of January our club lost one of its original members. Mabel was a long time club member, joining in 2002. She passed away at the age of 99 and had been receiving projects of cotton for dishcloths from us as recently as this past summer. We are grateful for the many years Mabel graced us with her presence and crochet skills.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact Lynne at 519-868-0678 or lynne.hammond@sympatico.ca

