

Press Release – International Aid Trust, Award from Ukraine

Rev. Bernard Cocker, Founder and CEO of Lancashire Christian charity, International Aid Trust has received another prestigious award from military leaders in Ukraine, on behalf of all the charity's supporters.

Since the invasion of Ukraine nearly two years ago, International Aid Trust has sent 55 articulated lorries full of donated humanitarian aid, weighing over 654 tonnes, with a financial value of £13.4 million, to help people whose lives have been devastated by the war. The charity has also funded the distribution of this aid by their local staff, volunteers and church networks, provided minibuses, vans and trailers, ambulances and 4x4 vehicles for emergency evacuation, as well as anti-personnel mine detecting equipment, which is saving lives of both soldiers and civilians.

Bernard has just returned from visiting the Trust's Ukraine team, travelling thousands of miles with them to distribute aid and share hope in Christ with internally displaced people and communities close to the frontlines.

In Odessa, Bernard met with General Oleg Pidlubny and Colonel Sergei Sudets of the National Guard, who passed on their thanks to all who have contributed to the charity's support. General Oleg said "Thank you for caring, thank you for your help, for your co-operation, you are with us and we will win together".

Bernard says, "I've received this award on behalf of everyone who has supported our Ukraine appeal, this medal is for all of you. The General and the Colonel have thanked us for the ambulances, for the humanitarian aid and for the mine detectors. They told me that your support has saved many lives. God bless you all."

International Aid Trust have worked in Ukraine for thirty two years and as this work continues, they plan to mark the sad fact of two years of war in Ukraine on 24th February, with an opportunity for those of us in the UK to show our support through 'Walk, Pray, Give for Ukraine' please visit their website: <u>www.internationalaidtrust.org.uk</u> to find out how you can join in.



International Aid Trust, The Galleries, Croft Mill, Pall Mall, Chorley, PR7 3LT www.internationalaidtrust.org.uk tel: 01772 611000 email: <u>office@internationalaidtrust.org.uk</u> Patron: Sir Lindsay Hoyle MP Patron: The Lord Shuttleworth KG KCVO Patron: Baroness Cox of Queensbury Registered Charity No. 1086597 Company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales No. 4167908 VAT No. 652 6793 08