



PRESS RELEASE

Trussell Trust Charity Shop Team is best in UK!

The UK Association of Charity Shops awards The Trussell Trust's Salisbury shop 'Shop Team of the Year Award'

The Trussell Trust's charity shop, ReStore, has beaten competition from 6,800 UK shops including major high street names to win the Association of Charity Shop's prestigious 'Shop Team of the Year' award. The first place shield was presented to the team at a glittering awards ceremony in Stoke-on-Trent on Monday 6th July. Second and third places went to Cancer Research, Edinburgh and British Red Cross in Market Deeping.

The award recognises that ReStore in Salisbury is so much more than just a charity shop: it's a place that reaches out to the whole community. At ReStore you might be helped by a young lady with Downs Syndrome or served by a woman with Cerebral Palsy, and if you come into ReStore looking upset, someone will ask you if you are ok - because the team really does care.

Every week the Restore team meets and takes time to listen to people in distress. Recently, a young mother who was ready to end it all came to ReStore. Over coffee, Chrissy McAuley, Shop Manager, listened to her appalling tale of fear and abuse. The next day she phoned us to say 'you saved my life'.

Trussell Trust Director, Chris Mould, says 'We are absolutely delighted to receive this award. It's an amazing achievement and a real testament to the care and commitment of the shop team to the local community. We are so thrilled to have gained national recognition of the difference you can make to people's lives through a charity shop, I'd like to say a big well done to all our shop staff and volunteers.'

Shop Manager, Chrissie, says: 'I'm so proud of my team. We work really hard here to make sure that as well as selling stock, we are here to meet people at their point of need. We are so just so pleased to have won, it's a real privilege.'

Ends

Notes to the editor:

- The Association of Charity Shops is a nationwide organization with over 6,800 member shops across the UK.
- There were ten awards ranging from ‘Young Volunteer of the Year’ through to ‘Most Profitable Item’, but the ‘Shop Team of the Year’ was said by the judges to be the ‘most highly prized’ of all the awards.
- The Trussell Trust was founded 12 years ago to work with marginalised people in the UK and in Bulgaria. In the UK we run the Salisbury **foodbank**, supplying food boxes to those in crisis locally. Our **foodbank** network provides training and resources to those wishing to start their own **foodbank** nationwide; over 30 Trussell Trust **foodbanks** are now launched across the UK. Our social enterprise project focuses on developing cohesion, creativity and inclusion in the local community whilst also generating funds. In Bulgaria we run residential training centres for state care leavers and we introduce sustainable projects to marginalised Roma gypsy communities. We also support Lipnitza School, running respite camps, improving infrastructure and giving Christmas boxes.

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