

Follow-up Report on CReSt's Tuesday club Where can it operate in future?

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History

The Tuesday club was started in 2017 by Jill Preston and CReSt, with the support of One Norbiton. In its initial year it was getting a weekly attendance of between seven and 29 people and we served a total 475 sit-down meals from the kitchen in Piper Hall. In addition to food and advice, games such as Table Tennis, Scrabble and Pool were made available

The people who came were frequently homeless or had mental health problems. By 2018 the weekly attendance increased -ranging from between 16 to 57, a week. And a total of 2093 meals were served.

In 2019, attendance steadied ranging between 24 and 65 a week and a total of 2112 meals were served.

Before the pandemic in January and March 2020 weekly attendance varied between 32 and 52 and a total of only 488 meals were served.

The Pandemic and Food Bank

By the 24th of March 2020, the pandemic had created a lockdown. However, Jill and her Tuesday club volunteers continued running the Club in order to meet the now increased needs of our local population and they added a Food Bank outlet every Saturday. This additional service continued until the 31st of July 2021 when they welcomed the [1000th person to attend the club](#). NB over 60 of these attendees have been volunteer helpers/observers. During this time 237 adults and 81 children were seen, and we organised regular food parcels for 60 to get by home delivery.

By mid-October 2021 it was noted that our weekly attendance had risen by 36% to an average of around 70 and a high point of 90.

Analyses of attendees.

The pace of work has meant that detailed surveys of *all* our attendees have not been possible, but a series of samples have been analysed over time. On our website there is a summary of these See [1000th person to attend the club](#). During the pandemic we took the addresses of those attending the Food Bank. On 29/5/21 we analysed the data of 271 attendees **50% (137) lived on the estate** mostly in the tower blocks (5 were homeless)

At the time of writing (January 2023) we have had **1362 attendees** at the club with **over 20 different nationalities from Europe, Asia and Africa**. The numbers are now steadily increasing month by month See the table below.

Tuesday Club-Average Monthly Attendance 2022

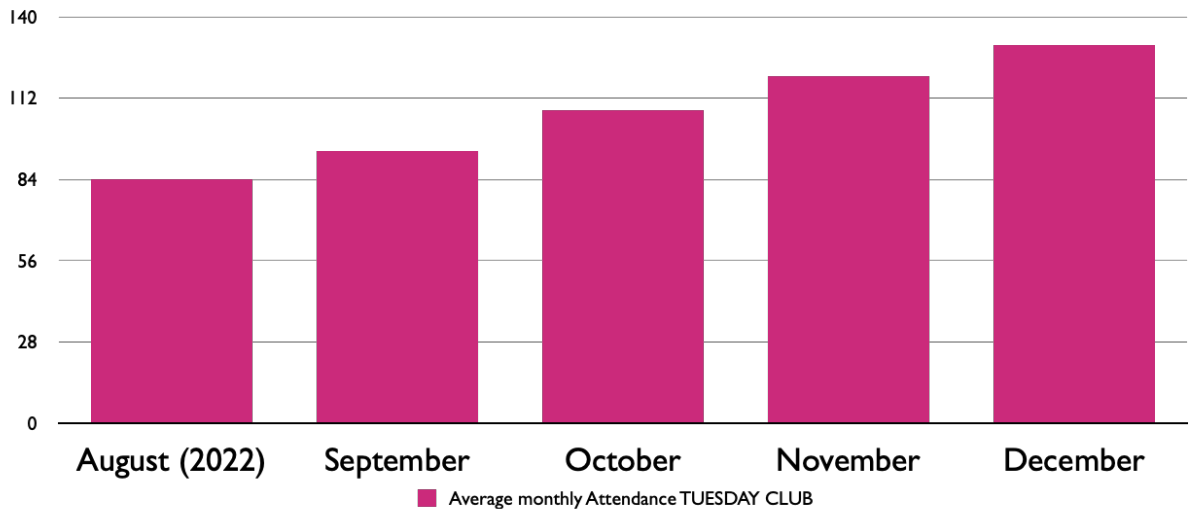


Table 1

	Average monthly Attendance TUESDAY CLUB
August 2022	84
September	94
October	108
November	120
December	130

Where all this need is coming from is as uncertain as is predicting how big it will eventually get. This week's attendance was 158 and on one Tuesday in December before Xmas it reached 164. We try to encourage our clients to help with the Food Bank and over five have become regular assistants.

Over a dozen statutory and charitable groups are now attending on a monthly basis as it has proved a very effective way of engaging with the needy. All three local LibDem councillors and our local MP (Ed Davey) have come to observe and help however Council Officers have not found much time for this.

Current Concerns

Our growing attendance is of real concern particularly as Piper Hall is scheduled to be demolished at the end of this month in preparation for regeneration. **We do not consider that the interim Halls provision (a refurbished Queen Mary's Hall) will be adequate for food storage or operation. (Comparative floor areas have been requested but not yet provided). Unless a solution is found soon despite the obvious need we are meeting we will be forced to close.**