



Arrival on Polish / Ukraine border





Above and left our first meeting and delivery of pickup / medical aid to Anastasia a nurse working on the front line with combat troops. The pickup to be used to collect the wounded and then to be taken to field hospitals. Anastasia was only in Lviv having travelled overnight so as to be able to attend a funeral returning immediately thereafter. By 10:00 that morning the pickup was off to the paint shop and then the front.



Delivery of two pickups and medical aid for men in and around Bakhmut /Avdiivka. Here is the team with three combatants from r to l a member of the territorial defence who had been in Kreminna, a marine who had fought in Mariupol and Vuhledar and an ethnic Tartar from Crimea, now a sniper but prior to 2014 a breeder of Arab horses. All had been injured but were returning to fight. Their mood was sanguine but realistic as to the task ahead. Our trauma aid and pickups supplemented what was provided by the government which of necessity was limited.



The two ladies with the traditional headdresses were volunteers from Kiev who help supply a train bringing badly injured soldiers from the front to hospitals elsewhere in Ukraine. Their day jobs were working in a chocolate factory where one was a shop steward! We sent them off with a trailer and carload of medical aid they had specified.

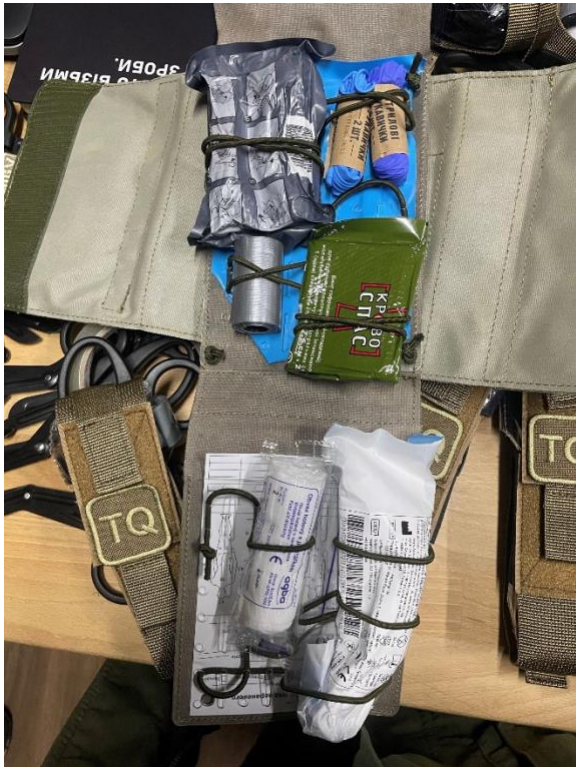


Here we are delivering the ambulance full of aid which was blessed (as were we) together with a dousing of copious quantities of Holy water prior to its delivery for civilian use in Kherson. The deputy chief of police attended (we must be getting old as he looked as if he was only recently out of Uni) and who was arranging for delivery to the south.





Volunteers making webbing for the armed forces. As the war continues into its second year (of the full scale invasion) the determination to help remains but it is harder to find volunteers as belts have had to be tightened given the harsh economic realities facing the population.



Volunteers packing Individual First Aid Kits (IFAKs) for soldiers



One of the military cemeteries in Lviv. These are replicated in towns across the country. By the evening of the day when these photos were taken there were three fresh graves dug since the morning.

All the graves are poignant reminders of the cost of the war, not least that shown below with a child's drawing of his or her father.



Paul Parsons 10th of April 2023

