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Charity No: 1100971

Newsletter

Autumn 2009

The Annual General Meeting of North East Help Link took place on 11th July and was held, once again, at Ryhope Pentecostal Church. We are extremely grateful to members of the church for their hospitality. Several Trustees took part in the Thanksgiving Service and the NEHL Secretary gave a presentation of the events leading to the sale of the old bus and the purchase and preparation of the new vehicle.

Brian and John our street workers brought the new vehicle for everyone to see and also brought a number of our clients along to share their experiences with us. Everyone present was impressed with the remarks made by our clients and the way that they felt valued in the way in which they were treated by Brian and John and our volunteers and in being seated in comfort while they ate their meal.



The Trust became acquainted with a company called Fairbridge which operates throughout the country from 18 centres, training young people in various skills. The "Grubs up" project consists of a number of young people working on allotments learning skills in planting and harvesting. Hampers are made up which include the

produce, recipe ideas and food which was donated by Sainsbury's of Middlesbrough. The hampers are then donated to organisations such as ours who help the needy in

the area. Ray Mallan the Middlesbrough Mavor of visited Fairbridge to see the completed work by the people, and is young pictured here with the people as they young presented hamper to a Brian McAnaney. It is hoped that our connection with



this project will be continued and developed.

The long hot "Barbecue Summer" which didn't arrive is definitely over, and it's time to give the lawns their final cut.



As part of my own fundraising activity , I have enjoyed the challenge this year in between the raindrops of cutting one of the largest lawns I have seen which belongs to a couple who are our supporters. The cups of coffee and biscuits and general chinwag with them both have

been a pleasure, and I look forward to next year.

Examples of fundraising events which have taken place during the summer period are:

- A Coffee Morning and Sale of Work which raised £250.00.
- A Soup and Stottie Event which raised over £180.00.



- A Pie and Peas supper/ Quiz Night which raised over £60.00
- A donation from a Church was specifically directed to sleeping bags which is a tremendous help to all those sleeping in the open air now that autumn is here.

It was unfortunate that the bag pack at Sainsbury's of Washington had to be cancelled because of lack of support. It is hoped that we will be able to organise another which will not be on a Sunday or when so many people are on holiday.

Our thanks again to all who continue to support us through this difficult financial period.

Special thanks go to Sainsbury's at Washington for their donations of food on a regular basis and to the team from Barclay's Contact Centre for their presence at kitchens and money to buy food, and to all the individuals and Churches without whose help we would not survive.

God Bless You All.

Contact Details

To donate tinned food, clothing, or blankets, contact Carl Heron (Executive Officer)

☎ (0191) 5368637 to arrange collection

To make a donation of money, contact Eric Southwick (Treasurer)

(0191) 5812233

(0191) 5813999

To let us know of any fundraising events etc, please contact Jean Cansfield (Secretary) with details of date, time and venue.

2 07788 983746

Fund-Raising Activities

(Contact Jean Cansfield for further information on any item)

- Anne Chisholm will attempt to produce watercolour paintings of buildings, landscapes, flowers (NO people or animals!) from photographs or pictures.
- Pauline Blyth is willing to try to sell unwanted items on e-Bay.
- Lawn cutting (Sunderland Area)
 Please contact George Carlyon
 (0191) 5211217