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Charity No: 1100971

Newsletter

Autumn 2010

The Annual General Meeting of North East Help Link Trust took place on Friday 16th July 2010 at South Hetton Church and commenced at 7.00PM. Friday night was chosen instead of the customary Saturday afternoon in the hope that more people would attend, but unfortunately the numbers did not increase. We are extremely grateful to our friends at South Hetton Church for their hospitality. The Secretary gave a Powerpoint presentation of the work over the past twelve months.

Our invited speaker, the Manager of Centrepoint in Sunderland, was unable to attend but was ably replaced by her Deputy Manager who talked of his



experience of working with young people who are now homeless and suffer from drugs and drink problems similar to many of our clients. His interesting 20 minute talk on various aspects of their work

seemed to pass very quickly because we could relate to everything he said.

The meeting was informed of the resignation of our Treasurer Eric Southwick who had served NEHL since 2004. It is due to Eric's excellent service and expertise that the Trust's financial situation is in by far the best shape that it has ever been, and all the Trustees are extremely grateful to him for this. Finding someone to take over from Eric was one of many problems we have faced over the last few months, but each time our

prayers have been answered. Almost before we had gathered our thoughts Moira Cansfield offered to take on this mammoth task, which was gratefully accepted at a recent Trustees meeting.



The kitchens are as busy as ever with attendances at Newcastle on a Sunday Night regularly reaching 50. The average attendances over the past few weeks at Middlesbrough kitchens have been 28, and at Stockton 27 while Darlington on a Wednesday Night and Newcastle on a Thursday afternoon have averaged 25. It is encouraging to hear of some of our young clients who manage to find accommodation and others

securing work albeit part time but never the less a major step in their lives. Unfortunately we still hear of some of our clients being mugged or their accommodation broken into and burgled of the little possessions they have.

Fundraising.

The fee for a stall was again donated by one of our supporters for the Annual Craft Fair which was held at Cleadon Methodist Church, where three of our



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

trustees and one supporter were in attendance and over £90 was raised.

An award winning photographer offered his services free of charge, to help produce a Calendar for 2011. He visited a number of our kitchens where some of our clients volunteered to have their photographs taken. The price of these Calendars will be £6.95 and further information will be on the website shortly.



We are extremely grateful to all Churches and Organisations who have donated food and monetary gifts from their Harvest Festivals, and to all of our supporters who make regular contributions of food and

clothing throughout the year. Our Bakery friends at Birtley and Barclays, along with Sainsbury's of Washington, also continue to support us.

And now to organise our Christmas Celebrations.....

Contact Details

To make a donation of money, contact Moira Cansfield (Treasurer) \$\alpha\$ 07733365607

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