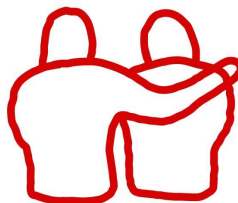


NORTH EAST **HELP LINK**

Showing God's Love In Action



Newsletter Autumn 2012

www.nehl-trust.org.uk
Charity No : 1100971

The summer of 2012 has given everyone a great deal to remember. Our Queen's 60 years Celebrations and the Olympic Games have held our attention, whilst one of the wettest summers since records began left many homeless with floods all over the country. The only occasion on which a kitchen was cancelled due to the weather was in late September when most of the roads were gridlocked with traffic due to excess water.

In July NEHL received a blow to the operation with the resignation of Brian MacAnaney, their long serving Street Work Manager. The Trustees wish to thank Brian for his hard work over the past 15 years. His experience will be greatly missed by everyone. We wish him well in his future employment. Another blow was the news that we could no longer use the preparation kitchen at Hope

House. We would like to express our gratitude to the owners who have allowed us to use the facilities free of charge for many years. The last problem, which has emerged over past months, is that some of our clients lack the knowledge and confidence in applying for the benefits which are

available and so miss out on help and support at a time when they need it most. It is good to report that each of these setbacks will be resolved shortly.

A reorganisation of the workload and the usual job advertising and interviewing led to John Robinson taking on the role of Street Kitchen Team Leader on Teesside and the appointment of Paul



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

☎ 07788 983746

Robinson (no relation) as Street Kitchen Team Member on Teesside. John and Paul began these new roles on 22nd October. Funding has been obtained to employ a Community Support Worker, initially for 6 months, to assist our clients in their applications for the benefits and help to which they are entitled. Paul Haigh, who has a tremendous amount of experience in this field, joined us on 1st September.

Whilst this was happening we were trying hard to find a suitable preparation kitchen. The three Teesside Councils were approached about suitable premises. Middlesbrough Council responded extremely quickly and gave a list of potential units. A visit was arranged and a unit in Middlesbrough was identified as very suitable, following some adaptation. Our interest in the property was registered immediately and we are in process of agreeing a lease with the Council. We hope to have the details finalised soon.

During this time Grange Road Baptist Church, Darlington generously agreed to allow us to use their kitchen for the preparation of the food for our street kitchens and this has been carried out by John, with support from Paul Haigh and from Trustees. This has meant that the provision of hot meals and drinks has continued at the Teesside kitchens throughout the period when no NEHL preparation kitchen was available.

The kitchen at Newcastle on Sunday evenings continues to have large numbers attending and, they too, welcome the hot meals and drinks and the support which is offered.

Reports from the Newcastle Kitchen

"Sean visited the kitchen again to tell us how well he was doing with cutting out the alcohol. He is so grateful for the support and encouragement we have given him. It is good when we have

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

positive news now and again”.

Reports from the Middlesbrough Kitchen

“A distressed guy arrived in a wheelchair. He was lost and afraid. We contacted his care home and returned him safely”.

“Sally has split up with her boyfriend because of his drug taking”.

“Vicky is in jail for two weeks for an assault on a police officer”.

Reports from the Stockton Kitchen

“A 47 year old guy was very drunk, says he does not expect to live to be 50”.

“Dean is happy that he is doing well on his drug reduction plan”.

“Lisa had been hit by her partner. The police were called and they sorted it out”

Reports from the Darlington Kitchen

“Susan is doing well off drugs and attending college cookery course”.

“Martin was jumped by gang as he was sleeping rough in park”.

“Emily brought a birthday cake for Ailsa, who was touched by the kind thought”.

And finally.....

The NEHL are again very grateful for your generosity and support with “Harvest” donations, clothing and monetary gifts and the continued support from Birtley Bakery.

Contact Details

To donate tinned food, clothing, or blankets, contact Carl Heron (Chairman)
☎ (0191) 5368637 to arrange collection

To make a donation of money, contact Moira Cansfield (Treasurer)
☎ 07733365607

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