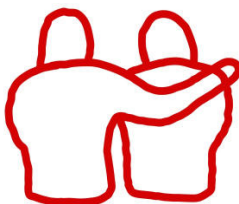


**NORTH EAST**  
**HELP LINK**  
Showing God's Love In Action



[www.nehl-trust.org.uk](http://www.nehl-trust.org.uk)

Charity No : 1100971

## **Newsletter**

Fourth Quarter 2007

On behalf of all at North East Help Link, may I wish everyone a Happy New Year, and pray that 2008 may be even more successful than 2007. The past year has again shown an increase in demand for our services, but God has provided our workers, helpers and fundraisers with enthusiasm and energy to make sure all who need our help receive it. The Christmas celebrations were similar to last year, with over 200 presents consisting of toothbrush and paste, flannel and soap, some had scarves, gloves and hats all of were donated throughout the year. The venues at Middlesbrough, Stockton and Newcastle were the same and around 20 from Middlesbrough attended Brian's Church and enjoyed



fellowship there. The meals had a festive flavour with mince pies and custard which were donated from Bankhead Church.

Good news at Christmas time seems to have more meaning than any other time of the year. One piece of news was given to me by Alan, a former worker of NEHL. In his present employment he was asked to make a delivery of goods to a playgroup at Gosforth in Newcastle. When he had completed his delivery the lady in charge told Alan that there was someone outside who would like to have a word with him. Alan went outside but didn't recognise the man, who went on to tell Alan that he was one of the last residents of Holly House and was evicted for using drugs. He went on to say that he was now clean from drugs, was married and at the playgroup to collect his child. He also mentioned that his wife was expecting another child and they all attend a church in Newcastle.

Fundraising in the last three months has been quite hectic. At Ryhope Church there have been three coffee mornings and sale of goods, two entertainment evenings from ladies choirs, a Pie and Peas Supper and Quiz Night and a Carol Service given by Ryhope Churches Choir, where every denomination in Ryhope took part. There have also been three praise nights, the first at Murton Church, then Bankhead and the last at Boldon Church. These nights are always lively events where everyone enjoys the fellowship, with the next one arranged for February 1st at Hebburn Church. The last fundraising event which I'm delighted to report was a bag pack at Sainsburys of Washington, which took place in the last week before Christmas. In the past few months the support from the staff and management at this store has been tremendous.



There were six of our trustees among the volunteer bag packers, and the customers responded by donating over £700.00. This store continues to donate food on a regular basis which is greatly appreciated by all at NEHL and those who need it.

As we move into 2008 can I just say once more on behalf of all at NEHL a sincere "thank you" to everyone who has supported us in the past in any way. Whether it be gifts of food, clothing or money collectively we can and do make a difference. 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)

☎ 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.
- Hand knitted fashion scarves are available.
- Lawn cutting (Sunderland Area)  
Please contact George Carlyon  
☎ (0191) 5211217