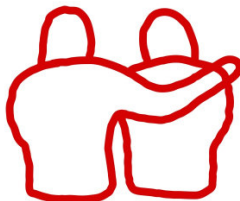


NORTH EAST
HELP LINK

Showing God's Love In Action



www.nehl-trust.org.uk

Charity No : 1100971

Newsletter

Summer 2009

Another three months have passed in which there have been some positive and encouraging events happening at the Help link. There is no doubt that the introduction of the new vehicle has been the most important single feature which has lifted the morale of our clients, our workers Brian and John and all our volunteers in the Middlesbrough/ Stockton area. The words of appreciation and delight from our clients show that they feel they are being treated very well in having somewhere welcoming and comfortable to sit. Even in their times of despair, there have been smiles on their faces. Our thanks go to everyone who worked so hard to get the vehicle on the road.



A producer from Radio Tees contacted us after conducting an internet search for soup kitchens active in the North East. She requested interviews with workers, volunteers and a Trustee as a feature for the Lisa McCormick Show. The interviews were conducted at the Stockton kitchen whilst the trailer was still being used, two weeks before the new vehicle went into service. Lisa

McCormick conducted very sensitive fact finding interviews, showing a lot of understanding and feeling for the work being done. The broadcast show gave a very positive picture of the work of the Trust in Middlesbrough, Stockton and Newcastle.

St Andrew's Church in Newcastle, which has hosted our Thursday afternoon free of charge for many years, for which we are very grateful, will be undergoing refurbishment shortly. The work could last until Christmas. Though the notice was short, Brian managed to secure a suitable venue at a nearby church at a cost of £22 per week. Donations towards this expense would be gratefully received.

The Sunday evening kitchen in Blandford Square car park is continuing in rather difficult circumstances, since we do not have a vehicle for towing the catering trailer from Birtley.

Numbers at this kitchen continue to grow and the food and hot drinks are served from car boots, in the way in which Walter and Anne began the work all those years ago. We would appreciate your prayers for the resolution of this problem.



The Sponsored "Walk for Walter's Work" in Sunderland IM Circuit.

On Saturday 20th June, 23 enthusiastic and hardy supporters of North East Help Link Trust set out from New Silksworth I M Church, after a welcome from the Church and

some rousing singing, to dodge the raindrops on their way to Ryhope. Sunshine and showers were the order of the day as the group did the easy downhill section to Ryhope IM Church

where light refreshments awaited them. Then came the walk back to Silksworth, this time following the cycle track which wended through hilly woodland. The damp, but enjoyable, event concluded with an epilogue from Joy Elkins and very welcome tea and cakes at Silksworth Church. A number of



sponsor forms are still to come in but, at the time of going to print, approximately £500 has been raised.

Work on the new website is almost complete and it is planned that up to date information/news will be added on a regular basis. It will also have the facility for visitors to make donations on-line through "Paypal".

The next Fund raising event will be a "Bag pack" at Sainsbury's, The Galleries, Washington on Sunday 6th September 2009 for which volunteers are needed. If you would like to take part please contact the Registered Office. If you have news of fundraising events in your area, we would be happy to include it in our next issue.

Our thanks go to everyone who has helped in any way with donations of food, money, clothing and time. 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

✉ 51 The Avenue,
Seaham,
Co. Durham
SR7 8NS

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

☎ 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