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**Charity No: 1100971** 

**Newsletter** 

Winter 2008

The past three months have been as busy as ever for the workers, volunteers and supporters of NEHL Trust. Fund raising and preparing for Christmas has been very challenging



to say the least. Throughout the year everyday useful items have been donated by individuals and churches ,along with our business supporters Barclays at Doxford Park and Sainsbury's of Washington. Around 200 gift parcels were made up by Sheila and Carl Heron with

family and friends, to be given out at the parties which Brian and John had organised. On the day of the trustees sub committee meeting with Brian and John "Santa" arrived with the said gifts, and the first of the three course meal parties was being prepared.





Every recipient was so grateful for the kindness shown by our supporters, our workers Brian and John and all the volunteers for the work they do not only at Christmas but throughout the year.

There is no doubt that 2008 has been a difficult year for many people but for everyone connected with NEHL it has been a successful year. The generosity of individuals, churches and local companies has been tremendous.



- \* A Praise night was held at Bank Head Church and was led by Joan Graham with Carl Heron providing the music. Thanks to all at the church for preparing a delicious meal at the end of the night.
- \* A coffee morning and bric-a-brac sale was held at Ryhope Church, which together with a generous donation and sale of Jean Cansfield's scarves of £100.00 raised more than £400.00.
- \* The collection taken at Ryhope Churches Carol Service, of £180.00, was also donated to NEHL.

\* Another bag pack was allowed at Sainsbury's Store of Washington which raised over £700.00 , was manned by volunteers from IM Churches, business associates of Sheila Heron and a staff member from Sainsbury's helped make this possible.





- \* Staff at Barclays of Doxford Park have also donated vouchers, valued at around £300.00, which were rewards given to staff for achieving work targets. These will be used to buy food for the Help Link.
- \* The new used vehicle which I mentioned in the last newsletter will be arriving shortly. It will be stored at Boldon Church until it is completely fitted out to meet the requirements of health and safety/hygiene inspection before it can be taken into use. More information and pictures in the next newsletter.



Brian's Report.



- \* Helped Joe to get into a local bed and breakfast.
- \* Got Kuba, a Polish homeless guy, a job selling "The Big Issue", and introduced him to a local Polish worker to help him find accommodation. Unfortunately he is not entitled to any housing benefit and was sent to Bishop Auckland to live in a caravan.
- \* Carla from Erimus Housing in Middlesbrough came to help any people sleeping rough to find accommodation, because of sub-zero temperatures and threat of death.
- \* Andy who lives in Middlesbrough has a serious drug problem and has been put on a 6:00pm curfew for shoplifting to feed his habit. His visits to our kitchen have to be very short.

Jim a Pastor at Newcastle is now visiting our kitchen there on a Thursday afternoon.

## **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)

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