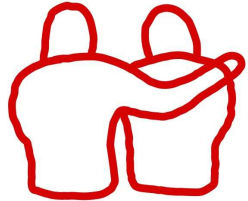


NORTH EAST
HELP LINK
Showing God's Love In Action



www.nehl-trust.org.uk

Charity No : 1100971

Newsletter

Winter 2011

The Trustees of North East Help Link wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year and hope that everyone had a very pleasant Christmas.

It is usual at this time of the year for organisations to look back over the past twelve months and evaluate what went well and things which weren't quite so successful. It is pleasing to report that, due to your generous support, we have been able to provide meals for increasing numbers of people at our kitchens and, where our clients have managed to get accommodation, also help them to obtain essential household goods. For those who are, or become, homeless and have the misfortune to live on the



streets, we have been able to supply sleeping bags and warm clothing.

It has long been an NEHL Christmas tradition to provide a Christmas meal at each of our locations. This is much appreciated by our clients. This

year we had turkey and all the trimmings plus vegetables followed by mince pies/fruit pie/Yule log and custard. A wide range of supporters both in the North East area and in the North West collected and donated items for the Christmas gifts which are given to all clients. Monetary gifts were also received towards the purchase of gift items. The individual presents were wrapped by "Santa's Little Helpers", at Ryhope for the Teesside kitchens and at Boldon for the

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

☎ 07788 983746

Newcastle kitchen.

An added bonus for the Newcastle kitchen on the Sunday before Christmas was "Take Note", a twenty strong choir from Wickham, who sang carols while the meal was being served, which added to the festive experience.



The vehicle which we were able to buy in May 2011 now has the NEHL livery applied to it. The vehicle is working well and the catering equipment, which was donated, is proving a great success.

The new catering equipment which was donated for use at Hope House preparation kitchen is also proving its worth. Craig, one of our volunteers, and Brian are shown hard at work in the kitchen.



Some of the volunteers have been

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

with us for a few years but for various reasons some have to leave. We are fortunate that it seems that as one leaves another arrives. Six separate individuals have expressed an interest in volunteering in the last few weeks.

The clients at Middlesbrough kitchen decided they would like a minute's silence to mark the anniversary of the death of one of their friends, a long time client named Terry. This really showed the sense of community which exists amongst the clients. On arrival at the Middlesbrough kitchen one afternoon, Brian and John found that two men were sleeping rough in the Church grounds not far from where the kitchen is set up. They were provided with sleeping bags as well as hot meals and drinks.

We continue to be blessed with generous donations from our regular supporters. Birtley Bakery donates food every weekend, Bank Head IM Church supplied mince pies for the Christmas meal and Middlesbrough Rotary Club gave a generous donation towards the cost of the Christmas meals on Teesside.

Please note, that even though there has been a change in Treasurer NEHL's address remains the same. We are very grateful to Eric Southwick for this.

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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