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**Charity No: 1100971** 

Newsletter

Summer 2010



There are many reasons for men and women of all ages needing the kind of which our charity provides, and often verv through no fault of their own they themselves find in desperate

need just to have someone to talk to and listen to their problems. The present financial crisis which our country is facing brings out the best in people, but often there are those who seek to add misery and financial burdens on those who are penniless The company which make it very easy to borrow money and then charge 260% APR is one example which is sometimes the start of a downward spiral. Having said all that it is little wonder that all our kitchens are busier than ever. We know that in the past cheap wine / beer and drugs have been the escape route for many but now it appears that some are turning to witchcraft.

During the past few months the Sunday Night kitchen at Newcastle has seen over 40 on regular occasions, and it has still been possible to arrange accommodation in flats or hostels for many who would otherwise be on the street.

The kitchens at Middlesbrough and Stockton have similar problems, but a recent report tells of a long time client who was a drug user came to our Middlesbrough kitchen and declared that he intended

going to church. At the service he made a commitment and that night was the first night in over 20 years he went to sleep without taking drugs. Another young man who had just been released from prison without his possessions found his way to our kitchen and was in a distressed state because he realised he would be spending the night on the street. After checking his story was true we helped to get him home with a return ticket to collect his belongings the next day, and he became quite emotional when he realised that someone cares. A couple confided that they were struggling with their addiction. It was possible to find them somewhere to live and made an appointment with a drug worker. They were so thankful that they now help at the kitchens and have recently become Christians.

The team from Barclays have been as busy as ever. They won an award for work in the community with a substantial prize which had to be donated to a charity



of their choice. They had no hesitation in giving this to NEHL and also helped to spend the money buying food Sainsburys who in made turn а donation which has been used for fuel for the vehicle. The

## **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



same team attended kitchen at our Stockton where they served the food which thev had provided. and in addition they also brought selection of clothing which thev had collected from their colleagues.

The Walk for Walter's Work this year took place on the 19th of June, and for the second time the route was between Penshaw Monument and South Hylton IM Church. This time however the walk started at the Church travelled to the Monument and returned to the Church a distance of just over 5 miles. There were 22 walkers of all ages who completed the hike and enjoyed fellowship and refreshments at the Church.

A number of coffee mornings and other events have taken place which we have not been informed about, so please let us know in advance in order to put things on the web site.

Thanks to everyone who continue to support us in so many different ways from all involved at the Help Link and rest assured all your kindness is shown to all our clients.

## **Contact Details**

To make a donation of money, contact Moira Cansfield (Treasurer) \$\alpha\$ 07733365607

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