

NewstrAid newsletter

Issue One | Autumn 2019

WELCOME...

...to our first NewstrAid Newsletter which we will be producing quarterly for our thousands of supporters across the independent retail sector to make you more aware of the help we give to hundreds of current and former colleagues from across our own industry.

Whilst NewstrAid is here for anyone who works or has worked in selling or distributing newspapers and magazines, over two thirds of our beneficiaries are from the retail sector. As you will know, being a retailer can be a challenging occupation, and many who work in the sector are on low wages or find it difficult to provide adequately for retirement or for unexpected issues such as poor health.

In these situations, NewstrAid can provide invaluable help, either with **regular financial support** through the year, or by providing **one-off grants** for things like a new boiler or washing machine, a mobility scooter or perhaps even a much needed holiday. We also provide **state benefit and debt relief advice**, have the **Fresh Start Assist** programme for trading newsagents who may have health issues or who have been victims of crime and an **Anxiety Helpline** for anyone who is finding it hard to cope or just needs some emotional support.

We can only provide these services because of the incredible support we

receive from across the industry, including from thousands of independent retailers like you. We also rely on personal referrals to help us connect with people who may need our help so, if you know of anyone who has been involved in selling newspapers and magazines and who may benefit from a helping hand for any reason, please ask them to contact us at NewstrAid using the contact details below. All enquiries are treated in the strictest confidence and a single call or email may relieve distress for someone at a time of need.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find real examples of the type of support we can give and we will continue to keep you informed through future issues. We will also give you updates on any new initiatives we are launching and let you know of some of the great things people do to help, whether that involves climbing mountains, throwing themselves out of airplanes, or just giving a bit of their time.

So, welcome to our first NewstrAid Newsletter. Please let us know what you think and thank you for your support.

Mike Mirams
CEO, NewstrAid



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Fundraising Spotlight

NewstrAid
The helping hand of the Newstrade
OLD BEN

WE ARE THE HELPING HAND OF THE NEWS TRADE



FINANCIAL SUPPORT



GRANTS



STATE BENEFITS ADVICE



SUPPORT FOR DISABLED & CARERS



HELP FOR CHILDREN



ALMONER HOME VISITS



DEBT ADVICE



ANXIETY SUPPORT

FREEPHONE:
0800 917 8616
www.newstraid.org.uk



HOW WE COULD HELP YOU!

NEWSTRAID OFFERS A WIDE RANGE OF HELP AND SUPPORT TO PEOPLE FROM THE NEWS TRADE WHO HAVE FALLEN ON HARD TIMES.

Fresh Start Assist

A scheme specifically aimed at helping newsagents to readjust to life after retail if they have decided to cease trading. Victims of retail crime can also access financial and emotional support via this scheme.

ACE fund for Children

Almoner Home Visits

Regular visits from a dedicated volunteer, associated with the news trade.

State Benefits Advice

Debt Advice Counselling

Anxiety Support

Freephone 0800 138 6552

One-off Samaritan Grants

to fund individual items such as white goods or mobility aids and

Regular Grants

for those who are unable to work or are retired and in financial need



IF YOU OR A COLLEAGUE NEEDS HELP WITH ANY OF THE ABOVE, PLEASE CONTACT OUR WELFARE TEAM ON (FREEPHONE) 0800 917 8616

TRUE OR FALSE?

“NewstrAid only help people who are retired.”

FALSE!

NewstrAid helps anyone who currently works or has worked in the news trade and has fallen on hard times. This includes people of all ages and people who are working as well as those who are retired. We have a range of services and support available to people in all sorts of circumstances including anxiety support, Fresh Start Assist and one off grants to help those who are waiting for Universal Credit.

DID YOU KNOW?

IN 2018 NEWSTRAID...

SUPPORTED 781 BENEFICIARIES WITH REGULAR GRANTS

PURCHASED 24 WASHING MACHINES, COOKERS & FRIDGES FOR PEOPLE IN NEED

PAID OUT A TOTAL OF £700,642 TO PEOPLE IN NEED.

UPCOMING NEWSTRAID EVENTS...

2 December
Old Ben Carol Service

6th December
East Midlands AC
Christmas Lunch

17 December
East of England
Old Ben Christmas
Lunch

For more information about any of the above events please email oldben@newstraid.org.uk

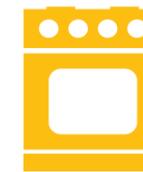
WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES...

ONE-OFF GRANTS

Mr and Mrs Brown were self-employed newsagents for 12 years. They contacted us because they were only just managing to keep up with their bills, following the closure of their shop at the beginning of the year.

Their cooker had recently broken and they had no savings to replace it.

NewstrAid were able to fund the replacement of their cooker and offer financial help and advice through the Fresh Start Assist scheme.



ANXIETY SUPPORT

Newsagent Mrs Smith contacted NewstrAid via our website after she read about us in the NFRN magazine.

She had endured an attempted armed robbery whilst alone in her shop and although she managed to foil the robbery, the long term effects had taken their toll and she was now suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and felt very unsafe in the shop and, at times, in her own home. In addition, her family had accumulated a large amount of debt and were having to find alternative living accommodation due to their landlord selling the house they were renting.

Her most immediate need was assistance with counselling, indeed her words were 'I just need someone to talk to'.

NewstrAid was able to organise a wellbeing assessment for her through Anxiety UK and a further 6 therapy sessions to help her deal with the trauma she had gone through.



FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND ACE CHILDREN'S GRANT

Mr James was suffering from non-curable lung cancer and had not been able to work in his shop for some time. Once he ceased trading completely he and his family were left with very little to meet their living costs. They were facing a significant mortgage repayment each month and had two 14 year old boys to support.

NewstrAid was able to award the family 2 months' mortgage repayments from the Fresh Start Assist Scheme, and a further £500 from the ACE Children's Fund for back to school costs. In addition they were given an ongoing regular benefit payment to help during Mr James' illness.



Fresh Start Assist



Deciding to cease trading is a very difficult decision to make, but NewstrAid's **Fresh Start Scheme** is here to support you while you re-adjust to life after business. If the time has come to pull down the shutters, you are not alone.

We can help give you a Fresh Start by providing:

- Anxiety Support Service
- Welfare grant, including help with home relocations (subject to financial assessment)
- State Benefit advice
- Advice on family welfare issues
- Support for disabled carers
- One to one personal support
- Access to free professional debt advice and funding for debt solutions (IVO/DRO/Bankruptcy, etc)

Call NewstrAid now Freephone 0800 917 8616



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WAYS YOU CAN HELP...

THERE ARE LOTS OF WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT THE WORK OF NEWSTRAID.

1 Spread the word... Let us know whenever you come across someone from the news trade who has fallen on hard times. If we don't know about them, we can't help them. If they don't know about us, they cannot ask us for help.

2 Join an Area Committee... Look out for NewstrAid events in your local area. Your local Area Committee may organise events where all sections of the news trade get together, have fun and raise money in aid of our beneficiaries.

3 Become an almoner... An almoner is a volunteer who visits our beneficiaries. Why not give up a little of your time to improve the life of someone not as fortunate as yourself? Our beneficiaries value the financial help we give them, but they value the visits made to them by our volunteer almoners even more.

4 Continue to contribute... each week via your news sheet. Thousands of newsagents across the country have for many years contributed this way.



FUNDRAISING SPOTLIGHT

Congratulations and a huge thank you to a team from the East Midlands Area Committee who successfully tackled the iconic National Three Peaks Challenge in June this year raising thousands of pounds for NewstrAid.

This gruelling mental and physical endurance race involved climbing the highest peaks in Scotland, England and Wales - Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon - within 24 hours.

Seven of the 11 people who started out on the challenge managed to complete it within the timeframe which is an extraordinary feat considering only around 40 per cent of those who tackle the challenge manage it in less than a day.

Despite atrocious weather forecasts, conditions were favourable although a storm on Ben Nevis made walking extremely treacherous (two other walkers in the area were struck by lightning that day and one was unfortunately killed).

Collectively, the team raised **£6,000** for NewstrAid for which we are extremely grateful.

Have you got an idea for a fundraising challenge in aid of NewstrAid?

Contact us for hints and tips on setting up a fundraising page and using our text donate service to raise money. Email lindsay@newstraid.org.uk for more information.

PRIZE DRAW

WIN THE CHANCE TO BE ENTERED INTO OUR PRIZE DRAW TO WIN **£150 IN AMAZON VOUCHERS!**

COURTESY OF REACH PLC

We are looking for feedback on how to improve our website and make it as useful as possible for all the people we work with.

If you have any comments about our current website or any ideas on how we could improve it please email us with the subject line Website to: oldben@newstraid.org.uk

In addition if you have any general feedback about NewstrAid and the work we do, please don't hesitate to contact us at the same email address.

All feedback received before Monday 2nd December will be entered into the prize draw. Terms and conditions apply. See the NewstrAid website for details www.newstraid.org.uk.

MAKING REGULAR CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you for making a regular contribution to NewstrAid through your news wholesaler's weekly invoice, either as a 40p a week Retailer Charitable Donation (RCD) / NewstrAid Charitable Donation, or by membership of the NewstrAid 200 Club / Old Ben 200/400.

As we hope you will have seen from this newsletter, your money allows us to make a real difference to the lives of people from our own industry who need help. We are very grateful for this support. However, if you would like to cancel your Retailer Charitable Donation, your membership of the 200 Club, or both, please do one of the following:

- Email your supplying wholesaler using the relevant address from the following:
Menzies Distribution: enquiries.headoffice@menziesdistribution.com or
Smiths News: mynewsaccount@smithsnews.co.uk
- Fill in the online form on our website: www.newstraid.org.uk/stop/
- Email NewstrAid at: oldben@newstraid.org.uk
- Write to us at: NewstrAid, Suite 2 Thremhall Estate, Start Hill, Bishop's Stortford CM22 7TD
- Call us on **01279 879569** or on **FREEPHONE 0800 917 8616**

You can also use any of these contact details to let us know that you no longer wish to receive this newsletter but please be aware that this will automatically cancel all contributions.



NewstrAid Benevolent Fund

Suites 1 & 2 Thremhall Estate, Start Hill, Bishops Stortford, Herts CM22 7TD

FREEPHONE: 0800 917 8616

www.newstraid.org.uk Tel: 01279 879569 oldben@newstraid.org.uk



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