

NewstrAid newsletter

Issue Two | Winter 2020

Welcome to the second edition of our Retailer Newsletter which is exclusively produced for all the independent retailers who currently support the work we do through a regular donation and/or participation in a 200 Club lottery.

We received some really positive feedback following our last newsletter which is summed up by the email we received below.

"Hi, just to say how nice it was to have a newsletter with the information of all you do, I pay my weekly contribution and not really aware of what you did. An amazing organisation that offers more support than I knew. I hope I will never need to use you, but it's comforting to know where you are. Thanks for all your hard work, Sharon, Powys"

In this edition we will be talking to the Chairman of NewstrAid's Board of trustees, Neil Jagger, who is also Chief

Operating Officer for Reach Nationals about how he started in the industry and how he sees the future of the news trade. Plus, we have included details of our in-work support scheme as well as real-life examples of how your support has allowed us to support colleagues from the news trade who are in need.

We hope very much that you enjoy reading about all the services we provide and the people we help. Thank you again for your continued support.

Mike Mirams and the NewstrAid team.

NewstrAid  OLD BEN
The helping hand of the Newstrade

New logo

We have recently refreshed our branding and updated our logo which can be seen throughout this newsletter. Having used the same logo for a number of years we felt it was time to freshen it up a little whilst keeping familiar elements such as our strapline – the helping hand of the news trade. The new look

will take us forward well into the 2020's and beyond. If you have any comments or feedback regarding our new look please do let us know. oldben@newstraid.org.uk

New promotional film

At the end of last year we created a new promotional film to help spread awareness about the kind of help NewstrAid can offer people from the news trade. To view the film please visit our website: newstraid.org.uk/our-latest-video/

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NewstrAid  OLD BEN
The helping hand of the Newstrade

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

Free Helpline:
0800 917 8616
www.newstraid.org.uk



In-work Support Scheme

Have you worked in this industry for more than 2 years? Are you experiencing hardship? **NewstrAid** could help

Our in-work support scheme offers a wide range of help and support for people in work who are going through a difficult time.

For example, applicants may have encountered:

- An unexpected family expense
- Ill health
- Redundancy
- Family breakdown
- Bereavement

How we help

We offer both financial assistance and general welfare support to people working in the news trade.

One-off welfare grants

Available to address specific needs for those who have encountered unexpected hardship*. Funding may be approved to help meet essential living costs, replace essential household appliances or disability equipment.

Anxiety Support

Our Anxiety Support Helpline is run in partnership with Anxiety UK and is available, free of charge, to anyone who is struggling to cope with day to day stress and are worried about their mental health.

State Benefit Advice Service

Our welfare team is trained to advise on all benefits and this includes working age schemes as well as benefits for those facing retirement. We can also advise those who work part time and have children or elderly relatives to care for.

Debt Advice

NewstrAid provides a dedicated Debt Advice Helpline in partnership with the Debt Advice Foundation, which is open to everyone with a news trade connection.

Information & Signposting

In cases where we cannot help directly, every effort will be made to refer people on to relevant organisations who can offer support.

Home Visiting Service:

Home visits are available to those who wish to discuss their situation away from the workplace. Our team of volunteers are happy to visit and offer personal one-to-one support.

If you or a colleague would like more information about what might be available, please contact the welfare team: 0800 917 8616 / oldben@newstraid.org.uk / www.newstraid.org.uk

*NB Those applying for financial support must have worked in the industry for a minimum of 2 years and will be subject to a means assessment.

Did you know?

IN 2019
NEWSTRAID...

AWARDED **229**
ONE-OFF GRANTS TO
FUND EVERYTHING
FROM LAPTOPS AND
HOLIDAYS TO
RECLINER CHAIRS.

AWARDED **70**
SURPRISE CHRISTMAS
GRANTS TO CHILDREN

FACILITATED OVER
1000 ALMONER VISITS
TO BENEFICIARIES

Upcoming NewstrAid Events

- 2nd April
East Midlands Quiz Night
- 15th April
North East Golf Day
- 26th April
Wessex Spring Walk
- 21st May
Lingfield Park Race Day
- 2nd June
South Wales Race Night
- 3rd June
Thames Valley Golf Day

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

True or False?

NewstrAid only provides financial help to pensioners.

False!

Around **30%** of our one-off grant beneficiaries are under the age of **60**.

Who's who at NewstrAid

Interview with Neil Jagger, Chief Operating Officer, Reach Nationals

Q. How long have you worked in the news trade and where did you start?

A. I left school and decided to take a year out to help pay my way through a French and History degree at Birmingham University, got a job with Yorkshire Post newspapers and fell in love with the industry. That was almost 40 years ago

Q. What 3 things helped you get to the position you are in today?

A. Hard work, enthusiasm for the industry and the people working in it and always wanting to win

Q. What is the biggest change you have seen in the industry during the time you have worked within it?

A. Internet access to free news provision when you want it, where you want it, how you want it and on what device you want it

Q. How do you think the industry is likely to change over the next 10 years?

A. More consolidation at all levels of the news supply chain from publisher to distributor to retailer. Digital first publishing will be the norm with newspapers occupying a very important but more niche position in the provision of news

Q. What is the biggest challenge you face in your current role?

A. Hitting the required profit number and the pressure this brings on the cost base – it's a juggling act to always maintain quality across the

newspaper portfolio but at a lower cost

Q. If you didn't work in the news trade, what do you think you would do for a living?

A. Who knows – I might even have been successful! But would I trade my career for anything else? Not in a million!

Q. How do you see the future for news retailers in the UK?

A. There are many campaigns praising the great British High Street – it's an institution and part of our heritage. News retailers are a fundamental part of that because newspapers and magazines are a special part of our lives. Keep the news category alive and well and news retailers will continue to be a fundamental part of British life and the free speech we all enjoy.

Q. How long have you been involved with NewstrAid?

A. I have been involved with NewstrAid for over 25 years when I served on the West Yorkshire Committee with Harry Slack, Gordon Morrish and Ossie Harrigan – 3 icons of the Leeds newsagents scene way back when

Q. What do you currently do for the charity?

A. I am Chairman of the Trustee Board

Q. Why do you support NewstrAid?

A. It's an industry I love and that has



looked after me and my family for all of my working life. It's the least that I and my colleagues at NewstrAid can do to help those in our industry that have been less fortunate and need some financial or emotional support

Q. Have you or anyone you know benefited from the support that NewstrAid provides and if so, what was the impact on your/their life?

A. Not directly however as an Almoner in Leeds I remember delivering a TV on Christmas Eve to a beneficiary whose TV had literally exploded days before. The sheer joy at my (or rather the TV's) arrival was one of the most heart-warming moments I have experienced

Q. In a nutshell... why do you think everyone in the news trade should support NewstrAid?

A. Because it's about fellowship, goodwill, caring and just being a decent person

Where your money goes



CASE STUDY 1: Helping families with the transition to Universal Credit

Miss P, an ex-newsagent with a young family, called NewstrAid in distress as she had recently been moved from Income Support to Universal Credit and had run out of money for the month. She was also being affected by the benefits changes as her income had been reduced under the new system. She was struggling and in desperate need for funds to help clear her rent arrears and help put food on the table.

NewstrAid were able to advise her regarding applying for a Discretionary Housing Payment and give her telephone numbers for her local authority and family support team to see if they could help her apply for further benefits. She

was also awarded with an emergency hardship grant to help with her rent arrears.



CASE STUDY 2: Support with Mobility Equipment

Mr G had been a newsagent for his entire working life and was now retired. After an illness resulted in him having his leg amputated, he contacted NewstrAid to see if we could help him pay for a mobility assessment from an Occupational Therapist as his mobility needs had now changed.

NewstrAid were able to help fund the Occupational Therapist visit and also provide funding for an electric wheelchair which was recommended following the visit.



Gannett Foundation

We are delighted to announce that the Gannett Foundation have awarded NewstrAid with a **£10,000 grant** towards the Winter Comfort grants we sent out to our needy beneficiaries at the end of last year. This has allowed us to help hundreds of beneficiaries keep warm over the winter months and we are extremely grateful to the Foundation.



Prize Draw

WE ARE GIVING AWAY

£150 of Amazon Vouchers!

COURTESY OF REACH PLC

If you would like to enter our prize draw please answer the following question:

How many surprise Christmas grants did we award in 2019?

Clue - the answer is in this newsletter.

Please send your answer to oldben@newstraid.org.uk.

All correct answers received before Monday 6th April will be entered into the prize draw. Terms and conditions apply. See the NewstrAid website for details www.newstraid.org.uk/about/newstraid-policy-documents/

In 2020
our total
200 club prize
fund will total
£270,000

Fundraising Spotlight

Old Ben Carol Service

Every year we host a Carol Service at St Bride's Church, London in aid of NewstrAid. This event kicks off the festive season for many of our industry colleagues and includes, carols, festive readings and a drinks reception including mince pies. In 2019 the raffle at the event raised just over £500 for the charity. A big thank you to everyone who came along to support this event.



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.

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.

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 Free Helpline 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

Suite 2 Thremhall Estate, Start Hill, Bishops Stortford, Herts CM22 7TD

Free Helpline: 0800 917 8616

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



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