

2012 Annual Report & Accounts



Trustees Annual Report 2012

Reference and Administrative Details

The NewstrAid Benevolent Fund is an incorporated charitable company. It is involved in a range of activities for the benefit of persons who are, or have been, employed in the selling and distribution of newspapers and magazines in the United Kingdom, including their immediate family and dependents.

Charity Registration Number: 1116824
Company Registration Number: 05973987
Scottish Charity Number: SC038775

Registered Office

Barnetson Court, Braintree Road, Great Dunmow, Essex CM6 1HS
Tel: 01371 874198 Fax: 01371 873816
Email: oldben@newstraid.org.uk
Website: www.newstraid.org.uk

Chief Executive Officer

Alex van Straubenzee

Marketing Director

Alan Mottram-Playfoot

Accountant/Treasurer

Helen Ryan

Welfare Manager

Sinead Flood

Welfare Officer

Val Brown

Welfare Assistant

Lisa-Marie Salter (*Appointed September 2012*)

PA and Events Manager

Louise Fox

Events and Administration Assistant

Chloe Fox (*Left April 2012*)
Ami Davis (*Appointed April 2012*)

Care Home Manager - Barnetson Court

Lynn Ward (*Left October 2012*)

Patron

The Viscount Rothermere

President

Sly Bailey

Vice-Presidents

Andrew Cameron, Sir Alex Jarrett CB
David Mackay, Rupert Murdoch AC

Board of Trustees

Chairman

Simon Prodger (Distribution) *Resigned June 2012*
Mike Mirams (Distribution) *Appointed June 2012*

David Holliday (Publishing)
Neil Jagger (Publishing),
Ingrid Jones (Distribution)
Nigel Lomas (Publishing)
Stephen Hirst (Distribution)
Mel Lewis (Publishing)
Frank Mustard (Publishing),
Ron Rushbrook (Retail)
Richard Webb (Wholesale),
John Stranger (Retail)
Colin Fletcher - Co-opted (Retail)

“We are the
helping hand of
the News Trade”

Auditors

Bird Luckin Limited
Aquila House, Waterloo Lane, Chelmsford,
Essex, CM1 1BN

Solicitors

Withers LLP
16 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7EG

Tees Law

42 High Street, Great Dunmow, Essex CM6 1AH

Investment Fund Managers

Rathbone Investment Management Ltd
1 Curzon Street, London, W1J 5FB

Bankers

Barclays Bank Plc, 14 High Street, Great Dunmow,
Essex CM6 1AA

Vision, Mission, Aim and Objects	4
Chairman's Report	5
Chief Executive's Report	6
Structure, Governance and Management	8
Related, Affiliated or Connected Parties	8
Objectives for 2013/14	10
Activities in 2012	11
Achievements and Performance	12
Trustees' Responsibilities	13
Reappointment of Auditors	13
Independent Auditor's Report	14
Statement of Financial Activities	15
Balance Sheet	16
Notes to Accounts	17
Area Committee Reports	22
Committees and Almoners	26

Our Vision

Everyone, who is, or has been, involved in the distribution and sale of newspapers and magazines, knows that NewstrAid will never let them suffer hardship through lack of money. NewstrAid will be the social consciousness of the news trade, with everyone, from the boardroom to the smallest shop, aware of what we do and prepared to support our cause.

Our Mission

In order to deliver against NewstrAid's stated vision, aim and objectives, the mission of the board of trustees and executive officers is: "To generate sustainable incomes to enable the charity to provide welfare to qualifying beneficiaries and to distribute those funds in ways which deliver the best value of support in the context of rigorous governance. The short term and long term objectives are structured to reflect and achieve these goals."

Our Aim

To provide welfare for persons who are, or have been, employed in the selling and distribution of newspapers and magazines in the UK, including their immediate family and dependants who are in need, hardship or distress.

The Objects of the Charity

To relieve persons who are in conditions of need or hardship and to relieve the distress caused thereby through the provision of welfare for persons who are, or have been, employed in the selling and distribution of newspapers, magazines and periodicals ("The Trade") in the United Kingdom, including their immediate family and dependants. Engagement, either full or part-time, shall normally have been for a minimum of ten years. Distribution shall be deemed to be from receipt of the said publications from the machine until received by the reader.

"We are tremendously lucky to have such a willing army of volunteers"



The Chairman's Report

Most of you reading this Annual Report will either work in our industry or be close enough to know that it's been a tough few years. The economic conditions are making things hard for businesses in most sectors, but the additional challenge of a changing media landscape has put even more pressure on sales of newspapers and magazines. Whether you are working in publishing, distribution or retailing, or have retired from the industry, you are undoubtedly feeling the pinch.

Unfortunately, this makes the work of NewstrAid even more important than ever as more of our colleagues and former colleagues need our help. However, it also means it can be harder for the charity to generate the funds we need to give real comfort to the 1000 plus, newstrade-related beneficiaries we support on a regular basis. The fact that NewstrAid is able to help so many people is thanks to the incredible efforts of some key groups of people:

From the Area Committees around the country, who do such an amazing job of raising funds, through the almoners who make NewstrAid personal by visiting so many of our beneficiaries, we are tremendously lucky to have such a willing army of volunteers. It is no exaggeration to say that their unflagging enthusiasm makes the whole thing possible.

We are also fortunate to have a small, but professional team working under Alex van Straubenzee in Great Dunmow, who keep the wheels turning and do the real work of the charity with such care and dedication. I would also like to thank the trustees, whose job it is to provide direction and governance and who do so with such generosity of both spirit and time. Finally, I would like to record my thanks and that of the trustees to my predecessor as Chairman, Simon Prodger. Over his 4 years in the chair, Simon worked tirelessly and with great compassion – I'm only just beginning to realise how high he set the bar! I would like to wish Simon every success and happiness for the future.

I am really honoured to have taken over as Chairman of NewstrAid, but am well aware that the next few years will be challenging for the charity, as well as rewarding in terms of the help we can provide to those in need. One of my priorities will be to ensure that NewstrAid remains front of mind for everyone in our industry, especially when times are tough, and to make it possible for everyone to help. That won't always be asking for money as there are plenty of ways you can give valuable support.

Thank you for everything you have done for NewstrAid already and for all that you will do to help us extend care to those who need it in the years to come.

Mike Mirams, Chairman of Trustees

“Congratulations are due to our hardworking and enthusiastic area committees”



The Chief Executive's Report

I am pleased to report a surplus of £54,000 for the year ending 31st December 2012. The actual figure shown on the SOFA (page 15) is £250,760 but this includes an exceptional item of £196,714, relating to the reversal of the permanent diminution of the revaluation of the now closed care home. Because of the planned closure, we budgeted for a significant deficit. However, thanks to the experience and careful management of Lynn Ward, the care home manager, along with excellent advice from our trustees and professional bodies, we were able to control costs.

Our area committees have again produced an exceptional result which, although reported lower than 2012, was actually an increase. As I reported last year, we were obliged to change our method of accounting, which caused a sweep of all monies in area committees' bank accounts. Thus, congratulations are due to our hardworking and enthusiastic area committees, whose efforts ensure we can continue to help so many beneficiaries. For some years now, we have been trying to find the best course of action to improve the auditing and year end reporting of our area committees, which is an audit requirement. This has proved to be a difficult task as, traditionally area committee treasurers have always had individual ways of reporting and, because they are volunteers, we have had to understand the sensitivities of introducing standardised accounting. I am so grateful to the treasurers for their patience and support and we continue to work together to deliver best practice standards.

The closure of Barnetson Court care home was an emotionally difficult time for everyone involved – from the trustees, who made the decision, to the residents and staff who had their lives affected dramatically. By the end of August, all residents had been sensitively transferred to other care homes of their choice and the care home staff, who must be commended

for their genuinely sympathetic and stoical work right up to the closure, had left our employment. Our thanks, in particular must go to Lynn Ward, the care home manager, who did such a magnificent job for NewstrAid. I cannot leave the subject of Barnetson Court without mentioning the role played by Stephen Hirst, our trustee heading up the Barnetson Court Action Group, whose guidance and wisdom ensured the outcome we wanted.

2012 gave NewstrAid the opportunity to celebrate the bicentenary of the birth of Charles Dickens, our President from 1854 to 1870. Our Patron, Lord Rothermere, held a reception for 150 leading members of the newspaper and magazine industry at the Foundling Museum in London, during January. Our President, Sly Bailey, was unavoidably absent. Her place was taken by Terry Mansfield who acted as master of ceremonies, which was appropriate considering all the help he gave in arranging the event. Actor Edward Fox gave a superb rendition of a speech Dickens made to members of the industry in 1862 and Lord Rothermere spoke of Dickens's concerns for the 'newsman' and how, today, our charity is still supporting, among others, those newsagents who suffer hardship and so desperately need our help.

I am delighted to report that our welfare expenditure reached

“Our welfare expenditure reached a record level in 2012”



a record level in 2012, increasing by 24.1% which includes a one off grant of £200 to each beneficiary as we celebrated Dicken's 200th birthday. During the year the number of beneficiaries we gave financial support to totalled 1,062. However, because some other benevolent funds include advice (e.g. benefits, debts, signposting etc) in their beneficiary number, we have also started to log this important service we offer. When added together, our beneficiaries totalled 1,106.

At the 2012 AGM in June, Mike Mirams was appointed Chairman of the board of trustees, when Simon Prodger stood down. I am so grateful to Mike for agreeing to take up this role, especially as he has an enormous amount of commitments already, apart from his managing director job at Comag. He brings with him a wealth of experience in the news trade and already commands great respect from trustees and employees alike, with his ability to assess situations quickly and decisively, along with a delightful sense of humour. Simon Prodger has now resigned as a trustee, on leaving the news trade, and we wish him the best of good fortune in the future and hope to stay in touch.

In May, our investment committee held a beauty parade to consider whether we wished to remain with Baring Asset Management or change to a new fund manager. We decided to move, after many years with Barings, to Rathbone Investment Management and the transfer of NewstrAid's

investments was successfully completed in August, in specie, and at minimal cost. Rathbones has an excellent reputation and, so far, we are very pleased to have made the decision to move.

The first steering group meeting, to open talks on a potential merger between NewstrAid and Old Ben Homes, took place in April. Old Ben Homes has been a separate charity to NewstrAid since the 1970s, before which they were both part of the Newsvendors Benevolent Institution. The split occurred so that a grant could be obtained from the Housing Corporation to develop the Lilleshall property into sheltered housing. Talks continued throughout the year.

2012 was a seminal year for NewstrAid, with a lot of big projects undertaken. I am extremely grateful to the trustees for their involvement in the plans and decision making, particularly, our new chairman Mike Mirams, who has coped admirably with the inevitable extra workload, with good grace and encouragement. I have also been ably supported by my team at Great Dunmow, who never seem to tire from giving me tremendous support and enthusiasm.

Alex van Straubenzee, Chief Executive

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity

The Newsvendors Benevolent and Provident Institution was founded in 1839 to grant relief to members of the newspaper industry in London, who required assistance because of infirmity, age or distress. The NewstrAid Benevolent Fund, the current name of the charity, is the occupational benevolent fund for the circulation, distribution, wholesaling and retailing section of the newspaper and magazine trade throughout the United Kingdom. The charity has always been referred to, affectionately, as Old Ben.

In 2006, the charity became an incorporated limited company and a charity regulated by the Charity Commission. The company is established under Articles of Association, which is the Governing Document.

Recruitment & Training Of Trustees

Individuals are identified from different sections of the trade. If they are willing to stand as trustees, their names are put forward to the board of trustees, who take into consideration their knowledge and skills as well as the current make-up of the board. Voting is carried out by the members present at the Annual General Meeting, where a ballot takes place. Trustees serve for a period of three years before retiring and, if agreed, put themselves up for re-election. Each trustee must have completed a Disclosure and Barring Service Check as well as a declaration of interests to avoid any conflict of interest. All trustees undergo training from an external organisation of charity specialists and new trustees will be subject to an induction programme on appointment.

Related, Affiliated or Connected Parties

Old Ben Lotteries Ltd (OBL) & Old Ben Fundraising Ltd (OBF)

The NewstrAid Benevolent Fund (NBF) wholly owns 100% of the share capital of the above two companies. Each company has a share capital of £100, which was donated by the NBF. The prime activity of both companies is fundraising. All profits generated from these companies are Gift Aided to the NBF each year. In 2012, OBL Gift Aided £75,512 (2011 - £92,479) to NewstrAid and the amount Gift Aided by OBF was £39,632 (2011 - £58,756).

Governance

The Board of Trustees (who are also directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law) meets five times per annum. Four of these meetings involve a review and discussion on finance, welfare, fundraising, marketing and the Barnetson Court care home. The fifth meeting takes place, after the AGM in June, in order to elect the chairman and vice chairman of the board as well as electing the members of various committees. The board also nominates up to six managing trustees of The Old Ben Homes, an affiliated charity.

Management

The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the day-to-day management of NewstrAid. Reporting to the CEO are the Marketing Director, Accountant, Welfare Manager, Events Manager and, until October 2012, the Care Home Manager.

A number of the trustees, former directors and industry colleagues sit on the three committees which deal with welfare, investment and budget/finance.

The role of the President is to preside over the Annual General Meeting of The NewstrAid Benevolent Fund.

The trustees have prepared the report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2012. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with NewstrAid's Articles of Association, applicable law and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and reporting by Charities" issued March 2005. Also the accounts have been prepared in accordance with The Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and Regulations 6 and 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

The Charity provides Trustee Indemnity Insurance.

Risk Management

The trustees have identified and agreed the major risks which confront the charity. This register will be updated annually. Where appropriate, plans and procedures have been made to mitigate these risks. The assessment is a part of the NewstrAid strategic plan. There is a risk of a decline in funding as a result of changes to the news wholesale network and an increase in beneficiary needs due to the economic climate. In order to mitigate this risk, the trustees have agreed a reserves policy target of 5 years cover at current expenditure levels. The 2013 strategic plan includes a number of action groups, specifically set up to address the risks which would significantly affect our security and reputation.

NewstrAid Custodian Trustee Ltd

The NewstrAid Custodian Trustee Ltd was incorporated in 1965 as the Newsvendors Benevolent Institution Trustee Ltd.

At the AGM of The NewstrAid Custodian Trustee Ltd on 12th April 2011, the directors of the company resolved, to wind up the company and apply to have it struck off the Register of Companies. The company was dissolved on 6th March 2012.

The Old Ben Homes (Charity No. 251629)

The Old Ben Homes is a separate charity regulated by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners of 10th January 1967. It was incorporated on 12th January 2009 and the scheme amended on 10th June 2009.

The relationship between the NewstrAid Benevolent Fund (NBF) and The Old Ben Homes can be described as follows: Of the eleven managing trustees of The Old Ben Homes, NBF appoints up to five persons, each being for a period of three years.

Association of Charitable Organisations (ACO)

NewstrAid is a member of the ACO, an incorporated charity (Registered Charity No 111860 and Company No. 6113479).

Association Of Circulation Executives (ACE)

ACE was established in 1951, to foster fellowship, friendship and the exchange of ideas between members of the newspaper and magazine publishing industry, news wholesaling, distribution and service provision.

Each year, ACE makes a substantial donation to NewstrAid and the money is expressly used to help children from the news trade. A fund has been set up for this purpose and is named the ACE/NewstrAid Children's Fund.

Donated Services

A number of newspapers, both national and regional, donated advertising space, free of charge to display the NewstrAid advertisement. This contribution is included in the financial statements at an estimated value of £126,199.

Trinity Mirror PLC donated the cost of printing our annual magazine, NewstrAid News. The estimated value of the donation was £13,827.

The value of services provided by volunteers is not incorporated into the financial statements.

Struggling to cope?

NewstrAid
The helping hand of the Newstrade
OLD BEN

Are you someone, or do you know of someone who has worked in the news trade and are struggling to cope? Perhaps you have retired from the industry or are unable to work due to illness or disability?

We are the news trade's own charity and may be able to help.

- ✓ Financial Support
- ✓ State Benefit Advice
- ✓ Debt Advice
- ✓ Family Welfare Issues
- ✓ Almoner Home Visits
- ✓ Support for the Disabled and their Carers

Call the NewstrAid Benevolent Fund now on

01371 874198 or visit www.newstraid.org.uk

We are the helping hand of the News Trade



Future Plans and Long Term Objectives

The underlying theme of NewstrAid's strategy is sustainability in the context of the changing environment of the news trade. Our traditional income streams are under threat with our traditional supporters having to wrestle with competing commercial pressures. At the same time we anticipate the number of our beneficiaries will increase.

In terms of income, our strategic aim will include:

- Protecting key income streams and mitigate risks to future income, resulting from the changing trade environment.
- Developing plans to grow incomes, where possible, in order to meet likely increases in demand for welfare.
- Safeguarding our reserves by nurturing our investments to support long term welfare programmes.

Our strategic aims for welfare are:

- Maintaining 5 years cover of reserves over outgoings.
- Use of income in accordance with NewstrAid's objects.
- Protecting current benefits to regular beneficiaries, keeping vigilant against overstretch.
- Promoting awareness among potential beneficiaries.

Objectives for 2013/2014

We intend keeping short term priorities to a manageable number and ensuring that they are sufficiently specific so that we can measure progress and see clearly what has been achieved.

Our strategic priorities for income are:

- Cultivating regional newspaper engagement as potential contributors and to retain local connections in the context of wholesale house consolidation and area committee involvement.
- Focusing on sustainability of our area committees.
- Focusing on generating awareness including magazine publishers and wider trade contracts.
- Maintain and develop a close relationship with the Association of Circulation Executives to ensure both organisations meet the needs of the trade.

Our strategic priorities for welfare include:

- Creating a proposal for testing increased awareness in a controlled area to assess the potential to generate increased beneficiary numbers.
- Focusing on attracting new almoners to expand the visiting service we give to our regular beneficiaries.
- Maintaining a positive dialogue with Old Ben Homes to assess the implications of a merger between our two charities.
- A national newspaper advertising campaign to attract new beneficiaries

Activities in 2012

Dickens 2012

We held a reception in London, hosted by our Patron Lord Rothermere, to celebrate the 200th birthday of Charles Dickens, who had been our president from 1854 – 1870. This was supposed to be one of two major celebrations – the second being a dinner and ball in October. Sadly, the second event had to be cancelled. However, Lord Rothermere's reception attracted many senior figures from the newspaper and magazine industry. One of the main attractions was excerpts from a speech, last made by Charles Dickens to the annual dinner of the Newsvendors Benevolent Institution in 1864, delivered by actor Edward Fox.

Barnetson Court Care Home

The closure of our care home in Great Dunmow was a painstaking operation, to ensure both residents and staff were treated with the utmost care and compassion. The home closed in August 2012 and the building will now remain empty, apart from the office accommodation, until the sale is completed.

Awareness

This remains one of our most important objectives. As a result, we revamped our website, set up a new email newsletter and designed a new set of advertisements in preparation for a new campaign in 2013. Communication with our audience is vital to our awareness programme.

Fundraising in 2012

Staying on the Dickens theme, Menzies Distribution organised a bicycle ride from John O'Groats to Dickens's house in Portsmouth with each leg sponsored and named after a Dickens book or character. This enterprise raised £20,000 for NewstrAid, for which we are indebted to all the Menzies employees who took part and rode one of the legs.

Other Dickens events included a fundraising dinner by the Wessex Area Committee in Portsmouth and a Thames river trip and dinner for the area committees to celebrate the anniversary. Details of other fundraising activity can be found in the Area Committee reports on pages 22 – 26.

Investment Policy

After assessing the requirements of working capital, the Chief Executive Officer advises the Investment Committee of any surplus funds available for investment with the fund manager, Rathbones, who took over responsibility for managing our funds from Barings in August 2012, with whom we have an agreed policy and management agreement. Rathbones meets twice per annum with the Investment Committee. Rathbones regularly reviews the performance of the NewstrAid portfolio and, on a quarterly basis, sends a valuation to all Investment Committee members, the CEO and Accountant. A synopsis is delivered to the board meeting twice per annum.

Reserves Policy

The trustees reviewed the reserves policy and agreed to maintain the target of 5 years' cover at current expenditure levels. Our unrestricted reserves excluding the revaluation of Barnetson Court now total £7.6m and the target of 5 years has been achieved.

Volunteers

As detailed in our objectives, NewstrAid benefits enormously by having a team of volunteer almoners, who visit our existing beneficiaries up to three times a year and all potential new beneficiaries. At present, we have 131 almoners and they cover most of the United Kingdom. They give of their time freely and only receive a mileage allowance. They are truly NewstrAid's unsung heroes and heroines.

Our national network of area committees is also made up of volunteers, who generously give of their time and effort to promote the aims of NewstrAid. Meetings are often held at the offices of a wholesale branch or local newspaper.

Achievements and Performance

Income Generating Activities

Our area committees produced a superb performance with a return in excess of £1.1 million once again. Like for like, the 2012 income is £18,000 ahead of 2011. The income generated by our volunteers in the area committees produces the largest part of our annual turnover. We are deeply indebted to all those who give their time and out of hours work to support NewstrAid, whether they be publishers, distributors, wholesalers or newsagents.

Subscriptions were lower than 2011, mainly due to the churn of retailer closures and changes of ownership. This is a problem which we aim to address during 2013/14.

Welfare Payments

Welfare expenditure increased by £165,367 in 2012. The figure shown in the accounts includes all welfare costs including salaries and volunteer expenses. The actual amount given to our beneficiaries was £706,619, which was a record when the special Dickens grant is included.

“We are deeply indebted to all those who give their time and out of hours work to support NewstrAid”

Merger Talks with Old Ben Homes

Representatives from NewstrAid and Old Ben Homes formed a steering group to discuss whether a merger would be in the interests of both charities. The talks were still continuing in December 2012.

Area Committees Auditing

For many years, the Old Ben area committees were deemed autonomous and their audit procedures were carried out in-house. Since 2008, a programme of independent examinations have been undertaken and all area committees have adopted the new end of year reporting routine.

Trustees' (Directors') Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements

The trustees (who are also directors of The NewstrAid Benevolent Fund for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and Regulations 6 and 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, section 44(1)C of The Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and Regulations 6 and 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

Auditors

A resolution will be proposed, at the Annual General Meeting of the NBF, that Bird Luckin Limited Chartered Accountants will be appointed as auditors to the charity for the ensuing year.

By order of the Trustees: 17th May 2013.

Independent Auditor’s Report to the Members of NewstrAid Benevolent Fund

We have audited the financial statements of NewstrAid Benevolent Fund Limited for the year ended 31 December 2012 on pages 15 to 21. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed

Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditors

As explained more fully in the Trustees Responsibilities set out on page 13, the trustees (who are also the directors of Newstraid Benevolent Fund Limited for the purpose of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

We have been appointed as auditor under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with regulations made under those Acts.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the auditing Practices Board's (APB's) Ethical Standards of Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of:

- whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed;
- the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the trustees; and
- the overall presentation of the financial statements.

In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the trustees annual report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Basis for qualified opinion arising from limitation of scope

Although Area Committee fundraising income and expenditure was scrutinised by an Independent Examiner, the evidence available in relation to the Area Committee income and expenditure was insufficient for audit purposes. In this respect, the Independent Examiner's review of receipts and payments, most of which cannot be verified prior to them being recorded in the books of account, was confined to the testing of recorded items.

Qualified opinion on financial statements

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the basis for qualified opinion paragraph, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2010 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulations 6 and 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Opinion on other requirement of the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Caroline Peters (Senior Statutory Auditor)

.....
for and on behalf of Bird Luckin Limited

Chartered Accountants, Statutory Auditor
Aquila House, Waterloo Lane, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1BN

NewstrAid Benevolent Fund

Statement of Financial Activities

(Incorporating an income and expenditure account) for the year ended 31 December 2012

	Note	Unrestricted General £	Designated £	Restricted £	2012 Total £	2011 Total
Incoming Resources						
Voluntary income						
Donations & legacies	2	183,366	9,398	-	192,764	301,359
Activities for generating funds						
Membership		110	-	-	110	20
Area Committee fundraising		1,131,539	-	-	1,131,539	1,303,201
		1,131,649	-	-	1,131,649	1,303,221
Investment and other income						
Investment income and bank interest	3	168,476	-	-	168,476	147,386
Old Ben Fundraising Limited	3	39,632	-	-	39,632	58,756
Old Ben Lotteries Limited	3	75,512	-	-	75,512	92,479
		283,620	-	-	283,620	298,621
Incoming resources from charitable activities						
Retailers' Subscriptions		287,230	-	-	287,230	326,074
Residential Care Home		182,460	-	-	182,460	425,269
		469,690	-	-	469,690	751,343
Total incoming resources		2,068,325	9,398	-	2,077,723	2,654,544
Resources Expended						
Costs of generating funds and other income						
	4&5					
Fundraising events		483,872	-	-	483,872	511,851
Lottery		30,679	-	-	30,679	28,471
Other		126,199	-	-	126,199	210,433
		640,750	-	-	640,750	750,755
Investment management costs		-	-	-	-	1,639
Charitable activities						
Residential home		387,993	-	-	387,993	444,078
Generating incoming resources		38,831	-	-	38,831	36,610
Welfare payments		807,610	41,587	-	849,197	683,830
Reversal of permanent diminution of the property	9	(196,714)	-	-	(196,714)	-
Governance costs	4	106,906	-	-	106,906	112,897
Total resources expended	4	1,785,376	41,587	-	1,826,963	2,029,809
Net incoming resources before transfers	6	282,949	(32,189)	-	250,760	624,735
Gross transfers between funds	14	(32,189)	32,189	-	-	-
Net incoming resources before other recognised gains and losses		250,760	-	-	250,760	624,735
Realised gain / (loss) on disposal of investments		-	-	-	-	24,815
Net income for the year		250,760	-	-	250,760	649,550
Unrealised gain on revaluation of freehold property	13	853,286	-	-	853,286	-
Unrealised gain/(loss) on revaluation of investments	13	183,813	-	-	183,813	(283,956)
Net movement in funds		1,287,859	-	-	1,287,859	365,594
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		6,549,139	605,687	49,314	7,204,140	6,838,546
Total funds carried forward		7,836,998	605,687	49,314	8,491,999	7,204,14

NewstrAid Benevolent Fund

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2012

	Note	Unrestricted General £	Designated £	Restricted £	2012 Total £	2011 Total £
Fixed assets						
Tangible fixed assets	9	1,534,466	-	-	1,534,466	481,614
Investments	10	5,406,743	-	-	5,406,743	4,932,496
		6,941,209	-	-	6,941,209	5,414,110
Current assets						
Debtors, prepayments & accrued income	11	68,838	-	-	68,838	74,392
Jane Steele Loans	11	-	-	35,666	35,666	35,666
Cash at bank & in hand		854,199	4,427	13,648	872,274	1,665,597
Cash at investment managers		13,212	605,687	-	618,899	50,007
		936,249	610,114	49,314	1,595,677	1,825,662
Liabilities						
Creditors : amounts due within one year	12	40,460	4,427	-	44,887	35,632
Net current assets		895,789	605,687	49,314	1,550,790	1,790,030
Net assets		7,836,998	605,687	49,314	8,491,999	7,204,140
Funds						
Restricted funds		-	-	49,314	49,314	49,314
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds		-	605,687	-	605,687	605,687
General funds		6,205,487	-	-	6,205,487	5,954,727
Revaluation fund	13	1,631,511	-	-	1,631,511	594,412
Total charity funds	14	7,836,998	605,687	49,314	8,491,999	7,204,140

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The financial statements on pages 15 to 21 were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on 17th May 2013 and signed on their behalf by:

.....

Alex van Straubenzee

Chief Executive Officer

.....

Mike Mirams

Director

The notes on pages 17 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

Company registered number is 05973987
English charity registered number is 1116824
Scottish charity registered number is SC038775

Notes

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention except for the revaluation of the property and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) and the accounting requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", issued in March 2005, The Charities Act 2011 and Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and Regulations 6 and 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income.

- Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.
- Legacy income is recognised in the accounts when there is a certainty of receipt and the valuation is known.
- Gifts in kind are accounted for at market rate.
- Subsidiary companies, Old Ben Fundraising Limited and Old Ben Lotteries Limited, raise funds for the charity and donate their total profits to NewstrAid within 9 months of the year end.
- Investment income is generated by dividend income from our portfolio and is accounted for on a receivable basis. Interest is earned on working capital held in deposit accounts.
- Income from Area Committees is included gross in the accounts.
- Accommodation in the residential home is paid by the residents, their families or their Local Authority and is accounted for on an accruals basis.
- Donations, grants and income, from members are accounted for on a receipts basis.

Funds Structure

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor.

All other funds are unrestricted funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charity's objects.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

Resources Expended

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis. The majority of costs are directly attributable to specific activities. VAT, which is not recoverable, is included with the item of expense to which it relates.

Support costs are re-allocated to each of the activities on the following basis which is an estimate, based on the amount of staff time attributable to each activity: fundraising events and charitable activities,

Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life.

- Office furniture and equipment
25% per annum using the reducing balance method
- Computer equipment
33.33% per annum using the straight line method

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they cost more than £750 and will be used on an ongoing basis.

Fixed Asset Investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year.

Volunteers and Donated Services

The value of services provided by volunteers is not incorporated into these financial statements. Further details of the contribution made by volunteers can be found in the Trustees Annual Report.

Where services are provided to the charity as a donation that would normally be purchased from our suppliers, this contribution is included in the financial statements as an estimate of the contribution to the charity.

Group Accounts

The financial statements contain information about NewstrAid Benevolent Fund as an individual charitable company and do not contain consolidated financial statements as the parent of a group. The charitable company has taken advantage of the exemption conferred in S.399 of the Companies Act 2006 not to produce consolidated financial statements as the group it heads qualifies as a small group. In addition the charitable company has taken advantage of the exemptions available under para 383 (c) of the SORP as the results of the subsidiary undertakings are not material to the group.

Cash Flow

The charitable company has taken advantage of the exemption under the FRSE not to prepare a cashflow statement.

Pension Costs

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

Operating Lease

Rentals under operating leases and hire agreements are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis.

2. Voluntary Income

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2012 Total	2011 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Donations	30,667	9,398	-	40,065	35,239
Gifts in kind	126,199	-	-	126,199	210,433
Legacies received	26,500	-	-	26,500	55,687
	183,366	9,398	-	192,764	301,359

Gifts in kind relates to advertising in the national and regional press to attract beneficiaries.

3. Investment and Other Income

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted J Steele	2012 Total	2011 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Income from quoted investments	163,460	-	-	163,460	146,063
Bank deposit interest	5,016	-	-	5,016	1,323
Old Ben Fundraising Limited	39,632	-	-	39,632	58,756
Old Ben Lotteries Limited	75,512	-	-	75,512	92,479
	283,620	-	-	283,620	298,621

4. Total Resources Expended

	Costs of Generating Voluntary Income	Costs of Charitable Activities	Governance Costs	Support Costs	2012 Total	2011 Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	26,343	364,369	-	213,670	604,382	624,732
Fundraising costs	361,156	-	-	-	361,156	397,966
Other costs	126,199	780,579	78,675	61,514	1,046,967	990,177
Depreciation	-	4,021	-	7,151	11,172	15,295
Support costs	127,052	127,052	28,231	(282,335)	-	-
	640,750	1,276,021	106,906	(196,714)	2,023,677	2,028,170
Investment management costs					-	1,639
Reversal of permanent diminution of freehold property					(196,714)	-
					1,826,963	2,029,809

Governance costs comprise:

	2012 Total	2011 Total
	£	£
Legal & professional fees	18,555	38,542
Audit and accountancy	24,541	29,041
Meeting costs	32,349	15,279
Annual report & accounts	3,230	3,230
Support costs	28,231	26,805
	106,906	112,897

Auditors remuneration of £14,250 (2011 £13,836) related solely to the audit.
£126,199 (2011 £210,433) within costs of generating voluntary income relates to gifts in kind.

5. Support Costs

	Costs of Generating Voluntary Income	Costs of Charitable Activities	Governance Costs	2012 Total	2011 Total
	45% £	45% £	10% £	£	£
Support costs are allocated to charitable activities as follows:					
Staff costs	105,733	105,733	23,496	234,962	220,004
Staff training & recruitment	578	578	128	1,284	1,818
Senior manager expenses	4,223	4,223	938	9,384	12,136
Office overheads	10,109	10,109	2 ,246	22,464	18,213
Computers	1,621	1,621	360	3,602	7,864
Lease charge	1,125	1,125	250	2,500	2,798
Advertising & promotion	385	385	85	855	60
Website	60	60	13	133	78
Depreciation	3 ,218	3,218	715	7,151	5,080
	127,052	127,052	28,231	282,335	268,051

Support costs of generating funds are allocated between fundraising events and the Grand Summer Draw in the ratio of 80:20.
Support costs of charitable activities are allocated between welfare payments, residential home expenses and generating incoming resources in the ratio of 35:35:30.
Lease effective from November 2010 for 3 years.

6. Net Incoming Resources for the Year and Trustee Expenses

	2012 £	2011 £
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation	(185,542)	15,295
Auditors remuneration		
Audit	14,250	13,836
Other	8,666	15,205
Trustees' reimbursed expenses	2,812	2,299

Exceptional item: included in depreciation is the reversal of a permanent diminution of £196,714.
During the year 6 trustees were reimbursed for travel and subsistence.

7. Staff Costs

	2012 £	2011 £
Staff costs were as follows:		
Salaries & wages	540,077	557,047
Social security costs	39,283	44,820
Pension contributions	25,022	22,865
Total emoluments paid to staff	604,382	624,732

One employee earned between £70,000 & £80,000 during the year (2011: One employee earned between £70,000 & £80,000)
The pension contributions paid by the company with regards to this employee were £6,824 (2011 £6,661).

The trustees received no remuneration in the year.

The average weekly number of employees (full time equivalent) during the year was as follows:

	2012 Number	2011 Number
Head Office	7	7
Barnetson Court Care Home	14	18

8. Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

9. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Freehold Property	Office Fixings, Furniture & Equipment	Barnetson Court Fixings, Furniture & Equipment	Computer Equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost/Valuation	646,714	16,211	133,213	33,049	829,187
At 1 January 2012					
Additions	-	-	-	17,749	17,749
Revaluation	853,286	-	-	-	853,286
Disposals	-	-	(10,157)	-	(10,157)
At 31 December 2012	1,500,000	16,211	123,056	50,798	1,690,065
Depreciation					
At 1 January 2012	196,714	12,140	109,077	29,642	347,573
Revaluation	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	(6,432)	-	(6,432)
Charge for year	(196,714)	1,018	4,021	6,133	(185,542)
At 31 December 2012	-	13,158	106,666	35,775	155,599
Net Book Value					
At 31 December 2012	1,500,000	3,053	16,390	15,023	1,534,466
At 31 December 2011	450,000	4,071	24,136	3,407	481,614

The historical cost of Barnetson Court Care Home is £646,714. Barnetson Court Care Home was revalued at 31 December 2009 by Kemsley LLP, an independent chartered surveyors. In view of the information received by the trustees they consider the valuation of the property to have a market value of £1.5m at 31 December 2012.

10. Investments

Quoted investments

	2012 £	2011 £
Market value at 1 January 2012	4,932,496	5,064,058
Additions	290,434	304,828
Disposal proceeds	-	(177,249)
Gain/loss on disposal of investment	-	24,815
Revaluation	183,813	(283,956)
Market value at 31 December 2012	5,406,743	4,932,496

Cost at 1 January 2012	4,338,081	4,186,574
Additions	290,434	304,828
Disposals	-	(153,321)
Cost at 31 December 2012	4,628,515	4,338,081

Quoted investments are allotted to each range as follows:

	Equities £	Bonds £	Common Investment Fund £	Total £
	-	-	4,628,515	4,338,081

The following investments are held in excess of 5% of the total investment portfolio value.

		2012 Total £		2011 Total £
BARING FM TARGETED RETURN FUND	0%	-	100%	4,932,496
RATHBONE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT	95%	5,137,418	0%	-

Rathbone Investment Management took over responsibilty for managing NewstrAid's investment from Baring Asset Management in August 2012.

Shares in subsidiary undertakings at cost

Old Ben Lotteries Limited	nil
Old Ben Fundraising Limited	nil

The charity held 100% of the voting rights and share capital of Old Ben Lotteries Limited and Old Ben Fundraising Limited. Both companies are registered in England. The principal activity of Old Ben Lotteries Limited is to hold annual draws. The principal activity of Old Ben Fundraising Limited is to raise funds from events.

At 31 December 2012	Turnover £	Profit for Year £	Reserves £
Old Ben Lotteries Limited	95,208	-	100
Old Ben Fundraising Limited	104,937	67	167

11. Debtors

	2012 £	2011 £
Trade debtors	-	1,076
Other debtors	42,314	48,967
Amount due from Old Ben Lotteries Ltd	25,112	1,171
Amount due from Old Ben Fundraising Ltd	-	18,548
Prepayments	1,412	4,630
	68,838	74,392

Restricted Funds Jane Steele Loans	35,666	35,666
------------------------------------	--------	--------

12. Creditors Due Within One Year

	2012 £	2011 £
Trade creditors	999	2,409
Other creditors	8,924	672
PAYE and pensions	9,985	13,806
Amount due to Old Ben Fundraising Ltd	1,518	-
Accruals	23,441	18,705
Deferred Income	20	40
	44,887	35,632

13. Revaluation Reserve

	Freehold Property	Investments	2012 £	2011 £
At 1 January 2012	-	594,412	594,412	878,368
Revaluation in year	853,286	183,813	1,037,099	(283,956)
At 31 December 2012	853,286	778,225	1,631,511	594,412

14. Movements in Funds

	Brought Forward £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Realised and Unrealised Gain/ (Losses) £	Transfers £	2012 £	2011 £
Restricted funds Jane Steele	49,314	-	-	-	-	49,314	49,314
Total restricted funds	49,314	-	-	-	-	49,314	49,314

Designated funds

ACE	-	9,398	(41,587)	-	32,189	-	-
Legacy income	605,687	-	-	-	-	605,687	605,687
Total designated funds	605,687	9,398	(41,587)	-	32,189	605,687	605,687

General funds	6,549,139	2,068,325	(1,785,376)	1,037,099	(32,189)	7,836,998	6,549,139
---------------	-----------	-----------	-------------	-----------	----------	-----------	-----------

Total funds	7,204,140	2,082,000	(1,831,240)	1,037,099	-	8,491,999	7,204,140
-------------	-----------	-----------	-------------	-----------	---	-----------	-----------

Purposes of Restricted Funds

The fund was set up with a legacy from Jane Steele. It is to be used for granting interest free loans for home improvements to beneficiaries, to be repaid on the sale of the property.

Purpose of Designated Funds

The ACE Childrens Fund finances the regular welfare donations to families with children. The deficit on the fund is made up from the welfare budget on the 31 December each year.

The legacy bequeathed to NewstrAid in the will of the late Harry Hammond is designated as funds to be available for any future building project.

The W Starling designated funds relates to monies and the related creditor in respect of a former resident of the care home, awaiting resolution regarding the beneficiary.

Revaluation Reserve

The revaluation reserve represents the amount by which investments and freehold property exceed their historical cost.

15. Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution scheme which is available to all of the charity's employees. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred and there were no outstanding or proposed contributions at the balance sheet date. Pension costs in the year were £25,021 (2011: £22,865).

16. Financial Commitments

At 31 December 2012 the charity was committed to making the following payments under non cancellable operating leases in the year to 31 December 2012.

	2012 £	2011 £
Operating leases which expire: Between one and two years	2,451	2,451

17. Related Party Transactions

During the year, Old Ben Lotteries Limited made a Gift Aid payment of £75,512 (2011 £92,479) to the fund. At the year end Old Ben Lotteries Limited owed the fund £25,112 (2011 £1,171).

Old Ben Fundraising Limited made a Gift Aid payment of £39,632 (2011 £58,756) to the fund. At the year end Old Ben Fundraising Limited was owed by the fund £1,518 (2011 £18,548 owed to the fund).

18. Members' Liability

NewstrAid Benevolent Fund is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of a winding up, the liability of each member (director) is limited to £1.

Our Area Committees 2012

The news trade went through a very difficult year in 2012: Sales struggled, competition increased, profits were squeezed – life got tougher. It was the same for our network of area committees. It has never been easy, but 2012 was particularly testing. Organising events, raising awareness and generating funds all seemed even harder than in the past.

So how come we can announce that our area committees improved on the record amount they raised in 2011? Because it is all about quality, not just quantity. The quality of our area committees simply shone throughout 2012. However difficult things were, however hard it was to generate that extra bit of action – they did it and that is all down to the quality of the volunteers who make up the area committees up and down the country.

The charity would simply not be able to help those thousands of people, we have helped over the years, if it was not for our volunteer area committees. If these people didn't do what they do, didn't make the efforts they make and simply didn't care as much as they passionately do care – then NewstrAid would simply not be NewstrAid.

Thousands of people up and down the country, who NewstrAid has helped and continues to help, owe a huge debt of gratitude to these merry bands of wonderful news trade people. But please do not just take my word for it – come along to an area committee meeting and see for yourself the sort of commitment they give and then join them for 2013!

Bristol, Somerset & Wiltshire

Chairman Trevor Veale
Secretary Vera Seaman
Treasurer Ian Aldous
Members Peter Seaman, Brian Gage, Glen Baxter

Despite another tough year for the area committee, Trevor and the team have kept things going and their annual treat of a Christmas hamper for the beneficiaries in the area continues to be very well received by all, especially in these difficult times. Without supporters such as Trevor and his colleagues, the Bristol, Somerset and Wiltshire Area Committee, simply could not function. Trevor and his team remitted £7,000 to head office for the year 2012.

Devon & Cornwall

Chairman Glen Honour
Secretary Ray Spiller
Treasurer Peter Amos
Members Tony Sprague, Ken Vincent, David Ware, Harry Littlewood, Nigel Stears-Tremlett

Glen and his colleagues are indefatigable. However difficult it is for them to drum up interest in events, they just work harder at making them a success. Their regular Bingo Nights continue but they never let them stagnate, they are always looking for new ways to build interest. Sadly, they have had to let the annual Tomato Growing competition go as most entrants seemed to eat the tomatoes before entering them! Despite that, Glen and his colleagues remitted £9,000 to head office for the year 2012.

East Anglia

Chairman John Lancaster
Secretary Ken Burroughs
Treasurer Colin Mayes
Members Christine Mann, Keith Davidson

East Anglia has had to "tick over" in 2012 as we search for new members to take up the batten from John, Ken and Colin. Their spirit over the years has been amazing and a new team is now in place for 2013 and beyond. Thanks largely to the wonderful efforts of Olwyn Clayden and the annual Adrian Clayden Memorial Golf Day, East Anglia still remitted over £8,000 to head office for the year 2012.

East Midlands

Chairman Michael Doyle
Treasurer Dorothy King
Members Jan Davis, John Green, Stephanie Law, Rebecca Sussex, Elaine Ingram, Mike Walsh

The East Midlands Area Committee went from strength to strength in 2012, witnessed by their being able to remit nearly £30,000 as opposed to £13,000 in 2011 to the head office. Now a very vibrant committee, buzzing with ideas for how to raise both funds and the profile of charity, they even had a stand at the local Deepings Raft Race. Plans are already in place in 2013 for Quiz Nights, support for the NFRN President's Golf Day and talks to local news companies about the work of the Charity.

London East & South Essex

Chairman Martin Manuel
Treasurer Charlie Harness
Members Nick Jones, Ron Rushbrook, John Lowman

Martin and his colleagues at London East & South Essex had a very successful 2012, being able to remit a record £58,000 to head office for the year 2012. The Olympics (held mainly within London East's area) overshadowed everything in 2012 and it was tremendous to see London East mirror Team GB's success.

North East

Chairman Jeff White
Secretary Colin Wills
Treasurer Jeff White
Members Tony Pucci, Dorothy Scott, Paul Foreman, John Swanson, Mark Wilkinson

2012 was a difficult year for this venerable area committee. Despite that, Jeff and his colleagues welcomed new members onto the area committee and do not intend to rest on the past. The North East Area Committee remitted £8,000 to head office for the year 2012 and aim to raise this further in 2013.

North West

Chairman Jim Marsh
Secretary Barbara Thompson
Treasurer Alan Pemberton
Members George Thompson, John Buckley, Val Chalmers, Allen Harrigan, Keith Foster

They have done it again. Jim and his colleagues continue to perform miracles and defy gravity. For 2012 they remitted no less than £200,000 to the head office. That amazing amount means they have raised over £1,000,000 since 2005. Over a £million in eight years! Keith Foster replaced George Thompson on the national Welfare Committee during the year and was therefore able to see for himself just how that sort of money was spent, helping those less fortunate than others from the UK news trade. The whole committee deserves a very special thank you, none more so than their untiring Treasurer, Alan Pemberton, whose efforts are absolutely breathtaking.

The Shires

Chairman Alan Smith
Treasurer Mike Hopkins
Members Colin Duke, Derek Bell, Steve Gorman

Being the National President of the NFRN has not stopped Alan from fulfilling his role as Shires President. Two thirds of the people NewstrAid helps are from the retail sector and the work of such NFRN stalwarts as Alan and Mike and many other NFRN members around the country goes a long way to supporting that help. The Shires efforts were again complimented by Colin Duke's annual Shires Golf Tournament in September, wonderfully supported by Bedford's Transport and a great Greyhound Night in May, all of which meant they were able to remit £10,000 to head office for the year 2012. The year was, however, a sad one with the death of Les Allsopp, the Shires President, one of the truly great "Old Ben'ers".

Scottish

Chairman Ian Shaw
Treasurer Scott Lister
Secretary Frank Mustard
Members Jean Neill, George Carron, Iain Steven, David Henderson, Robert Douglas, Tina Callcutt, Ross Shirra

Ian and his colleagues had yet another record breaking year, remitting a new record £90,000 to head office for the year 2012. Their flagship event was again their annual Dinner Dance, this time moved to the centre of Glasgow at the Grand Central Hotel, where Jean Neill and the team produced another memorable event. Hosted by local celebrity Tam Cowan and attended by over 100 people from the news trade, the Scottish Area Committee annual Dinner Dance is the major event in the Scottish news trade calendar.





South Yorkshire & North Derbyshire

Chairman Brian Beeton
Treasurer Ron Coleman
Secretary Mike Butcher
Members Lesley Owers, Alan Wray

There's nothing quite like a night at the dogs with the South Yorkshire and North Derbyshire Area Committee – and the annual event in October of 2012 was no exception. This event helped the South Yorkshire and North Derbyshire Area Committee remit over £12,000 to the head office for the year 2012. Brian and his colleagues agreed, during 2012, to merge with the West Yorkshire Area Committee and held a number of meetings to arrange this. 2013 therefore sees a new, revitalised area committee covering all of Yorkshire and North Derbyshire.

Sussex & Surrey

Chairman Roddy Smith
Treasurer John Bradshaw
Members Steve Dartnall, Steve Edwards, Mike Williams, Phil Elcome, Simon Howarth, Lian Shortman, Bob Scott

In 2012, Roddy Smith and his colleagues remitted £40,000 to the head office for the year 2012. This means that since 2002, they have raised over £1¼million for NewstrAid – a stunning achievement. Adding to the amount raised, Mike Moore and Mark Simmons from Smiths News, raised £630 with a charity golf competition. John Bradshaw, the treasurer, knows how the money raised is vital for those people NewstrAid helps as he continues to sit on the national Welfare Committee. Without the dedication of such people as Roddy and John, the lives of thousands of people from the news trade would be so much worse.

Thames Valley (TVAC)

Chairman John Chapman
Treasurer Clive Element
Secretary Terry Skipsey
Members Alan Bowen, Alan Purslow, John Small, Wayne Gilman

Thames Valley Area Committee (TVAC) have only been in existence since 2002, yet since that time they have raised nearly £1½million towards the work of the Charity, remitting over £90,000 to the head office for the year 2012. John and the team continue to be very clearly focused on the work that NewstrAid does and their ever popular Golf Day in June and Quiz Night in November and testament to their enthusiasm and hard work. Special thanks as always go to Lynda White and Shefali Patel for their great work behind the scenes.

South East Dickens

Chairman Ron Rushbrook
Vice Chairman Melvyn Jacklin
Treasurer Tony Pink
Members Christine Southern, Nick Southern, Naresh Purohit Libby Paterson, Fiona Maddison, Tom Egan, Mukesh Amin, Charlie Pandya

Ron Rushbrook took over as Chairman of the South East Dickens Area Committee in 2012 from Peter Allan, who had set the bar very high indeed. Ron and his colleagues had another great year in the revitalised area committee. The highlight of the year was the re-launch of the Old Ben Fishing. On a sunny July morning, the fleet set sail from Ramsgate for some wonderful fishing. A very much colder December day saw the area committee's annual Christmas Lunch take place at West Malling Golf Club. All this activity saw South East Dickens remit over £23,000 to the head office for the year 2012.

Southend on Sea

Chairman David Witherington
Secretary Sue Cooke
Treasurer Reg Wright
Members Jean Witherington

They may be our smallest area committee but David and his colleagues have been working tirelessly for the Charity for many years. Their annual Christmas Dinner is still a feature and their efforts saw them raise £700 towards the work of the Charity in 2012.

South Wales

Chairman Kevin Clarke
Treasurer Alun Morgan
Members Ian Blacker, Laura Bengner

It has been another difficult year for Kevin and his team but despite that, Alun Morgan, their treasurer, was still able to send £10,000 to the head office for the year 2012.

Wessex

Chairman David Winn
Treasurer David Hall
Secretary Peter Bridge
Publicity Jacqui Broadbridge, Mike Bowker, Richard Burke, John Stranger, Colin Fletcher, Graham Hales, Ray Culverwill, Paul Kelly, Jim Walker, Kerry Darwin, Ken Sim, David Lobb, Alex Morley,

Despite the loss at the end of the year of their excellent Chairman, Dave Winn, 2012 was a truly memorable year for the Wessex Area Committee as it was the year of the bicentenary of Charles Dickens's birth. Dickens was born in Portsmouth and the Wessex Area Committee celebrated that event in style with the Dickens Bicentenary Gala Dinner at the Hilton Hotel, Portsmouth. Worthy successors to the legacy of our most famous president, the Wessex Area Committee worked tirelessly throughout the year to remit a new record total of £35,000 to the head office for the year 2012. Walks in the New Forest, Golf days, Quiz Nights, the Retail Excellence Awards and even Duck Racing continued to prove that Wessex is our most active area committee. I think that we can be pretty certain that under new Chairman Mike Bowker the pace won't drop in 2013.

West Midlands

President Andrew Boyd
Chairman Neville Mayall
Treasurer Ray Prendergast
Secretary Bryan Buckroyd
Members Mary Field, Geoff Riches, Fred Prezhman, Rob Drummond, Garth Bennett, Paul Tucknutt, David De Sousa,

A new record of £148,000 remitted to the head office for the year 2012 means that the West Midlands Area Committee have actually raised over £3¼million during the past decade – a result that is second only to the fabled North West Area Committee. A very successful year for President Andrew Boyd was marred by the sad death of Secretary and Almoner Bryan Buckroyd, a stalwart of the committee.

West Yorkshire

President Roy Dodworth
Chairman Eric Hudson
Treasurer John Reeman
Secretary John Reeman
Members Ossie Harrigan, Jo Dodworth, Nick Carling, Bill Hyde, Bachu Ramji

Network changes presented Eric Hudson and his colleagues from the West Yorkshire Area Committee with problems in 2012, but they overcame them and remitted £9,000 to the head office for the year 2012. 2013 will see them combined with the South Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Area Committee in the new Yorkshire and North Derbyshire Area Committee.



The KEY Group

One of the wonderful things about the KEY Group is the way lots of different companies in the news trade support its work and their young generation of talent by facilitating attendance at meetings and supporting their events. The aim of the KEY Group has always been to ensure the ethos of our charity is embraced by the next generation of leaders in the news trade and, judging by the efforts and commitment of the current KEY Group, the charity is in safe hands for the future.

During the year, Frank Tickner (News International) handed over the chairmanship to James McGuirk (Mail Publisher Solutions), who has maintained the extremely high standards set by Frank and previous chairmen Dan Scott and Jenna Spearing. Joining the KEY Group, as well this year, were Gareth Cresswell of News International, Claire Burgess of Shortlist, Ed Chadwick of Newtrade Publishing and Rebecca Stubbins of Guardian Media.

Their City of London Pub Quiz Nights continued to prove extremely popular. Their Wine Tasting event, sponsored by Marketforce just under £1000; the annual Five-a-Side competition again proved popular and very competitive. A new event, Bowling, has the makings of an annual event and will be advertised more aggressively next year.

New events are on the horizon – a Treasurer Hunt and even a Battle of the Bands is planned for 2014. All go to show the commitment of the next generation to maintain the work of the charity. NewstrAid has been helping those struggling to cope in the news trade for over 170 years – it's people like the KEY Group members who will ensure it continues to do so for the foreseeable future.



Committees and Almoners

Old Ben Lotteries Ltd & Old Ben Fundraising Ltd

Directors: Mike Mirams (*appointed 2012*), Mel Lewis and Alex van Straubenzee, Simon Prodger (*resigned 2012*).

Welfare Committee

Frank Mustard - Chairman, Tim Lunn - Vice Chairman
George Thompson (*resigned 2012*), John Bradshaw, Alan Lawton, Tony Sprague, Ron Rushbrook, Mary Field, Jeff White, Ingrid Jones, Keith Foster (*appointed 2012*).

Investment Committee

Nigel Lomas (*appointed 2012*), Terry Mansfield CBE, Brendan Fitzmaurice, Mike Newman, Alan Humphrey, Simon Prodger (*resigned 2012*).

Almoners

Ian Aldous	Joan Dodworth	Norrie Loughran	Ron Rushbrook
Philip Atkinson	Roy Dodworth	Elsie Lowe	Bob Scott
Brian Beeton	Colin Duke	Tim Lunn	Dan Scott
Laura Benger	Marian Edgar	Martin Manual	Dorothy Scott
Gordon Bird	Mary Field	Jim Marsh	Peter Seaman
Ian Blacker	Keith Foster	Neville Mayall	Vera Seaman
Brian Booth	Judy Frumin	Peter McClurg	Iain Shaw
Wendy Bowen	Brian Gage	Mary Merchant	Ross Shirra
Mike Bowker	Graham Hales	Frank Messenger	Roddy Smith
John Bradshaw	David Hall	Alan Mottram-Playfoot	Tony Sprague
Peter Bridge	Charles Harness	Leo Mullan	Marilyn Stadias
Jackie Broadbridge	Osmond Harrigan	Frank Mustard	Iain Steven
John Brookfield	Chris Harrison	Jean Neill	John Stranger
Michael Brown	David Hendel	Lindsay Ogle	Mark Stroud
Rowland Brown	David Henderson	Brian Osborn	Avril Thompson
Mike Buckmaster	Peter Hicks	John Palmer	Barbara Thompson
Bryan Buckroyd	David Holliday	Alan Pemberton	George Thompson
Richard Burke	Glen Honour	Terry Perry	Bob Thompson
Fred Canty	Mike Hopkins	Farhad Pezhman	Robert Thompson
Nick Carling	Norman Hoskins	Tony Pink	Darren Turner
George Carron	Pat Howell	Richard Piper	Colin Tyler
Roy Carron	Mervyn Jacklin	Ray Pollitt	Alex van Straubenzee
Val Chalmers	Ingrid Jones	Tim Prideaux	Mike Wallace
David Chalmers	Gary Kaylor	Sue Pringle	David Ware
John Chapman	Ron Kendal	Len Procter	Jeff White
David Chilvers	Dorothy King	Simon Prodger	Graham Willows
Connie Clarke	Tom King	Tony Pucci	Colin Wills
Martin Collier	Christine Kinnersley	Alan Purslow	Ramon Wilmott
Trevor Collier	Terry Knott	John Reeman	David Witherington
David Cooper	Joan Lavery	Geoff Riches	Cliff Wragg
Betty Davidson	Alan Lawton	Alasdair Robertson	Jim Wright
Keith Davidson	Derek Lee	Evelyn Rogers	
Brian Davies	Nigel Lomas	Nick Rose	

The Old Ben Homes Managing Trustees

*David Blundell - Chairman, Chris Harrison - Vice Chairman
Tim Lunn, *David Holliday, *Ingrid Jones, *Simon Prodger (*resigned 2012*), Adrian Wood, *John Buckley, Judy Frumin.

* denotes trustees nominated by NewstrAid Benevolent Fund.

5 Ways to Support



The NewstrAid Benevolent Fund is the news trade’s charity and helps individuals in newspaper and magazine retail, wholesale and distribution throughout the UK. In 2011, NewstrAid supported more than 1000 regular beneficiaries with on-going grants and spent more than £128,000 last year on one-off costs such as disability aids and essential household repairs.

How to get involved

1 Volunteer as an Almoner
The almoners, who are all ex-news trade workers, deliver cheques to our beneficiaries and act as NewstrAid’s eyes and ears on the ground, ensuring those in need are well looked after.

2 Look out for local and national Newstraid events
Get a team together and support an event, like the Old Ben Walk, a local quiz night or a greyhound racing event, to name a few. Or go a step further and help organise a quiz yourself or donate a prize.



Newstraid Viewpoint Alex Van Straubenzee, Chief Executive Officer, Newstraid:

“It is absolutely vital that all of us in the news trade support those colleagues and ex-members, whether they be retailers, wholesalers or distributors, when they fall on hard times. Please do your bit to support NewstrAid.”

3 Be on the lookout for people who need help
Contact NewstrAid’s welfare department if you know of a former or existing trade colleague in need of support due to ill health or old age. Although NewstrAid does not help with business related costs, trading newsagents may qualify for a one-off grant for a specific purpose such as a disability aid and an advisory service is open to all.

4 Donate money through your wholesaler
Retailers are able to set up a 30p weekly subscription directly to NewstrAid through their wholesaler. Alternatively, you can enter the weekly ‘200 club’ £1 prize draw. Ask your wholesaler for more information about donating through your carriage sheet.

5 Raise sponsorship money
Run a marathon, take part in a sponsored walk or hold a community treasure hunt, donating your sponsorship money to NewstrAid.



For more information or to get involved call 01371 874 198, email oldben@newstraid.org.uk, visit www.newstraid.org.uk, or search “NewstrAid” on YouTube