

NewstrAid newsletter

Issue Twelve | Summer 2022

Hi Everyone, I hope you and your families are keeping well and have been able to enjoy some summer sunshine.

We are all feeling the impact of the rising cost of living at the moment, and I am delighted to report that the Trustees of NewstrAid have recently agreed a 10% increase in the payments we make to our regular beneficiaries to help them through this difficult time. More information can be found on page 2.

As usual we have included some beneficiary stories in this newsletter which demonstrate some of the ways we have been able to support retailers who need our help. If there is anyone that you know who may be facing similar hardship, please get in touch with us and we will jump into action. In addition, we have introduced a brand-new funding scheme for families called Help for Hobbies. The scheme gives kids the chance to take part in extracurricular activities that

financially they otherwise might be denied, be that sport, music, dance, or one of a whole range of other fun things to do. We would love this to be a huge success and more details about the scheme can be found on page 2. If you know of anyone who would benefit, please let them know.

And finally, congratulations to all our fabulous Area Committee members whose hard work was celebrated at our AGM in July. Details of the Awards that were presented in recognition of the vital role these volunteers carry out can be found on page 4.

Thank you as always for your support and stay well.

**Neil Jagger and
The NewstrAid Team**

Help for Hobbies Children's Recreation Scheme

The Help for Hobbies Children's Recreation Scheme supports newstrade families who are struggling to meet the costs associated with their children's pastimes.



Freephone: 0800 917 8616

helpforhobbies@newstraid.org.uk
www.newstraid.org.uk/help-for-hobbies

NewstrAid 
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**



**Emotional
Support**

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Help for
Hobbies

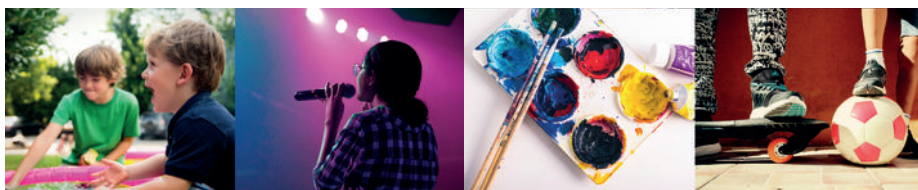
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Awards



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



Introducing our new funding scheme – Help for Hobbies

We are delighted to announce the launch of a brand new funding scheme to support parents with a newtrade connection who are struggling to cover the costs of their children's pastimes.

The Help for Hobbies Children's Recreation Fund offers up to £250 per child towards the costs associated with a wide range of hobbies and pastimes.

Sinead Flood, Welfare Manager for NewstrAid said: *"We decided to launch this new funding scheme to ensure that newtrade families on a limited income don't have to sacrifice their children's pastimes in order to make ends meet."*

Particularly at the current time when the cost of living is at an all-time high.

Whether your child's passion is football, drama, martial arts or pottery and you are finding it difficult to cover these costs, Help For Hobbies is there to provide some financial assistance."

The scheme can help with a range of different expenses including subscription or membership fees, equipment and clothing costs as well as charges for after school clubs and lessons. Applicants will need to satisfy the scheme's criteria and will be required to fill in an application form and provide some financial information in order to be assessed.

Full details about the scheme including the criteria and application form can be found on the NewstrAid website. www.newstraid.org.uk/help-for-hobbies or by contacting NewstrAid on **0800 917 8616** or helpforhobbies@newstraid.org.uk

10% increase to Regular Benefit

We are delighted to announce that we will be increasing our regular benefit amount by 10% from August 2022. The increase was agreed by the Board of Trustees in response to the ongoing rise in the cost of living and will provide extra financial support to our most vulnerable beneficiaries who are facing constant hardship and are struggling to cover ongoing everyday living costs for themselves and their family.

Regular beneficiaries receive a payment from NewstrAid three times a year and the payment rates were last increased by the charity in 2017.

Neil Jagger, CEO for NewstrAid said: *"Our regular beneficiaries are finding it increasingly difficult to cover their weekly and monthly expenses and we*



are hearing from people who are having to decide which meal to skip in order to pay their bills. It was therefore essential that we reviewed the payment amount at this time and we are very grateful to the Board of Trustees for agreeing a 10% increase."

Don't forget, if you or a colleague are struggling with the increased cost of living, please do get in touch. NewstrAid can offer a wide range of services including, financial help, emotional support, debt advice and signposting to other organisations and resources.

Call FREE: **0800 917 8616** email: mail@newstraid.org.uk or visit www.newstraid.org.uk/cost-of-living/ for our latest updates.

Did you know?

NewstrAid can provide one-off grants to address specific needs for those who have encountered unexpected hardship.

This can include replacing household goods or covering short term care costs.



Tom Rodger and Neil Jagger at the conference

The Fed Conference 2022

We were delighted to attend The Federation of Independent Retailers annual conference in Birmingham this June. We had the opportunity to present to the delegates and remind them of our services and how they could help us make more people aware of the support we provide.

It was great to see so many retailers and we are pleased to say that we had a number of new volunteers sign up to our Area Committee and almoner roles. To find out more about volunteering for NewstrAid visit our website. www.newstraid.org.uk/get-involved/

True or False?

Help for hobbies is only available to existing NewstrAid beneficiaries.

False!

Help for Hobbies is open to everyone from the newtrade who fits the funding criteria.

How your money helps



Help for Hobbies

Philip's parents ran a family-owned Newsagents whilst he was growing up. The family ran into financial difficulties when mental health issues stopped his parents from being able to work.

After a full financial review, NewstrAid were able to provide the family with regular benefit and help with the cost of Philips cricket equipment and cricket tour fees so that he didn't miss out. This support can now be applied for through our Help for Hobbies Scheme.

Philip's story

As a little boy I was made aware of the helping hand that NewstrAid gave to my family who owned and ran a Newsagent shop. Without the help of NewstrAid things for our family would have been a lot tougher and some of my most cherished childhood memories wouldn't have happened. Many Christmas moments and life experiences wouldn't have been made possible without the help of the charity including the purchase of my cricket equipment and the chance to go on cricket tours throughout the UK.

I know I can never repay NewstrAid for the support they gave my parents but I'm forever grateful for the help we received when times were hard. I sincerely hope NewstrAid will continue for many years and that many children and adults benefit from this great charity. I know it has shaped me to be a very thankful person in life as it gave me so much in the short time we all had together as a family.



Almoner home visits are back!

Now that the Covid 19 restrictions have eased, our team of volunteer almoners have recently started to reinstate their beneficiary home visits. The almoner home visits have always been a key element of our work and enable us to deliver our welfare service on a personal, local level, which means so much more to those in need of support. As a result of the visits starting up again, we have already seen an increase in applications for one off grants from our existing beneficiaries as their visiting almoners have identified areas where they need additional help.

We are always looking for new almoners with a newtrade background and are currently looking for people in the following locations:
Lincolnshire, Northern Ireland, South/ Mid Wales, Scotland, Nottingham/ Derbyshire, Yorkshire, Liverpool, Manchester, M25 corridor from Watford to Chelmsford.

If you are interested in becoming an almoner, visit our website www.newstraid.org.uk/volunteer-almoners/ or contact us on **0800 917 8616**.

Advice, Signposting and Emotional Support

John knew of NewstrAid through his newsagency and wanted to know if we could provide any assistance. His business had suffered during the pandemic and this in turn was causing him to fall behind on his personal bills.

NewstrAid were able to give John advice on the benefits he may be entitled to and also signposted him to other organisations such as the Debt



Advice Foundation and resources like the Spectrum Life Wellbeing Suite.

When to contact NewstrAid

We have had a number of phone calls recently from retailers who are facing business issues. Unfortunately this is something we are unable to help with. We urge all trading newsagents who are facing business issues to contact the Fed on **0800 121 6376** / contactus@nfrn.org.uk. Business support can also be found on the government website www.gov.business-support-helpline.

If you have a personal issue and need welfare or emotional support then this is where NewstrAid CAN help. Details about the financial, emotional and practical assistance we can offer to the newtrade can be found on our website www.newstraid.org.uk or you can call **0800 917 8616**.

Continue Trading?

Contact the Fed for Business Support on **0800 121 6376**



Cease Trading?

Contact NewstrAid for Welfare Support on **0800 917 8616**

NewstrAid Helpline Numbers:

Welfare Support Line: **0800 917 8616**
Wellbeing Suite/
Emotional Support Helpline: **0808 196 2016**
Debt Advice Helpline: **0800 987 5685**

Other Useful Numbers:

National Debtline: **0808 808 4000**
Step Change: **0800 138 1111**
Age UK Advice Line: **0800 678 1602**
Family Support Line: **0808 802 6666**

Citizens Advice: **0808 800 9060** (Scotland)
Citizens Advice: **0800 144 8848** (England)
Citizens Advice: **0800 702 2020** (Wales)
Citizens Advice: **0800 111 4455** (N Ireland)

NewstrAid Charity Tandem Sky Dive

If you fancy taking on a challenge this Autumn why not sign up for our charity Tandem Skydive!?

Date: 2nd October, 2022

Location: Sibson Airfield, Peterborough

Sponsorship: Applicants will be expected to contribute a minimum of £250 in sponsorship.

Numbers are limited - First come first served.

For further details please email:

tom@newstraid.org.uk



AGM & Area Committee Awards

NewstrAid's AGM took place on July 6th at the Rubens Hotel in London. At the end of the meeting there was a short presentation to recognise the hard work of our Area Committees and volunteers.

Good Samaritan Awards were presented to four long-standing supporters of the charity, a number of trophies were presented to the committees and individuals who had made significant contributions to the charity's work and certificates were given to each Area Committee recognising their contribution to NewstrAid through the 200 club lotteries. A huge congratulations and thanks to all the Area Committee members and volunteers who give up their time and energy to support the charity.



Full details and photos of the awards can be found on our website.

www.newstraid.org.uk/area-committee-awards-2022/

Prize Draw

WE ARE GIVING AWAY

£150 of Amazon Vouchers!

Thank you to everyone who entered our Spring edition prize draw and congratulations to the winner who received their vouchers in July. The correct answer to the question: In which month did our Welfare Committee meet in London this year? was March.

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

What is the name of our new funding scheme for children's pastimes?

As always, the answer is in this newsletter. Please send your answer to mail@newstraid.org.uk

All correct answers received before 30th September 2022 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/

If you no longer want to support NewstrAid

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 opt-out form on our website: www.newstraid.org.uk/retailer-donations/
- Email NewstrAid at: mail@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 mail@newstraid.org.uk

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