

ycg NEWSLETTER

Caring for people and their environment

Thank you so much for supporting the work of the Yorkshire Charities Group. The thousands of people helped by the different charities within the group cannot express to you for themselves the difference that this support makes to their lives every day but be assured that you really do make an impact. Our work is outlined below and there can be few people in Yorkshire whose lives are not touched by at least one of these worthy causes. We thank you in anticipation of your continued generosity during 2010-11.



ROUND UP OF 2009/10



We are pleased to announce that our website www.yorkshirecharities.co.uk is now up and running. You can now find out much more about the individual charities which make up the Yorkshire Charities Group. There are also Payroll Giving and Standing Order Forms available. So if you know of anyone who would like to support us or indeed your own contributions have lapsed due to a job change then it is easy to sign up and make a real difference.

Yorkshire Charities Group is a joint venture between six Yorkshire based registered charities c/o St. Anne's Community Services, 6 St. Mark's Avenue, Leeds, LS2 9BN – Tel. 0113 243 5151 – Fax. 0113 245 1526 This newsletter is sent out once a year. If you would prefer not to receive it please contact Graham Callaly at St. Anne's. on 0113 281 6923.

Registered Charity Nos: British Epilepsy Association 234343 – British Trust for Conservation Volunteers 261009 & SCO39302 – NSPCC 216401 & SCO37717 – St. Anne's 502224 – St. Gemma's 1015941 – Sue Ryder Care Wheatfields 1052076 & SCO39578



St. Anne's Community Services provides a wide range of support to a diverse range of people – the common factor is that all of our support is focused on the individual needs and aspirations of each person.

Whether people are homeless, lives are chaotic due to dependence on drugs and alcohol or people need help because of mental health issues or a learning disability, St. Anne's supports people to live as a full and active member of the local community.

We use every penny of our share of donations for the direct benefit of homeless people. At our Resource Centre in the middle of Leeds, two hundred people are invited in off the streets on Christmas Day to enjoy a meal, be entertained and to leave with a small present, sandwich, cake and a food parcel. An army of staff and volunteers give up their time beforehand to wrap presents, and to ensure the day is enjoyable for everyone.

Without your continued generous help we would not always be able to provide this type of support to the most vulnerable and excluded.

We appreciate every donation we receive.



During 2009/10 BTCV engaged over 600 adults and 12,000 children in environmental activities in Leeds alone. This amounts to over 4,000 days of practical effort improving footpaths and managing habitats and a huge amount of inspirational out of school education sessions. During the year BTCV launched its CARBON ARMY campaign to highlight how habitat work is linked to climate change and the value of growing food at home or at community projects. In preparation for a funding bid we talked to many of our volunteers and this sums up the importance of our services to those not in work *"I'd urge anyone thinking of volunteering to come to BTCV as the opportunities for learning new skills are numerous, the chances of volunteers gaining employment are greatly increased and it is one of the most friendly and welcoming teams I have been part of."*

In these challenging financial times the support from donors to Yorkshire Charities Group is important and valued.





Thank you for very much for your support in 2009 / 10 on behalf of all the staff and patients at St. Gemma's Hospice.

For 32 years, St. Gemma's Hospice has been providing high quality specialist medical and nursing care for people with terminal illnesses and support for their families.

Care is offered to patients and their carers in the Hospice's In-Patient Unit, through our team of community nurses, at the Day Hospice or as an out-patient. Carers are also supported by the Hospice's specialist bereavement workers who provide support to all, including children and young people. Thanks to your donation, we can provide all this free of charge to patients and their families.

A patient recently commented, "The nursing and medical teams cared for me like I was the only patient in the Hospice. Nothing was too much trouble and my family and I appreciated the support we were given. The care that we received simply could not be matched."

We would not be able to continue providing these vital services for local people without your valuable and ongoing support.

During 2010, we shall be refurbishing our 32 bed In-Patient Unit which will improve the safety, privacy and dignity of our patients. An estimated 3,320 people will benefit from these improvements every year. Thank you for your kind and continued support and for helping to make this all possible.



Sue Ryder Care

Sue Ryder Care is a charity providing compassionate care to people with end of life and long-term care needs.

Each year we provide 4 million hours of care to people with cancer, brain injury, multiple sclerosis, motor neurone disease, Huntington's and Parkinson's disease, stroke and dementia.

We deliver specialist caring services in people's own homes, in the community and in our hospices and care centres enabling people to manage their treatment and live their lives to the full.

Through innovation and research we work to improve standards in long-term and end of life care.

Our local hospice in Leeds is Wheatfields where we provide specialist care for people with a life threatening illness and their carers, in order to maintain and enhance quality of life. Wheatfields has an 18 bed in-patient unit, a day hospice and a team of community nurses who make visits to people being cared for in their own homes. We have a family support team who give advice and information when needed and offer emotional support to the patient and their family.

The hospice has a physiotherapist and a team of complementary therapists offering physiotherapy, reflexology, aromatherapy, reiki and massage. We also have over 250 volunteers, without whose help we would not survive.

It costs over £2 million per year to run Wheatfields and we are dependant on the support of the community to enable us to continue our care. **Thank you for your continued support.**



Now in its 60th year, Epilepsy Action annually helps 38,000 people in Yorkshire alone, through a range of services. Services such as our advice and information service, branch network and accredited volunteer scheme. The organisation's award-winning website, www.epilepsy.org.uk, features a live online advice and information service and receives over 70,000 visitors a month. In 2010, thanks to your continuing support, you helped:

- Nearly 16,000 people access free support and guidance through our freephone helpline.
- 350 people regularly visit our online community for people with epilepsy called forum4e.
- 104 epilepsy specialist Sapphire Nurses provide vital free specialist care, advice and information.
- Fund three vital research projects in Sheffield and York, to better understand the effects of living with epilepsy.

Thanks to your regular funding we can plan and improve our services every year. As you can see below, your support is really appreciated:

"I found Epilepsy Action an important source of information and comfort. I am an Epilepsy Action Accredited Volunteer and qualified as a social worker in 2004. I now manage a social work team." Julie Baillie, Burton in Kendal, Carnforth

"Thanks to the help and advice given to me by Epilepsy Action, when I had my interview, my employers were very understanding about my limitations and said they would work shift changes around me." Neil Coppell, Bilinge, Wigan

To find out more about the services Epilepsy Action provides visit our website www.epilepsy.org.uk, phone: 0808 800 5050 or e-mail: helpline@epilepsy.org.uk



Child's Voice Appeal

The NSPCC's Child's Voice Appeal, which launched on 22 September 2008, aims to raise £50m so that the NSPCC's vital helplines can answer many more cries for help.

The funds will mean that ChildLine's volunteers can counsel 500,000 more calls every year; children will be able to choose how they access ChildLine's help – by phone, online or by text; the NSPCC Helpline can grow by over 60% to counsel 18,000 more adults a year who have concerns about a child; and counsellors can provide personalised help by email to nearly five times as many concerned adults.

The government has pledged £30m over four years towards the expansion of ChildLine and the NSPCC Helpline, but the NSPCC needs the support of the public to raise a further £50m through the Child's Voice Appeal, to make its vision a reality.

Everyone can support the Child's Voice Appeal at: www.childsvoiceappeal.org.uk

