



HEART TO HAND Charity Newsletter 2015



Dear friends of HEART TO HAND,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your help, encouragement and support over the past year. It has been an extremely busy year here in Ireland where the need for food aid is consistently rising. There are hundreds of families struggling on a daily basis in Ireland and we really need to keep the Charity alive to continue to help these people. We are appealing for donations, monthly direct debits from €5 upwards or whatever you can afford.

HEART TO HAND are supplying food aid to charities, resource centres, addiction centres, homes for distressed families, and many organisations which are setup to cater for those who are forgotten in our society and many who for whatever reason find themselves homeless.

Our Volunteers are out every day fundraising and sourcing food aid to keep up with the ever increasing demands we are currently receiving for food aid in Limerick, Dublin, Wicklow, and Wexford. The situation is getting worse every month and we really need your help to support all these centres and the people they feed. Over 1,000 children are now reported to be homeless in Dublin. They depend on charities and centres like the ones we support to care for their basic needs. Please help us to continue our charity work in these areas.

Due to the volume of food aid deliveries, our daily costs are mounting. Diesel, tyres, service, tax, insurance, rates, registration fees, and maintenance of the chillers are just some of our mounting costs. To keep this service available we are really appealing for your help.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all the volunteers who work so hard during the year loading vans, collecting and delivering, loading the lorries for Humanitarian Aid deliveries, fundraising and helping in any way to keep the Charity going. Thank you very much, we really do appreciate all of your help.

Kieran Byrne,
Director and Founder.



HEART TO HAND New Van.

Photo shows the HEART TO HAND volunteers as they unload food aid received from Glanbia and Kerry Group recently. This picture also shows our new HSE-registered van for the collection and delivery of chilled goods. This chilled and registered van allows us to collect and distribute meat and dairy products which are two of the most vital parts of any meal. This van was made possible by the generosity of the JP McManus Benevolent Fund. The van is now on the road 7 days a week such is the demand for food all over the country. With your help we can help those who are struggling in Ireland today.

HEART TO HAND receive their new chilled goods van.	Mary Lynders first letter to HEART TO HAND in 1993!	Funding urgently required to keep the Charity running.	Comedian Jon Kenny, live in our massive fundraiser.
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Fundraising 2015 & Thank You Letters



Sat 25th October 2015

Jon Kenny Live on stage. (one half of the famous Irish comic duo [d'Unbelievables](#))

Venue: Young's The Ragg, Thurles Co Tipperary.

Time: Doors open 8.00pm. Show 9pm Sharp.

Music, comedy and excellent raffle prizes. Hotel breaks etc. etc .

For tickets please call Pat 086 8240978 or Kieran 0872745570

This is our biggest fundraiser this year and we really would appreciate your support for what will be an excellent night of comedy, music, and dancing to Ebony; we have some excellent raffle prizes on the night and look forward to your support.

Annual Designer Clothes Sale: Thanks to Joanne Skelly and her team of volunteers for another very successful clothes sale in The Lakeside Hotel Killaloe. Thanks to all who donated clothes and to all who supported the sale. Thanks to the Lakeside Hotel and staff for hosting the event. This year's event will take place in October; a date has yet to be

End of an era for Mary Lynders

Phone 01 8436359

Home 8436359

The Quay,
Portrane,
Donabate,
Co Dublin
16-4-1993

Dear Kieran,

I am enclosing a copy of the report from feed the children for Albania, you might find it interesting. I hoped to get a few sewing machines by June. I will be in touch with you before then.

Please let me know when you are likely to go. I am trying to get a lot of stuff for you.

So until June

Take care,
God bless,
Mary Lynders.

Original letter from 1993 in the background.

2014 saw the end of the annual Molls Marquee fundraiser Sale of Work. For the past 20 plus years, Mary Lynders sponsored, organised and managed this renowned monster sale that connected a family of sellers and buyers every August bank holiday weekend. Hail, rain or shine, the sale went ahead, so too did the haggling for three days straight.

Over so many years, countless deals were struck and wonderful bargains were had, while happy customers left armed with anything from a dining room table and chairs to a luxury branded handbag that would not be too shabby for Brown Thomas! It's no wonder that the event became an annual highlight in every calendar in North County Dublin and beyond.

Sadly however, Mary and her team of volunteers have called it a day: Mary's health is not what it used to be. For hundreds of people up and down the country, the bank holiday weekend will never be the same again!

So we would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to Mary for the tremendous effort that she has put into supporting HEART TO HAND down the years: her tenacity and her total commitment to the cause has been an inspiration to everyone involved. Her generous spirit has not only benefitted the Charity directly, but has reached out and touched all who knew.

We wish her every happiness and joy in her retirement and hope that she will make the most of her well deserved R and R. O is one of the first letters we received from Mary back in 1993 expressing her willingness to help those in need.



Mary Lynders

Knitting section.

Our thanks to all the knitting clubs around the country who diligently knit beautiful clothes for the children in the Orphanages. They are all made with love. This year we would like to thank the **Holycross-Ballycahill** group who have been supporting the Charity for many years.

Thanks to **Margaret Deacon** in Enniscorthy who is knitting for over 10 years for HEART TO HAND.

Mary McDonnell from Gorey who arrives in Scarnagh several times a year with beautiful items for the children. We had hoped to have her photo included this year but due to her modesty we still don't have one. Next year hopefully!



Photo shows Kathleen McMullin (R.I.P) busy knitting items for the orphanages. Kathleen, sadly passed away on 3/4/2014 in the nursing home doing a little knitting. Kathleen kept a record of all the items she knitted over the years. The first entry we have is 1997. She has knitted close to 5,000 items for the children. That is a phenomenal amount for one lady, but for Kathleen it was all part of a days work, work she loved. She knitted every spare moment she had. The caption on her memorial card reads "We pray that God has given Mammy the crown she truly won". We in HEART TO HAND want to extend our sympathies to her family and friends. Thank you so much Kathleen.

CHRISTMAS DONATION

Our thanks to **OMC TECHNOLOGIES**, Limerick, for making HEART TO HAND their Charity of choice when making a very generous donation last Christmas in lieu of the traditional "Christmas Bottle". This is an excellent idea and one that we hope many more companies will follow. OMC has been supporting us for the past 10 years and we greatly appreciate their generous and continued support. On behalf of all at HEART TO HAND we would like to warmly thank OMC.

THANKS TO ALL WHO FUNDRAISE FOR OUR CHARITY

Thanks to all the people that competed in various marathons, walks, cycles etc.; we really appreciate your efforts. The funding from these events is so very important. To all who host our pen boxes and continue to raise funds every day we want to thank you most sincerely.

There are several events planned for later this year, all of which will appear on our website www.hearttohand.net. Music concerts, cake sales, bag packing etc.

To everyone who supports our Charity we just want to say thank you.



HEART TO HAND BUILDING PROJECTS 2014



HEART TO HAND Volunteers in Dublin airport prior to their building trip to Albania where they constructed several houses for families who were living in very poor conditions.

Back: Josie Hayes, Mary B Ryan, Paddy Ryan, Jim Keogh, Martin Campion, Eamonn Ryan, Eamonn Cornally, Paudie Dwan, Timmy Corcoran, Denis O Dwyer and Willie Guerin.

Front: Jim Fanning, John O Reilly, Pat Whelan, Martin Doyle, Gary Troy and John Mockler. Missing from photo Siobhan Ryan.

A big thank you to all our volunteers, all who donated materials, fundraised, loaded the lorries and supported in any other way. Thank you. Full details of the construction projects can be found on our website www.hearttohand.net (projects 2014)



This beautiful church in Puke got a new roof thanks to the HEART TO HAND Charity and the volunteers. Located in the mountains the existing roof was in bad repair due to heavy falls of snow. HEART TO HAND installed a new heavy duty insulated roof. Photo shows the Missionaries Of Charity Sisters at mass after the new roof was completed.



Opening of a new school built by HEART TO HAND



HEART TO HAND Food Deliveries

Photo shows HEART TO HAND volunteers led by Geraldine O Sullivan distributing food in Limerick. A big thank you to Geraldine and all her volunteers for their continued support. With regular donations of food aid from HEART TO HAND charities who run the centres can plan a little better and possibly purchase some items that were otherwise out of their reach. A massive thank you to the JP McManus Foundation for their continued support of HEART TO HAND. Every week we are writing to companies seeking food aid for Limerick and Dublin.

ANNUAL "HEART TO HAND" COFFEE MORNINGS

Having met Margaret & Kieran Byrne approximately 20 years ago, through a mutual friend Sr. Miriam Cooney CP, and learned of the wonderful work they were doing in Romania and later in Albania, we decided to help in a small way to do some fund-raising for their charity.

The following year we started our Annual Coffee Mornings here at home in Drumcondra on the north side of Dublin. We fixed the date for the Friday nearest to Midsummer's Day, hoping to be blessed with good weather, and so far the Lord has been good to us! As we have a reasonably large back garden, we have been able to put it to good use most years, including this one.

Right from the beginning we were fortunate in recruiting a loyal group of volunteers, who have remained with us through the years. We have helpers to distribute flyers, to donate items for the all important Raffle (also to run it!) and to assist on the actual day. Without them, we could never have managed to keep going year after year, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their devotion to "Heart to Hand." We also receive generous donations from friends and neighbours who are unable to come on the day. Each year the proceeds of the Coffee Morning go directly to Margaret & Kieran to help their work in a small way.

Lastly, may we thank the wonderful people of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Marino, for supporting us faithfully year after year. They are the best fellow parishioners in the world!

Every good wish to "Heart to Hand" and to our friends
Margaret & Kieran Byrne

Jack and Mary Shiel

THANK YOU

"Swear Jar"

Our thanks to **Michael O'Shea, St Finbarr's Hospital**, Douglas Road Cork, for his recent donation following the introduction of a "Swear Jar" during Lent. We hope all in St Finbarr's keep on swearing!!

Church Food Collections

Our thanks to all who supported our church food collections during Lent.

Potato Farmers

Thanks to all the potato farmers in Wexford and surrounding areas for their support and donations.

Bins & Pins

Thanks to all who support our clothes bins and the pen boxes which are located around the country.

Sr. Mary Magdalene M.C Missionaries Of Charity on a recent visit to Holycross Abbey. Sr. Mary is a native of Ballina, Co Tipperary. Sr. Mary was our main point of contact when she was in Albania, and was instrumental in the building of all the churches, schools etc.



Anonymous Donations.

Thank you so much to all of you who make anonymous donations. We really appreciate your contributions and we hope you find our distribution of funds very transparent and we do hope you will continue to support us.

Thank You Letters.

Given the miraculous work all of the people we support do on a daily basis we never expect them to write thank you letters. Their work is to serve the poor and that is why we support them. At times they are so overcome by the generosity of HEART TO HAND that they put pen to paper. These thank you letters are for you our volunteers, supporters, fundraisers and suppliers of food aid. There are too many to include so we put all of them



Photo shows Jack & Mary Shiel enjoying a well deserved beverage following another successful coffee morning for HEART TO HAND. Jack and Mary have been supporting HEART TO HAND for over 20 years, as per above letter. Wishing you many more years of health & happiness.

HEART TO HAND NEEDS YOUR HELP

WHAT WE DO

IRELAND

HEART TO HAND (HTH) is an Irish-registered Charity providing food support services to those local and national registered centres and charities in Ireland that are helping those in greatest danger of food poverty. Since our foundation in 1992, HEART TO HAND believes in giving from the heart to the hand that needs.

Overseas

We provide Humanitarian Aid to the poorest of the poor in Albania and other countries where help is needed through the Missionaries of Charity (Mother Teresa Order) who coordinate the Aid and distribute it to the poor.



Missionaries overseas.

When we can, we provide funding to missionaries who are working alone to provide for the poor.

We source , food ,clothes, shoes & basic medical supplies for distribution to those most in need.

HEART TO HAND Clarification.

HEART TO HAND would like to state categorically that no payments are made to any of its volunteers or to its Director. **NO one receives any fees, top-ups or any remuneration of any kind from the Charity or from Donations.** All money raised goes directly to the Charity to help, feed and assist the poor.

Company Employees Supporting HEART TO HAND

If your company employees would be interested in donating €1 per employee per month, it would make a huge difference and help us to continue our work with the homeless. HEART TO HAND would like to speak to you if you are interested.

Ordinance Survey Ireland

Our thanks to the staff of Ordinance Survey Ireland who have been supporting HEART TO HAND for many years through donating every month. We are very grateful to all who donate and to the administration staff who organise and arrange the donation every month.

WHAT WE NEED

- ◆ Funding.
- ◆ Food.
- ◆ Volunteers to raise funds.
- ◆ Fundraising events.
- ◆ Direct Debits

THANK YOU VERY MUCH TO EVERYONE WHO MAKES IT POSSIBLE FOR HEART TO HAND TO CONTINUE TO SERVE THE POOREST OF THE POOR. WITH GROWING REQUESTS FOR AID IN IRELAND, WE HOPE YOU WILL CONTINUE TO HELP. GOD BLESS YOU, FROM ALL IN HEART TO HAND.

CONTACT DETAILS

HEART TO HAND Charity

Scarnagh, Gorey, Co Wexford.

Charity No. CHY 11391

Phone 0402 37260 Fax 0402 37664

email:kieranbyrne1@gmail.com

Web: www.hearttohand.net

Kieran Byrne: 087 2745570

Pat Whelan: 086 8240978



STANDING ORDER

Please find below a standing order form if you would like to support our Charity. Please fill in the form and return it to HEART TO HAND or your bank.

STANDING ORDER FORM

If you can, please consider a regular donation of €5 or any amount of your choice.

I wish to make a donation of € _____
each month until further notice
starting on _____

Please pay to: HEART TO HAND Charity,
AIB Arklow Co Wicklow.

Sort Code: 93 30 23

Account No: 03679094

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No _____

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Donate on line: log onto www.hearttohand.net and make a donation of your choice.

Make a donation: contact any member of HEART TO HAND or contact us on 087 2745570

Direct debit/Standing Order of your choice. Our bank details as follows: AIB Arklow Co Wicklow. **Account No. 03679094 Sort code 93 30 23.** Account name HEART TO HAND.

Hold a food collection in your local parish, church, school, workplace or supermarket. Tinned food, pasta, porridge, rice, beans, peas, soup etc.

Run - Walk - Cycle - Climb

When planning your next event please keep HEART TO HAND in mind as your charity of choice for raising funds. All money donated goes directly to feeding the poor in Ireland.

Making a will.

Please consider HEART TO HAND when thinking of leaving something to help the poor in Ireland.

If you require any details regarding donating, volunteering or fundraising please contact Pat Whelan 086 8240978 email: pat.whelan@omc.ie

YOUR BANK DETAILS

Account Number _____

Sort Code _____

Your Bank Name & Address

Signature _____

Date _____

Please return this completed form to:

**Kieran Byrne, HEART TO HAND,
Scarnagh, Gorey Co Wexford.**

Thank you for your generosity.