



"GIVING FROM THE HEART TO THE HAND THAT NEEDS"

Heart To Hand Charity Newsletter 2016



"GIVING FROM THE HEART TO THE HAND THAT NEEDS"

Dear friends of Heart To Hand,

Welcome to this year's edition of our newsletter. It has been a very busy year with Food Aid around Ireland and Humanitarian Aid overseas. Without you, our friends and supporters, none of this would be possible and I want to take this opportunity to thank you most sincerely for your continued support, contributions, fundraising and volunteering. In light of recent revelations regarding charities and the use of funding, I would like to reassure you that every cent raised for Heart To Hand goes to providing for the poor in Ireland and overseas. We have no staff; everyone is a volunteer and no one gets any remuneration. This has always been our policy and it will remain our policy as long as we continue to have such exceptional volunteers and supporters. We are an Irish registered charity for 25 years and are also registered with the HSE. We receive no payments or subsidies from the government.

The scandals surrounding some other charities have diminished our funding and we are appealing to you, our supporters and friends, to continue to make Heart To Hand your choice when donating. The work we do on a daily basis is so important to those who receive the Food Aid and Humanitarian Aid. We really need your support to keep up with the mounting running costs. We would be very grateful for any support or fundraising you can help with. Please visit our web site www.hearttohand.net for details of how you can donate. Alternatively you can call us on 0402 37260 to make a donation or to complete the standing order form on the back page of this edition.

This past year we have provided the equivalent of half a million meals to the poorest of the poor.

I would especially like to thank our drivers Miley and Pat who are on the road every day working hard in delivering food and other aid to centres around the country.



Kieran, Miley, Pat & Geraldine pictured here with Heart To Hand volunteers following a large food distribution.



Are you the person who donated the "Blue Box" or perhaps the one who donated the cornflakes, shoe boxes or other humanitarian aid? Heart To Hand would like to hear from you as we begin to source items for two loads this Autumn.

Kieran Byrne,
Director and Founder.

Canonisation Of Mother Teresa



Pope Francis held a Consistory of Cardinals and Bishops in which, among other causes, the canonisation of Blessed Mother Teresa was approved. The Canonisation was held on 4th Sept in Rome during the mass celebrated as

part of the jubilee for workers and volunteers. This is a very special event for the Missionaries of Charity and is also a fitting testimonial for all the hard work and dedication to the poorest of the poor.

St Mother Teresa is patron of Heart To Hand and we are deeply privileged to be witness to this great occasion. To all the Missionaries of Charity we congratulate you on this occasion.

Photo over shows volunteers unloading the Heart To Hand Humanitarian Aid delivery in Albania. We have sent several lorries this year and we really need your support to continue sending these life-saving loads to the poorest of the poor. We have requests for two further loads before Christmas which we hope we can deliver. If you can help please contact us. Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to hearing from you.

Kerry Foods continues to support Heart To Hand with food aid.

Thank you letters from Albania for the Aid received.

Mary Lynders receives person of the year award.

Special mention to long time supporter Sean Coughlan.

Heart To Hand Long Term Volunteers



Sean Caughlin from Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal has enjoyed many years of positive engagement with Heart to Hand and his connection to our Charity began many moons ago. In 1993, Sean set eyes on an article about Heart to Hand in the Irish Catholic, liked what he saw, and decided to make further enquiries. Upon doing so, Sean set about contacting schools and businesses in his local community in order to acquire goods to transport to Wexford.

And so began a long and fruitful kinship. On a regular basis, Sean would arrive in our yard, driving a small van, full to the brim with his latest collection of goods. The small van became a big van, the big van became a truck but Sean still arrived in Wexford regardless. While Sean's vehicles changed through the years, his dedication and desire to help those in need has not. Hail, rain or shine, that trip, all the way from Donegal, is made without hesitation.

So here's to a man, who knows no bounds when it comes to giving of his time and energy to help others less fortunate. We always look forward to the arrival of Sean Caughlin in the Heart to Hand yard, and always will.

Founders: Kieran & Margaret Byrne.

Its hard to mention long term volunteers without mentioning the Byrne family and friends. To Kieran, Margaret & James thank you for your continued hard work in keeping the charity on the road and the diligent work you do in loading the lorries for Albania. It takes weeks to load 25,000kgs of food onto an articulated lorry, but this is a job Kieran, Margaret and James have been doing for 25 years and every load gets better. There is so much love and affection put into the loading that we always receive thank you letters for the manner in which the loads were received. Thank you Kieran, Margaret, James and all your circle of volunteers in Scarnagh, Wexford.

Thank you letter from Albania. (Full version is on our website)

Dear Kieran, Margaret, Pat and all in "Heart to Hands":

We thank you our dearly beloved friends the Irish for your overwhelming generosity! Your hearts and our hands, they worked together. To be honest with you I have never seen so many pampers. We have never received three tons of oatmeal porridge with such huge amounts of milk together with such excellent, first class clothes items.

My friends helped me unload the vehicle and prepare the packages. Everything that we gave to the prisoners went right into their hands. I myself, together with the M.C. Sisters and some close associates, entered into the cells of the prisoners. I have to say that there was excellent material. It is such a joy to give excellent material into the hands of the poorest of the poor in prisons in Albania! I was able to give a pair of socks to everyone in both prisons (Krye and Burrel), you have no idea what an act of charity that is! There are some poor prisoners who do not receive a change of socks or underwear for very long periods, perhaps ever for years! In the first prison visit to Krye on the twentieth of July, (20-07-2016) we had the joy of encountering about two hundred and forty prisoners in their cells. One hundred and twenty of them never receive anything from outside, you can imagine their condition!

Thank you so much for the abundance of plastic gloves and tissues for cleaning; they are both very useful, especially for our hospital for the orphaned and handicapped. "Thank you for the pear preserves, for the many bags of flour, the abundance of food materials especially the first class marmalade in great abundance, the many sweets and like! Only in heaven will you know how much good you have done, how many of the really poorest of the poor have received into their hands from your hearts!

Thank you so much for the medical supplies, stationery materials (pens and little note pads). Thank you for the hats, the children's clothes, the bedding material, including sheets and pillowcases. Thanks for the towels, the soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste and a large amount of toilet rolls.

It may be that I have forgotten something. Thank you for everything and may the good Lord keep your Irish hearts smiling! May the good Lord keep your hearts and our hands always working in the best possible way for His kingdom, until the last moment, especially for the best talented use of the things for the poorest of the poor in the prisons in Albania!

Sincerely in Christ, invoking every possible blessing for you Irish in "Heart to Hands", through the intercession of St Teresa of Calcutta and all of the angels and saints, I would like to express once again especially on behalf of the poorest of the poor whom we serve, thank you!

Brother Andre-Marie M.C

We are currently preparing a load for Br Andre and if you would like to support please contact us or visit our web site and donate on line. www.hearttohand.net (0402 37260)

Items required are tracksuits, socks, tee shirts and trainers all of which must be new.

Myles Doran

Our thanks to Myles for his long term volunteering and contribution to the Charity. We are so grateful for all your help and support over the years. Thank you Myles.

Pat Coady, & his sons Ross & Sam.

Pat and sons have been supporting Heart To Hand for many a year and we want to thank you for all your help, support and volunteering over the years.

Eggs donated from Clonarn Clover Eggs.

Our thanks to Margaret and Leo Farrelly of Clonarn Clover Eggs who continue with their weekly donations of eggs to Heart To Hand for the Charities in Limerick.

Wexford Potatoes

Thanks to Brian & Liam Barry who have been collecting potatoes all over Wexford for Heart To Hand and thanks to the potato growers who continue to donate!

Shop Door Collections

Special mention to Maureen Sherlock and her group of volunteers who organise the shop door collections and collect so much food for Heart To Hand. Thanks Maureen, Carmel, John, Martin & Kathleen .

Mary Meade & John Cotter

Thanks to Mary & John for their continued support, we really appreciate the years of service and all the hard work you have done for Heart To Hand.

Ted & Terry Pope

Our sincere thanks to Ted & Terry for their support since 1991. They have been collecting in Blarney and surrounding areas for the past 25 years and we really appreciate all they do for us.

Sr Rose Carmel Romania.

We have been supporting Sr. Rose Carmel an Irish Nun working for the poor in Romania for many years. We send Sr. Rose on average €5,000 each year to help her with work, in which Sr. Rose provides education, food, help and hope to the poorest of the poor.

Ordination of Fr John Ryan to Bishop of Muzuzu.

Heart To Hand has provided funding to Fr. John Ryan in Malawi to help with the construction of a new school. The school is almost complete and will be visited by our Fr. Celsus Tierney later this month as he will be present for the ordination of Fr. John to Bishop of Muzuzu. Best wishes to Fr. John from Holycross Co Tipperary who has been a missionary in Malawi for over 30 years.



New school supported by Heart To Hand



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Mount Anville Junior School

The photo shows Kieran Byrne and Miley collecting schoolbags which were specially prepared by the 5th class pupils of Mount Anville Junior School, for children in need. These are an excellent gift to children in developing countries. The pupils also donated socks, pyjamas, gloves, hats, games and teddy bears. Thank you all so much.

Craanford National School

Thanks to the teachers and pupils of Craanford National school who have been supporting Heart To Hand since its foundation 25 years ago. We are extremely grateful for your enthusiasm and support over the years.

Ferns National School

Thanks to the pupils, teachers and parents of Ferns national school for their continued support.

Thanks to all schools who support our Charity

Thank you for your support and if you would like your school photo to be included, please email it to kieran.byrne@gmail.com



A huge thank you to all in Kerry foods who have made Heart To Hand their 1st choice when donating food aid. We are extremely grateful for their support and especially for the tonnes of food received on a weekly basis. This is excellent quality food and the recipients are so grateful to receive it in such quantities. Thank you Kerry Group, and thanks to the staff of Kerry Group who have held fundraisers and donated the money raised to Heart To Hand. Kerry Group and Heart To Hand have come together to ensure that no food is wasted and that all food aid is delivered straight to the people who need it most. We are very fortunate to receive such ongoing support from Kerry Group.

FUNDRAISERS 2015 /2016

Youngs The Ragg– Heart To Hand Fundraiser Oct 2015

A very successful and entertaining night was held in Youngs the Ragg last October where the headline act was comedian Jon Kenny, supported by Ebony, Strings & Things and DJ Dan. It was a fantastic night with lots of comedy, dancing and much more fun. Thanks to all the acts for their support. We would like to thank Donal & Rose Young for hosting the event and a massive thank you to Paul and Breda Dempsey for organising this fundraiser. A huge amount of work went into planning and organising the evening and we really appreciate the effort. Thanks to all involved with the event including ticket sellers, volunteers on the night and to all who donated exceptional prizes for the main raffle. It was a huge success and we hope to make it an annual event!

Designer Clothes Sale - Lakeside Hotel

Thanks to Joanne Skelly and her team of volunteers for another successful clothes sale in the Lakeside Hotel, Killaloe. This is an annual event and one the whole town looks forward to, such are the bargains! Please support this years sale which will be held in November. Details will be posted on our website.

Whist Drive Fundraiser - Pouldine Thurles

Thanks to Alice O Connell for organising a very successful whist drive last October.

Coffee Mornings

Our sincere thanks to the following for their recent charity coffee mornings in aid of Heart To Hand. This fundraising is vital to the Charity and we really appreciate it.

Jack & Mary Shields, Maura Quirke, Clare Hayden, The Hurley Family.

Pen Boxes.

Thank you to all the shopkeepers and businesses who host our pen boxes and keep them maintained. We appreciate your help and continued support.

Good Friday & Lenten Collections

Thanks so much to all who support our food collections during lent and to all who support our Good Friday collections.

Individual Donations and Direct Debits

Without funding we cannot serve the poor. We are so grateful to all who donate and make Heart To Hand their charity of choice when donating. Thank you so much for all your continued support.



Our thanks to Shane, Brona & Darren for their continued support and for providing warehousing & transportation. Thanks to Geraldine O Sullivan and her team of dedicated volunteers for all their hard work during the year in Limerick.



TECHNOLOGIES LTD

Big thanks to all in OMC Technologies for their continued support. OMC have been supporting Heart To Hand for 12 years now and we are so grateful. They have provided for all of our building projects, provided transportation, office space, warehouse space, forklifts, personnel and in recent years have donated to Heart To Hand in lieu of Christmas gifts to customers. This generous donation at Christmas time is a huge boost to us and we sincerely want to thank all in OMC.

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 would 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 monthly donations. We are very grateful to all those who donate and to the administration staff who organise and arrange the donations every month.



Glanbia have played a vital role in the Heart To Hand food distribution story over the past 20 years. Their products are of excellent quality and are vital to the undernourished children who receive them. We wish to thank Glanbia for their continued support of our Charity and we really appreciate all we have received over the years. Heart to Hand always anticipates the call from Glanbia as we know what to expect - large quantities of exceptionally nutritious food every time. We wish Glanbia every



success in the future and we look forward to many more years of food aid. Thank you Glanbia.



HEART TO HAND VOLUNTEERS



Sligo Volunteers who have been knitting items for Heart To Hand for many a long year!!

Photo shows volunteers from Riverstown in Co Sligo who knit, volunteer and donate to Heart To Hand. These ladies are part of the late Clare Walsh's helpers. Clockwise from top, Margaret Travers 98 years old, Dolores Taheny, Vera Taheny, Kathleen Lyons, & Ita Walsh. Other members of the group for whom we have no photos are: Mary Brehony, Phylis Gaffney, and Cormac & Kathleen Caffery.

On behalf of Heart To Hand and all those who receive your wonderful knitted items and gifts, we want to say a special thanks to each and every one of you and we also remember Clare Walsh. There is great love and affection put into all your items which are greatly appreciated by those who receive them.

Nationwide Volunteers

To all our volunteers around the country can we say a massive "thank you" for your hard work and endless hours of knitting, collecting food, clothes, shoes, Christmas shoe boxes and much, much more. God bless you all.

Mary Lynders receives Person Of The Year in Fingal Co Dublin.



In August, Mary Lynders, a seasoned supporter and volunteer of Heart to Hand received the Citizen of the Year award in her native community of Fingal, County Dublin. Part of the much coveted award included €500 that she could donate to her charity of choice which, needless to say, was Heart to Hand.

Through her labours we have seen Mary move mountains on countless occasions. She is truly an unsung hero - her energy, passion and determination to help those less well off has inspired many to go and do likewise. Over the years of volunteering with Heart to Hand, Mary created and cultivated a network of talented and altruistic people who supported her charitable endeavours unconditionally. This expansive and ever growing group persists today because often what once started out as cold calls over the telephone

turned into lifelong friendships. Singlehandedly, Mary has brought hundreds of people together and inspired them to give of themselves. She is a power house and at 80 years of age is still a force to be reckoned with. Congratulations Mary!

HOW YOU CAN HELP

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.

Making a will.

Please consider Heart to Hand when thinking of leaving something to help the poor in Ireland.

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

WHAT WE DO

Provide food aid to over 50 locations around Ireland, these centres and food shelters operate on a voluntary basis and we always like to help the smaller centres where funding and support would be minimal.

This past year we have provided the equivalent of **half a million meals** to the poorest of the poor.

We support those who try to make a difference.

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

pat.whelan@omc.ie

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 _____

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.