



# Heart To Hand Charity Newsletter 2023



Dear friends, A Cháirde,

Fáilte/ Welcome to this edition of the Heart To Hand Charity newsletter.

We received the following letter from a hostel recently and it sums up the work we do here in Ireland.

Dear Heart To Hand,

I am writing to you on behalf of the residents, brothers, and volunteers of the Morning Star Hostel to thank you for your most generous donation of food and wonderful treats that you gave to Morgan Sharpe on our behalf.

The Hostel is completely full at this time and indeed if we had more beds, we would fill them too. But you know there is a lovely sense of peace and comradery amongst the 64 residents and the volunteers. I think this happens because we try to look after each of our residents and treat them like human beings and also because of benefactors such as yourselves.

We are always trying to update the Hostel and make it as good as we can for all the residents. Having said that we have noticed a large increase in costs and that is why we are so grateful to Heart To Hand for your generosity. We could not keep the hostel going if we did not have kind benefactors such as Heart To Hand. Yours sincerely ,  
Mark Cotterell, Officer, The Morning Star Hostel, Brunswick Street Dublin 7.



Thanks to all the schools who collect food and shoe boxes for Heart To Hand. Scoil Naomh Maodhóg, Ferns Co Wexford.

Our thanks as always to those who have made Heart To Hand their charity of choice for monthly donations. This is a lifeline for our charity and we really want to say thank you, especially those who donate anonymously. Heart To Hand is run entirely by volunteers and there are no payments to any members or volunteers. Every euro donated is used to help people in need. This has always been how our charity operates.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and everyone of you for keeping our charity going, which is now in its 32nd year. God bless you all.

Kieran Byrne,  
Director and Founder.

Humanitarian Aid Deliveries.  
Turkey/Syria & Albania.

Truck & Tractor Run. Clothes  
sale. Parish collections.

Tribute to Volunteers

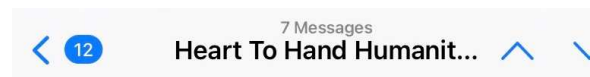
Schools supporting Heart To  
Hand.



# Humanitarian Aid to Turkey Syria



In February Heart to Hand responded to the call for help after a devastating earthquake in Turkey and Syria. Food, clothes and other essential items were collected, loaded and delivered following approval from the Turkish Embassy. We would like to thank all who supported this shipment, especially OMC Technologies who provided funding to cover the transport, vans for collecting and delivering, warehousing and forklifts. Thanks to HIRF Netherlands for their assistance with the load.



**From:** Turkish Embassy in Dublin  
<[embassy.dublin@mfa.gov.tr](mailto:embassy.dublin@mfa.gov.tr)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 1:07 PM  
**To:** Pat Whelan <[pat.whelan@omc.ie](mailto:pat.whelan@omc.ie)>  
**Subject:** RE: Heart To Hand Humanitarian Aid for Turkey

Dear Mr. Whelan,

Thank you for your message, thoughts and offer to extend a helping hand.

You may deliver the load of Humanitarian Aid to the depots mentioned in the attached documents. Please could you make sure to contact the depots before delivering the load.

[TurkishEmbassyDublin](#)  
[@TC\\_Dublin](#)

We thank you for your support and solidarity.

Embassy of the Republic of Türkiye in Dublin  
8 Raglan road  
Ballsbridge  
Dublin 4



Food items collected for Syria & Turkey.



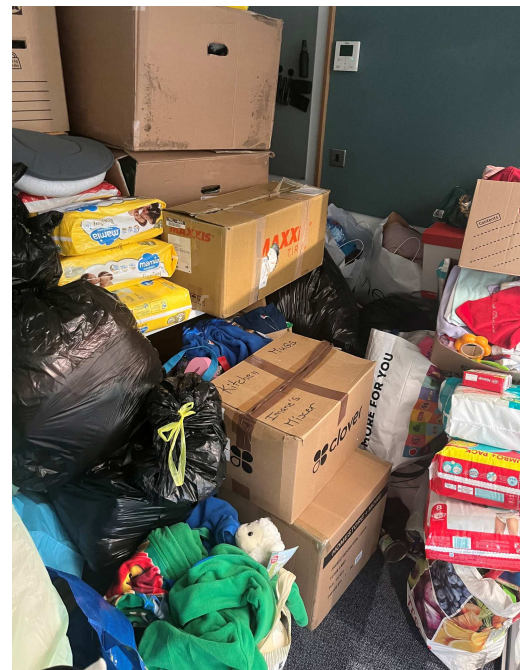
## Humanitarian Aid To Albania May 2023



In May we sent a load of Humanitarian Aid to Albania. This load consisted of food, clothes, and some medical aids.

Our thanks to all who donated food, clothes, and other Humanitarian - an Aid. We really appreciate the support over the past 32 years. These loads are vital to the Missionaries Of Charity who have so many poor families to look after, homes for the elderly to support, centres for children with disabilities to support and several other dependants. With the support of Heart To Hand their work can be made that little bit easier. Thanks so much to all involved.

Thanks to Keyline Transport and driver John Sullivan for safe delivery of the Aid.



Ciara Byrne , Elavon, loading the proceeds of their collection.

[HEART to HAND Charity](#) would like to thank the staff from [Elavon](#) in Arklow, for their recent collection of Humanitarian Aid to support our appeal to help people affected by the recent Earthquake in Turkey and Syria. The support was amazing and we collected two full loads ! Elavon have been a huge support to our charity in recent years and we really appreciate your efforts. Thanks to Ciara Byrne for organising the collections and for her continued support of our charity. Well done to all in Elavon.

Its great to see companies in our area recognising the work of Heart To Hand, and showing their support for local charities. We look forward to our next charity event with Elavon and we wish them every success in their business.





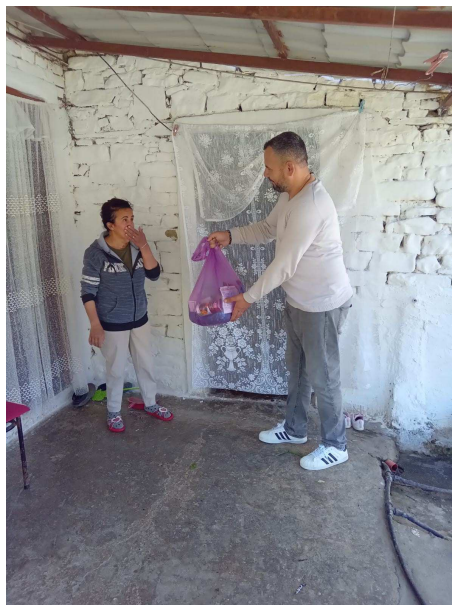
## Humanitarian Aid to Albania



In July we sent another load of Humanitarian Aid to Durres Albania. As you can see from the picture, every inch of the lorry is packed with food and aid for people in need. Margaret & Myles ensure everything that goes on the lorry is of the highest quality. Thanks one again to all who support these loads.



Photos from Albania of the food being distributed to people in need. Thanks to all the volunteers in Albania for their continued help.





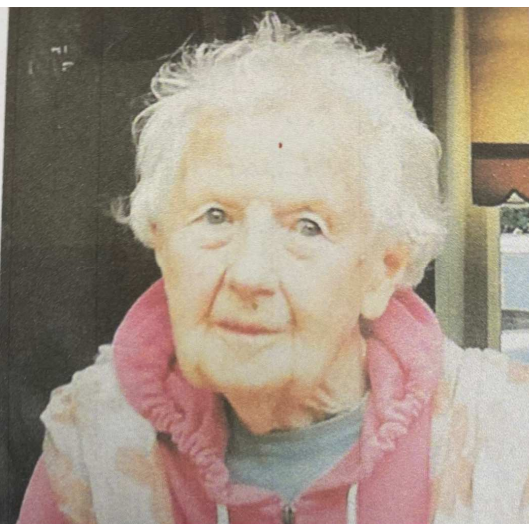
## Aid Deliveries to Albania



Afternoon Tea, Kellogg's Corn Flakes, Rice, Pasta, Christmas Shoe Boxes and much more loaded and ready for distribution last Christmas in Albania. Imagine the delight when the Sisters call with all this on board in time for Christmas.

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**RIP Vera Taheny, Riverstown, Ballymote, Co Sligo.** A Life dedicated to helping those in need.



A sincere and heartfelt condolence to the Taheny family, Dolores, Thomas, Anne, Jerome and Paul and your extended family. Vera had worked with our charity for the past 30 years. She was a very kind lady always willing to help. Below is a letter from her family.

Heart To Hand was close to Vera's generous heart at all times. She felt fulfilled when her hands were busy working and collecting for those in need. She gathered a group of knitters and collectors who remained faithful in their dedication to making sure the supplies kept coming in. Thanks to the enthusiastic knitters, blankets, caps, children's cardigans etc, were never in short supply. She requested the help of local shops, supermarkets, pharmacies and schools in supplying food items, hygiene,

RIP Vera Taheny Sligo.

products, medical requisites as well as clothing. The generosity of friends and neighbours was amazing. For many years Vera's living room was constantly stacked high with boxes neatly packed and labelled. Every item was double checked.

She collaborated with her great friends in Boyle, Castlebaldwin, Sligo & Leitrim/Donegal. Vera's husband and children called upon to do their share, no pair of idle hands allowed in our house! Her family meant everything to her. She adored her 8 wonderful grandchildren, and 5 super great-grandchildren. Her mission in life was providing for those in need—her brothers and sisters in Christ.

Suimhneas síoraí a bhéara.





## December 2023 Delivery-Christmas Shoes Boxes-Food-Clothes



Dean Chambers Transport all ready to travel with our Christmas delivery of Humanitarian Aid. Thanks to Dean for his continued support of our charity. Dean is always available to collect or deliver locally and we really appreciate the support.



Photos from last week as Margaret and Myles pack in the Christmas shoe boxes to complete the Christmas delivery for 2023. There is over 25 Tonne of Humanitarian Aid on every load, this takes a lot of organising and loading. The cost of food is rising every year and we have to purchase quite a lot of food for the loads. This can only be made possible by the generosity of all who support our charity.

Thanks to all the schools, children and parents who make up the Christmas shoe boxes for this load. We really appreciate the support. Heart To Hand do not collect any money with the shoe boxes. We will continue with this as long as we can.

We are always looking for support and if you can help in any way with the cost of transporting these loads, you can do so by logging on to our website [www.hearttohand.net](http://www.hearttohand.net) where you can donate on line, or alternately you can contact Heart to Hand to make a donation.





## Sunday Drive Fundraiser Ballyfad, Gory, Co Wexford. Tractor, Truck, Car and Bike run.



A huge thank you to Marie Cushe, and her large team of family members and volunteers who ran a very successful fundraiser for our charity. Trucks, Tractors, Vintage cars and bikes. It was a really well run event and we want to thank Marie and all in Ballyfad who made it a great and safe charity run. Well done to all involved and to all who turned up to support the event, it was very much appreciated.



Kieran enjoying the vintage cars, bikes, tractors and a cuppa!

## Designer Clothes Sale



# CHARITY CLOTHES SALE

LAKESIDE HOTEL KILLALOE  
FRIDAY 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023  
FOR 1 DAY ONLY! 10am to 8pm

New and nearly new, Ladies, gents, and children's designer wear.  
All proceeds going to the "HEART TO HAND" charity.

Heart To Hand Charity No. CHY 11391 Web: [www.hearttohand.org](http://www.hearttohand.org)

The Heart To Hand Charity Clothes sale took place in the Lakeside Hotel & Leisure Centre in November. It was a huge success again and we really want to thank all those who donated clothes and all who purchased clothes. A big Thank You to the Lakeside Hotel and staff for accommodating our sale.

The clothes are donated and then priced and sold in the lakeside Hotel & Leisure Centre. Prices start at 1 euro and we have a range of ladies, men's & children's wear. Jewellery and shoes can also be found!. If you haven't attended your missing out!. Thanks to Joanne Skelly and all her team of volunteers for their work every year.



## Soccer Kits from Heart To Hand



Br Michael distributing soccer kits which were donated to Heart To Hand to a soccer team in Albania. Thanks to those who make Heart To Hand their charity partner when donating clothes. The teams were delighted to receive these kits.



Christmas Shoe Boxes from Ireland

Great excitement as children in Albania receive their Christmas boxes from Heart To Hand .





## Schools collecting Christmas Shoe Boxes



Scoil Ghormáin Naofa, Castletown.



Queen of the Universe NS Bagenalstown.



Scoil Íosagáin Coolgreany Gorey Co Wexford



Kieran Byrne raising the flag for Cineáltas which means kindness.

We were so happy to welcome Kieran Byrne from HEART to HAND Charity to collect our beautiful shoeboxes which were put together with such care and generosity. These parcels will be transported and delivered to those less fortunate than ourselves this Christmas. It was a particularly poignant moment given that the Cineáltas campaign was launched. Cineáltas means kindness and we couldn't think of anyone more fitting than Kieran to raise the flag of kindness in our school. Sincere thanks to all our parents and children who gave so generously to the cause and to Gillian also for helping to organise the shoeboxes. A little kindness goes a long way 🙌😊📦🌲🍁



## Christmas shoe box collections



St Kevins National School, Tara Hill.



Children in the Orphanage in Albania, receiving their Christmas Shoe Boxes from Br Michael which were donated by Heart To Hand.



The joy of receiving the Christmas shoe Boxes.



## Christmas shoe box collections



**Avondale Community College**

34 m · 🌐



### Christmas Shoebox Appeal

2 Oak showcased the true spirit of giving by participating in a Christmas Shoebox Appeal as part of their CSPE classroom-based assessment. Partnering with the Heart to Hand charity, they organised a heartwarming initiative that will bring smiles to those in need during this festive season. Well done to all involved.



**The following schools have supported our Christmas Shoe box collection and our food collections.**

St Fiachra's Junior National School, Beaumont, Dublin.

John Scottus National School , Dublin.

Borris National School, Carlow.

Mount Anville Montessori Junior School, Dublin.

St Patricks National School Craanford, Gorey, Co Wexford.

Glenart Community College, Coolgreany Rd, Co Wicklow.

St Bridget's National School, Bagnelstown, Co Carlow.

Monaseed National School, Gorey, Co Wexford.

Scoil Iósaf National School, Castlemartyr, Co Cork.

Avondale Community College, Rathdrum Co Wicklow.

St Patricks National School, Bearna Chlé, Arklow, Co Wicklow.

Scoil Naomh Colmcille, Tullamore, CO Offaly.





# Jack Shiels RIP

It was with a great sadness that we learned of the passing of John Shiels, volunteer and friend of Heart To Hand for 25 years.



John Shiels RIP , Kieran Byrne, Mary Shiels & Margaret Byrne

Heart To hand would like to express our condolences to John's Wife Mary and his extended family.

John and Mary have been holding coffee mornings for the past 25 years, to raise money for our charity. We always looked forward to hearing from John and Mary after their events, whether it was coffee mornings, collecting food at Easter in their local church or any other event , they always gave it 100% and collected so much over the years for people in need.

Collecting food and funding is not easy and to keep it going for over 25 years was phenomenal. John will be sadly missed by all in Heart To Hand. He was a true gentleman always willing to help others. John and Mary made a great team and we in Heart To Hand were very lucky they chose Heart To Hand ,as their charity for fundraising and food collections.

May he rest in peace and we pray he is rewarded in heaven for all his amazing charity work over the past 25years.



Aine Browne, Hollyfort.

*Dear Heart To Hand,*

*This is a photo of my sister AINE BROWNE, BOLANY, HOLLYFORT, who crocheted mini blankets and shawls for the children of Heart to Hand.*

*We dropped by earlier today with our mother.*

*God bless.*

Aine ,

On behalf of all in Heart To Hand , Thank you so much for all the beautiful pieces you have made for the children of Albania. Keep up the good work and we look forward to receiving many more deliveries from the Browne family in Hollyfort, Co Wexford.

Great to see someone smiling while doing their work!



## Companies Supporting Heart To Hand



Thanks to Tom Carr and staff in Pallet Xpress for their continued support of our charity. Pallet Xpress have supported us with funding, logistics and have collected food for our shipments. We really appreciate the support.

Our thanks to Paul Touhy and all in Alltrans for their donation to our Christmas appeal. Donations from Alltrans and other companies allow us to ship food, Christmas shoe boxes and clothes to people in need.



Valeo foods donate food aid to Heart To Hand on a regular basis. Like Kerry Group, Valeo do not want to see food waste so they have requested our help with the distribution of products that are coming close to best before dates. These products are donated to Heart To Hand who collect and deliver to people in need. Heart To Hand are HSE Registered for collection of chilled goods and we have strict procedures in place to ensure all products donated are in date and safe for consumption.

Thanks to John Duffy and staff at Duffy Express Freight for their donation to our Christmas appeal. We really appreciate the support.



Thank you to all in Transland group for their donation to our Christmas appeal. Your support is very welcome.

Kerry Group have been supporting Heart To Hand for many years with food aid and donations from staff and management. We are extremely grateful for all we receive from Kerry Group. Our partnership ensures no food goes to waste. We have regular collections from Kerry Group which are distributed to homeless centres in Dublin, and surrounding areas. The products donated by Kerry are excellent quality and very welcome in the centres we support.





## Construction Projects

Earlier this year volunteer Dinny O'Dwyer travelled to Albania where he visited several sites that require our assistance. Hopefully we can get back to construction volunteering in 2024 and start carrying out some of these very necessary projects.



Dinny O Dwyer, pictured with Br Michael, in Bushat, Albania. Dinny was checking the delivery by Heart To Hand to Br Michael. This was food collected in churches during Easter and we want to thank all who took part.



Malawi hospital



Volunteer Fr Celsus Tierney was in Malawi recently to visit Bishop John Ryan who is instrumental in providing schools for the people of Mzuzu. Fr Celsus visited a local hospital that requires renovations and a school that has no roof. 12 Heart To Hand volunteers will travel out in April 2024 to carry out as much of this work as they can. Education and health are 2 vital areas and Heart To Hand will do what we can to assist Bishop John and the teachers and Doctors in this parish. A GoFundMe page will be set up to raise funds for the project.





## Ordinance Survey Ireland

### Ordinance Survey Ireland.

### Employee donations through work

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.



Pat Whelan, receiving a cheque from Padraig Comerford, Deputy Managing Director OMC Technologies.



### TECHNOLOGIES DAC

OMC Technologies continue to support Heart To Hand with a very generous donation to our charity at Christmas.

We are extremely grateful to have OMC Technologies as a charity partner. They are supporting us for almost 20 years!

Earlier this year OMC donated funding to allow Humanitarian Aid be delivered to Turkey/Syria following the earthquake.



This year we have introduced Heart To Hand Certificates, for all schools collecting food and Christmas shoe boxes. This is to recognise the achievements of the students for their efforts with collecting food and preparing shoe boxes, which are always filled and packed with great care and attention.

Well done to all the students, parents and teachers for their work.

The gifts of food and Christmas shoe boxes are such a support to struggling families.





## Wexford potatoes

Heart To Hand would like to thank **Brian Barry** Wexford for his collections and deliveries of potatoes from farmers all over Wexford . We are very grateful for your continued support of our charity . Potatoes are a very important part of our diet and to have them donated for distribution to those in need is really very decent of the Wexford potato growers and farmers.

Heart To Hand would like to convey sympathy to Brian on the death of his brother **Liam Barry Taggart, Wexford** who died in 2021. Liam worked with his brother Brian grading and snagging potatoes over many years.



### RIP. John Fortune, Wexford.

Heart To Hand would like to express their sympathies to John's wife Anne, his sons & daughters, Johnnie, Rosie, Andy, Chris, Stephen & Jeff and his extended family.

John donated potatoes every year to our charity. He was extremely generous and very charitable. Anytime we were running short of food, a call to John would always be answered with a delivery of potatoes. May you be rewarded now for all your work. May he rest in peace.

### Deceased members and supporters of Heart To Hand

Heart To Hand would like to remember in their prayers all our deceased members and supporters. As we celebrate 32 years of volunteering, it's important to remember all those down through the years who volunteered, fundraised, and supported us in any way. You are always remembered in our prayers and masses.

**Heart To Hand Volunteers.** Without our amazing volunteers we could not continue our work. Thanks to Gerry Bracken, Myles Doran, & Marion Lynders for their work during the year. We would like to acknowledge Marion's mother Mary Lynders, who for so many years was our leading fundraiser with her Auction weekend in Portrane, Dublin and her collections of food, blankets, toys etc. Thank you Mary for all the years of volunteering and supporting the poor.

### STANDING ORDER FORM Date: \_\_\_\_\_

To The Manager Of: \_\_\_\_\_

Branch Address \_\_\_\_\_

**I/We hereby authorise and request you to debit my/our account**  
(Details of the account from which the payment will be made)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

IBAN: \_\_\_\_\_ BIC: \_\_\_\_\_

#### And to credit the beneficiary/Receiver account.

Account Name: Heart To Hand AIB Arklow Co Wicklow.

**Account No: 03679177**

**BIC: AIBKIE2D**

**IBAN: IE12AIBK93302303679094**

Amount€ \_\_\_\_\_ Start date \_\_\_\_\_

Frequency: Monthly \_\_\_\_\_ Annually \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

To make your gift to Heart To Hand , please cut out this form and post it to Kieran Byrne Heart To Hand, Scarnagh, Gorey, Co Wexford or Pat Whelan 68 Ard Coillte, Ballina Co Tipperary V94VNRO

### HEART TO HAND—CONTACT DETAILS

#### Kieran Byrne:

Scarnagh, Gorey, Co Wexford.

Charity No. CHY 11391

Phone 0402 37260

Mobile: **087 2745570**

Email: [kieranbyrne1@gmail.com](mailto:kieranbyrne1@gmail.com)

Web: [www.hearttohand.net](http://www.hearttohand.net)

#### Pat Whelan:

68 Ard Coillte,

Ballina,

Co Tipperary

Mobile: **086 8240978**

Email: [pat.whelan@omc.ie](mailto:pat.whelan@omc.ie)

### HOW YOU CAN DONATE

**Make a donation:** contact any member of Heart To Hand or contact us on 087 2745570 or 086 8240978 or simply log onto our website [www.hearttohand.net](http://www.hearttohand.net) and donate on line.

**Direct debit/Standing Order of your choice.** To set up a direct debit or standing order please complete the form over and return to Heart To Hand , Scarnagh, Gorey, Co Wexford

#### Remember us in your will.

Let your legacy become part of our story by leaving us a gift in your will. Your memory can live on by helping us to help the poorest of the poor.

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