



# BARNABUS

Bringing hope to the homeless and vulnerable

## OUTREACH

### Greetings in the beautiful name of Jesus

Here we are 2014, but it's not too late to wish all our Barnabus friends a blessed New Year.



A great deal of excitement, I can tell you, amongst all the guys at the beacon when Ricky Hatton threw his towel into our corner and announced that he is becoming a Barnabus Patron; read all about it inside this newsletter.

As you will realise from reading previous newsletters over the past twelve months, we are meeting more men and women from Eastern European Countries. These guys are leaving their homes and families behind in the hope of a establishing a better life for them and family here in the UK.

Unfortunately there are a great many unscrupulous men in their home countries bringing these guys here to work with false promises of employment. When they arrive in the UK they find that their passport and ID is taken from them and they are placed in unfit accommodation and sent to work on farms etc., receiving next to no financial rewards. They have in fact been trafficked and are 'SLAVES'. Please pray for these guys and their families and that Barnabus can help support them while they are here but with a hope of repatriating them.

Love and little fishes,

Peter and Beryl Green

# Ricky Hatton MBE Patron for Barnabus



We're thrilled to announce that Ricky Hatton MBE has become a patron for Barnabus. Ricky has pledged to help raise awareness of our work and will whenever possible offer his support by attending events.

Ricky has also recently astounded us by committing to raise funds for our Brick Appeal by taking part in a gruelling sponsored bike ride 'Le Mont Blanc race to the roof of Europe'. We're so thankful that Ricky has such an open heart for the homeless and we pray he will be blessed and enjoy continued good health as he takes up this incredible challenge.

*Ricky writes: Often when I'm out in Manchester, I see people sleeping rough and it's really upsetting. When you're a professional boxer, that doesn't stop when you step out of the ring, and if you can't use your profession to help others then you're not as professional as you think. Barnabus is a charity close to my heart, I'm patron now and I'm keen to do all I can to help them.*

*I am trying to help the homeless by cycling to the roof of Europe. I will take part in the 140km La Mont Blanc cycle on July 20th 2014 in order to raise money for Barnabus. The work they do is incredible, but there's always that little bit more that can be done and I hope everyone digs deep to support me on this cycle ride so they can get the drop-in extension they deserve.*

*I will be joined by Hatton Promotions' head of boxing Richard Poxon and unbeaten Sheffield prospects Adam Etches and Scott Jenkins, who are all raising funds for the teenage unit at Weston Park Cancer Hospital.*

You can sponsor ricky online [www.justgiving.com/ricky-Hatton-MBE](http://www.justgiving.com/ricky-Hatton-MBE) or send us a cheque made payable to Barnabus with a note confirming your gift is in support of Ricky with a signed gift aid approval if applicable.

## pottery class inspires creativity and future day out!

In November we were blessed to welcome Wendy, the director of Manchester Ceramics Enterprise. Over the course of three weekly visits she taught our Arts and Crafts group to make a plate, a cup and even how to throw a bowl on the potter's wheel. The group had a great time recalling instances when they had tried making things with clay at school and they had a lot of fun with the potter's wheel. The clay can really wobble on the wheel and it took a lot of concentration to make a bowl that didn't collapse or break off half way up. Some items were made by hand rolling the clay; the plates and cups look really good and surprisingly can even be washed in a dishwasher.

In February the group were invited to the Ceramics Enterprise Studio. They looked at the work done in the studio and were amazed at the standards achieved. The work is sold at exhibitions and craft fairs around the North West. Some of our group are hoping to join the Ceramics Enterprise Group where they will learn to design and make high quality ceramics. They will also learn all aspects of social enterprise including sourcing materials, selling their wares and advertising exhibitions.

In the summer we hope to have the funds to provide a day out in the historic Potteries visiting the museum, art gallery and one of the famous ceramics factories.



# Fundraising and Events

9th April - "My Manchester" Photography Exhibition

18th May - Bupa Great Manchester, 10k Run

Barnabus Big Brew - hold your own any time you like!

10th October - Barnabus Dinner Dance, Lowry Hotel

for more info see our insert or visit [www.barnabus-manchester.org.uk](http://www.barnabus-manchester.org.uk)



## "My Manchester" photography exhibition

We are delighted to invite you along to a free photography exhibition at **Virgin Money Lounge, 98 King Street, Manchester, M2 4WU** on **Wednesday 9th April 6pm - 8pm** for a rare opportunity to see a collection of diverse photographs taken by our Art and Crafts group, which they feel expresses 'My Manchester'.

Since last summer, our Arts and Crafts group have been capturing some of Manchester's hidden secrets, breathtaking architecture and views. This has been realised by using the hidden eye of photography, recording interesting perspectives, historical facts and attitudes of our great city. The process sparked off many interesting conversations, for example, which building was the BBC in before they moved to Oxford Road? And the younger element being very surprised that there used to be a fun fair and Zoo at Belle Vue (not sure how that one started!) Having taken nearly 600 photos, the group is now short-listing the 40 or so images to become the exhibition. The evening includes a chance to meet the photographers and staff from Barnabus. Photographs featured in the exhibition will also be available as prints, which can be ordered on the night for a donation. All monies raised will support our Brick Appeal.



We are so thankful to **Love creative** for their creative expertise and generous support enabling us to put on this event and also to **Virgin Media Lounge** for generously providing the venue along with complimentary non-alcoholic drinks and refreshments. **Numbers are limited to 100; we are sure this will be a popular event so please register your interest by sending an email to [admin@barnabusmanchester.co.uk](mailto:admin@barnabusmanchester.co.uk)**

## life on the streets *(our thanks to David for sharing this)*

How do I get out of this mess? how do I survive? Survival! - I have to find somewhere to sleep, nobody wants to help, well they do but I don't know that yet and there are so many stumbling blocks along the way, so my first worry is I'm on the street, am I gonna be safe, where can I find shelter? All night I can't sleep because of the worry and every night gets longer than the last - I need to get streetwise quick.

The things I've taken for granted are no longer at my disposal. Where do I get a wash, a shower, where can I find a toilet (there are no public toilets open at night). Where do I eat, how do I keep warm tonight. It's always on my mind this fear I have of not being safe. Then I found Barnabus and other charities; they helped me get on the first rung and then the next rungs of the ladder. I'm now back on track and have my own house. I volunteer to keep myself busy while I'm looking for work. I use my experience to let other homeless people know that there is light at the end of the tunnel and they shouldn't give up hope because with the help of Barnabus and places like them, it is possible to get where they want to be.

## on the look-out for charity shop premises

Our charity shop provides much needed revenue so it makes sense for us to look for another shop in Greater Manchester. We would really love to hear from you if you or someone you know, owns a shop and could help support us by offering reduced rates for either a short or long term lease. If you can help in any way **please contact Peter Green on 0161 237 3223 or email [peter@barnabusmanchester.co.uk](mailto:peter@barnabusmanchester.co.uk)**

**CAN YOU HELP** we currently need long-life semi skimmed milk, sugar, long-life fruit juice small and large sizes, chocolate bars, biscuits, cereal bars, pot noodles, tinned meat, bin bags, large plastic storage boxes, men's jeans, trainers, shoes and coats.





# Christmas cheer!

At Christmas we do everything we can to ensure the homeless men and women we support feel especially blessed and cared for; your generosity made that entirely possible!

Your generosity in response to our Urban Harvest and Christmas appeals was truly amazing. Your gifts, time and donations have kept us going through these demanding winter months and the men and women we support enjoyed an abundance of festive treats and beautiful hand wrapped gifts at Christmas and essential winter warmers.

For the fourth year running, Hewden have generously supported us with a fabulous Christmas Party. Hewden Directors and Staff welcome our guests and serve everyone attending; our guys love it and really feel pampered. Hewden also generously pay for the three course dinner and all the festive trimmings. Kings Church blessed us again with the free use of their suite and kitchen facilities. A solo professional street artist called Johnny Walker entertained us all with an engaging mix of songs and ballads. And, staff from Cornbrook Medical practice astounded us when they gifted us with over 100 lovingly prepared festive gift bags each containing: a hat, gloves, socks, chocolates and festive treats. Women also received pamper items and the men received grooming toiletries.



## there's no stopping this young lady!

**Tabs (shown far right) writes:** I have been working for Barnabus for two and a half years, starting as a volunteer and then as an assistant, when I was invited to join the team. Soon after this Peter and Beryl gave me the opportunity to study whilst I worked, to gain a qualification in Retail Apprenticeship, and I am now studying for a Level Three Retail Management Qualification. I have a training assessor called Karen who guides me through the work and has encouraged me to start the Management course once finishing the Level Two Qualification.

Karen (**shown centre**) recently put me forward to take part in an apprentice scheme by Manchester City Council to highlight successful apprentices to encourage other young people to do the same. This consisted of a recorded interview in which I discussed the benefits of apprenticeships and a photography session which will result in me being included in a group shot of young apprentices which will be used on billboards, leaflets and online. I enjoy the experience of working for Barnabus and the feeling this gives me for helping a charity, and knowing the work I am doing now will benefit my future.



**Beryl, Joint Project Director and Shop Manager (shown far left) writes:** Barnabus has been committed to supporting 4 young people at the shop through 'First for Skills', part of the National Apprenticeship Scheme. The scheme helps people enhance their work experience, skills and education. Tabs originally came to us as a volunteer and we're delighted to see what she has achieved. She is a real blessing to us and has learnt to cope with the many demands of a busy shop.



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**Charity Shop: 473 Wilmslow Rd, Withington M20 4AN**