



THE PEOPLE'S TAKEAWAY

The Newsletter for East Durham's Flagship Project—Issue 1

We did it! - Thanks to you! Initial Fundraising Target Smashed

FIRST WAVE OF MEALS DELIVERED

Julie's Story — Julie was heavily pregnant and had been re-housed in order to escape domestic violence.

A change in her circumstances meant that she had to transfer from Income support to Universal Credit. There were delays to her benefit payments which meant that she spent Christmas living out of food banks.

Julie was one of the first People's Takeaway beneficiaries of 2018 and said: *"Thanks so much for your help. I really don't know what I would have done without this."*



Last minute flurry of donations pushes the total raised beyond £10,000.

Thanks to the amazing generosity of people from near and far, *the People's Takeaway* Crowdfunding Appeal surpassed the target figure of £10,000 meaning that the 'cash-match' offer from Comic Relief was successfully triggered. All told, this means a total of over £22,000 is now available to support local people in desperate need.

Launched in October, the campaign was a six-week whirlwind of intense activity, mainly concentrating on social media resulting in donations ranging from small amounts from individuals who had previously benefitted from the services of East Durham Trust such as Emergency Food Parcels, right through to large donations from all corners of the UK.

The Trusts' CEO, Malcolm Fallow reflected the exciting nature of the appeal stating: *"Right up until the final week of the appeal things were very much in the balance and only a last minute flurry of donations pushed the total beyond the magic £10,000 mark."*

The Trust was also staggered by the response of people to the appeal with the Chief Executive adding, *"We always said we would be delighted with whatever level of support we got and we would provide some kind of service regardless of whether we hit the full target, In the event we were blown away by the response."*

For more details on first meals—see overleaf.

Up & Running: First meals delivered in the run up to Christmas



Over 200 East Durham residents have already received meals thanks to the People's Takeaway!

Although the plans are to convert a room in East Durham Trust's offices in Peterlee, it was critical that meals were delivered over the Festive period. Largely by utilising existing community kitchens such as those at Shotton Community Centre, we were able to provide desperately needed support to those in need over the holidays.

Also linking in with the established Emergency Food Parcel Service (FEED), many people who were adversely affected by issues such as the local rollout of Universal Credit were provided with hot meals delivered to their homes at what is already a stressful time for those facing financial hardship.

FIRST WAVE OF MEALS DELIVERED

Graham's Story — Along with his partner and five children Graham, from Shotton Colliery, was facing a potentially devastating Christmas after a change in circumstance led him to being switched to the new Universal Credit benefit.

With the prospect of no income for six weeks from 21st December, the family received hot meals delivered by the first wave of People's Takeaway Volunteers thanks to Shotton Community Centre.

A range of other services were provided meaning the family could enjoy the Festive break.



What You Said



When making a donation to the People's Takeaway, donors are invited to make a comment. Here are a selection of some of the contributions made:

"Wish I could give more to a great cause!" - Lisa, Durham.

"Shameful we need people like you but grateful you're there." - Sharon, London.

"Supporting the people from East Durham and the heritage we come from is worthy of this small token." - Christopher, Houghton.

"This is my on-going contribution to help those a little less fortunate." - David, Stanley.

"Keep up the good work, marras." - Graeme, Derbyshire.

**The
People's
Takeaway**

www.eastdurhamtrust.org.uk

Where Your Money Will Go

By achieving our £10,000 target and receiving match funding to the same amount from Comic Relief, the following actions can be taken:

- An initial Wave of over 200 meals delivered to families and individuals in need over the festive period.
- A continued service in the early part of the New Year utilising Community Facilities whilst planned kitchen refurbishment takes place.
- The full-scale implementation of new facilities at Community House in Peterlee.
- Recruitment and Training of a team of volunteers.
- Over 1,000 meals delivered to families hit by austerity, Welfare Reform and Child poverty.

Picking Up Where We Left Off In 2017

If the first couple of weeks of 2018 are anything to go by, it is certain to be a very busy year for East Durham Trust and its partners.

While we are still setting up the People's Takeaway behind the scenes, we have been delivering hot food to some of the most in need families in the East Durham area. We have also been able to deliver meals to some of the elderly residents in our local community.

A Message Of Hope

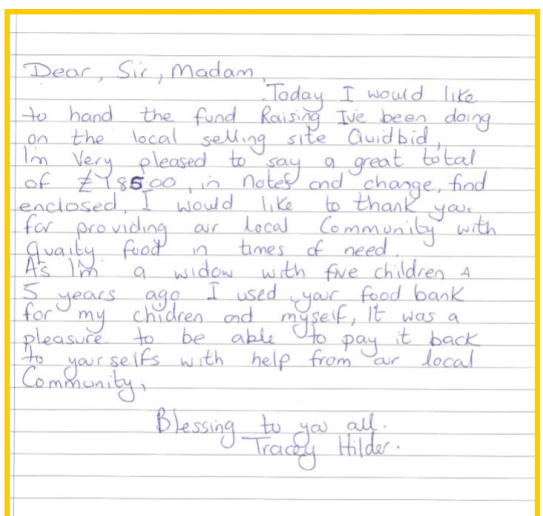
In the run up to Christmas East Durham Trust received a letter from a former beneficiary that provided a moment of inspiration and hope.

The message resonated hugely with the wave of generosity experienced during the People's Takeaway appeal. The letter was written by a woman who had received a food parcel during a time of desperation five years previously and contained a £185.00 cash donation. The letter read as follows:

"Today I would like to hand the fundraising that I have been doing on the local selling site Quidbid. I'm very pleased to say that a great total of £185.00..."

... I would like to thank you for providing our local community with quality food in times of need as I'm a widow with five children.

... Five years ago I used your food bank for my children and myself. It was a pleasure to pay it back to yourselves with help from our local community. Blessing you all."



A photograph of a handwritten letter on lined paper. The text is written in blue ink and matches the italicized text in the previous blocks. The letter is signed 'Tracy Hilder' at the bottom right.

Thank You For Your Continued Support

This year we will see many people in East Durham with nowhere else to turn, supported by our new People's Takeaway initiative.

This has only been made possible by the kind support of our donors:

Angela Abbott • Brendan Atkinson • Graeme Atkinson • Trevor Atkinson • Ben Ayrton • Ann Bainbridge • Eric Bainbridge • Joanne Baker • Mark Bell • Susie Bolchover • Lisbeth Bourne • Denise Brookes • Chris & Annabel Burns • Emily Burns • Paul Callaghan • Laura Cassidy • Jean Connor • C Cooke • County Durham Housing Group • Stefano Cremonesi • Lucy Critchley • Michael Crowder • Gillian Cruddance • Brodie Cyster-White • Martin Davey • Lena Devine • Jacqueline Dooley • Kevin Dossdale • Dr Steve Drury • Harinder Dulai • Durham Miners Association • East Durham College • Sarah Fairclough • Ellen Fallow • Glen Fallow • Glenda Fallow • John and Lizzy Fallow • Madelaine Fallow-Hudson • Malcolm Fallow • Nigel Fallow • Raymond Fallow • Rory Fallow • Elizabeth Fekete • Winifred Finley • Frankie and the Heartstrings • Yvonne Frost • Maureen Gilbert • Gloria Gorton • Graham Grundy • Toby Hardwick • Rona Hardy • Will Haughan • Deborah Heckles • Jillian Hindmarsh • Alice Howard • Howletch Residents Association • Richard Howard • Stephen Hudson • Jess Hunt • Colin Jackson • Elis James • Karen Jones • Anne Jefferies • Dr Heather Kelly • Eleanor King • Hannah King • Leslie King • Alex Kirton • Labour Party Easington • Audrey Laing • L Langley • Left Field Durham • Elizabeth Leicester • Dr Iain Lindsey • Myrtle MacPherson • Dave McKenna • Marion McKenna • Dr Lewis Mates • Andy Matfield • Emma Maxwell • Alan Miller • Angela Miller • Sue Miller • Katy Mitchell • Grahame Morris MP • Grahame Morris' Office • David Murphy • NCS North East Students • Paul & Debbie Noble • Alys North • Alison Nutter • Marc Oliver • Nicole Orr • Dr Andrew Orton • Pam Parkin • Everyone from the People's Bookshop • Pop Recs Ltd • Fraser Raitt • Sanjee Ratnatunga • Katrina Roberts • John Robins • Svetlana Robson • Louise Sanders • Sue and Steve Sanderson • Audrey Segell • Julie Shaw • Ambalavaner Sivanandan • Kathryn Slater • Alan Smith • Joe Solo • Mary Stratford • Sharon Tait • Lisa Taylor • David Temple • Rachel Thompson • Kathryn Thubron • Claire Usher • Tony Walsh • Jack Warne • Una Wilding • James Williams • Mary Winn • Lindsey Wood • Paul Woodhead • Kathleen Wotton

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