

Spare a thought for Manchester's homeless

...and maybe a little money, food, clothing or furniture too? Please.

Tel: 0161 228 7331

mustardtree.co.uk

Creating choice and opportunity for people who are homeless and marginalised

eNewsletter April 2013 No.2

Soup Run



The first ever Mustard Tree Soup Run took place on Sunday October 31st 1993. We currently operate this service every Friday evening with up to 120 guests enjoying some excellent food and hospitality from our small army of volunteers. During the Chinese New Year Celebration, the local Chinese community took over and delivered a Soup Run not to be forgotten! With the help of Jenny Wong and the Chinese Centre we were given an insight into the Chinese community in City Centre Manchester. Jenny informed us that the Chinese community are learning the importance and joy of volunteering. Our guests gained insight into Chinese culture through song and Martial Arts demonstrations and of course very importantly, food! Yum!!

Des writes;



"Hello, delivery Des here. I am one of the drivers here at Mustard Tree. After returning to work after a heart attack I found myself working in the office for a couple of weeks. My work involved answering the telephones in the collections and delivery department and organising our overworked vans. Much to my surprise almost every other call was for a client being referred for a food parcel or free furniture. I have been at Mustard Tree for nearly 5 years and noticed a marked increase in these calls compared to previous occasions when I had to work in the office!" (To donate furniture, clothes or household items, call 0161 228 7331, - thank you)

Bargains!



In the past 12 months we gifted 350 families and individuals with furniture to support the setup of a home. We fund this through the sale of other goods from our two retail outlets; Oldham Road branch in Ancoats & Eccles Precinct branch. Approximately 1/3 of Mustard Tree income comes from the sale of furniture, clothes and household goods. With prices that even the lowest income can afford there really are some great bargains. Our Ancoats store now boasts a 'vintage' corner. We would love you to come, see and shop. Get yourself a great bargain and at the same time support our Mustard Tree work.

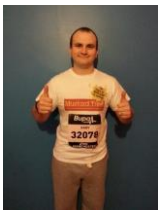
Hub & Home



Our Ancoats base operates as a hub and home for our clients. A place where they won't be judged but welcomed, a place where they feel safe to deal with the issues of life and move forward with renewed confidence, self-esteem and wellbeing.

Gina, who has been regularly attending the Art classes here at Mustard Tree for 4 months is now, not only working towards her first Art exhibition along with fellow Mustard Tree artists, but has been chosen to exhibit externally in a national exhibition! Gina writes, "Art makes me relax; I really enjoy the company in the Art class. My Art has improved lots, when I started I thought I couldn't even draw or paint. Now I know I can."

Events



What have a fashion show, a sky-dive, the BUPA Great Manchester Run and a music concert all got in common? Well, they are all ways that supporters of Mustard Tree are planning on raising vital funds for us this year. Every idea and every effort that shows support for our work is so vitally needed and so incredibly appreciated. If you have any ideas as how you might like to raise money for Mustard Tree please do contact us at 'communications@mustardtree.co.uk', we would love to hear from you and help to turn your idea into a reality.

A big thank you to William Roache (aka Ken Barlow) and to all those who made our 16th March evening event so successful... we raised just over £3,200!

The Future



With the biggest changes to the benefit system starting to take effect this month, we believe the demand on Mustard Tree, and other similar agencies, for support, assistance and advice will continue to increase. Last month I referred to our target of raising 50k by the end of March in order to ensure we remain sustainable and equipped to meet the increase in demand. At the end of the month we had achieved 37k. We will therefore push on to reach this target as well as a second target of 5k of additional monthly income by the end of the year. Thank you for all your continued support. For further information on how to donate please visit www.mustardtree.org.uk, or email 'communications@mustardtree.co.uk'. Adrian CEO

"The one thing they asked was that we should continue to remember the poor" Gal 2:10