

“Help us to help more people, please send us your donation”



## It's been a while ...

It's been a busy time for us here at the Rainy Day Trust – changing our charity status to a Charity Incorporated Organisation amongst other things – and sincere apologies for the lack of radio activity!

This newsletter will update you on a few things that have been going on at the office – and further afield – as well as some of our plans for the future.

If you have anything to add to our newsletters please let us know – we would be delighted to share this via our social media sites as well as in our newsletters.

.....  
Don't forget you can always follow us and keep up to date with our news:

 @RAINYDAYTRUST

 Rainy-Day-Trust

## Thank you and enjoy!

“Help us to help more people, please send us your donation”

## Change in Charity Status

The Rainy Day Trust has been granted Charitable Incorporated Organisation status by the Charity Commission which will mean that it can evolve and grow, delivering new services in partnership with both industry and other charities. The change took place on 1st January 2017.

As part of the change, the Trust has been given a new charity registration number of 1170878.

Rainy Day Trust CEO Bryan Clover said “This is great news for us as it means that we can grow quickly and effectively. We will be able to work much more closely with our partners and help people in new ways. It marks the beginning of an exciting phase for the trust. The Rainy Day Trust has grown substantially over the last 12 months, and that growth looks set to continue”, said Bryan.

## Change in Criteria

We’ve also reduced our qualifying criteria down from 3 years to 1 year – but it has to be with one organisation. If you know of anyone who needs our support – please ask them to get in touch!



## TO US!!!!

It was our birthday on 24 March – we were founded on this day way back in 1843

that makes us  
**174**

Did you know – our oldest beneficiary is 97 and our youngest is 33!

## CAF Charities Aid Foundation

We now bank with CAF – Charities Aid Foundation. CAF is a bank owned and operated by a charity – something close to our heart!

### Our new account details are:

CAF Bank Limited – 25 Kings Hill Avenue,  
Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ  
Account Name: Rainy Day Trust  
Account Number: 00030409  
Sort Code: 40-52-40

You can still pay us via cheque or bacs but if you want to pay cash directly into our bank I’m afraid you will need a paying slip from us – just pick up the ‘phone for more information – 0121 237 1132.

## Our Trustees

We are governed by a board of Trustees who all give their time freely and work endlessly for the Charity. A very big thank you to you all

Neville Singer  
Steve Clemson  
Steven Donaldson  
Richard Drew  
Caroline Gordon  
Alan Hawkins  
David Hibbert  
Avril Hicks  
James Norton  
Colin Petty  
Pam Plant  
John Poore  
Peter Stone  
Vin Vara  
Andy Williamson  
Michael Dark

A very warm welcome to Richard Drew who officially joined the Board of Trustees in February – Richard is National Sales Manager at AkzoNobel.



## Home Visits

We want to say a huge thank you to one of our volunteers – Rick Stolworthy – who has “hung up his boots” and has advised us that he will not be able to make any more home visits for us.



For those in Bristol, Devon and Cornwall – I know you will miss Rick popping in. Rick has been a volunteer with us for many years.

A huge THANK YOU Rick for the help you have given us and the people you have visited over the years.

Your support has been truly appreciated and we are very grateful for the many hours you have given us!

If you can spare us a few hours and help as a volunteer visitor please get in touch! We cover the whole of the UK.



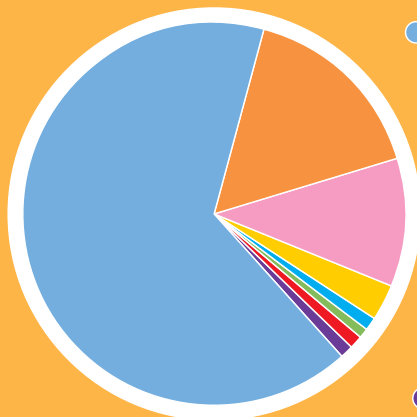
## HOW WE USE DONATIONS?

In the first three months of 2017, we have already paid out almost £70,000 in grants of one kind or another. Below you will see the split – the majority of which – 66% - has been used for our regular grant payments.

You will see however that 16% of grants paid out are for one off items, with 11% being spent to help with fuel poverty – as detailed later.

In total for the first quarter this year, we have made 223 grant payments. This represents an increase over last year of 23%.

## BENEVOLENCES JAN-MAR 2017



- 66% Annual Awards
- 16% One off Grants
- 11% Fuel Poverty
- 3% Telephone
- 1% Funeral
- 1% Apprenticeship
- 1% Television
- 1% Holiday

## New Programmes

We don't just offer financial help – we now offer a range of programmes to help you get back on your feet. We have partnered with organisations such as Shelter and the Debt Advice Foundation to offer specialist guidance. Call 0203 192 0486 for more information.



Debt Advice  
Foundation

In partnership with

Shelter

## Benefit Changes – April 2017



Did you know some benefits changed in April this year? If you need to check how the changes may affect you – why not have a look at our benefits checker on our

website – it will take you through everything step by step and highlight benefits you should be receiving but may not be. In the last 3 months just under 12,000 people have used our calculator which has highlighted almost £8 million in unclaimed benefits! In a year, that average amounts to £32 million.

It's confidential – it's free – it could help.

## New Service – Debt Advice



Debt Advice  
Foundation

We've all heard the horror stories of people winding up with tens of thousands of pounds of debt - credit cards, personal loans, pay-day lenders all making a bad situation a whole lot worse. Getting free, unbiased advice is incredibly tricky which is why we have partnered with the Debt Advice Foundation to give people what they need - sensible, practical advice on how to deal with debt. It doesn't have to be debt at a massive level either. It could be that you've got a small amount of debt, but you can't repay or control it.

Now you can access our free service to help you pull together a plan to deal with debt. Call 0203 192 0486 now and ask for debt advice.

## FUEL GRANTS



We launched our Fuel Grant initiative last year and it has proved to be very successful. This winter – we have helped 58 people with grants towards their fuel bills totalling almost £10,000.

**Keep warm – you can heat and eat!**

If you've called our helpline - 0203 192 0486 - you will no doubt have spoken to Katie or Chloe who work for our Charity at Connect Assist.



Connect Assist provides dedicated helplines, digital services and helpline consultancy services to charity, third sector and public sector organisations.

With only Bryan & Diane at the office, we needed help from an organisation with the expertise, understanding and capacity to take our calls and enquiries and process these through the next stage. Every application is still sent to us here for approval but Katie and Chloe do a great job filtering the calls for us. In our busiest month (last December)



Connect Assist received 540 new applications – something we could never cope with without their invaluable help.

Connect Assist also provide detailed reporting on all activity each month – essential for us to understand surges for assistance.

A huge "THANK YOU" to Katie & Chloe – and at least you know who you might be talking to next time you call.

## New Service – Housing Advice



The Rainy Day Trust has entered into a 12 month partnership with Shelter to provide high quality, specialist advice to beneficiaries from the home improvement sector that have a housing need. Shelter helps millions of people every year struggling with bad housing or homelessness through advice, support and legal services. Shelter campaigns to make sure that one day, everyone will have a safe and stable place to call home.

Commenting on the new partnership, RDT CEO Bryan Clover said: "In a time of economic uncertainty, some companies in our industry are tightening budgets, which in turn places an increased burden on families' budgets and housing needs. This new project will help many of our beneficiaries keep a roof over their heads and we look forward to a long and fruitful partnership."



If you need housing advice - please call 0203 192 0486 for more details.

# Making an Exhibition of Ourselves!

SPRINGFAIR

**Housewares Live**  
The business-to-business website for housewares retailers and their suppliers



We have recently exhibited at the Spring Fair and Totally Shows – both vitally important for us to explain how and who we can help in our industry.

At the Spring Fair – NEC Birmingham - we had a section of the Housewares Live stand with lunch generously provided by Bira and coffee by Magimix. Our sincere thanks go to everyone involved including Creative Tops who loaned us the lovely teapots and cups! Smart also provided a popcorn maker to us for the duration of the show along with all the corns, toppings and boxes for the yummy, healthy snack. All the above helped us to raise valuable donations for the Rainy Day Trust. We also had a Raclette donated to us by Boska which we hope to sell to raise even more funds. Thanks to everyone who donated on the stand and took advantage of the goodies on offer.



The stand at the Spring Fair featured the Hairy Bikers – Si and Dave – who cooked up a few delicious recipes as well as Malcolm Harradine demonstrating some mouth-watering creations during the whole of the show.

Our sincere thanks to everyone at Datateam and Housewares – especially Laurie and Keith - for sharing their stand as well as organising everything for us.



At the Totally Show we are truly grateful to the Hemming Group for donating the stand space to enable us to be present at the show.

It was lovely to see some of our Partners and talk to people about what we do.

Totally DIY & Tools will be back in 2018 re-energised, refocused and bigger than ever before with a new name The National DIY Show and new show dates Sunday 3rd and Monday 4th June 2018. The National DIY show is set to become the UK's largest trade only national DIY exhibition.

Our sincere thanks to everyone who helped us at this year's shows – it was great to be involved!



## Anyone for Tennis?

Our sincere thanks go to Cliff & Laurie Elliott – as well as their team at Crossys Home and Garden - for raising money for the Rainy Day Trust. They came up with an ingenious idea of selling tennis balls which had been discarded by the local tennis club. Apparently the tennis balls must have proved very popular with owners and dogs alike – the £150 raised will certainly help someone from our industry who is struggling to make ends meet.



## Thank You!



## We've "ALMOST" won the lottery!



The Rainy Day Trust has been awarded three conditional grants from Big Lottery UK, Big Lottery Wales and Big Lottery Scotland. The funds are earmarked for specific projects as follows:

**Big Lottery UK** – we have been awarded £8,790 through the Awards for All scheme to support the Trust's work with older people. The grant will be spent on expanding the help given by our volunteers, as well as expanding the telephone counselling and legal advice service. The grant will also pay for the Benefits calculator we have on our website.

**Big Lottery Wales** – a grant for £4,600 has been awarded to us through the same scheme to support apprentices and older people in Wales looking for work. Some of our leaflets have been translated to Welsh – so we have them in dual languages.

**Big Lottery Scotland** – a grant for £6,700 has been received following our bid for funding from Big Lottery Scotland – to be used to help people who live in Scotland to get back into work. Assistance could be given with training, CV writing, etc.

Rainy Day Trust CEO, Bryan Clover said the charity was extremely proud to make the announcements and the grants would make a tremendous difference to what they can deliver. "We want to have a bigger impact out there in the community, and this grant will help us to achieve that."



## Thank You to the Diners!

Many thanks to the guys at Datateam – they held 2 dinners in February – Housewares Live Awards and DIY Week Awards - and were very generous in putting our collection envelopes on all tables. From the two evenings, donations totalling £2,885.50 were received via the envelopes and with addresses and permission given we can add an additional £500 onto this amount via Gift Aid.

The team and members of NMBS also raised a whopping £4,000 for us at their Gala Dinner in April traditionally held the evening before their exhibition at the Ricoh Arena in Coventry. The same amount was also raised for Crash – a construction industry charity that assists homeless and hospice charities with construction related projects.

A huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who donated

*giftaid it*



Wilson's of Colchester raised £100 at both the Spring Fair & Totally Shows – getting visitors and exhibitors alike to try and balance £1 on a lemon in a bowl of water!

Thank you to everyone involved – have you tried it?





We have received a donation through Persimmon Homes Central's Community Champions scheme for £1,000. The scheme

sees a national pot of more than £700,000 donated to groups and charities each year to match money which has previously been raised.

The Persimmon donation will be used to back a scheme designed to assist apprentices entering the builders merchant trade with transport, living costs, IT equipment and training.

Bryan Clover – RDT Chief Executive said “The idea is that we provide people just setting out in the industry with contributions to their costs through grants and we are hugely grateful to Persimmon Homes Central for their support in helping us introduce this scheme in Birmingham.”

Amanda Benjamin, sales director for Persimmon Homes Central, said: “Rainy Day Trust provide outstanding support for people in the home improvement industry. It is an industry which resonates with us at Persimmon and we are delighted to be supporting apprentices.

“We are passionate about the communities we build in and offer our Community Champions scheme as a way to support charities and groups in these areas. We have a number of developments in Birmingham including Martineau Gardens, Avery Fields and The Oaks and we are delighted to be supporting Rainy Day Trust.”

Other charities and groups are encouraged to apply for match-funding by filling in the quick and easy form on the company's website at [www.persimmonhomes.com/charity](http://www.persimmonhomes.com/charity).

**Our sincere thanks go to everyone at Persimmon for their very generous support.**

# TOOLBANK

## Take to the Pitch!



One of our home visitors from Toolbank along with Thorns DIY and a few customers / colleagues, arranged a 5 a side football tournament recently in the depths of Norwich on a cold Sunday afternoon to raise funds for the Rainy Day Trust.

Our sincere thanks to both Nigel and Wes who got the teams together and organised everything between them. Thanks too go to Sally who took the photographs for us!

The event has raised £272.31 to date.

**Huge thanks to everyone involved!**



Sincere thanks go to Tony Grimshaw OBE of Wham who are proud to be associated with the Rainy Day Trust. Wham now manufacture bakeware and with their latest piece of technology can also laser print onto these products. Tony donated a set of a very limited edition run of a 4 piece set of enamel bakeware celebrating the Queen's 90th birthday for us to raffle/auction at a forthcoming event.



We will be auctioning these wonderful bakeware sets at an event soon and let you know how much is raised.

**Thank you very much once again Tony!**

Tony subsequently donated a spectacular 3 piece set of top quality bakeware produced for Tom Kerridge the famous TV chef launched earlier this year.



We also applied for – and were awarded a £3,000 grant from the Santander Foundation recently. This is to be used in the Bristol area for our apprenticeship support programme for young people.

The Santander Foundation offers Discovery Grants to UK registered charities for projects that help disadvantaged people in local communities. Over the last 5 years the Santander Foundation has provided £25 million in funding to 12,600 UK charities.

Our sincere thanks go to everyone who made this happen!



## Collection Tins

Do you have a yellow collection tin for the Rainy Day Trust? If you have, we need to replace it with a blue one!

Since we changed our charity status – we must ensure all the old tins with our old charity number are destroyed and replaced with the correct version.

We'll be writing to everyone soon – but if you do have one please could you count the pennies up for us and send in any donations.

**Thank you!**

# EVENTS

There are lots of events planned for the year if you want to get involved – we have Karting – both North & South – clay pigeon shoots planned for the DIY and Builders Merchants sectors – and a golf day too.

**Dates for the diary are:**



**4 June** – Karting North



**8 June** – Karting South



**6 July** – DIY Shoot



**13 July** – BM Shoot



**5 October** – Golf Challenge



**Please get in touch for more details!**



**Did you know we sell some items that are donated to us on ebay? If you want to do a search of products we have on offer, check us out! Here's the link...**

[www.ebay.co.uk/usr/rainydaytrust2016](http://www.ebay.co.uk/usr/rainydaytrust2016)

Products change on a regular basis. Once again our huge thanks go to everyone who donates products to us to enable us to do this.

We also recycle used printer cartridges and old mobile 'phones – so don't forget us when next throwing these away please!

# Feeling Energetic?

We have some fantastic opportunities for anyone who wants to help fundraise for us!

What with cycling and running – all you need to do is get in touch with Bryan for more details.

**Thank you!**

Contact Bryan on

**07939 541289**

or email: [bryan@rainydaytrust.org.uk](mailto:bryan@rainydaytrust.org.uk)





# It's Rally time again!!

## JOIN US FOR THE PAVESTONE ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME

An exhilarating 4 day journey through 10 countries  
7th-10th September 2017

Closing date for entries  
28th February 2017



The PAVESTONE Dover to Monte Carlo Rally!



From the 7th -10th September the **Pavestone Rally** will take place from Dover down to Monte Carlo with various challenges planned to take part in along the way. These are not compulsory but always add to the experience. Funds are being raised by all participating which will be split between the Rainy Day Trust and Teenage Cancer Trust.

A car is purchased by each team for under £500 and every day there is a morning and evening checkpoint with a suggested route to take – with options to visit a few sightseeing locations en route. Teams are awarded points and at the end of the Rally in Nice there will be a prize giving dinner for 'best dressed team', 'best dressed car', 'best team spirit', 'best fundraising' and overall winners (based on the points awarded).

### Fancy dress themes for each day are as follows

- Day 1** – Doctors and nurses
- Day 2** – Freestyle
- Day 3** – Ancient Antics
- Day 4** – Clowns

### The route planned is as follows

- Day 1** – Dover and travel to Luxembourg City via Ghent, Belgium.
- Day 2** – Luxembourg to Vaduz, Liechtenstein via Germany and Switzerland
- Day 3** – Vaduz to Verona via Austria and the Stelvio pass
- Day 4** – Verona to Nice via Modena and Monte Carlo.

On Monday 11th September teams will return home – but cars can be scrapped if they can't make it back to Blighty!

We'll keep you posted on progress – but above are a few images from last year's rally organised by Aaron Frogley in conjunction with VADO – enjoy!

On 3 May, Rainy Day Trust CEO Bryan Clover set out to walk the entire length of the Pembrokeshire Coastal Path Challenge in 10 days, to raise funds for the industry charity.

He succeeded in completing the 186 mile trek from St Dogmaels to Amroth half a day ahead of schedule, and has so far raised over £6,500 (including Gift Aid) through his efforts.

He said; "The aim of the walk was not only to raise funds for the charity, but also to raise awareness of the work that the charity does in Wales, and encourage more applications.

"Bridgend-based Addis Housewares agreed to sponsor the walk, and provide back-up in terms of PR and marketing assistance, as well as a £3,000 donation to kick things off.

"The Path hugs the coastline of the country through some of the most beautiful scenery in Wales but also has some considerable climbs and descents. There were over 35,000 feet of hills, some of which are incredibly steep and the equivalent of climbing Mount Everest."

Bryan managed his achievement despite twisting his knee only five miles into the walk, which caused difficulties for the remaining route and required strapping to be worn for the next nine days; and coping with parts of the route being closed, due to landslides and live firing in progress when the army range at Castlemartin was active.

Throughout the walk he monitored the number of steps taken and calories burned. The daily average was 38-40,000 steps and about 4,600 calories – and because of the warm weather, he was drinking three to four litres of water each day, all of which had to be carried.

Bryan said: "The walk has gone a long way to raise awareness of the Rainy Day Trust's work. I have been asked several times if I would do it again – the answer is maybe!"

It's not too late to donate – you can text PEMB17 followed by your amount (e.g. £5) to 70070 or visit Bryan's Just Giving page

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/PembsCoastalChallengeRainyDayTrust>



# A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PARTNERS



## Roll Of Honour From January 2017

Thank you to all our donors including those who have helped us so far this year:

Abus UK Ltd  
Addis Housewares  
Angela Bailey  
Arena Flowers  
AkzoNobel  
B S Eaton Ltd  
BHE - Exclusively Housewares  
BHETA  
Bira/BHF Five Counties Branch  
Bira/BHF S/E Essex Branch  
Bira/BHF Three Counties Branch  
Big Lottery Fund  
Bira  
Boska  
Brookes & Co  
Builders Merchants Federation  
Burg Wachter UK Limited  
Calor  
Centurion Europe  
Chandler Material Supplies  
Chandlers Building Supplies  
Chris Lee  
Co-op Community Fund  
Creative Tops  
Crossys Home & Garden  
Datateam  
Decco  
Dexam Trust  
DKB Household UK  
Dr Horst Feldman  
Dudley Limited  
Encon  
Entitled-to  
Evergreens UK (Artificial Grass)  
Fuel Express  
Geoff Fendall  
Geoff Hounslea  
Harts of Stur  
Hemming Group  
Holbury Hardware  
Home Hardware Southwest  
IHA  
IKO  
Kuhn Rikon  
Lawsons  
Leekes  
Lords Builders Merchants  
Mica DIY  
Michael Dark Associates  
Monument Tools  
MRJ (UK) Ltd  
NMBS  
Norcos GRP Holdings (VADO)  
Ormiston Wire  
Pavestone  
Persimmon  
Peter Stone  
PPG Architectural  
Quilter Cheviot  
Reisser Limited  
Rollins (UK) Limited  
Santander Charitable Giving  
Sherwin Williams  
Shurtape  
Smart  
Sobell Foundation  
Stax Trade Centres - Manchester  
Stax Trade Centres - Glasgow  
Stax Trade Centres - Leeds  
Stone King LLP  
Taskers  
Thorns DIY  
Toolbank  
Valspar  
Watson Home Hardware  
Wham/What More UK  
Wilson's

Plus all donations made at various industry dinners, all of our collection tin holders and everyone who has supported us at one of our events.

## XMAS Appeal 2016

You may be aware that we traditionally send out a voucher or hamper to our beneficiaries at Christmas – to enjoy a few luxuries at this special time of year.

We want to say a huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who supported our appeal by donating money, vouchers or products that helped us raise over £1,600.

Suppliers included:

Andrew Weiss  
Builders Merchants Federation  
Charles Viancin  
CKS Zeal  
Eddingtons  
Elia International  
Fairmonton  
Forma House  
Kuhn Rikon  
Ocado  
PHA  
Reisser  
Sterling Locks/Burg Wachter  
Tim Ball  
Walker Timber

As well as many of you who put pennies, pound coins and notes into our collection tins.



## A Very Warm Welcome to New Partners!

We wanted to say a heartfelt "THANK YOU" all our Partners for your support and welcome some Partners who have joined us this year.

This includes Fuel Express, Harts of Stur and Chandlers Building Supplies.



## This is Ted

I wanted to share this wonderful picture with you!

This newsletter has been put together by Diane Stevens of the Rainy Day Trust – all information is accurate to the best of my knowledge. Sincere apologies for any errors or omissions.

