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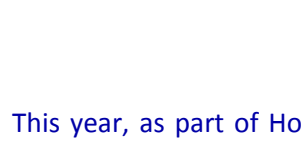
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**Merry Christmas & a happy New Year from all at CHNI**

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**CHNI Christmas Card Competition**



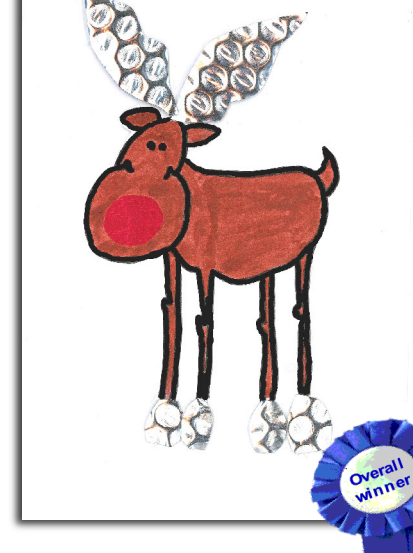
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This year, as part of Homelessness Awareness week, CHNI's 'Participate!' project, invited those living in temporary accommodation projects to get festive and try their hand at creating a Christmas Card. As well as prizes for the best entries across three categories (under 16's, 16-24 years & 25+ years of age), the overall winner would see their artwork printed as CHNI's Christmas Card for 2008.

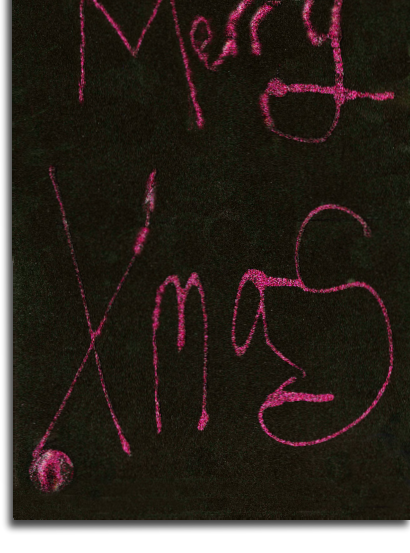
We encouraged hostels to host their own event and bring residents together to create designs for Christmas Cards and, hopefully, all have a bit of fun in the process.

**Competition winners**

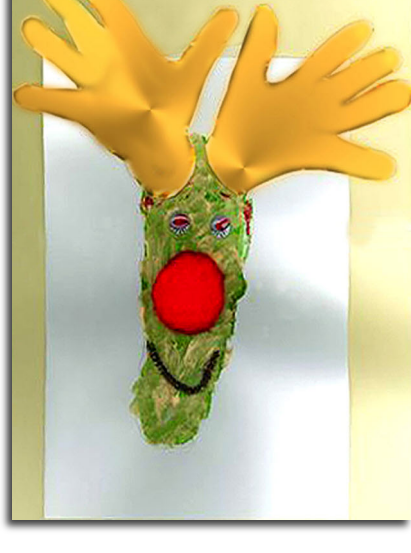
We asked Frank Mitchell from UTV to help with the judging from the individual winners in the three age groups. The winner in the 16 and under age group was Abu, aged 3 years of age. In the 17-25 years of age group, the winner was Malaika, aged 17 years of age; and the winner in the over 25s and the entry chosen to be CHNI's Christmas card for 2008, was Sandy Roy, from Hosford House in Belfast. Well done to all our winners, and a big thank you to all those who took the time and energy to send in an entry to the competition. Finally, we would like to thank Tesco for their sponsorship and support of the event.



**Winner of over 25s age category & overall winner**



**Winner of 17 - 25 years age category**



**Winner of 16 and under age category**

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**CHNI's 2nd annual Charity Cup, five a side tournament** [Back to top](#)



5-a-side football tournament, organised by CHNI, in association with Lisburn City Council, Podium 4 Sport & the IFA. Part of Homelessness Awareness Week. Fri 5 Dec 2008, Brook Activity Centre, Lisburn

This year saw the second year of the CHNI Charity Cup and the first year of the 'Play-off' Cup, sponsored by Podium 4 Sport. Double the incentive! The event invited staff and residents from temporary accommodation projects and housing / homelessness services to take part. There was strong interest in the tournament from the outset, so much so that, unfortunately, a few teams had to be turned away at the application stage. In total 20 teams took part, braving the wet and cold conditions, and for the first time, we welcomed teams consisting of both men and women.

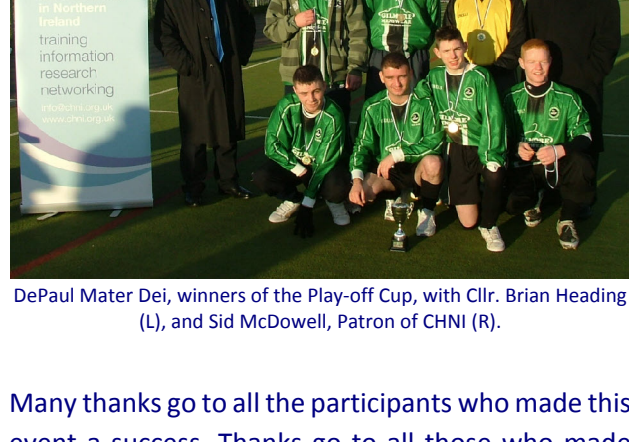


Team captains, Mayor of Lisburn, representatives from Lisburn Distillery FC, referees, and staff from Lisburn City Council Leisure Services

Teams from East Belfast Mission, Salvation Army, Simon Community NI, Extern, DePaul, NI Housing Executive, and a number of Housing Associations took part, including the defending champions, Dungannon District Housing Association.

The fact that so many more than last year took part was a credit to those organisations, staff and residents, who organised a team, defied the elements and travelled long distances to participate. Without their enthusiasm and commitment, the event wouldn't have been possible. So, on behalf, of CHNI, a big thank you!

The tournament was played in friendly, but competitive spirit, and the eventual winners of the 'Play-off Cup' were a team from DePaul NI's Mater Dei project. Dungannon District Housing Association, put up a gallant defence of the CHNI Cup, but were eliminated in the semi-finals of that same cup, by eventual winners, NIHE Housing Benefit. Big congratulations to both winning teams.



DePaul Mater Dei, winners of the Play-off Cup, with Cllr. Brian Heading (L), and Sid McDowell, Patron of CHNI (R).

On hand to present prizes were Mr Sid McDowell, CBE, Patron of CHNI and Councillor Brian Heading, Chairman of the Leisure Services Committee, Lisburn City Council. In attendance to enjoy the beautiful game, were Councillor Ronnie Crawford, Mayor of Lisburn, and representatives from Lisburn Distillery Football Club - many thanks for your support!

The general consensus was that the event was a success, and many of the teams expressed an interest in participating in next year's event. Let's hope the winners give the cups back!

Many thanks go to all the participants who made this event a success. Particularly to all those who made this event possible, thanks go to Lisburn City Council, the IFA and Podium 4 Sport. Special thanks go to the staff at Brook Activity Centre, whose hard work and advice ensured the event ran smoothly; to Robert McKnight and colleagues at Lisburn Council; to Councillor Heading and Mr McDowell; to the CHNI 'dinner ladies'; and to Ken Duncan, IFA grassroots Development Worker for Lisburn. Finally, this year, we were able to secure the services of four volunteer referees. Thanks go to them, for their hard work and, in some instances, patience!



NIHE Housing Benefit, winners of the CHNI Charity Cup, with Cllr. Brian Heading (R), and Sid McDowell (L).

**Some feedback:**

*Thanks to everyone at CHNI for the organisation of the tournament on Friday. Despite the weather, the event was really successful - please thank everyone who assisted in some way and those who worked behind the scenes, particularly the tea and soup stalwarts who were great and much appreciated. Well done from all at Clannmil. Green Dragons, Clannmil*

*It ended up a very successful day. Well done indeed! Lisburn City Council Leisure Services*

*Congratulations on a successful day on Friday. All our guys at Safe Moves had a great day's fun. Safe Moves, Simon Community NI*

*On behalf of Private Housing Benefit, I would like to congratulate you for organising an enjoyable tournament. We look forward to competing next year. NIHE, Private Benefit, winners of CHNI Cup*

*The event was well organised, and had a good atmosphere. Its good to mix with other professionals. It was the best day's craic in a while. Gray's Court*

We hope that next year's event will be as well-received and enjoyed as this year's. Perhaps we could fly you all somewhere warm and dry to play!? On behalf of CHNI, thanks again.

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**CHNI Launch of research report into the accommodation and support needs of homeless 16 - 21 year olds in Northern Ireland**

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The Youth Unit recently conducted a 16 month research project studying the accommodation and support needs of homeless people aged 16-21 year olds across Northern Ireland. The research was funded by the NI Housing Executive and the Southern Health and Social Services Board, and consulted directly with over 200 young people about their views and experiences of supported accommodation and floating support services. The final document was launched on the 26th November by the Minister for Social Development, Margaret Ritchie. The report is available upon request.

For copy of report, contact Sarah Kennedy, Youth Department. Tel: 90246440; or by email: [sarah@chni.org.uk](mailto:sarah@chni.org.uk)



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**DSD Christmas grant**

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On Tuesday evening, on 16th December 2008, the Minister for Social Development met with representatives from the NIHE, Salvation Army, Extern, and others from the sector, to formally hand over a cheque for £45,000 in 'Christmas Grant' money to Ricky Rowledge, Director of CHNI. The event took place at Salvation Army's Centenary House project, Belfast.

CHNI will be tasked with apportioning this money, kindly granted by the DSD, between almost 1700 adults and almost 400 children in temporary accommodation over the Christmas period.

On behalf of the recipient organisations, CHNI would like to thank the Minister and the DSD for their continued generosity and support.



Centenary House & Calder Fountain provide a total of 116 units of accommodation for adult men. Centenary House offers a variety of care and accommodation, depending on housing need and circumstances. The Centre has 76 single rooms. Calder Fountain is a partnership between The Salvation Army and BHF Housing Association. The building provides an additional 28 bedsits that operates as a registered Care Unit.

Contact: Programme Leader (Care), Mrs Elaine McIlveen; Programme Leader (Resettlement), Mrs Joanne Stroud. Telephone: 028 9032 0320

For more information (web), [click here](#)

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**Homeless NI website resource**

**New Guide to Publications on Homelessness available to download**

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This new guide provides for the first time comprehensive details about publications & information on homelessness in Northern Ireland. The document creates a reference for accessing an array of information, and provides current and accurate information related to research, legislation and practice in the field.



For further information: contact George Quinn, CHNI, tel: 90 245440 or email: [info@chni.org.uk](mailto:info@chni.org.uk)

Conceptualised & developed as an evolving document, sections of the resource guide will be modified and added to as issues are identified. To facilitate this process, CHNI welcomes your feedback and suggestions for future editions of this guide.

This is the first publication of its kind in Northern Ireland. We hope that it will prove an invaluable resource to all working in the field.

[Click here for 'A Guide to Publications on Homelessness in Northern Ireland 2008.'](#)

Or visit [CHNI website](#) or [RIS website](#)

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Homeless Northern Ireland is a website for professionals and members of the public alike. It gives up to date information about 400 hostels, advice and support services.

**Help you need, when you need it.**

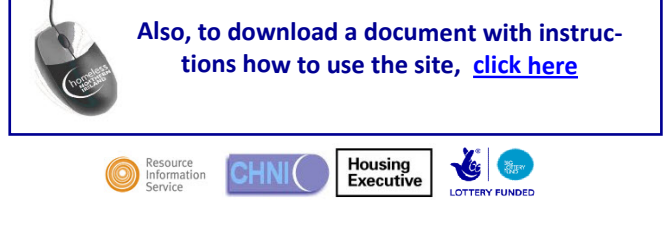
You can use the site to access:

- Full details about services and compare different options available
- Details of who each service is for, how to contact and make referrals
- Information about services in other parts of the UK and Ireland

To get started, simply visit the site [www.homelessni.org](http://www.homelessni.org), or click on the Homeless NI link on Council for the Homeless NI's web site.

For further information, visit [www.homelessni.org](http://www.homelessni.org), Email: [homelessni@ris.org.uk](mailto:homelessni@ris.org.uk) Tel: 020 7840 9930

Or contact George, CHNI: [info@chni.org.uk](mailto:info@chni.org.uk)



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