



IN BRIEF

Wreath festival raises £2,500

A CHRISTMAS wreath festival at a Lincoln church has raised more than £2,500 for charity.

Sixty-three traders each decorated a wreath to display inside St Mary Magdalene Church in Bailgate from December 1 to 18.

The Cathedral Quarter Advent Wreath festival raised £2,564 which will be split between the Nomad Trust and Strut in the Community, with some funds for the church.

This year's event also attracted 8,003 visitors.

Organiser Anne Houghton thanked all the businesses taking part and everyone who visited and supported the event.

Bowlers' bash

TEN-pin bowlers held an event to help bring a smile to children in hospital this Christmas.

Tournament teams that meet once a month at Lincoln Superbowl in Tritton Road had their Christmas party.

Thirteen teams of six people each donated a present to Ruston Ward at Lincoln County Hospital - the children's ward.

In total 78 presents will be delivered to the ward to help give hospitalised children a treat.

Cash rains in

CADETS braved a downpour to sell more than 600 wristbands for war heroes.

The students on the non-commissioned aircrew initial training course at RAF College Cranwell stood in the rain in Lincoln's High Street to raise more than £1,575.

The money will go to Help the Heroes which supports wounded service personnel.

The 26 cadets also raised a further £325 each for Macmillan Cancer Support, Lincolnshire Lives and Rauceby House.

Collection will put Christmas food on table for those in need



TREATS: Nico Andrews (foreground left), William Harrison, James Sim and Chloe Brock-Taylor at the hostel with Nomad Trust representatives. Picture: Rich Linley. Picture reference: 7-6146_01.

Scouts spread a little bit of cheer to city homeless

by Cerri Delaney

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THE age-old Christmas adage of joy and goodwill to all has been embraced by the boys and girls from Saxilby Scouts.

Armed with Christmas puddings and a whopping 2,700 tins of food, the Scouts visited the Nomad Trust in Monks Road, Lincoln, to hand over their donations.

For the past month, the 26 boys and girls from Saxilby Scouts have been collecting tins to donate to the shelter for the homeless, contrib-

uted by residents in the village.

Group Scout leader Neil Mellor said he has been overwhelmed at the generosity shown by the people in the village near Lincoln.

"Most years we try to collect tins and other bits to give the shelter a bit of help," said Mr Mellor.

"People in the village have been really smashing, buying things specially for the trust.

"Last year we managed to collect just under 2,500 tins, so I guess next year we'll have to collect about 3,000.

"I think it's a really good thing for the children to come here and get an understanding of the reality of homelessness because it's a serious issue.

"Just collecting a few tins from every household makes a massive impact on the lives of the people who use the shelter and I think that it is appreciated."

Figures show that since April this

year there have been 259 people sleeping rough in the city, all needing the use of services like the Nomad Trust.

The figure is up by nearly 60 on last year.

Andy Tysoe, manager of the trust, said he expected more people to be in need of help over the festive period.

"We prepare about 1,500 meals a year for homeless people and we are grateful for the support we get from the community," he said.

"This time of the year focuses people's thoughts on family and an appreciation of what they have and what others have not.

"We get most of our donations during Harvest Festival and the run-up to Christmas, but the bottom line is that the community supports us any time of the year.

"It is great that these young people have thought about homelessness and the amount of food they have collected is fantastic.

"It also shows that the community is thinking of us by giving tins of food to the Scouts.

"I am sure next year the Scouts will beat their 3,000 target."

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Saxilby, Lincoln LN1 2LX



JOYFUL: Scout James Sim pulls a cracker with Nomad Trust resident Paul O'Flanagan (23). Picture reference: 7-6146_02.