

eNEWSLETTER: WINTER 2013

- Christmas Cards
- Membership
- The Fund's Work in 2013
- Donate via Paypal



Christmas Card Success

We want to say a huge 'Thank you' to everyone who's bought our Christmas cards this year.

Deciding to order 3,500 packs was a big decision for us here at the Fund and there were times when we really wondered if they would sell as well as we hoped. Thanks to the generosity of members, we're delighted to report that they sold out early in November. That means some 35,000 cards will be 'spreading the word' about the Fund this Christmas.

After costs - which we kept to a minimum at every stage of the design and printing process - the sale of cards has resulted in a substantial profit of more than £14,000 towards our work this year.



Membership

2013 has seen a steady flow of new members joining the Fund. This is vital to us because it safeguards our income for the future.

We run a rolling programme of letters to BT pensioners asking for their support, and this has resulted in almost 1,100 joiners this year. Attracting new employee members has always been more difficult, but a steady flow of publicity on BT Today about our work has helped make more and more BT people aware of who we are and what we do. As a result we've had 135 employees sign up to support us through a monthly Give As You Earn donation since January.

As existing members, the most valuable single thing you can do for us is to pass on this Newsletter to colleagues and encourage them to become members at www.btbfgivingonline.org.uk

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THE FUND'S WORK IN 2013

2013 has been another very busy year for the Fund and every week we continue to make grants to people who very often have nowhere else to turn. The highest areas of need have been for help with funeral expenses, priority debts (i.e. those relating to housing and utility bills) and for essential household repairs.

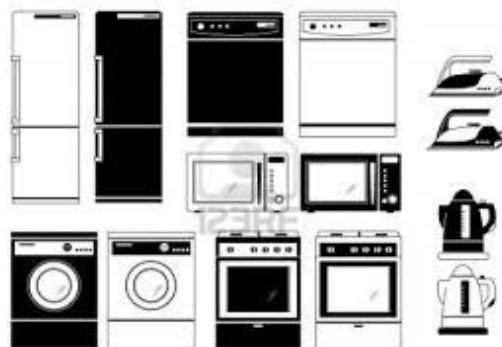
Those we've helped have ranged in age from 24 to 96, and from current employees to a few who left the company over 40 years ago. Our letters to BT's oldest pensioners have yielded many cases where people were in need but had no idea that we were here to help, fully demonstrating the value of this proactive approach.

**A very Happy
Christmas and
peaceful New Year
to all our members.**



While help towards items such as new boilers, mobility scooters and bathroom adaptations have accounted for some sizeable grants, most payments have been for quite modest amounts and many have been for everyday needs such as new glasses, replacement bedding, or a warm winter coat. And as ever we've purchased many household appliances for pensioners who simply don't have enough money to replace broken items such as fridges, cookers and washing machines.

**We feel your
money has been
well spent - we
hope you agree.**



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