

KENDAL AND CUMBRIA FLOOD RELIEF – HOW CAN I HELP?

Our thoughts and prayers are very much with all those who have been hit by the flooding last weekend. Thank you to the emergency services and volunteers who did so much to help their neighbours during the terrible weather and since then.

More locally, the area around Sandylands and Mintsfeet in Kendal was flooded. Sandylands Methodist Church is a centre for the relief effort, despite being flooded itself, and St Georges Church continues to provide soup and snacks. Businesses and shops have provided help in many ways. Particularly needing support are:

- Everyone who has to find alternative whilst repairs are made to their homes.
- Those with vulnerable family members – old, young, infirm.
- Those who have no insurance.

‘Phase 1’ is coming to an end as people are being rehoused.

‘Phase 2’, the support for families and individuals and the cleaning, repairing and refurbishing of their homes will take time, certainly months, before they can move back into their homes.

Practical Help:

Volunteers are still needed - look on the Sandylands Methodist Church Facebook page for what help is needed each day.

Donations of household items, bedding, clothing:

Relief agencies have more than enough at present.

More donations will be required when people are ready to move back into their homes and SLDC are recording details of offers of household items for use at a later date; call 015397 33333.

Donations of Food:

The Flood Relief Centre operated by Kings Food Bank has now moved from the Town Hall to the Westmorland Centre, above Argos.

Organiser Rachael Ellis said: “We have had fantastic support and are inundated with offers of help. Anyone who wants to volunteer can come in to see me between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday”.

Financial help (please do Gift Aid your donation if you pay tax):

- Donations can be made to the Cumbria-wide ‘Cumbria Flood Appeal 2015’ managed by Cumbria Community Foundation. This has now passed £1million. For details of how to contribute see the letter circulated by Rev Richard Teal and on our notice board.
- Donations can also be made locally to the ‘Kendal Relief in Need Charity’. Pay by cheque to Rev Rob Saner-Haigh, c/o Kendal Parish Church, Church Office, Kirkland, Kendal, LA9 5AF, or online via BACS, acct name – ‘Kendal Relief in Need Charity’, sort code: 40-26-02, acct no: 10498475.

Accommodation:

More accommodation is still needed and SLDC are seeking offers of a room or property whilst flooded homes are being restored, call them at 015397 33333.