

Stamps, Postcards and Collectables for Leukaemia Research Fund

Brenda & Nigel Lawley, 23 Hillhouse Close, Billericay, Essex CM12 0BB

Winners of Essex Achievement Awards 2003

January 2008

E-mail nigel2249@aol.com

Dear Supporter,

Another year has come and gone and despite all our efforts our 25th year has not been that good and we have raised only £14,964 this year (last year £16,969) but however over these past 25 years our grand total is now £363,703!

Astonishing isn't it? All that money comes mainly from those little bits of paper! Plus many donations from supporters and dedicated hard work by our helpers.

Other charities we hear are giving up saving stamps? Apparently they say it takes up too much of their time and is not cost effective?

We are not stopping, we and our friends do have the time and perhaps the £363,703 over the last 25 years says it all?

There is no way of denying it we are receiving less stamps donated to us.

Of course this can be attributed to the increase in the use of the Internet with all its e-mails and yes we ourselves use the internet.

Even people sending postcards from abroad are using e-mails instead.

But there are still postcards and stamps around and also just as important we have the customers & collectors waiting to buy from us.

However what is hidden away in your house? Is there a stamp collection or maybe a postcard collection that nobody wants?

What about the foreign currency from your holiday abroad, we need and can sell any coin or banknote! Don't dump it at the airport send it to us.

We are also short of envelopes so if you have a pack of DL envelopes (approx 110mm x 220mm - clean and unused) that you can spare we would appreciate them, but no other sizes please!

You may have read in the papers of miraculous cures for Cancer and Leukaemia recently. We are sure that the cure is out there, but it may take a long time to develop meanwhile we need as much money as possible to hasten the cure along.

Surely there must be something on our list that you have or can obtain that you could send us in order to raise more money to beat this terrible disease.

How about collecting postcards? Coins? Banknotes? Watches? Jewellery?
Do you know any businesses? Can their post room save their stamps?
Do you know anyone who has a pen friend abroad? What about those stamps?
Some of you ask about the large white labels the post office issue these days.
They are not strictly stamps BUT we do have customers for them, so yes please!

We do the best we can in our own style to raise money for Leukaemia Research Fund. But we can't do it without your help.
If anyone wants to send us a cheque for any reason, please make it out to Leukaemia Research and not to us personally!

Thanks must go to our local Thomas Cook who change the foreign banknotes!

We have an amazing team of many helpers, without their help we would grind to a halt. But we are all getting older and can't do what we used to. So if anyone thinks they might be able to help us, please get in touch! It goes without saying that all Charities need help, we are no exception!

If any of our regular customers that we used to see at the fairs wish to contact us, please do so and we could send stamps through the post? With all these setbacks we aim to carry on raising money for the fund in an effort to find a cure.

We must say a special thank you to Margaret and Jack who have kindly carried on doing the fairs for us at Ingatestone and Laindon AND they do sorting etc for us as well. We are extremely grateful to them.

*We can only manage to send out this newsletter once a year and so halfway through the year it sometimes feels as if you have forgotten us? PLEASE don't stop thinking of us and keep those packets/parcels (of whatever you save for us) coming.
We need everything all the year, not only when you receive this letter.*

We also think of the families who send donations in lieu of flowers after the loss of loved ones. We do realise how difficult it is for them to think of us at this time.

Some of you have supported us and raised extra money in different ways:-

Derek Argent and his video work £572.

Mrs Connelly donation of £1,100.

Dr Tyrell's surgery donation of coins and banknotes £193.

Rachel Ede and Diane of Clapton £278.

Meronden of Bromley in lieu of sending corporate Christmas cards £350.

Philip Harper's son Thomas running in the New York Marathon £265

Wilkinson family and friends in memoriam £150

Morris family and friends in memoriam £115

Wigston family and friends in memoriam £105

Brown family and friends in memoriam £100

Gooshay Short Mat Bowls club £80

Please take a few minutes to look at what we need.

Postage Stamps (Foreign and British)

All the Postage Stamps that we receive need to be sorted and trimmed by our helpers. You can help us further by trimming the stamps; so that there is a border of paper approx. ¼” around the stamp. Please no closer. (Any stamps with perforations cut off are worthless!). If you can't do this, send them as they are and we will do the rest. We then sort the stamps into different categories and sell them to collectors and the remainder is sold to a dealer for export.

ALL Postcards

Used or Unused, British, Foreign postcards. They are all examined for condition, age, picture, or stamp and are sold to collectors or in bulk to dealers. Please do not tear off the stamps/scrub out addresses/text as this makes them worthless.

Old Cigarette or Tea cards, Money off Vouchers (only if date is valid)

ALL Coins & Banknotes, Foreign and British, old or current,
Coins or banknotes whether current or old, British or Foreign or EUROS. We want them all. Even the old coins such as the 1/2p's 5p's 10p's and 50p's and don't forget the old £5/£10/£20 notes featuring Stephenson/Dickens/Faraday!
Please remember to send all your left over holiday money and of course EUROS please wrap coins securely as they could end up on the floor of the post office.

Telephone Cards with Microchips

Foreign phone cards or British with pretty pictures and a microchip
NO British Greens, HM Prisons or Prepaid Mobile Pay as You Go.

Any Watches, Jewellery

Working/broken Watches. Items of jewellery even those with pieces missing.

Any Gold, Silver, Medals or Masonic Memorabilia.

Plus any War Memorabilia

Unwanted gifts

These gifts must be NEW, such as toiletries (i.e. Talc, soaps, perfumes etc.).
All those New Christmas/Birthday presents that you have but can't take back.

NOT WANTED

We are sorry! We are good (but not that good!) there are some things that we no longer can sell. So we would ask you NOT to send us any of the following as you might be wasting your time and money! E.g. Used Christmas or Birthday Cards/ Cigarette coupons/ Money off vouchers that are out of date! /Green Shield stamps/Co-op stamps/Records/Books/Jigsaws.

Please no INK JET cartridges if you send these and they come open the “dust” will ruin the stamps, we usually pass them on to Barnados shops

Mobile phones be send direct to LRF 43 Great Ormond St London WC1N 3JJ
Other bits and pieces can be sent to the only Leukaemia shop, c/o Christine Ingram 31 Dinley Way Lutterworth, Leicestershire LE17 4NP but not to us.

All WE can cope with is listed above please do not dump on US!

If in doubt, then **please write to us first. What we need is small and collectable!**

When posting remember that now postage is charged in proportion to the size of the letter/packet. Please check before you send, otherwise we could end up being surcharged! It is cheaper to send your donations 2nd class or Standard parcel post as they all get to us eventually, thanks to our local postal workers.

Sorry, but we must ask you to make every effort to get all items to us by hook or crook, as we just do not have the manpower or time to collect.

If you are making a delivery to us, please remember, we are not a shop and can not be here 24 hours a day and we would not like items stolen from our doorstep! So contact us if you have a query, in writing or E-mail us at nigel2249@aol.com and only phone if really important and at a reasonable time!

These are the ONLY stamp fairs in 2008 we hope our friends will be at. We print this letter over 12 months in advance, and situations change. If you are making a long journey to these events, it might be advisable to check first?

Saturday	January	12 th	Laindon Methodist Church
Sunday	February	3 rd	Village Hall Mountnessing near Brentwood*
Saturday	March	8 th	Laindon Methodist Church
Sunday	April	13 th	Village Hall Mountnessing near Brentwood*
Saturday	April	26 th	James Hornsby School Laindon*
Saturday	May	10 th	Laindon Methodist Church
Sunday	June	1 st	Village Hall Mountnessing near Brentwood*
Saturday	July	12 th	Laindon Methodist Church
Sunday	September	13 th	Laindon Methodist Church
Saturday	September	14 th	Village Hall Mountnessing near Brentwood*
Saturday	November	8 th	Laindon Methodist Church
Sunday	December	14 th	Village Hall Mountnessing near Brentwood*

*Different Venues

We publish these dates/locations in good faith, but we can all make mistakes!

We are not responsible for the events at all. We would however like to thank the organisers (Ray How & David Church) for giving us the tables at NO CHARGE.

Best wishes Brenda and Nigel

NOTE: Our next newsletter should be sent out in December 2008

It does cost us time and money to send you this letter each year.

So it would help us and save money if you could give us your e-mail address.

This year we had 3,400 newsletters to send out but only 160 by e-mail!

Please tick (___) IF you do not wish to receive this newsletter in the future and enclose your original envelope

If you would like extra copies of this newsletter we will not charge you, but a stamped addressed envelope would be appreciated and save our postage

Please send (___) (how many?) extra copies of this newsletter

PRINT CLEARLY

Please add (___) my e-mail address to the list _____@_____

Please tick (___) to correct your name/address. It should be as below

Name _____

Full Address & Postcode
