



THE PARTNERSHIP

(Police – Fire – Ambulance – Coastguard)

EMERGENCY SERVICES CHARITY OF THE YEAR - 2008



Northern Ireland's 999 Emergency Services - Police Service Northern Ireland (PSNI), Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS), Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) and Her Majesty's Coastguard (HMC) - have teamed up for the first time to collectively raise money for one local charity in 2008.

The official launch for the effort took place on Wednesday 9th January 2008 and sees a commitment by the 4 emergency services to raise as much money as possible for their chosen charity, the *Northern Ireland Cancer Fund for Children* (NICFC).

A huge fundraising campaign will take place throughout 2008 with police, fire, ambulance and coastguard staff organising their own fundraising events and then combining their efforts for a number of joint fundraising events planned across Northern Ireland.

Choosing a charity is always extremely difficult and there are so many very worthy causes needing support. To achieve this, colleagues across all four organisations were provided with the opportunity to vote for their charity of the year. The partnership clearly creates a unique opportunity to raise a substantial amount of money for the charity. To this end, we have created a very exciting opportunity and have now agreed our part in two significant projects. The Charity's General Manager, Gillian Creevy, explains these from a position of intimate understanding. The first project introduces a new service called 'Young Shoulders' and the second project will help to extend the already successful services and support provided at Shimna Valley and Narnia Log Cabin retreats, in Newcastle Co. Down to create a new 'Shimna Village'.

The relationship shared with colleagues in the Police, Fire, Ambulance and Coastguard services is a crucial part of what we do in delivering service to the community on a daily basis. This collective effort and overall 'team' continually strives to deliver a first class service to the community in Northern Ireland. Often in the course of these duties we are brought together in very difficult circumstances and it is these very circumstances that bond us together.

Doing our job brings us into daily contact and into the lives of ordinary people within the community we serve. It is these very relationships that connect us all as ordinary people and remind us that we share many of life's problems. All four organisations have a long history of charitable giving and generosity. Clearly we are all motivated by things personal to us, whether it is something happening in our own lives or in the lives of colleagues or in the lives of those we meet in the community every day. As one colleague said to me recently about our efforts for charity, "It shows a very human side of who we are".

Paul Leighton
Deputy Chief Constable

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For details about events etc: www.nicfc.com

Partnership Web sites: [Police](#) [Fire & Rescue](#) [Ambulance](#) [Coastguard](#)