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Visit our website [www.pmvtrust.ie](http://www.pmvtrust.ie)

## WOMEN'S MINI MARATHON Bank Holiday Monday 1st June



Pictured are Peter McVerry Trust fundraisers encouraging women to sign up to the Mini Marathon.

Join Team Peter McVerry Trust in this year's 10km event in Dublin's city centre.

**email**  
[minimarathon@pmvtrust.ie](mailto:minimarathon@pmvtrust.ie)  
**or call**  
01 8230776  
for a sponsorship pack.

## Tabor House 30th Anniversary



Tabor House opened on 1st January 1979. I had begun to work in the Inner City in 1974, running a youth club, a craft centre, employment schemes and holiday trips. One lad, aged 11, would come to our youth club every night: the next

morning at about 7.30am he would arrive at our door, asking could he come in. He would make a cup of tea and some toast and fall asleep on the sofa. Later in the morning, he would go off and turn up again in the evening at the youth club. I discovered that he was sleeping rough, so Tabor House was born.

Tabor House is a community-based children's home for six young people, aged 12 to 18, from the local neighbourhood. Initially, it only accepted boys, as back then almost all homeless children were boys. Today it caters for both boys and girls, and seeks

to provide them with a stable, supportive home in which to grow and develop. The children either go to school, or training courses, or employment. Each child has a keyworker, who has primary responsibility for that child's care. A lot of contact is maintained with each child's family, who are encouraged to visit the child regularly. Overnight home stays are organised where appropriate. Formal meetings with the child, their family and their social worker are held to review the child's progress. The ultimate objective of our work with these young people is to enable them to eventually return home, where that is possible. If not, they are helped to move to independent living - an apartment, adjacent to Tabor House, helps in that preparation.

Tabor House provides a warm, friendly home, with qualified, experienced staff to help each child to overcome the difficulties in their past and to fulfil their potential in the future.

Fr. Peter McVerry SJ

## Thomas Cullen wins 'Goalkeeper of the Tournament' in the Homeless World Cup



Peter McVerry Trust would like to congratulate the Irish Homeless World Cup Football Team on their recent success in the tournament held in Melbourne, Australia before Christmas.

Fifty-six nations competed in the tournament. Ireland was awarded the Dignitary Cup having secured 9th place. A client of the Trust, Thomas Cullen, plays in goals for the team and was awarded goal keeper of the tournament!

Thomas has progressed considerably since being with Peter McVerry Trust. The services have helped him overcome difficulties in his life and opened up positive life changing experiences for him. Thomas described his participation in the Homeless World Cup as, "An opportunity of a lifetime. No drug has ever come close to the high I experienced participating in the Homeless World Cup." Thomas would like to thank all involved in the competition, in particular the team manager and his fellow team mates whom he describes as friends for life.

**PMVT Services are Referral & Assessment, Open Access, Streets to Home, Emergency Accommodation, Transitional Accommodation, Stabilisation Service, Residential Community Detox, Residential Drug Aftercare & Housing with Supports, Under 18s Residential Service.**

## Note from CEO Pat Doyle



The Trust is as busy as ever working to reduce homelessness. Our statistics for 2008 show that we assisted approximately 470 people to access pathways out of homelessness and beyond addiction. Initial signs for the first quarter of 2009 show no reduction in those wishing to access our services. To ensure that we pitch our services where they are most needed, and do so as cost efficiently as possible, we have reconfigured our services. You can read more about the reconfiguration opposite.

The Trust continues to build on the work of our founder Fr. Peter McVerry and you will see on page 1 where Tabor House, a residential facility for 12 - 18 year olds, referred through the HSE, celebrated its 30th birthday. This service was one of Peter's first responses to homelessness in Dublin, and the service continues to adapt to current needs - the most obvious of which was the change in policy in 2008, which saw the facility open its doors to its first female resident. Congratulations are due to Peter and the staff of Tabor House for such a successful service.

As well as maintaining and enhancing existing services, 2009 sees the introduction of a new emergency service within the Trust. This will offer accommodation for up to 14 people a year. The objective of this service is to provide each resident with a 6 month placement in order to assist them to identify pathways out of homelessness. This service is a vital response to those beginning a journey of homelessness. The aim here is to provide a short-term placement and a strong element of key working to ensure the quickest pathways out of homelessness.

Introducing new services in the current economic climate, while endeavouring to maintain our existing services is extremely challenging. Again, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support to the Trust and encourage you to spread the word about our work where you can.



Pat Doyle

# Reconfiguration of the Trust's Services

Peter McVerry Trust reviewed its service provision in July 2008 to ensure it was providing needs-based services for young homeless people and value for money.



The time of the review corresponded with the findings of Homeless Agency reports, which recommended that all homeless service providers offer services in line with the most recent evidence based research. The findings from the review and recommendations from the Homeless Agency led to the recent reconfiguration of our services, to provide an even better continuum of care, supporting clients into sustainable long-term housing. The three key reasons these changes have taken place are:

1. To respond effectively to the needs of clients.
2. To use resources to best effect.
3. To continue working in partnership with the Homeless Agency and in line

with their strategy to eliminate long-term homelessness.

Some of the main developments have included establishing a new residential stabilisation service, increasing our emergency accommodation units, expanding our outreach service, which is now called 'Streets to Home' as well as providing a greater number of apartments for individuals who are ready to live independently.

These new developments, along with our existing services such as open access, under 18s residential service, community detox and residential drug aftercare enable us to remain committed to helping individuals to move out of homelessness.

## Employee Focus Bethan Gair Streets to Home

*My name is Bethan Gair and I work with the Streets to Home Support Service. I am originally from Aberdeen and moved to Dublin in 2007*



My name is Bethan Gair and I work with the Streets to Home Support Service. I am originally from Aberdeen and moved to Dublin in 2007.

The work I do with Peter McVerry Trust involves meeting people at our Open Access centre, outreach work, which includes visiting people in prison, in their homes, in hospital etc. Our team is also in the process of setting up a number of apartments, across Dublin City, for those in need of accommodation.

I started my career as a youth worker in Leeds, completing a diploma in Youth and Community Work. I worked with young

women to ascertain where they would like to go in life and how to get there. I also worked in a 'Needle Exchange', where I carried out harm reduction work around safer injecting and safer drug taking. This gave me experience of working with people in crisis and finding practical solutions to issues raised.

I began working with Peter McVerry Trust in the Residential Drug Aftercare service. There, I worked with people that had completed drug treatment, so my work was focused on rebuilding lives and moving people out of homelessness and addiction. I moved to the Streets to Home Support Service earlier this year. I continue to use many of the same skills as before - listening to the individual and creating a realistic care plan that responds to their needs. I recently completed a

Diploma in Suicideology in order to be able to respond to the ever changing needs of the people we work with.

Work in the Open Access centre can sometimes be hectic, as it is a very busy place to work, with lots of people with different demands of the service. No two days are ever the same, which is great for me as it means I am always challenged and my skills are constantly developing and I am never bored!

I thoroughly enjoy meeting and working with participants - whether it's an informal chat or working more intensively with them through key-working. It is a real privilege to work with those in our services and I learn so much from listening to them and their experiences.

## Trek News!

### Overseas Treks



Morocco

Last year, our trek group successfully completed their arduous journey through the mountains

of Lesotho, raising €75,000 in the process! Our CEO, Pat Doyle who took part in the challenge said, "I found it very uplifting to see a group of people taking on the challenges involved in the trek in support of our challenge to reduce homelessness."

This year's overseas trek challenge involves climbing 4,167 m to reach the summit of Mount Toubkal in Morocco, the highest mountain in North Africa, where you will see north to Marrakech and south to the Sahara. The trek, which takes place in October, is sure to be an extremely rewarding experience. Registration is open now!

### New Trek Event in Ireland Launched

This year, we launched an exciting new fundraising trek challenge along the Bangor Trail in Mayo. More than forty people took part in the walk on 28th March. Further details about our next walk in Ireland can be found on [www.pmvtrust.ie](http://www.pmvtrust.ie) or by calling 01 8230776.

### Father & Son to Climb Kilimanjaro

Thirteen year old Marc Blennerhassett and his Dad Tom, from Rathfarnham, are heading off on 17th June to climb Kilimanjaro, the highest mountain in Africa, which stands at nearly 6,000 m. Marc will be one of the youngest people



Marc Blennerhassett

ever to climb the mountain. To support the duo please visit Marc's sponsorship page on [www.mycharity.ie](http://www.mycharity.ie) or call the fundraising office 01 8230776.

### Austin Campbell's Trek across Europe

Austin Campbell has set off on the challenge of a lifetime, to trek from his home in Julianstown, Co. Meath, to Istanbul, in Turkey. He will cover a distance of 4,200 km, which will take him between 3 and 4 months. To sponsor Austin please visit his sponsorship page on [www.mycharity.ie](http://www.mycharity.ie) or call the fundraising office 01 8230776.



Fr. Peter McVerry and Austin Campbell

# fundraising



## Women's Mini-Marathon

Bank Holiday Monday 1st June

Join 'Team Peter McVerry Trust'! Call us 01 8230776 or email [minimarathon@pmvtrust.ie](mailto:minimarathon@pmvtrust.ie) to receive your sponsorship pack. Official race entry forms can be found on-line at [www.womensminimarathon.ie](http://www.womensminimarathon.ie) or in the Evening Herald (every Wednesday & Saturday). Hurry, closing date 15th April!

## Trek Mount Toubkal, Morocco

1st-5th October

Join us on an unforgettable and rewarding five day trek to reach the summit of North Africa's highest mountain. Limited places available, contact us today for an information pack.



## Gala Ball

Friday 13th November

Reserve your seats early for this very enjoyable annual event, generously sponsored by Clontarf Castle Hotel.



## Employee Volunteering Opportunities

This year, we understand that for some companies making monetary donations may be difficult so why not consider giving your time instead? We offer volunteer opportunities on our horticulture project and with our fundraising work. Please email [corporate@pmvtrust.ie](mailto:corporate@pmvtrust.ie) for more information.



Volunteers relax after building a chicken coop!

*"This was possibly one of the most worthwhile and fulfilling days spent as a team. The benefit to the centre, the clients and of course to the volunteers was immeasurable. The reception and hospitality afforded to us by the staff and clients of the Trust made us feel that our contribution was really valued. We have now forged an important link between the two organisations that we hope to nurture in the future by revisiting the Trust for similar volunteer activities."* (Vincent Cahill, Bank of Ireland)

## Regular Giving

By donating regularly to Peter McVerry Trust you can help us plan longer-term, which will ensure young people continue to receive care in secure and supportive environments to help them move out of homelessness. You can download a Regular Giving Form on [www.pmvtrust.ie](http://www.pmvtrust.ie) or call 01 8230776.

## News from our Supporters

### Welcome Home

8th May - Golf Classic at Elm Park Golf Club  
21st June - Midsummer Walk  
26th September - Wexford Cycle  
Further details can be found on [www.welcomehome.ie](http://www.welcomehome.ie)



### Calcutta Run

16th May - 10km fun run/walk around Phoenix Park organised by A&L Goodbody Solicitors in association with the Law Society. To register and for further information please visit [www.calcuttarun.com](http://www.calcuttarun.com)



### Christmas fundraising report

#### Belvedere College Sleep-Out

The annual Sleep-Out has raised an incredible €60,000 for Belvedere Social Services, an associated service of Peter McVerry Trust.

#### Bon Secours Hospital Glasnevin donates €25,000.

The Bon Secours funding comes through their Community Initiative Programme. Every year Bon Secours Hospital Dublin allocates part of its operating budget to local community projects which they deem are consistent with Bon Secours Mission to help those in need.

#### Dublin Senior Football Team's 24 hour Sleep-Out & Fast, on 13th December, supported by Arnotts, raises €9,000 for Peter McVerry Trust!

#### Annual Carol Service at G.P.O. raises €4,600!

### Other fundraising news!

#### PMVT Entertainment Night at Button Factory

Thanks to Declan Crawford, a Project Worker at our Residential Detox Service, who organised this event and to all those who supported it - a fantastic €9,300 was raised!

### How you can help

For information on ways to donate, volunteer your time, organise a fundraising event or take part in any of our upcoming events please contact the Fundraising Office at 01 8230776 or visit [www.pmvtrust.ie](http://www.pmvtrust.ie).

### Tax Reclaim

If you are a PAYE taxpayer we can reclaim the tax on your donations of €250 or more made within a tax year at no extra cost to you. Please contact the Fundraising Office to request a Tax Relief Form (CHY2) or to find out more.

## Thank you for your support.