



## **PRESS RELEASE ....PRESS RELEASE....**

A Findon father and son are in training for the Brighton Marathon. Peter Barber is preparing to run the marathon on behalf of Worthing Churches Homeless Projects and is being coached by his father Bob. Bob has been cycling with Peter whilst he is in training offering support and encouragement. The pair have been braving the elements and have even trained in sleet in a bid to prepare for the marathon.

Bob is a long term supporter of the charity and has volunteered his help for 9 years in a range of areas such as serving breakfast, befriending clients, helping in the office and recently has begun working in the charity shop.

Peter says that his father's involvement with the charity influenced his choice when deciding whom he would run for and also the knowledge that a significant number of people who experience homelessness have served in the armed forces. Peter has two daughters Charlotte and Imy who are both excited about watching their dad run the marathon.

Peter said "Next year I plan to run 12 marathons in 12 months to raise funds for Worthing Churches Homeless Projects. If Eddy Izzard can run 42 marathons I am sure I can manage 12."

Louise Brooks from the charity said "We are very grateful to Peter for agreeing to run the first ever Brighton Marathon on our behalf and it's great that his dad is supporting him by accompanying him during his training. His brave pledge to run 12 marathons in 12 months for us is fantastic! We hope that Peter along with our other 3 runners will feel a tremendous sense of achievement whilst raising vital funds for a worthwhile cause."

The Brighton Marathon takes place on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> April and anyone who wishes to sponsor Peter can do so by contacting the fundraising team on 01903 227829.

Ends

**Photograph attached shows Peter Barber and his Father Bob Barber**

**Any questions?**

Call: Louise on 01903 227829

Email [louise.brooks@wchp.org.uk](mailto:louise.brooks@wchp.org.uk)

**Further Information:**

Worthing Churches Homeless Projects (WCHP) started in 1991 when four local Christians took soup, blankets and sleeping bags to the seafront to offer to local homeless people. Today this vital Christian charity has 40 staff members and over 250 volunteers who enable WCHP to provide a range of services, on 4 sites offering opportunities to homeless people to regain independence. Last year we worked with just over 450 individuals.

The work undertaken by Worthing Churches Homeless Projects is crucial. People using the services receive the specialist support they need to enable them to take the first steps back to independent living... As with many other homeless charities, last year brought a cut of 30% in Government funding to WCHP, making the support of local people even more important. If every person living in Worthing were to donate just £10 per year the services would be secure.