

## HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS NEWS

**Coronation Street** actors Brooke Vincent and Amy Kelly have made a cameo appearance in a new film being made with homeless people from Manchester.

Brooke Vincent, who plays soup kitchen volunteer Sophie in the soap, and Amy Kelly, who plays homeless Maddie, joined the Acting On Impulse crew and cast to shoot *Streetlife One Year On*, in which homeless people play the characters.

Acting On Impulse has been working with homeless and socially excluded people since 2007, producing three short films, two stage plays and a music video.

The characters, concept and storylines are developed in workshops with the aim of progressing broken lives and challenging public perceptions of homeless people.

The two stars appeared on the fourth and final day of filming *Streetlife One Year On*, which follows homeless characters first unveiled in the music video *Streetlife*.

Written by Drew Ballantyne in documentary format, the cameras follow the gang of zany street characters as they reflect on their newfound fame. Then a disaster strikes, drawing the disparate community together again in a desperate campaign.

Vincent, talking about a recent *Coronation Street* episode when she

# Block party



**Boris plays jenga with Amy Kelly, who plays Maddie in *Streetlife One Year On***

and Amy were filmed rough sleeping in a doorway, said: "We had to be out in the cold for a max of two hours and were moaning at that. You don't realise that people do that all day and every day and there's no one to come up and say: 'Cut! You can go home now.'"

"Today is about coming to see how different it really is and we appreciate the chance."

Producer and charity founder Lauren Pouchly said: "Our actors have been committed to this project

for eight months now and it's been an amazing adventure for them.

"To date they've worked through gales, rain and freezing cold like complete troupers.

"They've travelled to locations all over the city and worked from early to late, standing for hours.

"There was no script to prepare them for the crazy things that happened to them each day and we couldn't be prouder of the end result. Can't wait till the premiere in July – details to come."

## VENDOR CODE OF CONDUCT

All vendors selling **The Big Issue in the North** must abide by the Code of Conduct, the set of rules governing how they work. Outreach teams from The Big Issue in the North patrol the streets daily to check vendors' behaviour and to encourage and support them while working. Here are some of the key rules:

1. Vendors can only sell on designated pitches organised by **The Big Issue in the North**.
2. Vendors cannot sell between 8.00pm and 7.00am (6.00pm in Liverpool city centre). Police officers have the authority to confiscate magazines and badges if they witness vendors selling during these hours.
3. Vendors must always wear their own badge when buying or selling the magazine and only sell magazines with their number on.
4. Vendors can only buy magazines for themselves.
5. Vendors must not use physical or verbal aggression towards the public or other vendors.
6. Vendors are not allowed to sell if staff feel they are unfit to do so.

## Breakfast club boost from Liverpool's Lord Mayor

**The Lord Mayor of Liverpool has become one of the first to sign up for *The Big Issue in the North's* new corporate subscriptions scheme.**

His subscription will go towards supporting *The Big Issue in the North's* new breakfast club for its Liverpool vendors.

The corporate subscriptions scheme is open to all organisations across *The Big Issue in the North's* distribution area. The money raised will go towards supporting vendors of the magazine who are working hard to move on in their lives.

Many vendors don't have the money to buy breakfast first thing in the morning because they need to buy magazines and then sell them before they have available funds.

The Lord Mayor's subscription will contribute to bread, milk, tea, coffee, butter, sugar, fruit and travel



expenses for a volunteer to supervise the breakfast club.

The breakfast club will also give *The Big Issue in the North* staff a little extra time each day to interact with vendors, whether that's just for a general chat or to find out if there are any problems they can help with.

The Lord Mayor, Gary Millar (pictured with *The Big Issue in the North's* Steve Doyle), said: "It is important that funds for my Lord Mayor charity appeal helps Liverpool

residents and I am pleased that *The Big Issue in the North* has agreed to use my annual subscription to assist local homeless people."

Keith Smith, assistant director of *The Big Issue in the North*, said: "I am pleased that the Lord Mayor of Liverpool has agreed to take one of our very first corporate subscriptions. His donation will definitely help vendors in Liverpool.

"The breakfast club provides an important start to the day for vendors as they go out selling the magazine and we're really pleased that we are able to launch this new service with this support from the Lord Mayor."

**For more information about the corporate subscriptions service please contact Steve Doyle on 07805 875489 or [steve.doyle@bigissueinthenorth.com](mailto:steve.doyle@bigissueinthenorth.com)**

7. Vendors must stand when selling; sitting down is an obstruction to the public highway and is illegal.
8. Vendors must not beg for money using the magazine. Asking for spare change or other items is considered to be begging.
9. Vendors can only charge £2.00 for each magazine and must always give the customer the magazine once paid for. Failing to do so is fraudulent and may result in police involvement.

To comment on vendor behaviour, please call:  
Manchester: 0161 831 5570  
Liverpool: 0151 294 3013  
Leeds: 0113 243 9027

The Big Issue in the North Trust raises funds to provide services for homeless vendors of this magazine.