

Roughing it for a good cause

AROUND 100 hardy fundraisers spent a night sleeping in cardboard boxes in support of the annual fundraising event, Big Sleepout.

The night of music, competitions and camaraderie in aid of homelessness charity Stonepillow, took place at the Chichester Cathedral green on Saturday night.

Sylvie Johnston, the charity's CEO, said: "We are overwhelmed by the amazing show of support and generosity from both participants and local businesses."

"Homelessness is a massive issue in Chichester and across West Sussex and money raised through the Big Sleepout is incredibly significant."

Local band Steel Strum provided live music.

Rising-star Henry Maybury sang *Lost Days*, which he wrote in memory of his brother Tom who died as a result of alcohol addiction at the age of 29.

Sleepout participants took part in a shelter-building competition.

Amanda Jupp, chairman of West Sussex County Council, mayor of Chichester John Hughes, and Shelagh Legrave, chairman of Stonepillow trustees, judged the entries.

The winners were ten-year-old Alex Jones and his father, Graham, who had been planning their entry since last year. They won Chichester New Park Cinema tickets.

The total amount raised will be published on Stonepillow's website in the next couple of weeks. Visit www.stonepillow.org.uk



Tara Noble, 15, and her friends prepare



their shelter

PICTURE BY KATE SHEMILT C140970-8



Alex Jones, ten, who won the shelter of the year helped by dad Graham



Mark Eminson and daughter Grace paint their shelter

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Helen Wright insulating her shelter

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Chairman of West Sussex County Council Amanda Jupp takes part in some painting