

BIG ISSUE IN THE NORTH TRUST GETS SNAP HAPPY

Photography enthusiasts are being invited to take the *Big Issue in the North Trust's* Photo Marathon challenge.

Photographers will have eight hours to take eight photographs, on two sets of four topics that are being kept secret until the day of the marathon, Saturday 17 July.

Entrants are being asked to make a donation of £15 to *The Big Issue in the North Trust* to enter the marathon, which will be based at The Deaf Institute, Manchester.

Photos are being judged by a panel of experts including the Head of Photography at Manchester Metropolitan University, Jacqueline Butler and photographer Jeremy Kime, owner of the Real Camera Co.

The Big Issue in the North Director Caroline Price said: "This is a really exciting and challenging project for keen photographers. As the topics are being kept secret until the day, the judging will not be based on physical environment or condition, but on improvisation, fun and creativity."

Volunteers will be stationed at the Deaf Institute on the day of the marathon, downloading photos as they are submitted. From 10am entrants have four hours to snap the first four topics before returning to base in person, where they must have an entry card stamped before receiving their next four topics at 2pm.

Caroline added: "All the photos that are entered on the day of the marathon will be shown in a free public exhibition later in the year, so it's a brilliant chance for everyone to showcase their work from the marathon."

Top photography prizes include a Canon EOS 300 digital camera, Max Spielman processing vouchers and Unison battery pack chargers.

To enter visit www.biitn.org.uk to download an entry form and make the £15 entry donation. Alternatively phone Jane Logan on 0161 831 5556.

For press information please contact Communications Officer Dawn Bunnell on 0161 227 0205 or mobile 07723997113 or email dawn.bunnell@thebiglifecompany.com

Notes to Editors:

The Big Issue in the North Trust is a registered charity which supports vendors of *The Big Issue in the North* to get the services they need to improve their lives.

Every vendor signs up to a code of conduct when they start to sell *The Big Issue in the North* which governs the way vendors sell the magazine.

Vendors must only sell on authorised pitches. All vendors wear an ID badge. Please only buy the magazine from badged vendors.