



Tel: 07901 710866  
Email: [s.tagholm@unseenuk.org](mailto:s.tagholm@unseenuk.org)  
Web: <http://www.unseenuk.org>

**Press release**  
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**Anti-human trafficking charity invites supporters to Get Seen For Unseen and highlight modern slavery**

Unseen is inviting supporters to join its super bright neon campaign - Get Seen For Unseen – to highlight modern slavery. Running between 12-18<sup>th</sup> October, it will be a mass participation campaign, culminating with the UK's national Anti-Slavery Day on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October.

**Why Get Seen For Unseen?**

In December last year, Home Secretary Theresa May admitted there could be up to 13,000 victims in the UK at any one time. The purpose of Get Seen For Unseen is to highlight the fact that slavery and human trafficking are still alive and thriving in our society today, and that we can all play a part in tackling these abhorrent practices.

Unseen's campaign coordinator Sarah Tagholm says: "People often ask how they can help Unseen, so we wanted to launch a campaign that anyone in the country can get involved with. We're asking people to rock their brightest neon and help raise awareness and funds for the vulnerable survivors Unseen works with.

"People can either chose to join an event, such as the Glow in the Park events in Cornwall and Bath, or create their own event – perhaps a run, walk, yoga class – we even have a group neon knitting for us and buildings will be lit up in neon too!"

Unseen operates the South West's only 24-hour safe-house for women survivors of modern slavery and has recently received funding from the Big Lottery to open a new safe-house for men. It is crucial that survivors are given the specialist support they need in order to begin their recovery and regain their independence.

Every penny raised will count – just £3 pays for a meal for a survivor at Unseen's safe-house.

Universities, schools, businesses and even Bristol Cathedral have all committed to taking part. “We’ve been really pleased by the enthusiasm people have shown and hope everyone will share what they’re up to by using #GSFU in their social media posts. Whatever you choose to do, do it brightly, highlighting modern slavery,” says Sarah.

**To find out more, visit [www.unseenuk.org](http://www.unseenuk.org) or contact Sarah Tagholm on 07901 710866**

ENDS

### Notes to editors

- There are up to 13,000 victims of modern slavery in the UK today.
- Government figures for 2014 show 671 children were found – that’s the equivalent of 56 children every month.
- Get Seen For Unseen events are a fun way of highlighting modern slavery whilst raising money to support Unseen’s mission of working towards a world without slavery.
- Unseen is a Bristol-based charity that operates across three main areas: supporting survivors of human trafficking at their 24-hour safe-house; equipping frontline staff with the tools to correctly identify victims and take appropriate action; and influencing government at a strategic level to create long-lasting solutions to modern slavery.
- The charity operates a women’s safe-house in Bristol, staffed 24 hours a day by a specialist team trained in supporting the most vulnerable survivors with complex, high level needs. Alongside this, survivors are provided with on-going support through a resettlement service to help them transition back into society again.
- Next on Unseen’s agenda is to open a project dedicated to supporting children who have been trafficked in or around the UK.
- Unseen was presented with an award in 2013 by the Centre for Social Justice for its work in combatting inequality, and Unseen’s co-founder and CEO Andrew Wallis was recently awarded an OBE for his services in helping to eradicate human trafficking and modern slavery.
- Anti-Slavery Day on 18<sup>th</sup> October was created by Act of Parliament to raise awareness of modern slavery and to inspire people to work towards its elimination.
- Useful links:  
<http://www.unseenuk.org>  
<http://www.globalsslaveryindex.org>  
<http://www.antislaveryday.com>

Unseen, Studio 103, First Floor, Deben House, 1-5 Lawrence Hill, Bristol BS5 0BY  
Registered charity number: 1127620 Company number: 06754171  
[info@unseenuk.org](mailto:info@unseenuk.org) [www.unseenuk.org](http://www.unseenuk.org)