

The Sick Kids Supporter



SPRING 2010

Kilimanjaro For Sick Kids



Earlier this year one of our Trustees, Mark Little with two friends, Colin Mckay and John MacDonald set off on an amazing fundraising challenge... to raise £25,000 for the new hospital by climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. Mark and friends finally summited after 5 days of trekking through rainforest, alpine tundra, semi arid desert and finally mountain peaks. The push for the summit was an unbelievable 19 hour day starting off in a snow blizzard with 5 inches of snow at the foot of Kili and over two feet at the summit.

'This was the most physically demanding thing I have ever done.' Mark said, 'however, the three of us who were doing the climb for the Sick Kids thought of the children in the wards and pushed on to get to the top so that we would raise funds for the new hospital.'

We would like to thank everyone who supported the boys in this challenge and helped them to exceed their target. The £26,000 raised will go a huge way to helping make the new Sick Kids hospital in Edinburgh a truly world class facility. Most of all we would like to thank Mark, Colin and John for taking part in such an amazing challenge which tested both their fitness and endurance.

Announcing our latest innovative equipment project... Improved Sat-Nav for Brain Surgery!

The Sick Kids Friends Foundation's latest fundraising drive is to raise £220,000 to purchase new state-of-the-art equipment for brain surgery. This kit, so far only available in one other paediatric centre in the UK, will ensure patients benefit from the most up-to-date neurosurgery technology, bringing major improvements for children with brain tumours, hydrocephalus, epilepsy and brain infections.

We plan to buy this highly innovative equipment in addition to the Brain Lab which we presented to the hospital in 2007. In the past three years it has been used for brain surgery procedures to help many patients, but the addition of the new equipment will mean that the image guidance technology it operates on can also be used for younger children without the need for fixing pins in their heads and, for the first time, on infants.

It helps by combining all the images which have been taken of the child's head and brain and tracking the position of the surgeon's instruments on those images during the operation. It is difficult, for example, to ensure precise positioning of shunts in a child's brain, let alone in a baby: this equipment will give the surgeons a much clearer picture to guide them to the precise spot they need to reach.

"Every year, this state-of-the-art image guidance equipment will help around 100 children, who require surgery to remove tumours or infected tissue, as well as highly complex procedures to place shunts in exactly the right position" said Maureen Harrison, Chief Executive of the Sick Kids Friends Foundation.

"The neurosurgeons at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children will combine their high level of skills and the excellent NHS facilities in the operating theatres with the fantastic pioneering image guidance provided by this Sick Kids

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Every day, money donated to the SKFF is making a real difference to the lives of sick children. Last year, the charity gave £557,000 to provide new equipment and develop new services. That is the equivalent of almost £11,000 a week.



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Friends Foundation purchase to make such procedures even more effective for a wider range of patients”.

Jerard Ross, Consultant Neurosurgeon at the hospital was delighted when he heard the news that the application for funding from the Foundation had been approved.

“This piece of equipment is a significant advance in neurosurgical technology. It will help us manage patients both new and old who come to Sick Kids for help with a range of conditions, including hydrocephalus,” he said. “It will keep us at the cutting edge of paediatric neurosurgery for some time to come. Thank you Sick Kids Friends.”

Please support this project. You can make an enormous difference to so many young patients with cancer, hydrocephalus, epilepsy and other neurological problems by making a donation today to help us fund this equipment.



Teddy Toddle & Summer Fair



The Sick Kids Teddy Toddle is celebrating its 8th birthday on Saturday 5th June so come along to Meadowbank Stadium and help PJ Bear and Peter Rabbit celebrate.

Join in the festivities by taking part in this sponsored walk for toddlers and teddies, meet our celebrities, visit our summer fair with lots of exciting stalls, games and activities including bouncy castle and performances by the Diamonique Twirlers, a local dance troupe.

To enter, for more information about the event or booking a stall please call 0131 668 4949 or email Linda.cameron@luht.scot.nhs.uk.

Make the Sick Kids Friends Foundation your charity for 2010

Over 100,000 children visit the hospital each year. Whether their stay is for two hours or two months this experience will remain with them forever.

Please help us make the Sick Kids better, wherever there is any fundraising activity by nominating us as your charity of the event, day, week, month or year in 2010.

Four intrepid employees at Graham Construction, who are currently redeveloping the Commonwealth Pool, have decided to take to the water and paddle canoes from South Queensferry to St Andrews, a distance of 100km to raise money for the Sick Kids Drop in Centre in July. We wish them well in their preparation, success in their fundraising and calm waters for their trip.

Staff at Peter Vardy Ltd (Seafield Road) have pledged to support and develop the outdoor space at Calareidh during 2010. Calareidh in Duddingston is an NHS Lothian respite centre which offers care to children with complex needs. A big thank you to them for their support!

If you need any other information to pass on to fellow fundraisers, colleagues, friends or family please contact Lucy or Linda at the office on 0131 668 4949. Your help will support families when they need it most!

Direct help to our Patients

Donating by direct debit is a wonderful way to support the Sick Kids Friends Foundation. In this year our regular givers together have donated over £19,000, which is a phenomenal amount. Thank you ever so much. This money would enable 17 parents to stay in our parental accommodation every single night of the year. You can imagine what a difference this would make for 17 homesick, lonely young patients. If you would like to join this band of loyal supporters, who make a real difference then please contact Susan Veitch on 0131 668 4949 or susan.veitch@luht.scot.nhs.uk

Sweet Music for Sick Kids

Come and support Sick Kids through two lovely musical evenings this summer.

Well known Jubilo choir will perform at St Cuthbert's Church on Saturday May 29th to raise funds for the new hospital... their theme is Captain Noah meets Christopher Robin and the music is suitable for all ages. Children are very welcome.

On Sunday 13th June, the European Doctors Orchestra will visit Edinburgh and play their one performance in Greyfriars Church from 7.30pm. Featuring players from all over Europe this talented orchestra of medics features Edinburgh-born Josephine Robertson as soloist in a programme including Bruch, Dvorak and McCunn's Land of the Mountain and the Flood.

To purchase tickets for either of these evenings, or both!! Call Linda on 0131 668 4949

The architects' designs for the new Children's Hospital will be on display here at the hospital on 26th April, St John's Hospital in Livingston on 27th, Craigmillar Library 28th, the Western General 29th and Edinburgh Royal Infirmary on 30th April and the Royal Edinburgh on 4th May



Schools and Nurseries

Schools and nurseries have been doing a huge amount of fundraising for the Sick Kids in the last few months. Linlithgow Primary raised a fantastic £4729 from asking for donations from pupils to send Christmas cards within the school and a sponsored sing-a-long. Tynewater Primary in Pathead raised £905 from a sponsored swim in their pyjamas, making psychedelic bird boxes and a rag bag collection and Pencaitland Primary raised £450 from their Nativity Play.

Lilian Bayne, is our lovely schools volunteer who goes out to schools and nurseries with PJ Bear. Lilian and PJ have been very busy telling children what they would see and experience in the hospital

and also what extra comforts the Sick Kids Friends Foundation provides.

A very big thank you to Lilian and all the children, staff and parents who have helped us to raise over £20,000 from schools and nurseries.

And the Independent Schools have also been busy raising funds towards the new hospital which is due to open at Little France in 2013. Donations have been received from St Margaret's, George Watson's Junior School, Edinburgh Academy, Cargillfield and Stewarts Melville Mary Erskine. Together all the schools taking part have raised almost £15,000 which will help to fund extra medical equipment, family facilities and extra comforts for children at the new hospital.

Better Hearing with Help from SPIFOX

Earlier this year, the Sick Kids Friends Foundation provided £23,000 to purchase a new Fibreoptic Laryngoscope and a Facial Nerve Monitor for the ENT Department and now with a wonderful donation from SPIFOX we have been able to purchase additional equipment which will link in to provide an excellent range of interconnecting items to underpin the safety and effectiveness of surgery.

The ENT service provides great support for children with conditions ranging from recurrent tonsillitis and the need for grommets, life-threatening conditions such as sleep apnoea (not taking in enough oxygen while asleep) and emergencies such as foreign bodies in the airway.

The work of this department is always life changing. If hearing problems are taken as an example, it is clear that if they are left undiagnosed then the children's ability for speech and language, their ability to learn and consequently their behaviour can all be seriously affected.

SPIFOX is the Scottish Property Industry Festival of Xmas and every year a lunch is held in Edinburgh to raise funds for good causes. This year, held on 16th December at St Cuthbert's and the EICC, despite the difficulties the property market faced, it attracted over 850 guests all determined to be as generous as possible to help Sick Kids and Midlothian Sure Start.

With their tremendous donation of £32,000 we have purchased a state of the art paediatric otology drill and headlights for use in the operating theatre and an audiometer and middle ear analyser for use in pre-operative clinics. This equipment will come in to service very soon and we would like to say a huge thank you to the members of the SPIFOX Committee and everyone who attended the lunch and supported their marvelous fundraising efforts, which will have a long term benefit for children with hearing problems.



Carols for Christmas 2009

Ian Rankin, Kaye Adams and Jennifer Black helped to make our Carols for Christmas Service a huge success in 2009. Thank you to all of those who supported this event and attended the service, you helped us raise over £24,000!

Throughout the concert the winning entries from our poetry competition sponsored by Miller Group were read and our congratulations go to our winners, Dawn Wood and Lindy Barbour. During the dinner at the Signet Library which followed the concert, young Dan Roberts donned our stripy pyjamas and auctioned framed illustrations of the winning entries which had been donated by the poets and artists. You can also see pictures of all our events on our website.

To buy a copy of our lovely poetry anthology, The Gift of Words visit www.edinburghsickkids.org.



Supporter Spotlight



Superhero Supporter Victoria Tancock felt on top of the world after courageously completing a 6,000 feet tandem paraglide in Turkey. She raised over **£4,000** in sponsorship for the cancer and leukaemia ward to say thank you for the care she received when she was a patient. **Go Vicky!!!**



Pyeroy turned their pennies into pounds to help Sick Kids. Huge thanks to Production Manager **Peter Murray** and co workers at Pyeroy for their continued support. Over the past two years these fantastic fundraisers have raised over **£5,000**. Every penny really does count! (Above)



Chief Executive **Maureen Harrison** presents our esteemed fundraising volunteer **Tom Gilzean** with a special Sick Kids pin in recognition of his incredible fundraising efforts on behalf of the Friends Foundation. Tom celebrates his **90th birthday** in May and we would like to wish him many happy returns. (Left)



Ward 3 Play Specialist **Gillian** was delighted to meet with members of Centre Point Church Group to accept their generous donations of handmade cards and cuddly toys. These gifts brought a smile to the faces of many sick children cared for in Ward 3. (Above)

Edinburgh Rock School student's performed like professionals as they rocked their socks off at a recent concert organised in aid of the Sick Kids Friends Foundation. Talented pupils and tutors of Clive's Easy Learn Pop Music School have helped to raise **£850** for Sick Kids over the past year. **Rock on!!!** (Right)



Sleigh Bell Action Group raised an incredible **£5547.36** for Sick Kids from their annual Christmas Party. This donation will be used to fund Welcome Presents and Reward Box items for children cared for at the Sick Kids Hospital. Special thanks to everyone who gave their time, talents and monies to help make this possible.



Join Raven and Spencer at our Teddy Toddle and Summer Fair on Saturday 5th June at Meadowbank. To enter the Toddle and raise funds for Sick Kids call Linda on 0131 668 4949

