



KIDS CANCER CHARITY

Issue 14
December 2017

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN 2017

WONDERFUL WIZZARDRY

Well what a fantastic year it has been for us! The Charity was delighted this year to be the beneficiary of a substantial grant from the Kentown Wizard Foundation, who provide grants to UK Charities, working with children and young people with life limiting conditions. The grant enabled us to purchase an additional three-bedroomed caravan that has been sited at the Lydstep Beach Village near Tenby. Not only was the grant sufficient to cover the cost of a brand new centrally heated, double glazed caravan, but also facilitated the purchase of a ramp/veranda, as well as covering the site fees for the next five years. Pictured above at the grand opening ceremony in March 2017 are Margaret Ingram and Debbie Bamber of the Kentown Wizard Foundation,



Dr. Krish Shastri, Chairman of our Board of Trustees and Joanne Cox, co-ordinator of the Charity's UK Breaks Programme. The Charity is sincerely grateful for this most generous gift and already, a total of 32 families, 145 people, have benefitted from a break at the caravan. Out of these families, 18 were from Wales, with others having travelled from as far as Nottingham, Sheffield and Southampton to enjoy a family break. Among the families who utilised the new caravan was that of a family with 6 children who had lost their

mother following a battle with cancer. The break gave them a chance to come together in their grief. With a lifespan of over ten years, the gift of this caravan secures the opportunity of a therapeutic holiday for hundreds more families. Just some of the many wonderful comments we have received:



"The facilities exceeded our expectations! We had a wonderful time. We were able to do things at our own pace. My daughter was able to spend precious time with her twin sister in a relaxing environment and, as a mum, I was able to relax, take exercise and sleep well".

"It gave the four of us an opportunity spend time with one another without other people for the first time in a long period of time and be outdoors together and have fun".



facebook

twitter



We continue to be delighted with the response to our Facebook Page with over 1,100 people now following us. More and more families are interacting by posting messages, sending holiday photographs, liking and updating us on their fundraising initiatives. Join us on <https://www.facebook.com/kidscancercharity> and share your stories. Help us to reach even more families that may like to benefit from our services.

We have also now set the Charity up on Twitter! Please find and follow us @Kidscancer88.

SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS



Kids Cancer Charity

Established in 1989 as
Christian Lewis Trust

Services provided to support children and teenagers affected by cancer, and their families

- U.K. Breaks
- Play Therapy
- Counselling
- American Experience Programme
- Disneyland Paris Experience
- Befriending
- Bereavement Support

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Reg. Charity No: 1113821



More about the Kids Cancer Charity

In 2016-2017 alone, the Charity arranged:

- Therapy sessions for 266 children & youngsters including Group Sessions for Bereaved siblings and parents, bereaved Mothers and Family Groups.
- Befriending activities for 21 people in need
- Dream holidays for 266 children and adults to Disneyworld, Florida along with another additional 51 free passes to the theme parks, and 21 families receiving advice and guidance on specialist insurance.
- Special holiday arrangements for 173 children and adults to the Disneyland Paris experience
- UK holidays for 563 children and adults and 57 families benefiting from Trips/Events in the UK

All these activities were funded entirely by voluntary help and donations

Hurricane Irma

The Charity was placed on high alert in September 2017 when an extremely powerful and potentially dangerous Hurricane was anticipated. Sustained winds of 150 + mph and heavy rain were forecast and subsequently Hurricane Irma became the most intense Atlantic Hurricane to strike the United States since 2005. Irma caused widespread and catastrophic damage throughout its long lifetime, particularly in the north eastern Caribbean and the Florida Keys. Fortunately, for the Charity, Irma's course eventually passed by Orlando with just the fringes of the storm affecting the area, bringing heavy rain and lower wind strengths of 75 mph. With the unpredictability of the storm's trajectory, the Charity immediately implemented its emergency procedure; liaising with our partners at Virgin Airline and the Agents that manage the Charity's Villa in Florida. It was necessary sadly, to curtail one family's holiday by one day and to postpone another's until early next year. One family though had to ride out the storm whilst staying at the Villa, and were given advice on 'battening down the hatches', making sure that they had plenty of tinned food and water supplies available, as well as batteries for torches in case of an electricity failure. Fortunately, although confined to quarters for three days, the family survived the ordeal without any real issues; however, the Villa was not so lucky!

After the storm had passed, it quickly became apparent that the roof of the Villa, although still intact, had been damaged beyond repair with the loss of tiles and under felting. Several panels of the Pool Screen had also been blown out and a great deal of debris left around the pool decking area and in the pool water itself. The Charity is indebted to our Agents who carried out an assessment of the damage within hours and began making plans for the big clear up. Negotiations are also underway with the Charity's Insurers in regard to a claim for the cost of a replacement roof. We are pleased to report that all subsequent families in the following weeks were able to continue with their holiday plans unaffected by the wrath of Irma.

To all the wonderful individuals that run, walk and cycle; fundraise in memory of loved ones or leave gifts in their wills; as well as the companies and charitable trusts and foundations who share and help us realise our vision—thank you from all of us at Kids Cancer Charity.

Visit us at our website: www.kidscancercharity.org

Please remember to advise us of any relevant changes to your Gift Aid Declaration details including contact information and eligibility.

