

## Help us celebrate our 30th anniversary

### The SCT launch a new charity lottery



Our new charity lottery will be a fun way for you to help raise funds and you could win a monthly cash prize of £100, £50 or £25.

It costs just £1 per month to enter.

The first draw is in April so sign up now! You can register from our website [www.sickchildrenstrust.org](http://www.sickchildrenstrust.org) or for more information email [lottery@sickchildrenstrust.org](mailto:lottery@sickchildrenstrust.org) with your details, or call Sam on 020 7931 8695.

### Remembering The Sick Children's Trust in your will

Leaving a gift in your will is a very special way of ensuring our work can carry on helping families for many years to come. A little time now can make a big difference.

To find out how you can make a gift in your will and help future generations, please contact Jane Featherstone on 020 7931 8695 or go to our website.

### Celebrating the stars who've made such a difference!

We would like to thank everybody who has helped us over the past 30 years and one of the key events next year is our Gala Awards Evening.

Have you or someone you know given your time to help The Sick Children's Trust? Perhaps you or a family member organised a fundraising event or overcame a big personal hurdle to raise awareness of our work.

If you would like to put yourself forward or nominate a friend or family member that has helped us go to our website [www.sickchildrenstrust.org](http://www.sickchildrenstrust.org)



### If you had £30 to invest, how would you make the most money?

That's the question we've been asking our corporate supporters. We've challenged them to start with £30 and use their ingenuity and entrepreneurial spirit to grow the money throughout our 30th year. They can use any means necessary - as long as it's legal and ethical!



So far our corporate partner Barclays have risen to the challenge (above).

Visit our website, twitter and facebook to see how they're doing. If you want to join in contact Rob on 020 7931 8695 or [rob@sickchildrenstrust.org](mailto:rob@sickchildrenstrust.org)

# Open Doors

## The Sick Children's Trust Newsletter



Issue 45

January 2012

## Supporting 40,000 families since 1982!

Since 1982 The Sick Children's Trust has provided more than 40,000 family stays but as seriously ill children increasingly have to travel to specialist hospitals far from home, there is demand for us to help more families every year.

We are delighted to announce that we are launching a fundraising campaign to raise £1.3m for a new 'Home from Home' at Sheffield Children's Hospital. This will be in addition to Treetop House which continues to be very busy; in the last eight months there have been over 600 families on the waiting list, who could not be accommodated at Treetop House. Our new 'Home from Home' will allow us to be there for more families that need us.

The SCT is to purchase and renovate two houses on the hospital site which will be joined together

to form a 'Home from Home' for families of children receiving treatment in Critical Care and the Neonatal Surgical unit. The house will provide a sanctuary for families in stressful times with eleven family bedrooms, communal kitchen/dining area, lounge, playroom and laundry room.

We urgently need all our supporters to help with this appeal. We hope to start building in September/October 2012 with the aim of opening the house in April 2013. Any donation will make a huge difference.

For more information on giving a donation to this appeal please contact Jane Featherstone on 020 7931 8695 or email [jane.featherstone@sickchildrenstrust.org](mailto:jane.featherstone@sickchildrenstrust.org).

### Highlights



Events calendar



Gala awards



Our corporate challenge

## Buy a gift for our 30th birthday!

Over the last 30 years, your generosity has allowed us to help over 40,000 families through the terrible crisis of having a seriously ill child in hospital.

Please buy a birthday present so that in our 30th year we can help more families stay together when one of their children is seriously ill and undergoing medical treatment.

Listed here are some of the birthday gifts you could buy.

In return for your gift purchase we will send you a personalised 30th birthday certificate.

All these presents are essential to our houses. Due to the nature of our work, in some cases the items listed above will be an illustration of what will be purchased.

### Our birthday wishlist...

£10	books and toys for the playroom
£27	would provide a family room for one night
£50	a set of bathroom towels
£100	a microwave oven
£250	vacuum cleaner
£500	television for the communal lounge
£1,000	dining room table and chairs
£5,000	sofas and furniture for the lounge
£25,000	sponsor a bedroom in a new 'Home from Home'

## One of our first families - 30 years on

Today Lorna Wood is a drama teacher and talented amateur dramatic performer. However, she was born, in 1981, with a rare medical condition which meant she would need long-term treatment including many operations, much of this at Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) in London.

Lorna's longest hospital stay was six weeks, but more often she had to be in hospital for a week to ten days. Her parents, Sheila and Alex, often stayed overnight on a z-bed beside Lorna on the ward or in the hospital playroom. It was uncomfortable but they were desperate to spend as much time as possible with Lorna to care for her and help her recover. They were living in Northampton and a daily commute would be both expensive and time-consuming.

In 1984, Sheila was offered the opportunity to stay at The Sick Children's Trust's newly opened 'Home from Home' Rainbow House and their family situation was transformed. Just minutes away from GOSH, the Woods had a comfortable

and homely place to stay. They could have a good night's sleep and be refreshed for visiting Lorna the next day. This was the first of many stays in both Rainbow House and Guilford Street House that opened six years later.

Sheila says 'I often think about what we went through when Lorna was growing up, and the incredible difference that The Sick Children's Trust made to our family. Not only did we have comfortable accommodation, but the kindness and support of the House Manager Pat - in fact we still exchange Christmas cards!'

Because The Sick Children's Trust made such an impact on the Woods' family, they have raised funds for us ever since. In 2012 Lorna, her sister and brother-in-law will celebrate The SCT's 30th birthday by organising a concert as part of their singing group Six Go Singing and parents Sheila and Alex will be organising a tea party as part of celebrations for their 40th wedding anniversary.



Lorna Wood with Michael Crawford, President of The Sick Children's Trust, in 1991 (above) and 2010 (below).



Thank you in advance for any help you can give!

## Our Events

For our 30th anniversary we've put together a packed calendar of fun and sometimes challenging events. We'll be adding events to the diary throughout the year so keep up to date at [www.sickchildrenstrust.org](http://www.sickchildrenstrust.org) or find us on Facebook or Twitter @TheSCT.

### Zumbathon

21 January : Newcastle upon Tyne  
22 January : Leeds  
28 January : Cambridge  
29 January : London  
5 February : Sheffield

Need to burn off some Christmas calories? The Sick Children's Trust Zumbathon is a 2 hour Zumba fitness and dance party for all shapes and sizes, men, women and children. With a class in 5 locations all you need to do is register to come along and make your moves matter! Tickets are £7.50. [Contact Lydia for more information and to get a fundraising pack.](#)



### Just Dance

2 March, Dance City, Newcastle upon Tyne  
A night of fun as 10 local companies compete against each other to be crowned Just Dance Champions 2012. Strictly no Ballroom, each company will perform their favourite pop dance routine in front of our panel of judges and a packed audience who will vote to decide the winner. Take part and show the Beyonce and Jamiroquai in you that's bursting to get out. Tickets for a team are £200 and £15 for an individual. [To find out more call Caroline.](#)



### Could your company sponsor an event?

There are sponsorship opportunities for many of our events. Contact us to find out how we could work together to promote your support of the valuable work that we do.



### Big Chocolate Tea Party

April 2012

It's that time again! Boil the kettle, dust off your teapot and get out your oven gloves, The Big Chocolate Tea Party is coming up! Last year thousands of you took part in a tea party with your friends and workmates, raising valuable funds for The Sick Children's Trust.

To get involved, simply host a tea party filled with chocolate treats during April 2012 and send in any money you raise to The Sick Children's Trust. Register today and we'll send you a supporter pack full of materials like invitations, samples and recipes from celebrities like Sophie Dahl who has donated her favourite flourless chocolate cake. [Call Sophie Dean for more information.](#)



### The SCT 30th Anniversary Gala Awards

28 June, London

A key event of our anniversary calendar, our awards gala will be an opportunity to celebrate and thank the amazing efforts of some of the many people who have helped us over the years. It'll be a fun event attended by awards finalists, celebrities and past and present staff and trustees. [To find out how to apply see the the back page of Open Doors.](#)

### Glamorous Anniversary Dinner

8 September, King's College, Cambridge

Join us for an evening of fine dining and entertainment in the beautiful and historic great hall of King's College. There will also be an opportunity to bid on some fantastic, high-quality items in our live auction, which will be hosted by Jeffrey Archer. Tickets are £80 per person. [Contact Heather for more information.](#)



### 30 Skydives for our 30th Anniversary

2 September, various locations

Wanted! 30 adrenaline junkies to skydive 10,000 feet out of a plane! The event will be taking place simultaneously at four jump-sites across the country: in Peterborough, Nottingham, Brigg (North Lincolnshire) and Durham. [Contact Lydia for more information.](#)



### House to House Sponsored Cycle

26 - 30 September

For our 30th anniversary we'll be organising our first ever house to house sponsored cycle. Starting at Stevenson House, in East London, we will be cycling 300 miles up the country, stopping at all our 'Homes from Home' along the way! [Contact Lydia for more information.](#)



## A word from Claudette Watson, Chief Executive

In 1982 two children's cancer specialists Dr Jon Pritchard and Professor James Malpas set up The Sick Children's Trust. With the passionate belief that sick children recover faster when their families were with them they wished to help these families stay together in a high-quality and comfortable environment. Two years later Rainbow House, our first 'Home from Home', opened just a few minutes from Great Ormond Street Hospital. Within our first decade we had opened another three houses and were able to offer accommodation to 1,000 families a year.

30 years later and The Sick Children's Trust now have seven 'Homes from Home' across the country and we have supported over 40,000 families.

We may have grown but our core mission to house the parents and siblings of seriously ill children hasn't changed and neither has our focus on giving them a homely and relaxing place to stay. The next couple of years are going to be both challenging and exciting as we open our new 'Home from Home' for the families of the most vulnerable newborn babies at The Rosie Hospital in Cambridge, and this month we launch a fundraising appeal for a second 'Home from Home' to serve families with children at the Sheffield Children's Hospital.



**I would like to give a big thank you to all of our supporters over the last 30 years. Without you we would not be able to offer families a sanctuary when they have a seriously ill child in hospital.**

## More Events

### Challenge 30

January to December

Treetop House will be inviting their supporters to find a fun and easy way to raise £30. As an incentive we will hold a prize draw every quarter to those Treetop supporters who take part! Contact Ann today for more information.

### Fine Wine and Dine

Thursday 1 March, 7pm, Le Café Anglais, London

Supported by Gary Boom, Trustee of The Sick Children's Trust and Managing Director of Bordeaux Index, the evening will begin with a martini and Champagne reception followed by a sumptuous dinner prepared by Head Chef Rowley Leigh, complemented by fine wines. Tables of eight cost £1,600, individual tickets also available for £200. Contact Heather for more information.

### Colouring competition

January to December

We're inviting the children of Stevenson House families to enter this competition. Contact Joan to find out how to enter.

### Easter Chick/ Egg Hunt

1 April, 1pm

Eckersley House, Leeds. Contact Jane McHale for more information.

### Sponsored Walks in London, Cambridge and Leeds

Join us for a fun family day out! For the Leeds event contact Jane McHale, for the London event contact Joan and for the Cambridge event contact Lydia.

### Film Night

21 May, 4.30pm, Genesis cinema, London.

Join us for a private viewing of a classic film and then a children's party afterwards. Tickets are £5 each. Contact Joan for more information.

### 30th Anniversary Party Night

July, Newcastle

Dance the night away! Contact Gail to find out more.

### London Park Walk

August

For a lovely day out bring a picnic and take part in our family scavenger hunt to find 30 items. Contact Tina or Sandra to join in.

### 30th Birthday Party

26 August, 1pm, Eckersley House, Leeds.

Join us for a fun family party. Contact Jane McHale.

## How to contact us:

### HEAD OFFICE

Tel: 020 7931 8695.

### Heather

[heather@sickchildrenstrust.org](mailto:heather@sickchildrenstrust.org)

### Jane Featherstone

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### Sophie Dean

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### CRAWFORD HOUSE

Tel: 0191 282 5818

### Gail

[gail.stonley@nuth.nhs.uk](mailto:gail.stonley@nuth.nhs.uk)

### Caroline

[caroline@sickchildrenstrust.org](mailto:caroline@sickchildrenstrust.org)

### ECKERSLEY HOUSE - Jane McHale

[jane.mchale@leedsth.nhs.uk](mailto:jane.mchale@leedsth.nhs.uk)

Tel: 0113 392 6505

### GUILFORD STREET HOUSE - Tina

[tina@sickchildrenstrust.org](mailto:tina@sickchildrenstrust.org)

Tel: 020 7404 3328

### RAINBOW HOUSE - Sandra

[sandra@sickchildrenstrust.org](mailto:sandra@sickchildrenstrust.org)

Tel: 020 7427 2610

### STEVENSON HOUSE - Joan

[joan@sickchildrenstrust.org](mailto:joan@sickchildrenstrust.org)

Tel: 020 7427 2610

### TREETOP HOUSE - Ann

[Ann.Wyatt@sch.nhs.uk](mailto:Ann.Wyatt@sch.nhs.uk)

Tel: 0114 271 7176

## Update on the Rosie Appeal

We are currently seeking to raise £409,000 for a new 'Home from Home' at the Rosie Hospital in Cambridge. Parents of the sickest and most vulnerable newborns will be close to their poorly babies. With eight en-suite bedrooms we will help about 300 families every year.

We have launched a Buy-a-Brick campaign

to raise money to open this desperately needed new 'Home from Home.'

Thank you everyone who has donated so far, it really will make a difference. We still need to raise more funds. **For more information on buying a brick or giving a donation please contact Jane Featherstone.**