



**The Sick  
Children's  
Trust**

Press release - for immediate release

**we're here, so you can be there**

## **Alnwick Lions Club invites you to Picnic in the Park**

**Come along with the whole family for a fun picnic at Hulne Priory in Hulne Park on Sunday 24th May – and help raise vital funds for Crawford House.**

The picnic is extra special because Hulne Priory is not normally open to the public – but by kind permission of His Grace the Duke of Northumberland - for one day only, we can all enjoy this most stunning setting.

Explore the historic ruined monastery of Hulne Priory (where scenes from Robin Hood Prince of Thieves was filmed!), walk in the wonderful parkland (sorry no dogs allowed), admire the stunning scenery and then enjoy your own picnic in this idyllic setting.

The picnic day is being organised by the Alnwick Lions who raise money for local good causes throughout the year. Graham Luke, a member of the Alnwick Lions, works for Northumberland Estates and was inspired to raise money for Crawford House, The Sick Children's Trust 'Home from Home' based at the RVI in Newcastle, after his colleague Lisa Cumming used the facilities.

Lisa's son Will was rushed to hospital when he was 5 years old, blood tests confirmed he had contracted HUS from a strain of ecoli. He was in hospital for 2 ½ weeks and Lisa was given a room at Crawford House for the entire period of his hospital treatment.

Lisa says 'when you are completely exhausted through lack of sleep and worry, it's impossible to express how amazing it is to have a hot shower and prepare a meal in the comfort of a homely environment. Plus it meant that I could spend time with my little girl Rachael, who was just 2 years old at the time, away from the clinical wards which can seem scary to a child that young.'

Lisa continues 'being surrounded by other mum's and dad's who understood completely what I was going through proved to be a huge support. I don't know how I would have coped without Crawford House. The Sick Children Trust has become a charity very close to my heart.'

Entry to the picnic day is by donation – all monies raised will go straight to Crawford House, The Sick Children's Trust 'Home from Home' at the RVI. For those who forget to bring their own munchies and refreshments, there will be hot scones and soft drinks available on site.

The picnic day takes place on Sunday 24th May from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

- ends -

18 May 2009