

## It's been an exciting six months!

**I want to start off by saying thanks to each and every one of you. It's been a very busy six months but there are some great things in the pipeline that I'm really excited to share with you in this issue.**

Looking back, our first ever **Christmas appeal, featuring our families and their Christmas wishes**, was a huge success and I was amazed by your support. We also featured on **BBC Lifeline** – a fantastic opportunity that

raised an incredible amount of awareness around the work we do, alongside vital funds. **And a new feature film** sharing the story of a family we've supported has also made its debut on our website. I encourage you all to take a look when you get the chance.

You might have heard about some changes to the way data protection works in the UK. That's why **we want you to tell us how we can contact you, so you get our news and updates in the**

**way you want.** Please make sure you fill out your preferences on the tear-off slip of this newsletter and return them to us so we know exactly how you'd like us to contact you going forward.

This issue also includes lots of upcoming **events and challenges** you can get involved with. Not forgetting our biggest annual fundraiser, **Big Chocolate Tea**, which is fast approaching! I need to get a date in the diary for my annual party.

At such an exciting time I can't wait for what the next six months will bring. Thank you so much for your continued support. We couldn't be there for families without your enthusiasm and dedication.



Chief Executive

## "Stevenson House supported us while Destiny was fighting for her life"

**Meet the inspirational family behind The Sick Children's Trust's new film.** The film follows the recovery of ten year old Destiny after she was hit by a car. We supported her family at Stevenson House in the months following her accident whilst she recovered from her catastrophic injuries.

Here, Mum Karen shares her experiences after the unthinkable happened and she found herself in a hospital, far from home, willing her daughter to survive.

"It was a warm Sunday morning when Destiny was hit by a car, just outside my sister's house. **It was the day our lives changed forever** and the day I almost lost my daughter.

**"Destiny's injuries were catastrophic.** The London Air Ambulance rushed us to The Royal London Children's Hospital as her condition was so severe that she needed specialist trauma treatment.

"Destiny had a bleed to the brain, a hit to the frontal lobe and multiple broken and fractured bones. She also had many cuts, lacerations

on the side of her face and a punctured lung. I felt so helpless. I didn't know what to do with myself.

"Doctors and nurses on the paediatric critical care unit battled to save Destiny. All I could do was wait and pray that she'd make it through. During my darkest hour I was told about The Sick Children's Trust and the free 'Home from Home' accommodation they provide. The charity had a room ready and waiting for me and my family, just minutes from her hospital bedside.

**"Stevenson House** supported us while Destiny was fighting for her life. When you have a seriously ill child in hospital, you don't want to get washed, dressed, or even think about yourself. Stevenson House took me away and encouraged me to take five minutes to myself, so I could focus on being there for my baby girl.

"As the first week passed, the doctors brought Destiny out of her coma. That night I really didn't want to leave her bedside but in Stevenson House **I had a**



**telephone in my room with a direct line to the ward which gave me comfort that I could be reached in seconds if anything changed.**

"For the following three months, Destiny worked so hard to get better as she learnt to do everything again. I had to be strong and brave for my little girl so she could get better and **Stevenson House was the release I needed.**

**"It became a true 'Home from Home' during this time for me and my family.** So many people came to visit Destiny and the house was a place where we would gather after a long day on the ward, relax, eat and wait for news.

"The first day we were allowed to take Destiny out of hospital she



asked to see Stevenson House. We all sat down in the dining room and had lunch together. Something so ordinary, but so precious, and not possible without The Sick Children's Trust. Being in a homely environment, Destiny began to thrive. She even began baking again! **We have many happy memories in Stevenson House, which override the sad ones.**

**"Destiny never gave up – and eventually we were allowed to bring her home.** It's been over two years since the accident, and we are pleased to say that she is doing really well."

**You can watch Karen's story on our website [www.sickchildrenstrust.org](http://www.sickchildrenstrust.org), or on our social media channels.**

## Our first Christmas appeal was a huge success!



Thank you from The Sick Children's Trust

2017 saw the launch of our first ever Christmas appeal, 'All I want for Christmas'. It featured families across the country who have been supported in a 'Home from Home', who told us what they wanted Father Christmas to bring them. We filmed the clips ourselves on phones and launched the appeal on our social media channels, sharing their stories.

The message was simple, that we needed your support to give them the best present of all, a Christmas spent together. And thanks to you, their wishes came true! Hundreds of generous

donations came flooding in, raising an incredible £14,050 which meant that every room in every 'Home from Home' was funded over Christmas. Keeping 146 families together every night of the festive season.

From everyone at The Sick Children's Trust, and on behalf of all the families we supported over Christmas, we'd like to say a huge, heartfelt thank you.

Thank you to everyone who got involved in the appeal by spreading the word, sharing your wishes with us and donating money to keep a family together at Christmas.

## Two new trustees have joined the team

We would like to formally welcome **Vicky Carter and Tim Craig** to our board of committed trustees. The two new additions to the team expand our trustee board to 13 and makes our mission to support 5,000 families a year by 2021 even more achievable. We're absolutely delighted to welcome Vicky and Tim on board and look forward to working with them!

"I am honoured and delighted to be welcomed on to the board of trustees and am very much looking forward to working with the team to help raise awareness of the invaluable work the charity does. I hope in my own way I can offer help to families who

are faced with the challenges of having a desperately ill child." **Vicky Carter, Vice Chairman of Global Strategic Advisory for Guy Carpenter & Company Ltd.**

"I have been extremely impressed by the facilities, staff and service provided by The Sick Children's Trust for families at what is a very worrying and stressful time in their lives. I am honoured to be appointed as a trustee, and to be able to use my skills and experience to help the valuable work provided by the charity." **Tim Craig, Partner and Head of the Construction and Engineering Team at law firm Ward Hadaway.**



## Did you see our BBC Lifeline appeal?



We were delighted to feature in January's BBC Lifeline appeal! Our President Michael Crawford CBE visited our 'Homes from Home' around the country and met some of the families staying with us. So far we've raised an incredible £27,171! Michael Crawford said:

"I have been President of The Sick Children's Trust for over 30 years

and it remains a remarkable charity in both the simplicity of its mission and the huge impact its work has on families and children.

"When I meet the families who so vividly share their experiences, I am so incredibly proud of the support The Sick Children's Trust provides, making life just that little bit easier for mums, dads,

brothers and sisters who are facing unimaginable distress.

"I would like to personally say thank you to everyone who watched our BBC Lifeline appeal, helping to ensure that every seriously ill child has their family by their side."

### Upcoming events...

**An Audience with Michael Crawford**  
Wednesday 11 April 2018  
The Guildhall, Cambridge

Join Michael Crawford CBE with host Alice Beer for an exclusive evening as he shares tales from his illustrious career. With performances from Soprano Margaret Keys. For tickets, please email [specialerevents@sickchildrenstrust.org](mailto:specialerevents@sickchildrenstrust.org) or call 020 7638 4066. Tickets: £27.50 per person

**Big Chocolate Tea**  
May 2018  
Across the UK

Get involved and join us for our biggest annual fundraising event. Ideal for chocoholics, baking lovers and tea guzzlers! Fill in the tear-off slip, email [bigchoctea@sickchildrenstrust.org](mailto:bigchoctea@sickchildrenstrust.org) or call 020 7638 4066 for your free fundraising pack.

**Family Fun Day**  
Sunday 10 June

Swavesey Windmill, Cambridge

Come along to a fun-filled family day with our Cambridge 'Homes from Home'. There will be live music, entertainment and much, much more! For more information please email [abigail@sickchildrenstrust.org](mailto:abigail@sickchildrenstrust.org).

## Super supporters!



**Jamie Smith** raised £1,645 after undertaking the Peddars Walk (46 miles). He did this to thank The Sick Children's Trust for supporting his family nine years ago at **Acorn House** when he was being treated in Addenbrooke's after a car accident.



**Simon and Jennifer Hill** stayed at **Chestnut House** when their daughter Emilia needed to be admitted to The Rosie Hospital. They've raised over £1,000 through various runs and from Emilia's christening. Simon is planning on doing an Ironman challenge this year too. Simon's Dad, David, also raised over £5,000 alongside colleagues at **WSP** by completing a 200 mile cycle ride to France in just three days!



**Alison Hilton**, with the help of her colleague Jo Evans, rallied their co-workers at **BT** to take on the Ten Bridge Walk as thanks for supporting her family. Well done everyone!



**Connor Lynes** regularly pops into **Eckersley House** with lots of generous donations since we supported his family after he had a stroke at the age of 14, and needed emergency treatment at Leeds General Infirmary. Thank you for thinking of us Connor!



We're so grateful to the families who choose to remember us after they lose a loved one. **Zoe Seager** held 'Henry's Sunday Funday' in memory of baby Henry who sadly passed away last year. Thank you to the whole **Seager and Till family** for their ongoing support, it means so much.



There are many ways to fundraise – and as a nation of dog lovers here's a great one! Grandma **Jeanne Cookson** raised £285 by offering dog-sitting services in exchange for donations. She upped her total by holding a party and raffle at a local toddler group.



A massive thanks to the '**Fabulous 4 from Ferriby**' **Lexi, Charlotte, Isobel and Jess**. The girls spent last summer hosting various fundraising events including cake sales and cinema nights, raising money in memory of Lexi's little brother Edward who sadly passed away in 2015.



Thank you to the two branches of **Las Iguanas – Meadowhall and Sheffield West One** – and **The Entertainer**, who gave us a voucher to buy new playroom toys after raising money in their restaurants and shops.



**Helen Wilson** and her friends organised a fundraising night in September to thank us for supporting their friends, the Dearlove family, whilst their son James was receiving lifesaving treatment. They raised a fantastic £5,715, thank you so much!



A lovely team from **Utilitywise Plc** volunteered at **Treetop, Crawford and Scott Houses**, baking for all the families who were staying. The food looked great and went down so well with everyone – thank you so much for giving up your time!



The number of different ways our supporters fundraise seem to be endless. **Anna-Kaarina Ahti** raised an amazing £905 by chopping off 15 inches of her hair! We are loving the new look.

### The Sick Children's Trust Golf Day Friday 22 June 2018

The Addington Golf Club, Croydon

Join us at our second Golf Day and play one of the finest courses in South East England.

Your day includes breakfast, 18 holes, and a two-course meal with wine and prize giving.

For more information or to enter a team please email [specialevents@sickchildrenstrust.org](mailto:specialevents@sickchildrenstrust.org) or call 020 7638 4066. Team of four: £540

### All Out For Cricket in The City Monday 3 September 2018

The Honourable Artillery Company, London

Watch cricketing legends help our six teams battle it out in a round-robin T6 tournament, whilst you enjoy entertaining commentary and drinks in the sunshine. For tickets please email [specialevents@sickchildrenstrust.org](mailto:specialevents@sickchildrenstrust.org) or call 020 7638 4066. Spectator tickets: from £20. Get in touch to find out about entering a team.

### The Great Big Sports Quiz Thursday 1 November 2018

Browns Brasserie and Bar Old Jewry

Join us for our first ever Sports Quiz. Enjoy a two-course dinner with wine as you compete against our sporting pros. Can they be beaten? For tickets please email [specialevents@sickchildrenstrust.org](mailto:specialevents@sickchildrenstrust.org) or call 020 7638 4066. Tickets: £80

## Family focus



"Mummy, I love my new nose."  
Five year old **Tessa** recently went to Great Ormond Street Hospital for a second nose implant and was delighted with the results.



Happy first birthday to little **Rogan Doyle**. After a tough start and a long stay in hospital, Mum and Dad made Christmas 2017 extra special for Rogan and his siblings, Leigha and Braiden, at home in Cumbria.



After 665 days as an inpatient at Great Ormond Street Hospital, little **Asher** finally was able to go home for the first time ever – just in time for his second birthday.



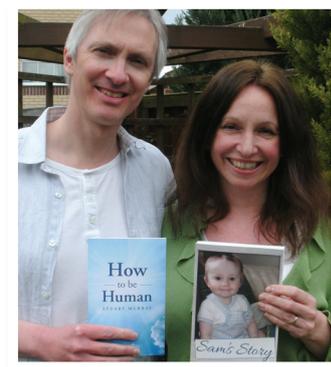
It was lovely to hear from **Ivy's parents** recently who proudly told us she had started nursery! Ivy was born with a hole in her heart and was flown 1,806 miles away from home for open heart surgery.



Both Zac and Summer-Mae recently needed lifesaving treatment. Mums, **Becky Keith and Emma Openshaw**, became friends at Magnolia House and later discovered Zac and Summer-Mae attended the same school! This photo is of Zac enjoying a cuddle with Mum Becky.



Congratulations to parents **Michala and Tyler** who got married in February! The couple stayed with us at Chestnut House in 2016 when their son, Albie, was born at 26 weeks and most recently when their daughter, Connie, was born at just 23 weeks.



Eight years since they lost their son Samuel to leukaemia, parents **Stuart and Amanda Murray** have both written books to help cope with their loss. 'Sam's Story' is a beautifully written book recounting the twenty months Amanda and Stuart spent with their son and the support Acorn House gave during his battle.

## Take on a challenge!

### Sheffield Half Marathon Sunday 8 April

With a city centre start and finish, this event boasts a super scenic route – with stunning views of the Peak District. Please get in touch for more information.

### Virgin Money London Marathon 2018 Sunday 22 April

Secured your own place in the London Marathon ballot? We'd love to hear from you so get in touch!

### The Leeds Half Marathon Sunday 13 May

One of the highlights on the Leeds sporting calendar is this half marathon. It's challenging, but an enthusiastic crowd and fantastic atmosphere will get you through. Sign up and come and run for us!

### Great North Run Sunday 9 September 2018

Run this infamous half marathon! Meet other members of the team at Crawford House before you set off and complete 13.1 miles.

### Royal Parks Half Marathon Sunday 14 October 2018

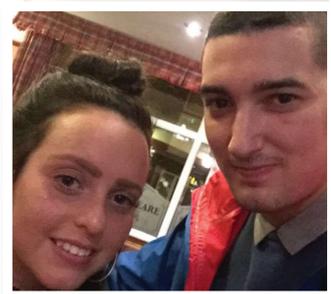
Join 16,000 others on a run through four of London's eight Royal Parks during this beautiful, flat half marathon – perfect for your first 13 miler or if you'd like to achieve a personal best! Get in touch for more information.

### Taking on a challenge that you think we should know about?

Help **#TeamSCT** to grow. We'd love to know about challenge events happening up and down the country – please get in touch.

For more information about taking on a challenge, please email [fundraising@sickchildrenstrust.org](mailto:fundraising@sickchildrenstrust.org) or call 020 7638 4066.

## Staff news



We would like to say a big congratulations to our **Crawford House Assistant Manager Emily** who recently got engaged to her partner Daniel. We wish the happy couple all the best!



**Eckersley House staff** held Christmas fundraising events, including a Christmas Tombola and Raffle and sold handmade Christmas stockings. Over £1,000 was raised for The Sick Children's Trust.

◀ Our **Regional Fundraising Team** in the North has expanded! We've recently welcomed Cassandra and Emily, who've joined our Campaigns and Appeals Manager Caroline to help more people on their fundraising journey.



**Abi**, our Chestnut and Acorn House Manager, has been very busy taking on a slimming challenge in memory of Stanley Appleton – a beautiful little boy whose family we supported. "I started off with 5 stone 11lb to lose and to date have lost 3 stone 5.5lb, so still a way to go! Stanley remained happy, chatty and smiley right until his last days. He is very sadly missed." So far Abi has raised £210.

## Fundraise at school: Devonshire House Preparatory School



Nominating us as your chosen charity at school can make a huge difference to poorly children and their families.

Devonshire House Preparatory School in Hampstead, London, have been our charity partner since 2015. In this time they have raised a staggering £35,000. This has been through varied fundraising activities, such as seasonal fairs, challenging sponsored bike rides and bake sales to name but a few. Thank you to all the staff, students and parents for their amazing fundraising efforts.

Mrs Stephanie Piper, Devonshire House Preparatory School's Headmistress, said: "Devonshire House School are delighted to support the vital work of The Sick Children's Trust. The work of the charity struck a chord with so many of our pupils and parents and we have been pleased to be able to offer our support over the past few years. In return, the talented face painters of the charity have been very popular at all our school events!"

Would you like more information on how schools can get involved and support The Sick Children's Trust? Get in touch with Elisa on 020 7011 9356 or by emailing [elisa@sickchildrenstrust.org](mailto:elisa@sickchildrenstrust.org).



## Did you know...?

The Sick Children's Trust receives no government funding for our work. To keep our 'Homes from Home' running, we rely solely on donations from generous individuals, the support of companies and the local community, and gifts in wills.

A gift in your Will can make a huge difference to families with a seriously ill child in hospital. Even a gift of just **1% of your estate** will give many more families the chance to stay at their child's hospital bedside, and be there when their child needs them most.

For more information on leaving a gift in your Will, please get in touch with Sam on **020 7011 9359** or [sam@sickchildrenstrust.org](mailto:sam@sickchildrenstrust.org).



### Order your Big Chocolate Tea pack!

Take part in our biggest annual fundraiser – Big Chocolate Tea. It's so easy for you to get involved, whether you're an experienced baker or just in it for the cake (don't worry, we won't tell anyone!). Your free fundraising pack has everything you need to get started. To order one please fill in this form or email [bigchoctea@sickchildrenstrust.org](mailto:bigchoctea@sickchildrenstrust.org)

**#bigchoctea**

## We need your tick!

## Keeping in touch

You may have heard that there are some changes happening to the way organisations can contact you. It's to do with a piece of European law called the General Data Protection Regulation which comes into force in May this year.

In a nutshell, we want to make sure The Sick Children's Trust has an up to date record of your

details so we only send you news and information in the way you wish. That's things like The SCT News, which we pop in the post to you twice a year, and our monthly e-newsletters packed full of news, family stories and events.

Please fill in the form overleaf to let us know how we can contact you going forward. Then put this

in the Freepost envelope enclosed and return it to us, so we know exactly how you want to hear from us. If you want to keep receiving news and updates by email, we need your tick, as otherwise we won't be able to email you after 25 May 2018.

We'll never share your details with third parties and you

can always contact us at any time to change the way we communicate with you. Call us on **020 7638 4066** or email [info@sickchildrenstrust.org](mailto:info@sickchildrenstrust.org).

If you'd like to send a donation, or request fundraising materials like your Big Chocolate Tea pack, you can also do this by filling in the form overleaf.

## Keeping in touch

Did you know that last year, supporters like you helped give a 'Home from Home' to nearly 4,000 families with critically ill children in hospital? You helped us keep them together by their sick child's bedside, making sure they were there to provide vital love and comfort.

Help us to continue supporting families with sick children in hospital. We'd like to keep in touch with you about our latest news and campaigns, how you can support our work, and the impact of any donations you may make.

Please fill in this form to let us know how we can contact you. The Sick Children's Trust will **never** share your details with third parties. Please tick the appropriate boxes below and then complete your details.

If you would like to make a donation, update your Gift Aid details to make your support go further, request your free fundraising pack for Big Chocolate Tea or other information, then please also complete the relevant sections in this form and send it back using the enclosed freepost envelope.

### Contacting you

Can we contact you by post?  Yes  No

Can we contact you by email?  Yes  No

Can we contact you by phone?  Yes  No

### Your details

Title

First name

Surname

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Email

Date

Signature

### I wish to give:

We rely entirely on the generosity of supporters to continue our vital work, supporting around 4,000 families with seriously ill children every year. It costs £30 to support a family for one night. Help us be there for more families by supporting today.

£

I've enclosed a cheque made payable to The Sick Children's Trust.

Or

Please debit my: MasterCard/Visa/Visa Debit Card (no Amex)

### Card details

Name on card

Card number

Expiry date

Don't forget to fill in your billing address and contact details, so we can process your card donation. If you are a UK tax payer, please also Gift Aid your donation.

### Get involved!

- I would like to request my free **Big Chocolate Tea pack**
- I am interested in **supporting The Sick Children's Trust at work** and would like to find out more
- I am interested in **attending one of your events**
- I am interested in volunteering**
- I would like to find out about leaving a gift in my Will**

Please fill in your contact details in the section above and we'll then pop your pack or information in the post to you.

### Making your support go further

While you're updating your details, please let us know if we are able to claim Gift Aid on any donations you have made or may make in future.

If you are a UK taxpayer, The Sick Children's Trust can claim 25p for every £1 you donate, at no extra cost to you.

- By ticking this Gift Aid box, I confirm that I am a UK Income and/or Capital Gains taxpayer and would like The Sick Children's Trust to treat any donations I make in the future and have made in the past four years as Gift Aid donations, until I notify you otherwise. I understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year, it is my responsibility to pay the difference. I understand that The Sick Children's Trust will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give. Gift Aid is reclaimed by The Sick Children's Trust from the tax I pay for the current tax year.