

Charlotte's Smiles

Providing Fun Activities and Parties for Children with Cancer



News Letter 2 March/April 2008

This newsletter is sent to registered families, fundraisers and all supporters.

To help us to Spread the word. Please forward this newsletter to everyone in your inbox. If you have received this from a friend and would like a copy of our next newsletter sent directly please email charlottes.smiles2@gmail.com subject 'newsletter please'

Welcome to our 2nd Newsletter I can't believe it is April already. Hope you all managed to enjoy Easter.

SMILE EVENTS

Easter Party 17th March

What a great time was had by all. Approximately 30 children turned up. We gave out stickers to help to keep track but lost count eventually. The important thing was that there were enough eggs for all the children to take home. Chuckle chops the clown was very funny and even the adults were laughing loudly. He's very clever at making balloon models I've never seen a balloon alien before. So many lovely hats it was very difficult for Chuckle chops to choose. Eventually he chose Lucy who won a furry bunny, Alara who won a teddy and Haydon who also won a teddy. Congratulations to those children and a very well done to everyone who took the trouble to enter. Thanks Mums and Dads. Unfortunately my pictures weren't very good on the day but Georgina's Dad and Alaras Mum have sent me some so many thanks to you two. Wasn't the food fantastic? The hospital catering really did us proud so thanks there as well



Hannah Alara and Ruby - Great Hats.



Alara's winning Hat and prize

FUTURE FUN ACTIVITIES

Chelsea, Eve and Alex and their families have been to see the Lazy Town show at Demontfort Hall During April. They all had a great time and although it was not possible to go back stage to meet the cast; despite our protests and those of the Mums on the day; Demontfort hall gave out posters to the children which they have

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now received. Clair said she felt sorry (a bit) for the poor assistant who was taking the brunt of our protest. More from Clair next time.

Ruby J has been to see Dancing on Ice at the NIA. Her Mum said it was a spectacular show with great skill. Ruby is now even more keen on ice-skating than before so many more trips imminent I guess. Photos of these events will be in the next newsletter so look out for it. We would be interested in any of the children's comments about the shows and we will also include these in the next newsletter.

We are constantly on the look out for events and activities taking place that the children might like in and around Leicester. If you know of any coming up please email the details to us.

We are currently trying to organise a summer outing so if you have any ideas please let us know. We are in talks with a couple of places but it seems we don't qualify as a children's group or a disabled group for pricing. I keep telling them that we are special so we will let you know how we get on.

Sign the petition on the Prime Ministers web site for better funding for research into children's Cancer in the UK. Link at the end of this newsletter. But come back and read the rest.

REGISTERING NEW CHILDREN

We have been asked who is eligible to register with Charlotte's Smiles and the answer is "any child under 15 who has been treated for any cancer in the last 4 years and who lives in and around Leicestershire".

We have doubled our registration total since Christmas so thanks to you all for letting eligible families know about us. Please continue to pass out our cards and information. The first of the children have taken up their activities this month so from now on there should be some fun activities taking place to report on every month. If you would like to register a child with us please contact us at charlottes.smiles2@gmail.com or phone 01530 230633 and speak to Meg.

Evenings are best.

FUNDRAISING

- We are trying to set up fundraising groups in the Hinckley and Coalville areas. Hayley will be organising the Hinckley group and the first meeting is on April 28th at 7.30 phone 01455 612017 for details. Clair will be organising the Coalville group her number is 01530 810196 if you would like to help us please phone for information.
- The Charity Body shop sale at Hinckley Leisure centre on Sat 23rd Feb Thanks to everyone who came. Thanks to Lisa Sparrow and Charlotte's Smiles fundraisers. A fantastic £140 raised

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- Quiz night and supper at the Rose and Crown Bushby Tues 11th March. A Mega £290 raised. Well done Leicester fund raising group.
- Psychic Supper with wine Hinckley. 22nd March. A fantastic evening and lovely food thanks to Hayley and Lisa Wheatley a brilliant £131 raised.

Events in April

We are holding a **SPRING FAIR** at the Methodist Church Hall in Uppingham Road Leicester (next to Wilkinsons). On 26th April from 10.am until 1pm. There will be, a teddy tombolla, raffle, cake stall, body shop sales and tombolla, Mystery Prize stall, Body art, jewellery sale, ceramic dolls for sale, Spinning Jenny, guess the dolls name and Teddy's birthday, Bric a brac, toys and books sale and children's games and refreshments. Please come along and support us. Help Needed if you are free please phone us.

Forthcoming Events

14 June Battling Brook school Spring Fair

27th June Lisa Sparrow is organising a Variety Grease Night with cabaret, children's choir, solo artistes and dancers. Tickets £5 available now from Lisa on Hinckley 07746878190 and Hayley on Hinckley 01455 612017

July: Sponsored parachute Jump. Does anyone want to join Lisa jumping out a plane (mad fool). If you are interested please phone Lisa Sparrow on the above number or Simon on 07776215554 for more information.

Yellow Moon – New fundraising craft catalogue Out soon.

If you would like to help us by ordering from this catalogue we will receive 25% of your total order cost. You can get a catalogue from 08448268684 or online from www.yellowmoon.org.uk IMPORTANT Quote our reference number SCH13676 when ordering.

Have a sort out

Any unwanted items suitable for raffle or game prizes are always wanted. They don't have to be big. We are holding a number of fairs and stalls this year so need lots of small kids prizes for games as well as the ones suitable for raffles. Thanks. Just phone and we can arrange collection or give you a local drop off place.

Help us to get funds while shopping

www.easyfundraising.org.uk is a shopping site that has over 400 high street stores available. Log on to this site and select Charlotte's Smiles to benefit and Shop at your favourite store. They will donate a % to us. We have received this email from them...

Email from easyfundraising. A competition to raise money.

"During April and May we're running a great competition that's open to both new and existing easyfundraising members. Until May 31st, every time your supporters make any purchase through the easyfundraising site we'll give them one entry into a prize draw to win an **Xbox 360 and 3 games**. So, if they make 20 purchases they'll get 20 entries into the draw and so on. As every purchase benefits your cause They can also earn extra entries by using our [Refer a Friend](#) service - we'll give them an additional entry for every friend they tell, which means more people should register to support you. Every new supporter registering with us will also get one entry into the draw when"

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they sign up”.

Use the link below to get to easy search and easyfundraising if you shop on line. It doesn't cost you a penny more and it helps us.

<http://charlottesmilesfunforchildrenwithcancer.easyssearch.org.uk/>

Loyalty Cards Coalville

Finally we have been accepted by the Coalville and Ashby ukwebsaver.com group as their Coalville charity. We will receive a donation for each loyalty card sold and the buyer will receive a discount from any shops or suppliers who subscribe to the scheme. There are shops in Leicester, Coalville, Ashby and Loughborough who offer these discounts as well as Twin Lakes and Twycross Zoo. We sell the cards as well and they are £4.99 and if you get the discount for twin lakes you will more than get your money back in one go. To find out which stores are participating log on to www.ukwebsaver.com.

Watch out for more information on this exciting venture via our newsletters.

The next newsletter will be published around the middle to end of May if anyone has anything to contribute please send it to Meg at charlottes.smiles2@gmail.com

A POEM FROM GORDON

A smile is such a funny thing
It brightens up your face
And when it's gone you'll never find
Its secret hiding place
And still more wonderful it is
To see what smiles can do
You smile at one
One smiles at you
And so one smile makes two.



Author unknown

Any more?

Prime Ministers Petition

In the UK currently the majority of research into childhood cancers relies on charitable donations. Children in the UK deserve the right to the best treatment available. Government funds should be available to fund vital research into childhood cancer. Sign the petition to add your support but come back because we need you.

<http://petitions.pm.gov.uk/Kids-Cancer-Act/>

Finally this month, many thanks to the family of the late Mrs Lillian Watts for donating the money in Lou of flowers at Lillian's funeral to 'Charlotte's Smiles'. Our grateful thanks and condolences to the family.

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