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TUUT Charitable Trust news update



MEAK - Justin's journey

The Charity Medical and Education Aid to Kenya (MEAK), formed by Dee and Mike Belliere in 1994, buys medical and educational equipment and sends doctors from Guys and St Thomas' Hospital to perform free life and sight saving heart and eye operations for people who cannot afford them.

In August 2006, whilst MEAK was carrying out a heart mission at Kenyatta National Hospital in Nairobi, they noticed a young boy who was constantly playing in the ward with post operative patients. He so desperately wanted to be involved and to inter-act with them, so they chatted with him and started to show him how to colour and do puzzles etc. He was always smiling.

MEAK found out that he had had a small procedure on his heart but needed a much bigger operation needing a tissue conduit. He had been in the hospital for eight months as his parents had been unable to meet the bill for his operation, so, as is the custom, Justin was not released. His parents had never returned as the bill was increasing daily and they were an impoverished family, MEAK were very distressed by

his plight and that of the parents. They discussed the matter, and through their contacts managed to get the bill reduced and then MEAK paid for his release.

In October 2007, during their most recent heart mission, MEAK's paediatric cardiologist asked after Justin as he wanted to review his case. It was decided that they must find him. They knew that he lived very far from Nairobi, deep in the bush, to the west of the Masai Mara. They went to a local airline who are always very supportive to MEAK and explained the situation - they didn't know where Justin lived, he didn't know they were coming, and all there was to go on was his hospital

number from a small hospital in a town called Kilgoris. Having previous experience of MEAK's strange requests, they immediately offered to fly them to the nearest airstrip.

They overnighted at a bush camp and rose at 04:00 hrs to start the long drive to Kilgoris, knowing that they had to be back at the airstrip by 15:00

hrs that afternoon to be flown back to Nairobi. (There is only one flight a day and the next day's plane was full). When they arrived at the hospital the staff were very vague as to Justin's whereabouts and after a long discussion it was suggested that they went to Kisii. That was about another



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springs

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Professional Football Association (PFA) celebrate their Centenary



With a little help from the T.U.U.T Charitable Trust we hope very much that the PFA managed to raise the £1million they have pledged as part of the PFA's "One Goal, One Million" campaign to fund a new specialist Children's Treatment and Rehabilitation Unit at the new Children's Hospital to be built in Manchester.

The year long initiative included a number of high profile events involving current and former players and managers with the sole purpose of raising £1 million to fully fund this purpose built Children's Unit. The University Children's Hospital has been at the forefront of children's care since 1829 and, with a strong commitment to research and

excellent facilities, it is able to produce significant advances in areas such as cancer, cardiovascular disease and genetics. The proposed unit will provide modern facilities necessary to diagnose, treat and rehabilitate children. For the first time there will be an opportunity to have a one stop shop where children can be treated on the same day.

The culmination of the PFA's year of fundraising was a Gala Dinner held in December of 2007. It was a glittering affair attended by many of the very high profile people from the world of football and also stars of television, film and theatre. There was entertainment from Simply Red and Jack Dee was the presenter. All in all it was a great evening and helped to raise a good deal of money for the Children's Unit.

Talking about the PFA support to the Manchester Children's Hospital Appeal, Chief Executive Gordon Taylor (pictured above), said: "This is a very special year for the PFA and its members and to celebrate we wanted to do something very special. There cannot be any better way of celebrating our 100th birthday than by helping sick and injured children."

T.U.U.T Charitable Trust
Trustees as at 1 February 2008

- The Lord Christopher CBE
- Alan Tuffin CBE
- Brendan Barber
- Michael Bradley
- Lord Brookman
- Ed Sweeney
- Michael Walsh

Providing hope and homes for children

Hope and Homes for Children is an international children's charity based in Wiltshire. They work with the poorest children in the world, those who are orphaned, abandoned or vulnerable due to war, poverty, disability, ill-health or AIDS.

Their aim is to provide the children with the love and security of a family home and help them reach their full potential by ensuring they receive the support, healthcare, education and training they need to lead independent lives.

The T.U.U.T. Charitable Trust was pleased their donation was able to help the likes of Samuel who had been forced to leave the family home by his stepfather. When he was found on the streets he was stealing to survive and in a desperate state. He was helped to return to a normal life and he is now in the sixth form and preparing to go to university.



Helping the bereaved

The T.U.U.T. Charitable Trust was approached by the Richmond-Upon-Thames Branch of Cruse Bereavement Care to help maintain the Cruse services within the borough.

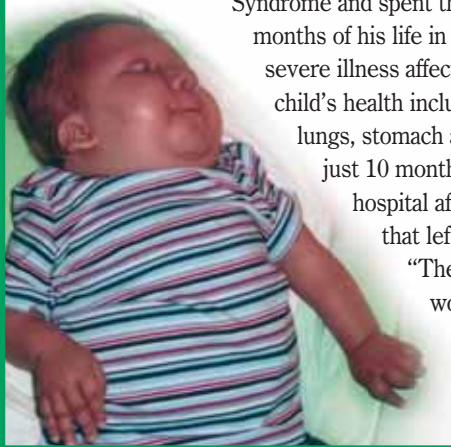
Cruse provides help for anyone bereaved by death to understand their grief and to cope with their loss. They provide counselling and support to all those who seek it at the most vulnerable time of their lives.

Sensory Centre for Joe

React is a National Charity helping children with life-limiting illnesses throughout the UK. They provide equipment to aid the physical and mental independence of children when other organisations have been unable to help, addressing and adapting to the specific needs of each child.

React provides a diverse range of support with emphasis being placed on education stimulation, personal stimulation and relief of social disadvantage and isolation for the child and the family. A donation from T.U.U.T helped towards providing the equipment needed to help children such as Joe.

When Joe was born he was diagnosed with Noonan's Syndrome and spent the first five and a half months of his life in hospital. This rare and severe illness affects many aspects of a child's health including the brain, heart, lungs, stomach and skin. When Joe was just 10 months old he was rushed to hospital after a prolonged seizure that left him with brain damage. "The doctors told me that Joe would probably not survive more than another three weeks," his mother told us. She was advised to



make the 'necessary arrangements' and could only wait, then hope, as the weeks turned into months.

Now, at nearly two years old, Joe has exceeded everybody's expectations and is leaving palliative care. He has very limited movement in his body and is almost blind, but responds well to the lights and sounds at his local sensory room. However, at nearly a thousand pounds, buying similar equipment for use at home seemed impossible. Toni contacted React and, with funding made possible through donations and fundraising, Joe will soon have his very own 'sensory centre' with a bubble tube and fibre-optic ropes that he can enjoy any time of the day or night.

Toni wrote to say how much this equipment means to Joe:

"I would like to say a BIG 'thank you' to everyone who has made this possible. I could never have afforded the sensory centre for Joe myself, and words cannot say how grateful I am. We are looking forward to many hours of fun and beneficial playtime at home. All those who are involved with Joe agree that this equipment will be a great help and bring a little joy into his very difficult life.

Thank you!"

Respite for the carers

The Respite Association was born in 2001. A group of people had come to realise that there was very little support available for those caring for loved ones, so this small group of people created an organisation whose sole aim was to care for the carers by providing respite.

The T.U.U.T Charitable Trust was pleased to help with a donation to help provide respite to those that care round-the-clock for people such as an elderly lady in Devon who looks after her husband who has severe dementia, or a mother caring for her daughter who has quadriplegic cerebral palsy to mention just two of the cases that the respite association assist.

Updating an orphanage

Aid for Romanian Orphanages provides volunteers to assist in repair and care work for both the children and the buildings. The T.U.U.T Charitable Trust was able to help fund a trip in 2008 in order to carry out electrical and other necessary works in Zau de Campie orphanage and schools in Zau de Campie and Tirgu Mures.

Continued from front cover... MEAK - Justin's journey

two hours drive along a bumpy dirt road. On the way they came to a tiny village and stopped to ask about the Mboi family. Many people gathered round the truck as they were an unusual sight and suddenly a woman called out "I know the Mboi family, the uncle lives there" and she pointed to a mud hut right beside our truck. They went in and were introduced to Lawrence, Justin's uncle, who told them that the family lived in Kilgoris where they had come from. With Lawrence on board they went as fast as they could all the way back to Kilgoris.

The tiny room where the whole family (Mother, Father and four children) lived was behind the hospital. They were very surprised when they were told that Justin needed to go to Nairobi for a heart check to measure his heart prior to a future operation by the MEAK team, which would be performed completely free of charge. Yes, he would be going in an aeroplane and his father would go along with him as his guardian.

Justin was taken to hospital for all the necessary checks to his heart, then the airline flew them back, they were driven the long way back. The father was given a mobile phone and told he would be called when MEAK were coming to carry out the operation.

Justin and his father will be transported to Nairobi for the operation and all procedures would be done completely free of charges. MEAK hope they can source the tissue conduit which Justin needs and that he will be their first patient in the T.U.U.T Charitable Trust funded heart mission in May 2008 - that's what we call CHARITY and we are proud to help MEAK with their very important work.



ADUR Special Needs Project

The basis of Adur Special Needs Project's operation is a weekend respite scheme which runs at the local Day Care Centre in Shoreham-by-Sea. The project evolved from a small play scheme that was first started in 1985 and was reregistered as the Adur Special Needs Project in 1997.

A Committee was formed by parents/carers with assistance from Social Services for the purposes of providing a play scheme where young persons can interact and socialise in a safe, comfortable and fun environment; give respite for parents/carers of the young persons and their families and also provide opportunities for young people aged between 13 and 18 years.

Adur Special Needs Project caters for boys and girls with special needs aged between 5 to 23 years. "Special Needs" covers the whole spectrum of Autism, Down's Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, Epilepsy, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), communication difficulties, moderate to severe learning difficulties, behavioural problems and those having suffered various forms of abuse and are in care.

With the help of the ongoing support from T.U.U.T Charitable Trust the 2008 Summer Playscheme has now been booked at Sompting and Adur will be able to add an extra week during the summer holidays. Enquiries and bookings for the summer scheme started in January so ASP expect to be inundated again in 2008.

The 13+ Club is also being helped with T.U.U.T's support and is going from strength to strength. Members are really enjoying being involved with others of their own age group and learning life skills such as cooking their own meals and producing their own advertising leaflets for the club.

Another area where we have helped has also enabled them to assist over 100 children and young people from families on low incomes or families with two or more children with special needs. This is an enormous relief to them as they would not have been able to attend otherwise.

Adur also have an 18+ Club which is thriving with more than 40 members now. They will be moving venues shortly to cope with the large number of members who attend every Wednesday.

Their 2007 Christmas parties were very well attended with 32 on the Saturday and 42 on the Sunday. Members enjoyed games, treasure hunts and competitions and Adur were able to cover the cost of both parties thanks to help from other sources.

ASP work long and hard to help these young people and with ongoing help from T.U.U.T Charitable Trust hope to do more in 2008.



ADUR helper with Club Member

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