

Winter 2012

lifeline



Great
Ormond
Street
Hospital
Charity

YOU
+US

**how your support
will help Gabi
have a happier
Christmas**

**our fantastic
neurosciences
service that
your donations
are funding**

**saving children
like Lewis from
fatal seizures**



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hello

Hi, I'm Scarlett, your guest editor.

I don't remember my first epileptic seizure but I remember having one in bed when I was five or six. It was bad and I blacked out. I was really scared. I remember coming to Great Ormond Street Hospital and all the nurses being really kind. Last year, I had a big operation to remove a lesion and I missed a lot of school. I've just started secondary school so it's a fresh start. I know some of the older children and they said they'd look after me. I'm looking



forward to Christmas and I hope I get to play in the snow! On page 12 of this issue, I interview Dr Philippa Mills about the research she's doing into seizures. And my mum tells you more about what happened to me. I hope it helps explain why the hospital is trying to raise money to complete its Neurosciences Centre. Thanks for your help.

Scarlett

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online



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Thank you to our guest editor of *Lifeline*, Scarlett, who did a brilliant job of interviewing Dr Philippa Mills.

The children's drawings in the background on this and other pages were created by our Friends members.

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a successful summer

»» Many thanks to all of you who responded to our summer appeal to raise funds for two new operating theatres for children with serious face and skull conditions. Due to your generosity, we have so far raised over £235,000! This means we'll be able to treat more patients like Fiona, last issue's cover star.

Happy Anniversary, Nurses League!

»» This year marks the 75th anniversary of Great Ormond Street Hospital's Nurses League. In 1936, Miss Dorothy Lane addressed a group of nurses who were gathered to receive prizes and certificates. She suggested the idea of a Nurses League, which was endorsed by those present. Its inaugural meeting took place on 15 February 1937. Miss Tisdale was appointed as President and Miss Lane as Chair of the Committee.

Each year, many nurses who trained at the hospital in the past make a return visit. This year, as the 1962 sets celebrate their 50th anniversary, they have been back to visit the wards of the Southwood Building and to see the new Morgan Stanley Clinical Building.

Did you train at the hospital?
For information on a tour, contact Lisa Sharman at lisa.sharman@gosh.nhs.uk

our Olympic pride

»» Nine Great Ormond Street Hospital patients and three members of staff took part in the greatest show on earth in July – otherwise known as the London 2012 Olympic Games Opening Ceremony! Lights shone on the excited group as the charity's logo magically appeared, made up of glowing hospital beds (see photo, right).

One of the patients who took to the stage was Niamh Bowdler, age 11, from Essex, who has a rare bladder and kidney condition and visits the hospital regularly. Niamh's mum Siobhan said: "I felt privileged and so proud to see my beautiful girl up



Great Ormond Street Hospital becomes the centre of the world's attention!

there representing this special hospital."

The hospital thanked ceremony director Danny Boyle for the "wonderful honour" of being involved in the historic event.



Niamh proudly waving her Team GB flag

welcome Rosalind



»» The hospital would like to give a warm welcome to Professor Rosalind Smyth, new Director of the UCL Institute of Child Health (ICH), Great Ormond Street Hospital's dedicated research partner. Professor Smyth is looking forward to building on the successes of the ICH. Her vision for the Institute is to make it the world's leading centre for paediatric research and teaching.

living life as a normal teen

»» You may remember reading about Ciaran Finn-Lynch of Northern Ireland, who made history in 2010 as the first child in the world to undergo a pioneering windpipe transplant.

Ciaran's lungs collapsed on the day he was born and he was diagnosed with long segment tracheal stenosis, which meant he had a very narrow windpipe and



difficulties breathing. He underwent major surgery as a baby but unfortunately the treatment wasn't able to help him permanently. The transplant in 2010 was a desperate attempt to save

his life. His trachea was removed and replaced with a donor windpipe laced with his own stem cells to kick-start the gradual growth of a lining. A two-year follow-up check showed that the cells have regrown within the organ so that Ciaran's windpipe now has an adequate lining. He can breathe normally and lead the life of a normal 13-year-old. The organ is expected to continue to strengthen over time.



finding the causes

»» A new centre dedicated to researching the causes of birth defects has opened in the UCL Institute of Child Health (ICH), thanks to donations made to Great Ormond Street Hospital

Professor Copp (above) heads up the new centre

Children's Charity.

Some of the most common conditions that will be under investigation at the Newlife Birth Defects Research Centre (BDRC) include neural tube defects such as spina bifida, congenital heart defects, inherited vision disorders, cleft lip and palate, and Down's syndrome.

Great Ormond Street Hospital, which specialises in the treatment of rare disorders, is ICH's clinical partner and will be able to provide vital input.

In Europe, more than two per cent of pregnancies are affected by a birth defect, of which there are more than 4,000 types.

"The centre will be the first research grouping to

focus specifically on understanding how birth defects arise, and finding new ways to treat and prevent them," said Professor Andrew Copp, Head of the BDRC, who is also one of the scientific investigators working there.

"We remain ignorant of what actually causes common birth defects such as cleft palate, heart defects and spina bifida. A huge amount of research needs to be done."

shop online

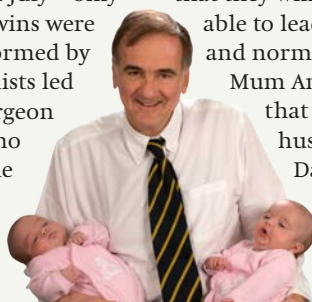
Our online Christmas shop is open! For cute cards, gorgeous gift wrap and perfect presents, head to gosh.org/shop

bubbly babies home at last



Conjoined twins Rosie and Ruby are now home after successful surgery to separate them at Great Ormond Street Hospital. The operation in July – only a day after the twins were born – was performed by a team of specialists led by paediatric surgeon Professor Agostino Pierro (right). The twins were joined at the abdomen and shared part of

the intestine. The operation was performed as an emergency because of an intestinal blockage. Despite the family having been told that survival chances were low, Professor Pierro said: “We are delighted with the outcome. The babies will need further treatment in the future, but we expect that they will both be able to lead happy and normal lives.”



Mum Angela said that she and husband Daniel were “happy and relieved” to have the



Angela with Rosie, and Daniel with Ruby

girls home. “They are normal bubbly babies who are starting to smile, and cry when they want something,” she said. “The team at the hospital were fantastic and our family are incredibly grateful.”

book a panto

See p24 for Peter Pan dates



Dorothy in the hospital's beautiful chapel

chapel of hope

“Christmas is a Christian festival, but there are lots of other faiths for whom this time of year is important,” said Dorothy Moore-Brooks, one of the hospital chaplains. “There will be opportunities to light candles, which are a strong image of hope, whether people have a

particular faith or not. We put up a massive Christmas tree and try to make it really celebratory. Even though people often bring their sadness, it also needs to be a place of hope. We're planning to use interactive media for the carol service, so children who can't come can join in via Skype!”

inspiration at the top



The hospital's new Chief Executive Officer Jan Filochowski

Jan Filochowski, one of the UK's most respected NHS chief executives, has been appointed as Chief Executive Officer of Great Ormond Street Hospital. Jan has 37 years of healthcare experience, starting with 10 years in the Department of Health, followed by 27 years in the NHS. Described by *The Sunday Times* as “an inspirational manager”, he will be responsible for leading the hospital in its first full year as an NHS Foundation Trust.



“When I come in I bring... my dog Rainbow! Ffion, five”

Foundation Trust members get involved!

Since Great Ormond Street Hospital became a Foundation Trust earlier this year, many of its members have been involved in a variety of projects to improve the hospital's services. Some members have helped to recruit new consultants, managers and ward sisters by sitting on interview panels. Others have joined the Redevelopment Group, and the food at GOSH Working Party. Young members have



Young people have their say in hospital services

been getting involved too, with the launch of the Young People's Forum, a project created to give young people age 11 and above a genuine voice to develop the hospital services they use. The Forum aims to create a strong relationship between hospital staff and young people, and is chaired

by 17-year-old George Howell, a Foundation Trust councillor for patients from outside London.

To find out more about being a Foundation Trust member, or to sign up, visit gosh.nhs.uk/foundation

welcome to Koala Ward

The opening of Koala Ward in the new Morgan Stanley Clinical Building is only the start for neurosciences at the hospital



Ward Manager
Tom Kennedy

"It's great to have all our specialties in one unit"

Koala Ward opened its doors in March and nine months on, its patients, families and staff are seeing the benefits of brand new facilities that have replaced those of the old Parrot and Tiger wards. Children receiving treatment for complex craniofacial and neurological conditions now have a much more spacious and pleasant environment in which to

receive their care and it's all thanks to your generosity.

The 24-bed ward is staffed by 58 nurses, with Tom Kennedy as Ward Manager – he kindly showed us around. "We're generally full 90 per cent of the time," says Tom. "We tend to see more complex cases than local hospitals so children can be very unwell and that can be quite hard. But I absolutely love being a nurse and working with children, young people and their families. We have four specialties on the one ward – neurosurgery, neurology, craniofacial and epilepsy.

"Previous to this, we had two separate wards and two separate ways of working. It's great for the families



to have all our specialties contained in one unit – and for the staff too. I'm more on the medical side but now, I'm learning a lot from the surgical staff and it's the same the other way round."

In terms of facilities, Tom says: "Unless children need to be in high dependency, all the rooms are en suite. We have good storage space,

"Without the donors who support us, we really wouldn't be here"

The team
benefits from
state-of-the-
art equipment

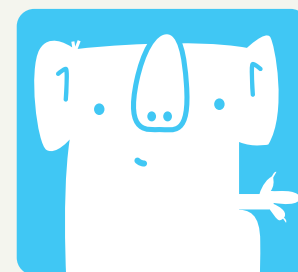


photography: above – David Harrison, all others – James Medcraft

good bathroom facilities and families have a kitchen."

The ward is the first part of a new Neurosciences Centre which will open fully when the next phase of the hospital's rebuild is completed in 2016.

With clinical services already operating to full capacity, this is the only way the hospital can meet the growing demand for its services. Tom also says: "The



We still need to raise £45 million to finish the current stage of our redevelopment

“When I’m in hospital... I get to see lots of films. I like the school too. Elliott, seven



Text GOSH05 and the amount you wish to donate (eg GOSH05 £10) to 70070

patient pathway through services will be a lot more straightforward. Neurosciences is a lot bigger than the main specialties we deal with on the ward.

"With the development of our centre, you will be able to come here and get everything you need in one spot. We will also be able to build networks with other services in the community so that the care we start here continues locally once families leave.

"The majority of the money for this building came from donors. Without their support – even in the smallest of ways – we really wouldn't be here."

To find out more about the redevelopment or to donate, visit gosh.org/redevelopment



talking to...

Angie, mum of Lawrie, age nine

“Lawrie was born with a rare form of craniosynostosis. This meant that he had a hole in the skull, so his brain was covered with just a soft piece of skin. He was one of the first children to be treated on the new Koala Ward and when we arrived, we were delighted to have a room to ourselves.

"Koala Ward is amazing. The first thing that struck me was the space – it's a really bright environment.

"Lawrie's room is lovely – really clean and much bigger than his previous one. The wardrobe space is great. It's always a squeeze if you travel down from Aberdeen like we do. If we're staying for a few weeks, we need somewhere to put our cases and personal items. We now have somewhere to sleep next to Lawrie and there's a lot more privacy than in the single bedrooms. The en suite facilities are also really fabulous. Lawrie is now nine years old, and a normal little boy, who is doing very well at school.

”



Individual
rooms give
privacy to
families

getting closer to a cure

Gabriela was born a healthy baby – or so her parents Justyna and Maciej thought...

Gabriela's first few months were no different to those of any newborn. But just as things started getting easier for the family, Justyna says:

"Gabi started constantly crying and she couldn't roll

over or lift her head."

A visit to a local GP didn't show up anything unusual, but Justyna knew her own baby, so when things didn't get better, she took Gabi to a private clinic.

A CT scan showed Gabi had hydrocephalus – water on the brain. She was sent straight to King's College Hospital where more scans showed she also had a cerebral arteriovenous malformation (AVM).

"It's so rare, the hospital didn't even have a leaflet on it," says Justyna. Gabi was transferred to Great Ormond Street Hospital the same day, where consultants explained that this was a malformation

Gabi's first stay in hospital



in the connection of the arteries and veins in the back of Gabi's head. It meant that blood wasn't flowing normally around her body.

The condition forms before birth but often goes unnoticed until symptoms occur – the most serious are strokes and permanent brain damage. Justyna was told it was possible for Gabi to be cured with a procedure called embolisation, where glue is used to block the vessels and reduce the blood flow into the AVM.

"It's a high-risk procedure," says Justyna. "I was terrified."

Gabi had a six-hour operation the same day. It went well, but there were complications: "A piece of

"Our vision of a family Christmas flew away"

glue broke away and ran into her bloodstream, which increased the risk of stroke."

A month later – after several other procedures including treatment for the hydrocephalus and a second embolisation – Gabi was well enough to go home.

Justyna had stayed with Gabi constantly but says: "When that day came, I didn't know what to do! This was the only place where everyone understood me. I was supported by doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, the hospital chaplaincy service. It was wonderful. The outside world was too strange. I wanted to come back!"

Gradually life settled down

Getting ready for this Christmas



for the family, but that wasn't the end of the story. Justyna had been told on the first day that it might take months or years to cure Gabi. Since then, she has had 12 operations. One this time last year saw a setback:

"We knew that we should be home on 23 December," says Justyna. "But then Gabi had a

high temperature so we had to stay. Our vision of a family Christmas flew away."

Then the next day, Gabi suddenly improved and was able to spend Christmas Day at home after all. With this good news, Justyna says: "Christmas Eve was the best day ever! The atmosphere at the hospital was lovely –



there were carols, a dancing Santa Claus and a Christmas tree. Gabi had presents from the charity and a visit from Peppa Pig – her favourite!"

Gabi is now developing well and her operations have become less frequent.

"Everything's upside down but we believe Gabi will be cured one day. We live a more valuable life now. We try to enjoy every day and every minute. We'd like to thank everybody on Koala Ward for their help

"Please keep your fingers crossed for Gabi"

and support. You are and always will be the most important part of our lives.

"Please keep your fingers crossed for Gabi."

To donate to our Christmas appeal, call 020 7239 3131 or visit gosh.org/donate or text GOSH05 and the amount you wish to donate (eg GOSH05 £10) to 70070

hope on the horizon

"Hi, I'm Scarlett, your guest editor. I interviewed Dr Philippa Mills about a research project that could help children who, like me, suffer from seizures."

Hi Philippa. Do you know what causes epilepsy?

We know the brain uses electrical activity to send messages from one cell to another cell. In epilepsy, some of these signals go wrong. This can be caused by things such as a head injury, meningitis or a genetic disorder – or a little part of the brain has an abnormal structure which triggers a fit. Sometimes doctors can take that part away so you don't get so many seizures, just like you've had done.

What problems can epilepsy cause?

As you know, epilepsy can be very disruptive to people's lives, but because there are over 40 different types, the effect it has can vary greatly. Having a seizure is quite risky, so anything we can do to minimise the number of seizures or stop them means the risk is better.

How do you control epilepsy?

Two-thirds of people with epilepsy can be treated with anti-epileptic medications and drugs that will control their epilepsy and, for some, it will disappear. For others, the doctors can sometimes treat them with surgery to try to reduce the risk of epilepsy and there are also alternative treatments such as special diets and deep brain stimulation that might help their epilepsy.

What research have you done so far?

We've been lucky enough to find two genes that, when they don't work properly, result in an epilepsy that responds well to vitamin B6, which we get from the food we eat every day. The brain needs vitamin B6 to make its enzymes work. Not getting enough causes seizures – and too much can cause neurological problems such as nerve damage.

What's the research work you're doing now?

We've been looking at a big group of children whose type of epilepsy has shown some form of response to treatment with vitamin B6. We've looked at the two genes and although for some of these children they seemed to be working fine, for others they weren't, so we are trying to develop new tests to see if children will respond to vitamin B6 or not.

Scarlett, 11, will be on medication for the rest of her life

photography: David Harrison

watch it online



gosh.org/lifeline



Scan this code to watch all of Scarlett's interview on your phone

What other conditions could your research help?

We are also looking at what can happen when you get an accumulation of manganese in your brain. This can cause a childhood Parkinsonian disorder that gives children problems in moving. If we can understand more about disorders like this, we could find better treatments.

How will the research help children in the future?

At the moment it's really difficult for a doctor to work out whether vitamin B6 is helping a child as the child is on so many different drugs. If we can develop these tests, we will be able to tell the doctor which children are responding, so hopefully they can then stop their seizures.

Please help us with our fantastic new research. Call fundraising on 020 7239 3131 or visit gosh.org/research to find out more



talking to...

Katie, mum of Scarlett, age 11

In 2005, we were on holiday in Egypt and Scarlett had just mastered swimming. I was packing up our bag and as I turned around, she was at the bottom of the pool, fitting. I had no idea what was going on but thankfully she'd been playing with a child whose father was a doctor who did what was necessary. We managed to get her on a plane back to the UK and she went straight to Barnet Hospital from the runway. She was transferred to Great Ormond Street Hospital where she stayed for five months. I never left once. Scarlett was having over 100 seizures a day and wouldn't respond to drugs. At first they thought it could be a tumour, but it was a lesion on her motor neurone strip. She's had eight operations to remove it – they had to go in deeper every time. She is still on medication and still fits daily but there's less severity and the frequency is less. Scarlett's got a great quality of life now, something she never had before. Great Ormond Street Hospital is my world. She wouldn't be here without them. Research is always evolving – with more money for neurosciences, who knows what the next five years could bring?





Lewis visiting the new Koala Ward

an
inspiration
to us all

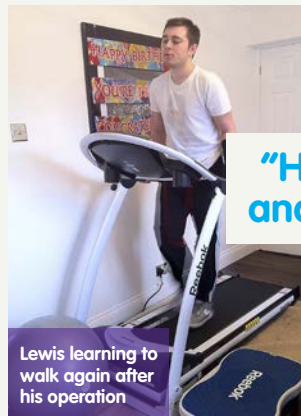
Lewis missed out on a big chunk of his education due to epilepsy. But now, after a major operation, he's back at college

In 2007, age 14, Lewis suffered a seizure while on holiday in Spain. He was struggling to breathe and after three days of tests at a hospital, his parents

were told to consult a neurologist. Once back home, they decided to go private and started the lengthy process of getting

"Surgery was the next option"

Lewis' medication right to treat his epilepsy. After a year, Lewis was still having one or two seizures a month. By September 2008, he was in Great Ormond Street Hospital and diagnosed with Rasmussen's encephalitis, also known as chronic



Lewis learning to walk again after his operation

"He never complains and is always happy"

but he has started college. Everyone who meets him says he is an inspiration. He never complains, is always happy and just wants to get on with life.

focal encephalitis, a rare inflammatory neurological disorder, characterised by frequent and severe seizures. After 18 months of treatment, his parents were told that surgery – a hemispherectomy involving disconnecting the affected side of the brain – was the next option. Lewis knew he had to get the seizures stopped before they did any more damage so he went ahead – knowing that after the operation, he was going to have to learn to walk again, and his loss of field vision in both eyes would mean he could never drive. It's now a year since Lewis' operation. It will take him two to three years to recover and rehabilitate,

talking to...



Kay, mum of Lewis, age 19

When Lewis had to stay at the hospital, he was always happy there. He was never scared at Great Ormond Street Hospital. It was the only time he felt safe while having a

seizure or spasm. The staff were so quick to stop the pain. Having the hemispherectomy was the hardest choice we've ever had to make, knowing it would make our son permanently disabled. He dealt with this in a remarkable way, when all his friends were learning to drive. He

was so brave. Like he says himself, he's lucky that he's had the best care and treatment from such a wonderful hospital. He wants other teenagers to know that being at a children's hospital doesn't mean you are treated like a child.

”

patients triumph at the British Transplant Games

More than 500 patients given a life-saving major organ transplant arrived in Kent for this important event

Olivia (right) cover star of last Christmas's *Lifeline*, competing in the ball throw



Sarah doing the Mobot after her sporting success at the games

In August, heart and renal transplant patients from Great Ormond Street Hospital took part in the 2012 British Transplant Games – an action-packed bank holiday weekend, where patients competed in sports including badminton, long jump, swimming and running. The games aim to encourage transplant patients to regain fitness and confidence by celebrating life. They also help to

Ormond Street Hospital, the largest transplant centre in the UK, had 19 competitors in its renal team, every one of whom won a medal. The heart and lung team were also awarded the prize for the Best Children's Heart Team.

One of the competitors was nine-year-old Adam, who had his kidney transplant in 2008. He won a silver medal in the five-aside football and a bronze medal in the tug-of-war.

His mum Sharon said: "For Adam, the best thing about the Transplant Games was making friends with other transplantees and taking part in the games. It's very humbling to see children who just keep

going and never give up."

Little Sarah also took part. In 2006, she had a successful heart transplant at just 23 days old, making her one of the youngest ever children to undergo and survive a heart transplant. This was Sarah's third Transplant Games,

"Everyone won a medal"

where she scooped up two gold medals, in the 25m run and the obstacle course, plus a silver in the ball throw. She also won an award for the best under-six girl! Well done to all the patients who took part. You are always champions in our eyes.

"It's very humbling to see children who keep going and never give up"

promote friendship between individuals concerned with transplantation, while increasing public awareness and honouring transplant recipients and donors. Great



More stories online at blog.gosh.org

what was raised and how it was spent

Last year, the charity raised £66.3 million. An amazing £57 million of this came from your donations (£45.5 million) and legacies (£11.5 million)

You've made it possible for us to pay for the Heart and Lung, Neurosciences and Kidney centres in our new Morgan Stanley Clinical

Building, as well as the state-of-the-art operating theatres, the diagnostic suites and the new kitchen and restaurant there.

how the income was raised

Total £66.3 million

Overall income



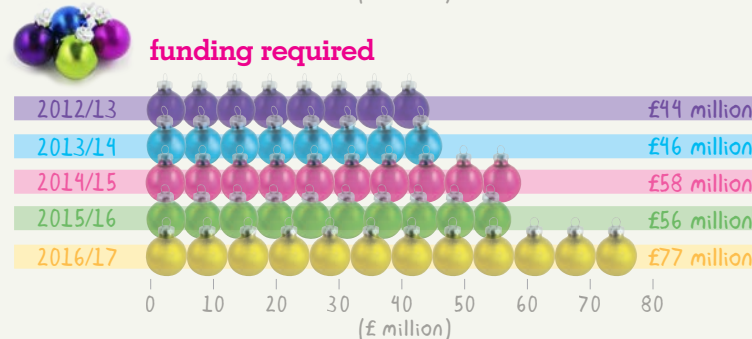
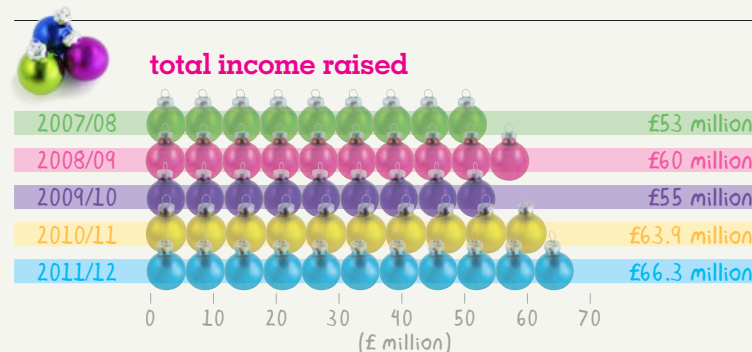
how the income was spent

£28.5 million

Charitable expenditure



*This means we had £9.6 million from last year's redevelopment funding that hadn't been used



We've also been able to buy new medical equipment, pay for welfare projects and accommodation for parents, and fund a wide range of pioneering research projects – the charity is now the UK's biggest dedicated funder of paediatric research. The rest of the charity's income, less administration and fundraising costs, will be temporarily put into our reserves, mainly used to fund the hospital's redevelopment.

A copy of the charity's Annual Report can be downloaded from gosh.org/about-us

talking to...



Tim Johnson,
Chief Executive
Great Ormond
Street Hospital
Children's Charity

66 I became Chief Executive of Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity back in August, after 10 years at the charity as Executive Director.

My new role is to ensure we keep raising as much money as we can to help the hospital do the best it can for sick children. I'll also be making sure we keep our costs down, so that as much money as possible goes directly to the hospital.

Thanks to you – our wonderful supporters – we had a very strong fundraising year for 2011/12, raising a fabulous £57 million! I am

incredibly grateful to everyone who made that happen.

Helping fund the redevelopment of the hospital is our biggest priority, so we were delighted to officially open the Morgan Stanley Clinical Building, the first part of our Mittal Children's Medical Centre.

There's still so much for us to do. The hospital desperately needs our help to continue to redevelop and rebuild, and to fund research.

It relies on charity support to remain one of the world's very best children's research hospitals.

Every week, hundreds more children come to the hospital looking for hope, and I'm determined we will do all we can to help them.

With your generous support – whether it's a donation, or leaving a legacy – I know we can continue to make a real difference. We simply could not do what we do for the hospital without you. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!



...everyone who has donated, spread the word, baked a cake, run a marathon, or done anything in aid of Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity. We can't include all of you, but here are some of the highlights, plus some upcoming fundraising events and ideas...



Alison and Steve with baby Jack

a brighter future for other children at the hospital

When Alison Bennett's one-year-old son Jack passed away in March 2011 from a rare disorder, she and husband Steve set up a Brighter Future Fund to raise money for Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity.

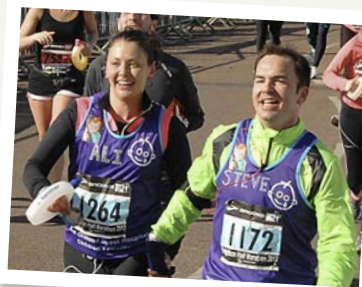
The couple had asked friends and family to contribute to the fund rather than buy flowers,

but soon other donations were coming in thick and fast. Jack's grandparents hosted a family fun day in aid of the hospital where Jack spent his last days, raising £3,500. A Christmas raffle raised £10,000, and sponsored marathons, half marathons and swims all boosted Jack's fund.

One uncle even ran the

gruelling Tour d'Esprit in Memphis, running 101 miles in under 24 hours, and a toddler friend of Jack's completed a sponsored 2k walk. So far, the Bennetts have raised over £32,000, which is incredible. Alison said: "It has meant a lot to us as a family to raise money in Jack's memory. We desperately want to help other families who have a sick child at the hospital.

Fundraising has also been a good distraction and focus for us and has helped us to create something positive out of a tragic situation."



To find out about setting up a Brighter Future Fund, visit gosh.org/bff

Axel's art workshops

We were delighted this summer when Axel Scheffler – best known as illustrator of *The Gruffalo* books – led a series of workshops as part of our GO Create! arts programme.

The workshops were linked to an illustration exhibition in the Morgan Stanley Clinical Building gallery, which explored the theme of human rights.

Created in partnership with Amnesty International UK, the exhibition featured

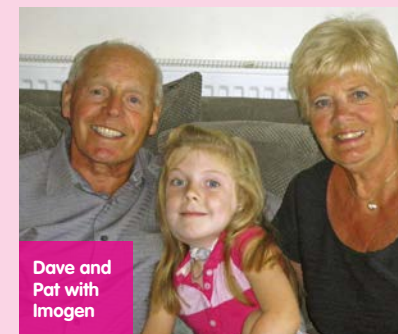
30 different works by children's illustrators including Axel. They were created for an award-winning picture book, *We are all born free*, which celebrates the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Read more on Axel's workshops at blog.gosh.org

For more about the GO Create! arts programme visit gosh.nhs.uk/gocreate



Gruffalo illustrator Axel Scheffler leading a shadow puppet workshop

a golden gift



Dave and Pat with Imogen

life-saving tracheostomy to enable her to breathe.

Now age six, Imogen still attends the hospital every three months to have laser treatment on her trachea.

Imogen's grandparents, Dave and Pat, felt they had a lot to be grateful for, so they decided to ask friends to make a

In 2006, Imogen was born with a growth in her throat, known as a cystic hygroma.

An operation at Great Ormond Street Hospital to remove part of the cyst revealed that it had been supporting her windpipe, so surgeons needed to perform an emergency

donation to the hospital at their golden wedding celebrations. "It seemed like the obvious thing to do," they explained. "It was a great way to get people contributing to such a worthwhile cause."

To help the hospital as you celebrate a special occasion, email celebrate@gosh.org or call 020 7239 3002

more thanks

- ▶ Emma and James used the occasion of their wedding to donate to the charity and celebrate the life of Emma's late brother
- ▶ Former patient Roxie and twin sister Minnie asked for donations instead of presents on their fifth birthday
- ▶ Andrew and Jackie supported us on their 25th anniversary

For more on these stories and other ways to donate, visit gosh.org/gen/getbettergifts

“When I come to hospital I bring... my Family Guy T-shirt! Dylan, 13”

“What I like about my ward is... my mum can sleep in my room Jimmy, 17”





a marathon journey

Nine months after Stephen Clements, 49, donated a kidney to his daughter Annie, now 17, he completed the London Marathon and raised £5,000 for the charity!

In September 2010, Annie was taken ill out of the blue. Within a matter of days, she was diagnosed with chronic renal failure and spent the next 12 weeks in the care of Great Ormond Street Hospital.

She continued on dialysis but this was only a short-



term solution – her best chance was to receive a kidney from a living donor.

Her dad was the best match so the operation took place in July 2011.

Afterwards, Stephen was determined to continue

living as he had before. So, just three months later, he started training for the 2012 London Marathon.

With a bucket-load of determination and Annie's support from the sidelines, he gained a personal best of three hours, 15 minutes – and raised £5,000 for the hospital. Stephen will be using his place in the 2013 London Marathon to raise even more funds.

The charity's Challenge Fundraising Manager, Laura Savory, said: "Stephen's story is truly inspirational. The money raised will help us to provide hope for more families. Each year, we need to raise £50 million. We are delighted to have Stephen's continued support."

Inspired by the nurses she met during her treatment, Annie has now started her own journey – she's training to be a nurse!

To find out about running a marathon for Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity, visit gosh.org/marathon

thanks a million to ASK Italian



A huge "GRAZIE!" to our friends ASK Italian restaurants who have brought out a wonderful Italian cookbook to help raise money for the hospital's new Surgery Centre, due to open in 2016. They have pledged to raise £1 million for the charity over the next three

years and, with £4 donated to us from every copy sold in an ASK Italian restaurant, the tasty new initiative will help them reach this target.

To buy your copy, go to askitalian.co.uk and find your nearest restaurant

singing support



This year's annual Christmas Carol Concert is proud to be supporting Look Inside, a brand-new three-year initiative to raise funds for life-saving imaging equipment.

The initiative's bright and brilliant poster

Around 100 Great Ormond Street Hospital patients require a specialist X-ray each month, but recently, the equipment that provides these X-rays broke down after 15 years of service. As a result, children have to be referred elsewhere for assessment, causing delays and stress. This year Look Inside is aiming to raise £250,000 to purchase

the new equipment and reinstate this essential service – and all proceeds from the Christmas Carol Concert will go towards this aim. The flagship event takes place on 11 December at St Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, with a reception in The Berkeley hotel. It will feature carols, inspirational readings from famous faces, and many wonderful musical performances.

For details on how to purchase tickets and further information, please visit gosh.org/carolconcert

festive fundraising

Christmas is just around the corner, and while our doctors and nurses make sure many of our patients get home for the festive season, some children will have to stay in hospital.

Please help us to raise money to pay for family accommodation. Your donations will help ensure that parents can stay near their sick child at Christmas.

Here are some great festive fundraising ideas: **Santa-hat-athon** Encourage colleagues to don their Santa hats for a day for a small donation.

Mulled wine party Invite your friends over for a winter warmer. Ask them to donate the money they



save on bringing a bottle.

Nativity play

Ask at your child's or your grandchild's school if they would support us through their nativity play. Parents could donate a few pounds to see their child's star-turn as a snowflake.

Get more fantastic fundraising ideas at gosh.org/christmasfundraising

ideas online!

“The best thing about the hospital is... the touch screen TV Abouy, 16”



We organise a wide range of activities, services and fundraising events all year round. Here are a few:

→ **Christmas Carol Concert**
→ **11 December 2012**

From 6.30pm at St Paul's Church, followed by a reception at The Berkeley hotel. **020 7239 3004.**

→ **Hospital Carol Service**
→ **18 December 2012**

We are holding a carol service at the hospital's chapel, St Christopher's. To attend, contact Jim Linthicum, Senior Chaplain, on **020 7813 8232.**

→ **Annual Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance**
→ **27 April 2013**

The service will take place at the church of St George the Martyr, Queen Square. If you wish to attend, contact Jim Linthicum, Senior Chaplain, on **020 7813 8232.**



→ **RBC Race for the Kids**
→ **June 2013**

The charity's very own 5k family fun run! To register your interest so you don't miss out, visit www.raceforthekids.co.uk



Go online and find out about our exciting challenge events



sign up online

Visit: gosh.org/getinvolved
Call: 020 7239 3131
Email: supporter.care@gosh.org



Register now at:
www.gosh.org/sweepstake



Raise a smile this Christmas...

Take part in our Christmas Sweepstake!

Order your sweepstake poster pack and get your office or workplace involved. You and your colleagues will be supporting our patients and their families who have to spend their Christmas in hospital, and you could win yourself a prize!



Brighter Future Fund

Celebrate the life of someone special
and help us create a brighter future for children
and families at Great Ormond Street Hospital

To find out more, please visit www.gosh.org/bff



BACK TO NEVERLAND THIS CHRISTMAS

Thanks to JM Barrie's amazing gift to Great Ormond Street Hospital in 1929, every performance of *Peter Pan* benefits the hospital, so enjoy a great family night out and support us by going along to one of the shows.

16 November – 12 January

Peter Pan panto, Octagon Theatre, Bolton

26 November – 19 January

Peter Pan, a new adaptation with music from Bristol ABD Productions, Old Vic, Bristol

30 November – 6 January

Peter Pan panto, UK Productions, Churchill Theatre, Bromley, Kent

5 December – 6 January

Peter Pan panto, Towngate Theatre, Basildon, Essex

5 December – 6 January

Peter Pan panto, Paul Holman Associates, Great Hall, Derby

5 December – 13 January

Peter Pan panto, Spillers Pantomimes, Rotherham Civic Theatre, Rotherham, South Yorkshire

7 December – 31 December

Peter Pan panto, Paul Holman Associates, Watersmeet Theatre, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire

7 December – 6 January

Peter Pan panto, Extravaganza Productions, Middlesbrough Theatre, Middlesbrough, North Yorkshire

8 – 30 December

Peter Pan panto, First Family Entertainment, Waterside Theatre, Aylesbury, Bucks.

8 – 30 December

Peter Pan panto, Qdos, White Rock Theatre, Hastings, East Sussex

8 – 30 December

Peter Pan panto, Hammond Family Pantomimes, The Lighthouse Theatre, Kettering, Northamptonshire

8 – 31 December

Peter Pan panto, Qdos, Venue Cymru, Llandudno, Conwy

8 December – 5 January

Peter Pan, Surrey Heath Borough Council, Camberley Theatre, Camberley, Surrey

8 December – 13 January

Peter Pan panto, First Family Entertainment, Opera House, Manchester

12 December – 1 January

Peter Pan panto, Channel Theatre Company, Buxton Opera House, Buxton, Derbyshire

13 December – 2 January

Peter Pan panto, Jamie Marcus Productions, Drill Hall, Lincoln

13 December – 6 January

Peter Pan panto, UK Productions, Floral Pavilion, New Brighton, Merseyside

13 December – 6 January

Peter Pan panto, UK Productions, Sunderland Empire, Sunderland, Tyne & Wear

15 December – 6 January

Peter Pan panto, Qdos, Beck Theatre, Hayes, Middlesex

22 – 30 December

Peter Pan panto, Enchanted Entertainment, Dorking Halls, Surrey

24 – 31 December

Peter Pan panto, Enchanted Entertainment, Gracie Fields, Rochdale



To find out more, please contact Christine De Poortere on 020 7239 3047 or email Christine.DePoortere@gosh.org