



Issue 20

August 2010

# SCAMPPS NEWS

The Charity that is...Striving for Children's Additional  
Medical, Physical and Personal Support in Surrey

Registered Charity No. 1112112

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## REVIEW

Summer holidays are here again and it feels like the World Cup and the election are but a distant memory. By the time you open this edition you will have had your children at home all day, every day for at least two weeks and are quite likely to be striking off the days until the school gates open again. Whether you are braving a British summer or heading for distant shores, I urge you all to keep calm and carry on - family holidays can be

fun! My childhood memories are of staying in a fairly characterless bungalow not far from the sea in Anglesey, where we ate bacon sarnies at the picnic bench table in the kitchen and spent all day trying to dig to Australia on the beach. It was heaven. Even the journey down the M6 was a great adventure as we got to go to Little Chef! As adults we sometimes forget the small pleasures that enlighten our lives as children. The highlight of my 6 year olds holiday, she tells me, will be eating baguettes (in France). Could've saved a packet and just gone to Sainsbury's then...



## Dates for your Diary 2010

- 11 Sep - SCAMPPS Dinner Dance
- 27 Sep - 1st Family Support Group
- 30 Sep - AGM
- 17 Oct - Bowling Night
- 31 Oct - Halloween Party

For more details of all upcoming events, please go to:  
[www.scampps.org.uk](http://www.scampps.org.uk)

### **SCAMPPS/Woodlands Tennis Tournament**



Selina Master, Clinical Director of Dental Services at Epsom General Hospital has organized a tennis tournament to raise money for SCAMPPS and Woodlands. The event is scheduled for Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September and will be held at David Lloyds Raynes Park, courts 9-12 starting at 5.30pm. There will be a buffet and drinks afterwards at 7.30 following prize giving.

"We would welcome any SCAMPPS supporters, particularly little ones who would like to present the prizes!"

Selina ran a similar tournament 2 years ago and managed to raise over £1000 with only 12 players.

If you are interested in participating in this event please contact Selina at:

[selina.master@surreypct.nhs.uk](mailto:selina.master@surreypct.nhs.uk)

### **A Note from the Finance Committee**

#### **Vitalise Holidays**

Providing accessible activity and adventure breaks for individuals, groups and families with physical and learning disabilities. Particularly catering for children and families at their location in Churchtown, Bodmin in Cornwall.  
Tel: 01208-872148  
[www.vitalise.org.uk](http://www.vitalise.org.uk)

We were pleased to support another three bids for funding this quarter. This included a large order for equipment to enable JOG to run another speech therapy group. We would like to remind everyone that we are able to help towards the cost of courses which parents or carers may wish to attend to help them support their child with special needs. Further guidelines and application forms can be found on our website, or call our SCAMPPS number if you need to speak to someone about the financial help we can offer. The Finance Committee will next meet on 20<sup>th</sup> September, so please get your bids into us by then. Any bid for funding can be made anonymously through your child's therapist or paediatrician if you wish. We look forward to hearing from you.

## **SCAMPPS Membership**

### **SCAMPPS Membership Details**

When you join SCAMPPS we ask you to provide contact details. This is so we can send newsletters and invitations for events etc. We will also keep in contact via email if you provide an email address. You can choose not to register an email address if you would prefer not to receive emails from SCAMPPS.

#### **Hello Dads ....**

Are you receiving SCAMPPS emails? Most of our families have only registered one email address and it is usually for Mum. Families are welcome to register more than one email address. Perhaps Dad would like to receive our emails as well as Mum...this would be especially relevant for the Dad's Night Out invitation emails.

If you would like to check or change any of your membership details or register additional email addresses, please contact me giving me the relevant information and your family name.

Thank You. Rosalind - Membership Secretary.

[rosalind.watson@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rosalind.watson@yahoo.co.uk)

# Family Fun Day



Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July was a beautiful, sunny day and perfect conditions for our annual Family Fun Day. This year the event took place at the Harrier Centre in Ewell and we were delighted with the turnout from our SCAMPPS members, particularly as there were so many new faces. The Harrier Centre turned out to be the perfect location as the

children enjoyed some indoor fun in the soft play and bouncy castle area, then were entertained by our talented magician,. This was followed by an opportunity for the children to learn some soccer skills and for the Dad's to embarrass themselves in front of the kids! The athletics field and track provided the perfect outdoor arena for those that simply wanted to explore and we always encourage our families to participate in as much or as little as they like, therefore ensuring there is no pressure and all activities are 'children-lead.' The day was completed with a beautiful picnic and a last run around the field!



**Everyone gets a chance to practice their footie skills!**

We are always pleased to receive feedback from our events and one parent wrote: "I just wanted to thank you for organizing the day yesterday. It was lovely and we met some lovely people who we've arranged to meet again. I look forward to future events." Job done!

SCAMPPS would like to say a special thank you to Josh's grandparents for funding the day, to Martin Firmo for his football and magic skills and to Suzanne for organizing the delicious food and drinks.

# Fundraising News

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## Team Laws Triathlon 4<sup>th</sup> July : Raised so far £1270.50

The Laws family, also known as Ben, Sam, Olivia and Ewan came to the end of their year long grueling training regime on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> July when Ben competed in the Cowman Middle Distance. In an exhausting 7 hour event, Team Laws covered a 1900 metre swim (pulling daughter Olivia in a kayak), a 92 kilometre cycle (pulling 2 year old Ewan in a trailer) and finally finishing with a 21k run, in which Ben pushed Ewan in a specially constructed cart.



This is a piece of cake, Dad!

Ben told us:

"It was a brilliant day. Although I suffered it was well worth the pain. The Team Laws concept (racing to raise cash for charity) is ongoing and I am looking for another race this year and next to continue the theme. It's not over..."

So we can look forward to seeing much more of the Team Laws family in the future and we hope Ben will keep us

informed. SCAMPPS would like to say a big thank you to the entire Laws family for their extraordinary efforts. Personally, I can't get enough of that cheeky chappie's little face - Ewan that is!



Faster, daddy!

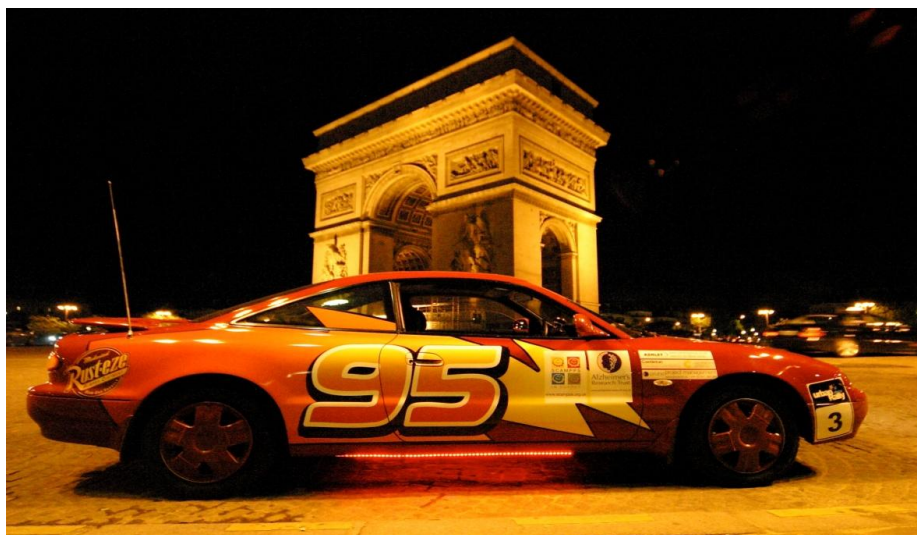
## Team Lightning McQ Makes it to Barcelona Total Raised so far: £1370!



On the 12<sup>th</sup> June, Kieron Quin and Sean Quigley started their epic journey in the Allstars Urban Rally from High Wycombe to Barcelona in their super suped-up Toyota, Lightning McQ. Bought for less than £200, Kieron and Sean spent several weeks painstakingly restoring their vehicle to its former glory, and some! We checked out their website to get the highlights of their road trip:

"The trip started from High Wycombe and the journey was uneventful until we got to Dover. Through French Customs, onto ferry check in where I found I had (daughter) Lilli's passport as opposed to my own. And there was much swearing.

The swearing continued as I asked (wife) Becks to UPS mine to the next hotel (La Rochelle). Flowers were sent and the transfer arranged...on the motorway to Paris. Barcelona was stunning. The drive in was the best arrival and we came in to the centre to applause and general cheers....a highly successful trip all round."



Lightning McQ takes in the attractions of Paris...



**Also this quarter we give special thanks to:**

**Waitrose Epsom** for raising £400 during the month of May with their green token charity fund

**Jeff Daycock** for completing the BUPA 5K run in London and raising a magnificent **£1500!**

**Mark Curtis** and teammate who walked the South West Coastal path to raise **£1030**

**Victoria Menown** supported Team Laws in running the Madrid Marathon raising **£1500**

**Alex Buckley** celebrated his 40<sup>th</sup> birthday by asking friends to donate to SCAMPPS in lieu of presents, raised **£415** - generous friends indeed!

**Stoneleigh Butchers** collection tin got **£52.98**

**Gary Culver** collection tin **£37.55**

**Team Laws** collection tins on the day collected **£35.83**

**Luca** also gave up presents for his 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday party and raised **£35**

**Thank You!**

# The Horse Boy

## How encounters with horses can help children with autism

Parents of children on the autistic spectrum may be familiar with Rupert Isaacson's best-selling book, *The Horse Boy*, which tells the incredible story of his journey across Mongolia on horseback with his autistic son. After Isaacson despaired of trying to connect with his son, he noticed a connection with horses and so began a journey which dramatically improved the boy's condition, leaving him free of temper tantrums, and finally toilet trained.



The experience prompted Isaacson to become involved with Horse Boy camps, and in partnership with the adventure travel company Worldwild Adventures have planned 12 camps across the UK this year.

According to their website:

"Horse Boy Camps are adventures run at various locations internationally providing an opportunity for children on the autistic spectrum, their parents and siblings to spend some time in beautiful natural surroundings exploring the possible benefits of connecting with horses.

Our instructors and staff are highly experienced in wild-camping, horse-riding, running expeditions for families and working with children with special needs.

The pace of the camps is governed by the individual children attending and families can partake in some or all of the activities planned with no pressure at all."

Both *The Telegraph* and *Daily Mail Weekend* magazine recently featured the story of three year-old Oak Saunders and his family's first encounter with a Horse Boy Camp. Oak was diagnosed with autism aged two and a half, after he stopped talking, started making a monotone humming noise, and became prone to inexplicable bouts of terrified rage. Oak's mother Rowan says, "As a baby, Oak was full of smiles. The change in him was so pronounced, it felt as though someone had taken away our bouncing boy and put another in his place. Not only did he stop talking, he no longer made eye contact." It seemed as though nothing could get through to him; nothing, that is, until he encountered a horse for the first time.

"Until now, he has found it impossible to communicate to interact with adults or children, so to see him so at ease feels nothing short of a miracle. There was no need to explain away his behaviour because everyone here knows what these children are like and how their minds work. It's such a relief."



Horse camps cost from around £600 per family. To find out more, visit:

[www.horseboycamps.com](http://www.horseboycamps.com)

[www.worldwild.co.uk](http://www.worldwild.co.uk)

*The Horse Boy* by Rupert Isaacson is published by Penguin Books at £7.99

# A Plea for Prizes!

## Can you help with prizes for the SCAMPPS Dinner Dance?

With just over 5 weeks to go until the social event of the year, we at SCAMPPS are getting very excited about the Dinner Dance on September 11<sup>th</sup>. Whilst tables have been selling out fast we are also delighted with the prizes we have managed to secure for the evening. The auction will include a round of golf for 4 at Wentworth and the raffle includes vouchers for meals for 2, beauty treatment vouchers and lots and lots of other delights! But our aim is to make this the most successful fundraiser so far and we want every attendee to go home with a prize so we are asking all our readers to hunt high and low for donations for the raffle, and if you work for an organization or corporation that may be able to donate something for the auction then we would love to hear from you. You could even email friends and family in your address book and ask them to help.

Help us make this a night to remember. Please email Carrie at:  
[newsletter@scampps.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@scampps.org.uk)  
and I will be more than happy to arrange collection of any items.  
Thank You!

SCAMPPS would also like to thank



and



for sponsoring this event

## SCAMPPS Dinner Dance

**The Date: Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2010**

**The Venue: Kingswood Golf & Country Club, Surrey**

In September, SCAMPPS patron Terry Sims will be hosting a Dinner Dance and Golf Tournament with all proceeds going directly to SCAMPPS. Tickets for the dinner will be priced at £42.50 per head and will include a welcome glass of bubbly, a luxury 3 course dinner and coffee. The evening will include a well-stocked raffle, an exciting auction and will be finished off with some dancing. We really hope you can come along for what promises to be a great night and bring as many friends as you can!



We have already sold a number of tables for this event and numbers are limited so to avoid disappointment, please return the reply slip below with a cheque for the full amount of £42.50 per person made payable to Kingswood Golf Club to Terry Sims, Pro Shop, Kingswood Golf Club, Sandy Lane, Kingswood, Tadworth, Surrey KT20 6NE, by Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> August.

I would like to reserve \_\_\_\_\_ (tickets) for the SCAMPPS Dinner Dance on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September. I enclose a cheque for the total of

£ \_\_\_\_\_ (£42.50 per person)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

We will confirm receipt by email. \_\_\_\_\_

HelpKidzLearn from Inclusive Technology has a wide range of accessible free games you can play online:

### Card Maker

This accessible greetings card maker is easy to use, lots of fun, and with lovely results every time. Choose a bright, beautiful design for birthdays, Christmas, Easter or Halloween. Add the recipient's name and it will appear on the front of your card. Pick a background colour and letter style, then decorate your card with streamers, spangles, flowers, snowflakes or even cobwebs. Print it out, complete with cutting guidelines.



### BrickOut

Score points while breaking through the wall. Move your paddle to the left and right to knock out all the bricks...you have three lives, but try not to miss the ball! Knocking down the whole wall gives a pleasing reward. With one or two switch access and three speed settings.



### Smarty Pants

Explore different expressions, gestures and emotions with this fun program. Pick a character then choose an expression for him or her to act out. Choose from happy, sad, angry, laughing, afraid, tired or embarrassed. Also make the character express 'yuck', craziness, or blowing a raspberry. There are four characters to choose from (two male and two female). Use a mouse or one or two switches.



**Inclusive Technology**  
ICT Company of the Year - BETT Award 2010

Visit the website: [www.inclusive.co.uk](http://www.inclusive.co.uk) to access information on an array of products, games and services

for children with special and complex needs. Please remember that SCAMPPS does not endorse any products or services detailed in the newsletter.

# Reach for the Stars

SCAMPPS are pleased to announce their support for a new Family Support Group for parents of children with special needs. Annmarie and Clair both have 2 year olds with undiagnosed neurological disorders and have attended JOG for a year.

Whilst JOG has offered a convenient way of accessing therapies for their children, they have found a need for additional opportunities for parents to meet up to share experiences, emotions, information and also generally to support each other in this new and unexpected journey.

**Reach for the Stars** will meet for the first time on **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2010** from 10am - 12pm at Leatherhead Trinity School and Children's Centre, Aperdele Road, Leatherhead, KT22 7QT. The group will run on a Monday once a month during term time. At Reach for the Stars you will be able to talk to other parents in a similar situation, share ideas and experiences and hopefully build friendships. There will be a crèche available to give you an opportunity to chat and browse information 'hands free'!

If you would like more information please email Annmarie and Clair at

[reachforthestarssurrey@gmail.com](mailto:reachforthestarssurrey@gmail.com)



#### **SCAMPPS Trustee, Sharon Coleman told us all about this great event:**

The Kidz Stuff festival dedicates a whole day, prior to public attendance, for Children with Special Needs and their families and friends. The event is held in Horsham Park and approximately 40 minutes by car from Epsom. We parked in the close by leisure centre only to discover parking actually in the park, however not being familiar with the one way system took our first opportunity to get out and have fun. The entrance price was £7.00 and there didn't seem to be a carer's concession so we paid. The stewards on duty were so welcoming and extremely helpful too. Virtually all the activities such as bouncy castles, circus skills were free. There were plenty of tents with tables and chairs available to sit in the shade and eat your picnic. One of the most useful facilities was the special needs toilets/changing facilities with hoists, height adjusting changing bed and a disabled portaloos and I have to say this made life so much easier! We were able to stroll around the event and never had to queue for anything. Take your family next year for a great day out. Have a look at <http://www.kidzstuff.org.uk> and see tab Access All Areas

As it is Summer and people might like to see and ride on miniature railways, I thought I would let you know about The Great Cockcrow Railway in Lyne near Chertsey. It is open on Sundays from May until October and Wednesdays during August...but please check opening times before going by looking at their website [www.cockcrow.co.uk](http://www.cockcrow.co.uk) which also contains lots of other useful information including prices, directions etc. My two boys love going and although we have not yet made a visit this year, we did go with friends during the school holidays last year and had a picnic and were able to watch the trains before going on a journey ourselves. **Rosalind Watson, Membership**



At Warren Park, Kingston Hill KT2 7LX  
Hairdressing for special needs kiddies.

10am - 1pm

I'm Gina and I have 27 years experience plus I have a disabled child so I know how hard it is to take them to a salon and expect them to behave.

Kids are relaxed and respond well to Warren Park's playful environment so give it a try we don't bite!

Parents can relax chat and read the papers over a coffee or two!

(From only) £ 5.00 per cut

Further dates are: 11th July, 29<sup>th</sup> August, 26<sup>th</sup> Sept, 31<sup>st</sup> October, 21<sup>st</sup> Nov & 19<sup>th</sup> Dec 2010.

Any queries please call me on 07970-833652

Or email me on [ginaginaselby@hotmail.com](mailto:ginaginaselby@hotmail.com)

Or [Gina@closecuts.co.uk](mailto:Gina@closecuts.co.uk)

I am a member of SCAMPPS and have discovered a brilliant hairdressing service for children with any disability and I thought some of your members may be interested. My daughter is 3 (with Down Syndrome) and hates the hairdressers and I avoided going as the experience was always so traumatic and stressful. Gina Selby is a hairdresser with a special needs child herself and has formed a business which has really helped me feel better about the whole hairdressing situation.

She holds hair cutting sessions at a play centre designed for disabled children in Kingston. There is a soft play and sensory room, as well as a range of toys and space for children to generally roam around. There is also an outside play area. The great thing is its so informal. You basically put your child on the list and she calls you when ready but the time for cutting is not strict and she is happy to do as much cajoling as necessary. You can come back if it's not the right time and mainly she is very understanding when (as in my case) Amber squirms and wriggles throughout the whole cut.

She lays on tea/coffee biscuits and newspapers (usually for the dads) so many people use it as a morning activity where they can also have a chat and the kids play while somewhere in the middle getting a haircut. You also don't have to worry about other people as everybody understands if your child is screaming. It's a really relaxed session with a sociable edge. It's also a bargain for £5. She also does siblings (if time allows).

She runs the Kingston session on Sundays once a month but has just started one in Chessington which I believe is after school during the week. I have no vested interest and am just a very happy customer.

Also coming to-  
Norbiton Children's Centre, Dickerage Lane, New Malden KT3 3RZ. (  
Next to the Mount Primary School)

4pm-6pm

First date is: 6<sup>th</sup> September 2010

# Help Lines ...

**contact a family**  
for families with disabled children

For families with disabled children: Those of you who may be new to Contact a Family, and may not be aware they have a freephone helpline for information and advice on a variety of subjects, including welfare rights, education and short breaks. It is staffed by trained parent

advisors 10am-4pm Monday to Friday, plus 5.30pm to 7.30pm on Mondays. The number is **0808 808 3555**.  
[www.cafamily.org.uk](http://www.cafamily.org.uk)



Are you in Elmbridge, Cobham, Esher, Oxshott, Walton, Weybridge or Thames Ditton? Newlife has funds in these areas to help disabled & terminally ill children. Please get in contact if you require their help.

Nurse Services: Just one call, email or Live chat message to a Newlife Nurse helps them begin to understand the needs of the child and family. Whatever the query their experienced nurses will listen to the situation and then explain what the possibilities are for Newlife to offer support and advice.

**Nurse Services Tel: 0800-902-0095**

**[www.newlifecharity.co.uk](http://www.newlifecharity.co.uk)**

**Live Nurse Chat**

Click to start a new session

Good news this month - the Kiln Lane branch of Sainsbury's in Epsom has introduced 4 trolleys for disabled children. We hope this will encourage other superstores to follow suit. If your local supermarket has disabled trolleys please email me [newsletter@scampss.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@scampss.org.uk) so we can let everyone know in future editions.

## Sainsbury's

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July, the new Government launched a website <http://spendingchallenge.hm-treasury.gov.uk/> to let the public have their say about public spending under its spending review. The Government will be looking at the responses over the summer, so that they can publish their decisions in October. The discussions and the decisions the Government takes over the summer will determine how public money will be spent for the next four years.

I cannot stress enough how important it is that as many families with disabled children as possible speak up. This is a critical time, and the decisions taken now will affect families with disabled children for the next few years.

There is a real opportunity to make our views heard about the importance of investing in and protecting services for disabled children and their families. The more people that speak up the better. Please pass this message on to as many families as you can, so that they can go onto the website and encourage their friends and relatives to do the same.

The amount of time we have to influence is very limited. Please help us to make the most of that time.

The website is experiencing high volumes of interest, so if you can't get online try this address: [http://hm-treasury.gov.uk/spend\\_index.htm](http://hm-treasury.gov.uk/spend_index.htm)

***And finally...***

Suzanne's tip of the month:

"When trying to encourage your child to feed themselves, I used a teaspoon from a child's play tea set. They are small and very light - good for little hands! This worked very well with James who has very low tone."



**SCAMPPS**

**Po Box 503** [contact@scampps.org.uk](mailto:contact@scampps.org.uk)

**SCAMPPS**

**Epsom** [www.scampps.org.uk](http://www.scampps.org.uk)



**Surrey** **07596 - 666 - 646**

**IN SURREY**

(no calls after 9pm please)

**Board Members:**

**CHAIRPERSON:** John Conway      **TREASURER:** Suzanne Humphris-Groce

**FINANCE & BIDS:** Rachel Macauley      **TRUSTEE:** Sharon Coleman

**FUNDRAISING:** Helen Morrison      **LEGAL ADVISOR:** Hazel Johnson

**PUBLICATIONS:** Sara Dawson      **JOG REP:** Kathryn Brooke

You can always make a donation to us by cheque, or at;

[www.scampps.org.uk](http://www.scampps.org.uk) with Pay Pal or now at

[www.justgiving.com/scampps/raisemoney](http://www.justgiving.com/scampps/raisemoney)



Alternatively why not try the following Fundraising initiatives which continue to help us:

**Recycle 4 Charity.co.uk**



To find out more, contact Helen at Fundraising. All support is hugely appreciated!



To make the deadline for the next Newsletter, please send in any articles or photos by 15<sup>th</sup> October 2010 to:

[newsletter@scampps.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@scampps.org.uk)