



Issue 21

November 2010

SCAMPPS NEWS

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

Registered Charity No. 1112112

Fundraising News - AGM - Reach for the Stars
Snippets - SCAMPPS Dinner Dance
Rainy Days - Helplines



REVIEW

Personally, this is my least favourite time of year. The summer is gone, the evenings are dark and the garden looks like a scene from 'The Road'. But I am reminded of growing up in Scottish winters, when the streetlights were still on during the walk to school - and still on during the walk home! Then scraping ice off the *inside* of the car window, and going to bed with numerous layers and a dangerously hot water bottle (Dad was a bit stingy on the heating - "I don't care if it's minus 15c, the heating goes off at eight!")

So maybe it's not so bad after all and I tend to go along with my daughter's approach, which is to embrace the season with full vigor and basically just get on with it!

We've got some great ideas to pass the rainy days on page 5, and some great book suggestions. And we are delighted to bring you details of the first Reach for the Stars meeting on page 4. The big event of this year's fundraising calendar was the SCAMPPS Dinner Dance and we know you will be amazed by the amount raised. If you didn't make it to this year's AGM you can catch up on the highlights on page 3.



Dates for your Diary 2010/11

12th Nov - Mum's night out

19th Nov - Dad's night out

13th Dec - Finance Committee meets - please submit any bids before this date

30th Jan - Swim party 3.45pm

4th Feb - Mum's night out

11th Feb - Dad's night out

For more details, go to www.scampps.org.uk



SCAMPPS Christmas Night Out



The merry people of SCAMPPS will be having their Christmas 'do' at Post Restaurant in Banstead on Saturday 4th December. The set menu price is £25.00 per person so if you would like to join us in celebrating a *very* good year, then please RSVP by 15 November to: julie.steer@ntlworld.com. Merry Christmas!

Fundraising News

SCAMPPS Dinner Dance raises over £10K!

The 3rd SCAMPPS Dinner Dance was held at Kingswood Golf Club on a balmy evening on the 11th September. But the day had kicked off at 8.30 am when almost a hundred enthusiastic golfers turned up for the SCAMPPS Golf Tournament. The damp and drizzle didn't put off these sportsmen who stuck it out for the morning before finishing off their round with a well-deserved pint in the clubhouse. Kingswood GC owner, Tom Hilliard, very kindly allowed the £7.50 entry fee from each player to be donated directly to SCAMPPS which raised a fantastic total of £855.



The evening's entertainment started rolling at 7.30pm with the club's bar packed to the rafters with over 140 black tie guests enjoying a fruity Pimms or two! Dinner was served while guests were entertained by a piano player and the brilliant skills of local talent, Theo the Magician. Magic Circle member Theo circulated the room from table to table impressing guests with his incredible card tricks and slight of hand. SCAMPPS Chairman, John Conway, got the evening underway with one of his famous speeches before handing over to

SCAMPPS Patron and event host, Terry Sims, who got the auction rolling. The bidding frenzy took hold as guests bid furiously for the round of golf at Wentworth, lunch at Coutts bank and various other items. Diners were so impressed by the standard of food served on the night that when the chance to bid for Kingswood Head Chef, Mani Kalaiselvan, to cook a meal for 6 in your own home came up, 2 bidders paid twice! The most successful SCAMPPS auction so far raised almost £7000!

Finally, with everyone suitably lubricated, the dancing got going and the party really started....



Guests enjoyed a trio of British classics for dessert!

TOTAL AMOUNT RAISED £10,650
Plus Gift Aid of £1918

Terry & Carrie would like to thank the following individuals for their help:

Rachel & John Conway, Suzanne Humphris-Groce, Helen Morrison, Julie & Ian Steer, Barbara Gorrell & Wendy White, Wayne Thornton & Hannah Enhari from Kingswood

And also all donators & sponsors:



Tom Hilliard, Mani Kalaiselvan, Grange Hotels, Stephen Gibson/Wentworth GC, House of Fraser, Amanda Miles, Coutts Bank, TAP Air Portugal, Yonex, Nigel Duff, JLG

Security, Scott Patience/Windlesham GC, Lesley Goffin, Suzi Hunt/Esher Physio, Rob Miles, Paul Martin, Kevin Newman, Philip Talbot, Danny Murphy, Bar Estilo, The Blue Anchor, The Kingswood Arms, The Canopy Restaurant, Lexus Twickenham, Titleist, Hazel Johnson, Eden Park & Hartleys of Tadworth



Everyone at SCAMPPS would like to say a massive THANK YOU to everyone who ran, swam, partied and participated in a whole host of activities this year with the sole goal of raising money for us. Without you, we would not have been able to provide much needed specialist equipment for so many families. Here's to more successful fundraising in 2011!

SCAMPPS AGM 2010

The Annual General Meeting of SCAMPPS took place on Thursday 30th September and was attended by the SCAMPPS board, members and patrons. Once the official 'stuff' was taken care of, Treasurer Suzanne Humphris-Groce delivered the Finance Report which was then followed by the Chairman, John Conway. John talked about a continuing theme, which is creating awareness of the charity, and also about the importance of supporting JOG and the Reach for the Stars support group. He summarized the year in terms of fundraising achieved and the bids from families that we were able to support.

*SCAMPPS would like to extend a warm welcome to long term supporter and fundraiser, **Peter Browning**, as our newest patron.*

*Peter hosted another of his famous golf tournaments at The Wisley Club on 25th October and raised a staggering **£1825.00** – although a proportion of this amount was achieved with the inclusion of a swearbox!*

Mr John Goldie from Worcester Park and a well-known bandit on the Surrey golfing circuit won the event, beating our very own patron who came second.

A big thank you to everyone who took part.



This year's guest speaker was **Brian Bacon** from solicitors Thomson Snell & Passmore, who gave a talk on the subject of: "**An Introduction to Wills & Trusts: Planning for the Future**"

Whilst it is a subject that most of us don't want to give too much thought to, Brian delivered a highly informative talk with particular reference to providing in Wills for family members with learning difficulties. A popular misconception among married couples is that without a Will everything automatically passes to the surviving spouse. This is not necessarily so. In the UK today, 53% of adults have not made a Will and in 2009,

60% of registered deaths were intestate – this is when a person dies without leaving a valid Will and the deceased's estate according to the Law of Intestacy. This can take considerable time and costs incurred will be deducted from the state.

Brian's recommended route would be to consider setting up a Discretionary Trust whereby you would appoint Trustees/Guardians to administer your Will upon your death and to protect the best interests of your beneficiaries i.e. your children. If you don't have a Will and your beneficiaries do not have the capacity to manage an inheritance, then the Court of Protection will step in under the Mental Capacity Act 2005.

In summation, setting up a will requires careful planning and professional advice to ensure that you avoid making mistakes and that your loved ones are taken care of in the exact way you wish them to be.

If you would like a copy of Thomson Snell & Passmore's Information Sheet 'Making Your Will' then please email your name & address to:

newsletter@scampps.org.uk

If you would like more a hardcopy of the AGM minutes then please contact us by emailing contact@scampps.org.uk or by writing to SCAMPPS, PO Box 503,

Epsom, Surrey. Further details are also available on the website, www.scampps.org.uk



Note from the Finance Committee

We were delighted to fund outside play equipment and a therapy chair for families this last quarter totalling over £3000. This included adapted trikes and a specialist swing. We were also able to offer funding for a family needing an assessment by the Queen Elizabeth Foundation for solutions to travel issues with their child.

We always look forward to receiving bids from our members and as a reminder, here are some of the things we have been able to fund in the

past: computer hardware and software; special needs buggies and accessories; sensory toys; therapy chairs and tables; a portable hoist; and communication aids - to name a few. We do ask for bids to be counter signed by a professional to ensure that we are buying the *correct* equipment for your child and we cannot pay in retrospect for equipment already purchased. Simply download our form from the website (further guidance is also available). Our next Finance meeting is December 13th 2010. Please post your bids to our PO Box address.

Family Bowling Day

Over 70 people turned up on Sunday October 17th at Charrington Bowl for our latest family event. We were delighted to see a real mix of generations with siblings and grandparents enjoying the fun & the atmosphere. Teams enjoyed two games and children tucked into some hot food whilst allowing the competitive Dads to get on with the bowling. A fun day was had by all and it was lovely to see so many new faces. We hope to see you again at forthcoming events!

SCAMPPS Board Member Sharon Coleman was delighted when her children's school, St. Lawrence Church of England Junior School in East Molesey chose SCAMPPS as their 'Charity of the Year'.

Do you know of a school, corporation or business that might be looking for a charity to support?

'Reach for the Stars' launches successfully

The new SCAMPPS family support group, Reach for the Stars, met for the first time on September 27th at Leatherhead Children's Centre.

Annamarie and Clair, who set up Reach for the Stars with the help of SCAMPPS, eagerly awaited their first arrivals and were very pleased to see parents arrive with or without their children as well as representatives from Leatherhead 0 - 19 team, Portage and Early Years all showing their support by coming along.

Everyone mingled for a while, getting to know what was on offer - the crèche; the tables of information on entitlements, specialised equipment and toys, charities supporting families with children with special needs and lots more as well as of course homemade cakes and drinks.

Some children were then happy to be left in the toy filled crèche, leaving parents free to chat and learn from each other as well as browse the information displayed. Others parents stayed in the crèche and played with their child.

In just a short time burning questions such as 'Is there a special needs swimming group I can take my child to?' and 'Is there a playgroup especially for children with special needs?' were answered, experiences shared and everyone who came left feeling that the meeting had been worthwhile.

Reach for the Stars meet again on October 18th, November 22nd and December 20th at Leatherhead Children's Centre between 9.30 and 11.30. Come along for all or part of the session and you will be able to chat to other parents with children with special needs, browse our information and enjoy some homemade cake!



Parents had access to a range of information



Children enjoyed a variety of activities



Rainy Days...

Going out...

Heritage Farm Nurseries (nr. Banstead), **Free entry**, **Open 7 days**

A great place to kill a couple of hours, Heritage Farm Nurseries has been operating for 6 years providing a wide range of tropical and coldwater fish, small pets and reptiles. You can also



purchase a dinosaur - on display throughout the site are several life-size dinosaur models to buy for your garden! Managed in a responsible manner, the centre exhibits a wide range of flora and fauna to buy or simply observe. The highlight of any trip to Heritage Farm for our children is the fantastic café, which provides a great selection of

salads, Panini's, children's lunchboxes and delicious cupcakes which you can eat while watching the resident piranhas and terrapins!

www.heritageaquatics.com Tel: 0208 6691382

National History Museum, Kensington, **Free Entry**, **Open 7 days**

When was the last time you visited the museum? A lot has changed, and if you haven't been to the Darwin Centre then it's definitely worth another look. Opened a year ago, the 'Cocoon' provides visitors with a hands-on look at science and research but if you think it's for grown-ups only then you'll be pleasantly



surprised. On arrival each visitor will be given a NaturePlus card which you can then use to access interactive exhibits and 'collect' specimens. My 2 and 6 year old had a great time running from one activity to the next, 'bleeping' their little cards and working the very high tec tables - they even had their picture taken for their passports and prepared for an expedition! When we got home we logged on to the NaturePlus site and checked out our collection. If you are put off by the weekend crowds then plan to go early, the dinosaur area is very popular (especially the life-size robotic T-Rex!) but other areas weren't too busy. Tip: the main restaurant does a decent lunch and kids menu but get in early. www.nhm.ac.uk Tel: 0207 9425000

Staying in...

Resist the temptation to stick on the TV again, there is always...

Indoor camping, you don't even need a tent, just a blanket or sheets and a few chairs and you have your very own castle/fort/pirate ship. Let them be creative and add whatever 'accessories' they want. My daughter's tent is fully furnished with sleeping bags, pillows and always a few biccies...

Indoor picnic, a similar theme but just add the picnic blanket and the food! You can always invite a few 'guests' which can either be real friends or soft toys, depending on your age group!

Baking, you don't have to be Nigella to rustle up some chocolate crispies! When making cookies, we use the shapes from our Play-Doh set. If you really can't cook then buy some ready-made fairy cakes from your supermarket and let them decorate with icing and all sorts of toppings.



Check out these websites for help & ideas: www.bakingmad.com or www.annabelkarmel.com

And finally...

Thank you to Claire Whitton who donates 10% of her fee for looking after my son, Luca, while I edit the newsletter. Thank you!

VIPPEE

Thanks to funding from Surrey County Council, the Redhill & Reigate YMCA now provides a specialised holiday play scheme for all 13 weeks of the school holidays for children aged 5 to 11 years with more profound disability and complex needs. The centre offers an extensive & varied play programme that includes sports, arts & crafts, a sensory area, cooking, music & drama provided by support staff specially trained in behaviour management & communication methods such as Makaton. All staff are CRB checked and there is a high ratio of staff to children. The Banstead Saturday Club also runs weekly in term time and provides free activities for 5 to 12 year olds. To read more about the extensive services on offer, visit their website:

www.ymcaredhill.com or call 01737 779979



Tennis Tournament for SCAMPPS



On Saturday the 25th September, Selina Master, a local Dentist who specialises in working with children who have special needs, ran a tennis tournament in support of SCAMPPS at the David Lloyd Club in Raynes Park. This was the second year that the tournament had taken place. Our Chairman, John, received a 'wild card' invitation and duly came last, such was

the standard. Josh (8) and Emily (8) presented the awards at the end of a highly entertaining and successful event. We would like to offer our thanks and appreciation to Selina and her family for their continuing fantastic support of our charity.

LITTLE BALLERINAS

Little girls seem to be hardwired to love skipping, the colour pink, and dressing up as a fairy princess. What better combines those three than ballet? And since little girls with special needs are particularly motivated by - and benefit from - physical expression and music, it seemed logical to me that Millie should be part of a ballet class.



We were very lucky in choosing the Phillomena School of Dance, who welcome children with disabilities. We were particularly lucky that Millie's first teacher was Miss Sarah. The first few lessons were very trying. Millie spent over half of her first class sitting in an empty pushchair in the corner. But week by week she gradually joined in more and more. After half a term, the main problem was that she wasn't content to take her turn just the once but crossed the room with every single child in the class. Miss Sarah was endlessly patient, giving praise to Millie directly when she concentrated particularly well. Soon, Charlotte joined us, and after a few initial tears, settled in even more quickly than Millie.

The ballet, and tap in particular, have really improved Millie's balance and co-ordination. When she first started she was quite unable to stand on one leg, never mind do a "shuffle", and frequently fell over. But being Millie she simply got up and carried on. She is still working on her hopping and skipping, but she has made huge progress in managing - or at least getting close to managing - most of the steps, which has really impressed me.

Not every ballet school is this accommodating of course, and every child is different. All I can say is that we are really glad we took the plunge with Millie and Charlotte. They are so proud to be ballerinas!

Help Lines ...



The Hub Epsom is a drop-in First Stop Shop for information, advice, advocacy and other services, which will be run by disabled people for disabled people and carers.

The Hub Epsom is located at 131 Epsom High Street KT19 8EF. It is next to Marks & Spencer. Opening hours are Monday to Friday, 10am to 3pm.

It will provide a great opportunity for disabled people and carers to not only improve access to information and support they need, but also to provide these services directly. The Hub will also be a point of access for service providers to engage with disabled people to offer services.

www.thehubepsom.org.uk or telephone 01372-744479



Any excuse just to print a nice holiday picture, but the **Disability Holidays Guide** is an informative website with a range of travel and holiday ideas and also helpful advice on topics such as disabled travel insurance and mobility equipment hire. Check out Evia Resort in Crete, which has been specifically designed to be fully accessible to wheelchair users.

www.disabilityholidaysguide.com

Tip

When trying to teach your child to catch, use a balloon. They have more time to react as it comes towards them.



A new playgroup catering specifically for children with disabilities and special needs will be starting on Tuesday 23rd November in Ewell. Special Jellybugs is open to parents and children and will run soft play and activity sessions every Tuesday in term time from 10am to 12pm. Admission is £4 per child and you can find them in the Main Hall, Bourne Hall, Spring Street, Ewell Village KT17 1UF. For more details:

Email: littlejellybugs@ymail.com or visit www.littlejellybugs.com

Tel: 07917 117165



The only website totally dedicated to providing free information on routes that are suitable for wheelchair users throughout the UK. Log in to read reviews before trying walks and download walk directions & detailed OS maps for free. Why not recommend a walk that your family has enjoyed?



SCAMPPS

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SCAMPPS



Epsom 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:** Katharine Brook

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

www.scampps.org.uk with Pay Pal or now at

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 15th January 2011 to:

newsletter@scampps.org.uk