



NEWSLETTER

'Caring for Carers'

8th November 2010

Inside This Issue

- 1 Welcome
- 1 The McIntosh's
- 1 Support given to A.R.
- 2 Charity Golf Day
- 2 Small Steps, Big Future
- 2 Pinder's Golf Day
- 3 Tea Party
- 3 Membership Scheme
- 4 Keith Haslope
- 4 Support given to D.F.
- 4 Charity Contact Details

The CPBF really makes a huge difference to the lives of care professionals and their families

Welcome

Dear supporter,

Welcome to the first autumn edition of the Care Professional Benevolent Fund's Charity Newsletter. In the last two months we have been on a mission to help care professionals who simply do not have the means to support themselves in times of crisis. We have been fortunate enough to help 6 care professionals since August some of whom you can read about right here!

So sit back, read on and enjoy.

The McIntosh Family

Just over a year ago the lives of Ian and Lisa McIntosh were dealt a hammer blow when their twin babies, Chester and Rhianna, were born 10 weeks early and with an array of health issues meaning that regular visits to the hospital were to become part of the family's daily routine. The babies health issues are such that Chester requires oxygen to be taken with him wherever he goes and also requires nasal canulars and a gastrostomy tube that he tends to pull out if left unsupervised. Both babies have been diagnosed with Hirschsprung's disease and while Rhianna is at least 50% deaf in both ears, poor little Chester has nearly no hearing at all.

The family came to the CPBF citing the problems they have on the long journey's to Sheffield Children's Hospital with Ian pointing out that there simply wasn't enough room in the car for the twins belongings and the medical equipment needed to keep them stable. Ian also stated that due to Chester's nasal canulars and gastrostomy tube either he or Lisa had to sit in the back to supervise him at all times which proved to be difficult due to the lack of space. From the day the twins were born both Ian and Lisa were forced to give up their work as carers to look after them full time, putting a financial strain on the family.

Having taken everything in to consideration the CPBF decided that family deserved a helping hand and were more than happy to support them in order to make their lives a little more manageable. The charity that supports care professionals in times of crisis was able to offer a grant that went towards purchasing a more suitable vehicle for the McIntosh's, relieving some of the stress they incur on a daily basis.

The CPBF support carer in Canterbury

A.R. of Canterbury made contact with the CPBF in the middle of September in desperate need of a mobility scooter to help her get around and retain her independence and dignity.

Sadly A.R. was diagnosed with breast cancer and due to the severity of the chemotherapy she has developed brittle bones and Lymphoma meaning that she finds it very difficult and tiresome to walk unaided.

A.R. had been a care professional for many years of her life and looking after others who were unable to support themselves is something she loved to do. Obviously the onset of cancer was a devastating blow for A.R. as she had to give up work but with her courage, determination and a little help from the CPBF she has been able to continue to look after herself.

The CPBF was able to help A.R. purchase just the right scooter, it is lightweight and easy to pack in the boot of her car.



Golf day



Robin and the gang looking for a lost ball presumably!

CPBF South West representatives' and Directors of Milkwood Care, Robin Cheesman and Janet Lloyd-Leech, hosted a charity golf event at Goodwood Golf Club in West Sussex on Friday 3rd September. The event was competed for by 8 teams of golfers, all associated with the care industry.

On a glorious sunny day, the course proved just as hard as expected and took no prisoners; points were hard to come by. The team event was won by Stirling Moss's Select team comprised of Julian Payne, Mervyn Spencer and Campbell Wilson. A storming round of 39 points gave the individual honours to Janet Lloyd-Leech. The longest travelers were the RDP team from Newport in Wales, and team member Gareth Francis returned back to Wales with 'Nearest the Pin' and 'Longest Drive' prizes. The golf was followed by dinner in the private dining rooms of The Kennels at Goodwood and all left looking forward to a rematch next year. The charity raised over £4000 on the day which will help to support the needs of those working in the care industry who find themselves in distress or financial hardship.

Sponsored Walks

September saw the first of a series of sponsored walk take place in conjunction with CareTech Community Services to help raise money for the CPBF. Although, sadly, the weather was not as predicted, service users, staff, friends and family managed to turn out in full force to brave the damp.

Martello Day Service pulled out all the stops and provided a BBQ for hungry walkers to enjoy at the end of their adventure with burgers, sausage rolls and Yorkshire puddings with beef and gravy courtesy of the Bistro that the Martello use.

Tony and Emma of the Martello, with the help of their enthusiastic volunteers, also provided entertainment in the form of games and attractions such as putting through doors with scores, hook-a-duck, and the Mummy game. They also had 3-D model of Treasure Island where punters had the chance to put a cross on where they thought the treasure was buried. A raffle was also provided with prizes donated by the kind staff at the Martello.

In addition to this, Prestwood Homes staged a tug-of-war competition, a sponsored car wash and Beryl Jones kindly donated her chalet in France with the proceeds going to the CPBF.

All-in-all a fun day was had by everyone and over £500 was raised. A cracking effort!



Pinder's Golf Day

The strict rules of golf were slightly bent for a good cause at Donnington Valley Golf Club recently. Healthcare valuers Pinders hosted their annual golf day and gave their guests permission to kick and throw their golf ball once during the round. Not everyone benefited from these bonuses though, as balls were thrown into tree branches and kicks on the green span off in random directions!

One player who used the amusing rules to good effect was eventual winner Julien Payne of Titleworth Healthcare. Playing excellent golf, he was able to save his two free shots to the 18th before signing his card for 43 points. As well as taking home the first prize, Julien also got to nominate a charity to benefit from Pinders' *pound-a-point* sponsorship. As a result The Care Professionals Benevolent Fund received over £1200 towards its work."

PINDERS

Mad Hatter's Tea Party

The Care Professional's Benevolent Fund went mad for tea on the 29th September with supporting care homes, domiciliary agencies and industry related organisations staging their very own Mad Hatter's themed tea parties all in aid of carers who have fallen on hard times. The event raised a magnificent £6,174.47 in total, proof that it is not all doom and gloom at the moment.

The CPBF has been inundated with heart-warming stories from homes and organisations that pulled out all the stops to make their day as special as could be. Carers dressed up as their favourite characters from Alice in Wonderland, tables were set for afternoon tea, family and friends were invited along to take part in the fun and of course everyone wore the obligatory silly hat. Residents at Berrystead Nursing Home in Leicester used the time to reminisce on the brands of tea they used drink as youngsters as well as tea card collections, tea strainers, tea caddies and knitting tea cozies, nearly every tea related thing you can think of! Most organisations baked delicious cup cakes to sell and organised fun and games to keep guests entertained such as raffles, hat decoration and croquet to name but a few.

The charity has been overwhelmed with the support it has received in terms of the number of people participating and the amount raised and would like to say a special thank you to all those who took part including Avery Healthcare who, with a gentle nudge from Group Operations Manager Jacqui Jeynes, managed to raise a staggering £3,902.87. A warm thank you should also be extended to Milkwood Care Ltd, Barchester Healthcare, PSP Healthcare and Craegmoor who all contributed significantly. Not forgetting Ecclesiastical Insurance and Everatt & Co Solicitors who raised £700 and £250 respectively on what turned out to be a wonderful day of fundraising.



The CPBF Membership Scheme

In the coming days and months the CPBF will be urging all of its supporters to sign up to its brand new membership scheme to help maintain the funds that the charity makes available to care professionals who are in financial hardship.

*Become a member of the
CPBF and show your support to
carers nationwide.*

The scheme will consist of 3 levels; Individual Membership, Corporate Membership and Guardian Membership. Individual members will be asked to pay small fee and in return will receive our newsletters, e-bulletins and the right to reserved availability at CPBF events and more. Corporate members will be asked to make a donation to the CPBF and will receive in addition a mention in the charity's newsletter, the use of the CPBF supporter logo as well as sector related discounts (tbc). Most importantly of all they will be safe in the knowledge that they are supporting and caring for their hard-working staff.

Guardian members are key figures within the industry that will be invited by the CPBF to become official supporters. The charity will ask Guardian Members to make a donation and in addition to the above will have their name on the CPBF website on its Roll of Honour.

The CPBF hopes to receive much support so that it can carry on supporting carers in the way that it does. If you would like to know more about this scheme or become a member yourself then please contact the CPBF on 01625 872811.



Keith Haslope

Mr. Haslope is 73 years old and lives at home with his wife 67, who is his primary carer. They are both in their retirement. Due to Mr. Haslope's numerous health problems he finds it very difficult to bathe without the aide of his wife, however this has become increasingly difficult due to her back problems.

Mrs. Haslope had been a Care Assistant visiting people in their homes from 1992-1997 and then became manager of Church View Care Home where she stayed until her retirement in 2007. As Mrs. Haslope had spent so many years taking care of others the CPBF was only too happy to help when the couple came to them requesting funds towards the cost of a level access shower.

With the help of 4 other charities (Aftaid, Bridging Fund, BEN, and Broadening Choices for Older People) the Haslope's were able to purchase the shower they so desperately needed in order to give them a better quality of life and so that they could retain their independence.

The CPBF is constantly striving to support care professionals who have fallen on hard times.

Charity Contact Details

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The CPBF supports carer in Elsworth

The CPBF is delighted to have recently been able to help D.F aged 63 from Elsworth purchase a much needed orthopedic mattress. Both D.F and his partner had been support workers for people with learning disabilities at a Care Home in Eastry.

Sadly D.F. had suffered from a stroke back in 2010 leaving him with very limited movement in the left-hand side of his body. As he is a man of 17 stone and 6ft 6ins tall the mattress they had did not support his size and made it very difficult getting in and out of bed.

Due to the stroke D.F. was forced to give up work as well as his partner who now cares for him full time. The couple has very limited resources so came to the CPBF looking for assistance.

The CPBF were able to grant the couple the funds needed to purchase an orthopedic mattress enabling D.F. to have a better quality of life and to retain his dignity.