



2017 has been a very busy year so far, with fundraising continuing in many different forms, donations being both received and made. We're so proud that Louis's Foundation is thriving and achieving its mission. We hope this Newsletter will illustrate our work, convey our gratitude and allow you to feel a part of the Foundation. Please visit www.louisross.org for more information.

FROM THE ROSS FAMILY

We continue to be overwhelmed by the support and initiatives shown by so many for Louis's Foundation and the worthwhile causes it assists. We miss Louis every minute but the positive way in which he is remembered is a comfort.

In June, Louis's Area of Remembrance at Canford school was dedicated by Rev Jack, with many of Louis's Friends and some Canford staff gathered together.

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NEWSLETTER

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A SECOND ROUND OF DONATIONS

Following-on from the £14,000 donated at the end of 2016, we made our **second 'round'** of donations in March of this year.



£3,000 donated to The **Elizabeth Foundation** for pre-school deaf children in Portsmouth, to sponsor 3 year old Ruby's attendance for a year. Besides being profoundly deaf, Ruby has other difficulties caused by a rare chromosome depletion. Our sponsorship will also pay for the one-to-one care she requires. Penny has met Ruby and has seen the wonderful care and education offered by The Elizabeth Foundation.



£1,500 towards the realisation of **Stanley's HydroHouse project**. Six year old Stanley has dystonic cerebral palsy and sensory difficulties. Leela, Stanley's mother has told us that hydrotherapy helps him both emotionally and physically and she is tirelessly fundraising to build a pool at home in Colehill, Wimborne.



Mosaic, the Dorset charity supporting bereaved children, received £2,066 to fund 50% of the accommodation costs for one of their bi-annual residential weekends.

Via social services, we granted a transport bursary of £400 to assist with travel costs to Brockenhurst college for a **Poole teenager with autism** and other behaviour issues. The boy's family is unable to fund this.

THANK YOU

A total of **£7,066** donated to help young people facing difficulties. The recipients are so grateful to all of our supporters.

DONATIONS – ROUND THREE

In August 2017 we donated £2,739 to **Make-A-Wish**, to fund a holiday for 13 year old Amabel and her family. Amabel lives in Christchurch and has cerebral palsy, epilepsy, is registered blind and is tube-fed. Her wish is to holiday with her family and to have use of a hot tub – her favourite past-time. Make-A-Wish has organised a holiday in the Peak District in a cabin with a hot tub. Our donation will fund the holiday and all associated expenses.



£2,177 is going to **Diverse Abilities' Coping with Chaos services**. This Poole-based charity supports children and adults who have physical and learning difficulties. The Coping with Chaos service provides a range of play activities to engender a sense of self-confidence and empowerment in the children. It also offers guidance to parents. Our funding will pay for 7 sessions of Splash 'n' Bounce at Blandford Leisure Centre. Each session gives the children 45 minutes in the pool with one-to-one care, followed by fun on a bouncy castle. The Leisure Centre is closed to the public at this time and the parents value the safe, non-judgemental environment. This is a very popular activity and has a waiting list for children wishing to benefit.

Wagtails Swimming Club based at QE in Wimborne offers swimming, water therapy and social activities to individuals with a physical or mental disability. Wagtails offers a safe, friendly environment for disabled people to swim and improve their health. We've been told how much members enjoy swimming without being judged – unlike in public sessions. We will be donating funds to enable Wagtails to continue its valuable work.

FROM THE ROSS FAMILY

CONTINUED

The spot is beautiful and thanks must go to the groundsmen and gardeners lead by Kerry Mapp. Curved benches make the area a social space where Louis can be remembered.



June was a difficult month for our family. As the Upper Sixth at Canford prepared to leave school, we were very aware of our loss – Louis should have been a part of it all and of course, the dispersal of his community was hard to bear. We must mention how very caring the Canford community and all of Louis's friends there and at various schools, have been. Your support has been greatly appreciated and has made a difference. Thank you – we know you will remember our son, your friend. Speech Day was very special; Louis was not forgotten.

Throughout this Newsletter, well-deserved thanks have been given to so many supporters and we sincerely hope we haven't missed anyone out! In addition to Paul Barlow, we must make a very special note of thanks to Catherine Ephgrave who continues to be at the heart of the Foundation, working hard and always ready to offer support of every kind. Thanks also to Emma Wimhurst who played an invaluable role last year.

ALL DONATIONS MADE BY LOUIS'S FOUNDATION MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE TO INDIVIDUALS FACING DIFFICULTIES OF ONE KIND OR ANOTHER AND WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT WHICH MAKES THIS POSSIBLE. APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FROM INDIVIDUALS OR ORGANISATIONS WHO MAY NEED OUR HELP. APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT LOUISROSS.ORG

FUNDRAISERS

ON THE HORIZON

Following last year's successful Mini-Fest, Sturminster Marshall Golf Club is kindly hosting the event again this year on September 9th. It promises to be a fun evening for all ages.



Quiz Night in Tarrant Keyneston – planned for November but details not yet available.

WOW! FUNDRAISERS GALORE!

FEBRUARY

CANFORD COMMUNITY

The lovely Maddie Hobbs raised £885 selling Valentines roses amongst the Canford community. A logistical feat requiring every water vessel in the school to keep 600 roses alive! Thanks must go to Tambuzi Roses and Maddie's family in Kenya for their generous donation.



MARCH

NORTH LONDON HALF-MARATHON

A team of John's colleagues from the Prudential : Rowena, Amy, Viv, Nikita, Geethan, Alastair and Sachin – plus Gabriella and friend Holly Kirkham, ran the North London Half-Marathon on March 12th and raised £3,000. We admire you all and are so grateful.



Also in March, our friend Judith Liverman ran her first half-marathon and dedicated it to Louis's Foundation. Hats off to you, Judith's £436 donation was gratefully received!

APRIL

INSANITY RADIO MARATHON

On April 8th, Olivia's lovely friend and Capital Radio DJ, Leah Davis undertook a 24 hour marathon radio show, raising £376.25! The lovely Phillippa Walker sang on the show – what a voice!



QUIZ NIGHT

A repeat of last year's enjoyable and successful Quiz Night took place in Sturminster Marshall on April 24th. Thanks to Ann Cassidy for organising, to Badg Champion our Quiz Master and to all those who helped, supported and attended. The grand total of £1,559.66 was raised. Look-out for next year's Quiz!

A VERY SPECIAL, HIGH PROFILE FUNDRAISER FOR LOUIS!



The most wonderful celebration of friendship took place on April 27th, in honour of Louis. We were so very fortunate to have the involvement of celebrities! Graeme Souness, Eddie Howe and commentator Gary Taphouse kindly gave their time to support our game of football and helped to elevate the profile of Louis's Foundation. Thanks to Lou Devine for all her amazing PR work.

The players were all friends of Louis, from his First and Middle schools, from the various teams he had played for and from Canford school. Wimborne Town FC allowed use of its pitch and facilities and Chris Humphries acted as referee. The gate was over 1000!! Nerve-wracking for the players and emotional for our family. We had never expected such support and interest. The atmosphere was one of friendship and care and a magnificent £9,000 was raised!

A huge vote of thanks must go to Paul Barlow who was the mastermind behind this event and guided it through many obstacles. It would never have happened without you, Paul!

Thank you!

FUNDRAISERS

MAY

SUMMER SOIREE ON MAY 15TH

John and Penny attended a wonderful concert in Boscombe organised by Fiona McKinley, Canford teacher. With her talented young musicians, Fiona's programme of beautiful, classical pieces entertained the audience and a collection of £198 was raised.

LIP SYNC II

Equally as entertaining (if not even more so), as last year's Lip Sync for Louis, this event took place in the Layard Theatre at Canford. An absolutely spell-binding display of confidence, talent, fun and friendship. Penny was party to it – the only adult spared one of the precious seats (excepting the lucky supervisory



staff!). Once again, the organisation and production was utterly professional and massive thanks must go to Louis James, Ollie Dunger, Charlie Hathorn and Della Kearns. Thanks also to all other helpers, to the brave and talented performers and to Canford school for allowing use of the theatre. It's fair to say that the naan bread took some clearing-up (you had to be there!).

£2,810 was handed-over from Canford as the proceeds of this event and Louis was remembered throughout the evening.

JUNE

WAITROSE COMMUNITY MATTERS

Louis's Foundation was fortunate to be selected as one of June's recipients of green tokens in Wimborne's store. We were grateful to receive £270.



OPEN GARDEN ON JUNE 25TH

Kate and Geraint Hughes opened their lovely garden again this year as part of Blandford's Open Gardens. They invited donations for Louis's Foundation and raised £33.04. Thank you!



CRICKET RAFFLE

Sadly this year, the proposed annual cricket match was unable to take place due to exam commitments and many players being away. However, we went ahead with the Cricket Day Raffle and raised £275. Thanks must go to the E.C.B. for the donation of two England v South Africa Test Match tickets which were used as first prize and also to Broadstone, Blandford and Parley cricket clubs for assisting with ticket sales.

GOLF DAY ON JUNE 6TH

Another repeat of a successful event! Fourteen teams enjoyed a round of golf and a dinner at the prestigious Remedy Oak Golf Club. £7,500 was raised and we are so grateful to all who supported Louis's Foundation on this day – golfers, sponsors and to those who donated prizes for the golf, the auction or the raffle. Remedy Oak's staff must also be thanked for their extreme hospitality.

JULY

PRURIDE LONDON

A true hero! John (foolishly) entered himself into the PruRide London 100 mile cycle event and after training on the hills of Dorset, he faced the 100 miles and the gruelling Surrey Hills on July 30th. He completed the course within the allotted time and raised a magnificent £2,659! Thank you to Viv Tomlin and all other sponsors.



AUGUST

CREAM TEAS

The weather was kind for Penny's 'Open House' afternoon at home in Tarrant Keyneston. We were pleased to serve cream teas and cakes to a lovely bunch of supporters – old and new faces.

Thank you so much to the friends who helped and all who supported the event. Unexpectedly, £623 was raised.

DONATIONS RECEIVED



Special thanks to Katie Barlow who hosted an off-shoot cream tea afternoon with the excess clotted cream. Another £50 was raised.

TOUGH MUDDER

Louis's friends Ben Barlow, Louis Ephgrave and Rory Ferguson ran a gruelling 12 mile Tough Mudder and raised £250 for their mate's Foundation.

SEPTEMBER

SKYDIVE

Sixteen year old Izzy Price was gifted a Skydive for her birthday earlier this year. She decided to use this as a fundraiser and took the plunge on September 2nd! Brave girl! Thank you Izzy for thinking of Louis's Foundation.



THE SUNSHADE APPEAL

Louis's Foundation has been the recipient of the closing funds of Poole-based charity The Sunshade Appeal. Having achieved its objectives and no longer fundraising, the trustees decided to pass on the remaining £704.04. We will certainly put this to good use.

COMING UP

OCTOBER

KILIMANJARO CLIMB

Lucy Stevenson will be climbing Kilimanjaro to raise money for the Foundation. To sponsor Lucy, please visit www.uk.virginmoneygiving.com and search her name.

2016

DECEMBER 2016

£528.47 from Louis's First school at Sturminster Marshall – the collection from the Christmas plays.

£100 from Thacker & Revitt Letting Agency – proceeds of their Christmas jumper day

£1,013 from Canford's Lancaster House Concert collection

£168 from Sturminster Marshall's Evening W.I. group – the proceeds of their winning entry in the Sturminster Marshall Christmas tree festival



£1,794.40 The collection taken at Canford's Carol Service at the Minster

£60 from Catherine Nix who held a Christmas sale at home

£395 from personal friends in lieu of Christmas gifts and /or in place of sending Christmas cards.

2017

The collection from Canford's Lancaster House's play, written by Henry Halewood.

LOUIS'S T-SHIRT AND WATER BOTTLE ON TOUR



Millie and Freya Evans remembering Louis during their exciting family adventure around India. You look gorgeous, girls!



Henry and Callum Lockwood in Cyprus



Keeping the Ephgrave family hydrated in Iceland!

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