



THE

LOUIS ROSS

FOUNDATION



FROM THE ROSS FAMILY

OVER £42,000 GIFTED TO DATE!

We are in the privileged position of having funds in the bank enabling us to consider every application we receive – and plenty of fundraising planned and offered for the rest of 2018!

How wonderful that Louis's Foundation can fulfil its aims in his name.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

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NEWSLETTER

ISSUE # 4 | June 2018

Louis's Foundation, of which we are so proud, goes from strength to strength. We are so pleased that we continue to be in the fortunate position of receiving funds with which to help worthwhile causes; it's just amazing! Of course, all of this is possible thanks to the support, hard work and fundraising initiatives shown by so many wonderful people.

DONATIONS ROUND 4

Our fourth round of donations were made in November - December 2017.



BEACROFT SCHOOL - £1,000

We were delighted to donate **£1,000 to Beaucroft School's 16+ pupils' residential trip fund.** Our donation topped-up the funds to achieve the required £6,000. The pupils were planning a trip to Disneyland Paris to enjoy a wonderful holiday whilst gaining life-skills. Penny and Catherine were left in no doubt about the level of excitement as they presented the cheque – only 4 months to wait!



Following their trip in April 2018, we received this lovely Thank You card with a photo proving just how much the trip was enjoyed. Lovely to see those smiles!



SLEEPSAFE - £5,000

A repeat of our 2016 donation of **£5,000** to this amazing project – **Sleepsafe, part of Faithworks Wessex,** helping it to continue functioning through the winter months. Penny and Catherine visited with the cheque and learned more about the project. Our funding pays the cost of the night-time supervisor for a month. In Winter 2016/17, some 47 people were helped off the streets into accommodation and re-shaped lives. Louis's Foundation helped towards this.



LANGSIDE SCHOOL - £2,376

£2,376 was donated to **Langside School in Poole** in November 2017. Penny and Catherine visited this very special school where the 22 pupils face complex medical, physical and mental disabilities, but strive to learn and to respond. The visit touched our hearts and so, in addition to the £1,876 requested to equip a Musical Garden, we chose to donate an additional £500 to provide a treat for the children – all of whom certainly face difficulty in their lives.

Headteacher, Jon Seaward, chose ice-skating as the treat and we were really delighted to receive photos and positive feedback last month – leaving us in no doubt that it was £500 very well spent.



“Their enjoyment was apparent from their delighted expressions and happy vocalisations. Feeling the coldness, smell of the ice, swooshing of the skates and the feeling of whizzing around provided them with a lot of new and different sensory experiences. The responses of one or two children took us all by surprise, as usually they do not respond with much enthusiasm, leaving us feeling very emotional.”

Nicki Priddle, Assistant HT



WIMBORNE WAGTAILS - £1,325

Wimborne Wagtails is a sociable swimming club for people of all ages with a physical or mental disability. The club meets at Wimborne’s Q.E. Leisure Centre every Saturday morning. We were pleased to donate £1,325 to train young volunteer lifeguards.

The cheque presentation pictured here, was made on a very blustery day in December 2017 as brave members of Wagtails took part in the Badbury Rings Santas’ Fun Run.

DONATIONS ROUND 5

Incredible to think that our latest Round of Donations, made in April - May 2018, mark the fifth time we have been able to help a variety of young people facing difficulties. Thanks go to all our supporters for their continued support and effort.



THE BUS SHELTER DORSET - £2,000

On April 15th, we donated £2,000 to **The Bus Shelter Dorset**, a project based in Weymouth. Pictured with Penny is Rich Sawtell, whose innovative hard work saw the conversion of the bus into a 'home' for up to 17 people, and also volunteer Matt Chivers.

Our funding will pay for essential night-time staffing when the heavily-relied upon volunteer rota is struggling to cope. The project offers warmth, shelter, food and companionship to individuals who are homeless and wish for direction to help them improve their lives. They are referred to the project by Weymouth and Portland Borough Council, Julian House or the Lantern Trust.

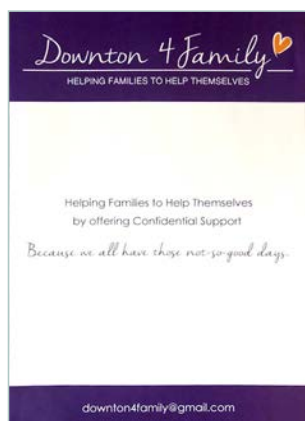


EDWARD'S HORSERENITY SESSIONS - £2,000

We were delighted to make a very personal donation to **ten year old Edward** in order to fund a course of 20 sessions at Horserenity in Spetisbury, with teacher and therapist Sarah Vivian. Edward faces many difficulties including autism, Tourettes, ADHD and a processing disorder – all of which make his life tricky and preclude him from coping within mainstream, full-time school. He has been excluded from school and has missed 2 years of schooling.

His mum, Elaine, confirmed that it is only at Horserenity, where discrete education is delivered through animal therapy and outdoor pursuits, that Edward is happy, relaxed and learning. Currently, the family is pursuing a tribunal to gain a suitable place for Edward at a particular school where he will be understood and able to access the full-time education he deserves.

Photographed with Penny are: Sarah Vivian, Edward's favourite horse Poppy, mum Elaine and Judi Tipping, Foundation Trustee.



DOWNTON4FAMILY - £500

We donated **£500 in April** to **Downton4Family** which provides trained volunteers to support families who are facing challenging times. The service offers listening and encouragement to empower families to change their lives for the better.

Penny met with Helen Holgate, who founded the charity, and learned about the important role it plays in helping young people whose families are facing difficulties.

Our donation will help with training costs and administration, such as DBS checks.



ASHLEY'S BIRTHDAY BANK - £2,000

Our most recent donation, made in May 2018, was to **Ashley's Birthday Bank**. This incredible charity, run by three dedicated people – Anna, Danielle and Lynn – supports families and children at times of crisis. It serves Poole, Bournemouth and Christchurch and offers vital services to underprivileged or neglected youngsters and to families fleeing situations such as domestic violence or human trafficking. We donated £2,000 worth of Primark vouchers.

Anna Selby, pictured, thanked us by saying:

“Thank you so much again for the vouchers.”

‘They will make a huge difference to the families we support. It will enable us to provide for the older children at the domestic violence refuge, and also the human trafficking refuge, who very often have nothing. They will be able to go clothes’ shopping with their Support Workers and choose their own clothes. They will also be given to the new mums who can buy some much needed clothing for themselves. We provide for the babies and children, but find it more difficult providing for the parents and older siblings.

They will also be used to purchase household items for children who go into care, who are in poverty, or who have been neglected and taken in by other family members. They will be able to purchase items to make their rooms homely and welcoming.

They will also be given to parents who can use them to purchase school shoes and uniform for their children.

The families we support are all in the Poole, Bournemouth & Christchurch areas. They are referred by Social Workers, Police Liaison Officers, Pastoral Care Workers, Refuge Workers, Health Visitors etc. Their situations vary from poverty, neglect and abuse to domestic violence and human trafficking. Three of us run the charity in our spare time, so every penny/item donated goes directly to the families in need.’

“Thank you for supporting our charity. We really appreciate it.”

Ashley's Birthday Bank
 Registered Charity no 1161258 | Phone 07864 840443 | Email ashleysbirthdaybank@gmail.com | Web ashleysbirthdaybank.com

“Helping underprivileged children & families within Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole”

- We provide local underprivileged children with a brand new gift on their birthday or special occasion.
- We offer support to local families going through crisis, by providing clothing, toys or baby equipment.
- We can provide emergency food and toiletry packs.
- We support our local Women's Refuges, victims of Human Trafficking and Mother & Baby Units.

We rely solely on donations of food, clothes, baby equipment, toiletries etc from the kindness of members of the public and local businesses.

Anyone who thinks they may be able to donate, or become a volunteer or a sponsor, please get in touch. Equally, if you would like our support, or know anyone who could benefit from our support, please let us know, either by email or phone.

Call us now on 07864 840443

Ashley's Birthday Bank

LIKE US ON **facebook** | follow us on **twitter** | **PayPal**

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Registered Charity No. 1161258

AS LIFE MOVES ON

Louis's friends and peers are now out in the big, wide world. Sixth form days far behind. It means a great deal to us to hear from them – from University or far-flung corners of the world. The T-shirt continues to travel and to be a regular item of clothing for many. We're hoping it will find its way to more exotic places, to Festivals or just worn locally as a comfortable staple! It means a lot to see it pop-up in photos. Do continue to share its travels or uses, please.

KENYA

In Kenya, in February, Louis's T-shirt helped Maddie Hobbs and Finn Ambrose take part in the 10to4 mountain bike challenge, in aid of Mount Kenya Trust. Well done, you two, quite an achievement!



INDIA

In April, Ollie Dunger was seen sporting the T-shirt whilst in India. A gathering of lots of Canford friends – Abbie Lynch, Finn Ambrose, Lucy Ashcroft, Ollie Dunger, Caitlin Atherton, Maddie Hobbs and Louis James.



FUNDRAISING

SEPTEMBER '17 – APRIL '18

SO MUCH TO BE GRATEFUL FOR, READ ON.

SEPTEMBER

MINI-FEST

The 'One Fine Day' Mini-Fest held at Sturminster Marshall Golf Club on the 9th, was a great success and was enjoyed by supporters of all ages.



Thank you to all who helped, supported, attended and, of course to those who performed. £590 was raised – the raffle making £323 of this. Thanks also for the generous raffle prizes and auction lot.



TABLE TOP SALE

A Table Top Sale in Tarrant Keyneston Village Hall, also on the 9th, raised £40.30 from the sale of cakes and bric-a-brac.



SKYDIVE

On the 3rd, Izzy Pryce, bravely 'enjoyed' a skydive. Thank you Izzy for collecting sponsorship for Louis's Foundation. We are so grateful for the £310 you raised.

OCTOBER

KILIMANJARO

Our friend Lucy Stevenson, wife of Trustee Richard, fulfilled an ambition and climbed Kilimanjaro. What an achievement! Wonderful for us that you dedicated your fundraising to the Foundation and from this we received £1,700. Thank you Lucy.



SHERBORNE SCHOOL

Louis was remembered at Sherborne Girls' School when Millie Evans kindly donated profits from selling trackpants in House. Thank you Millie for making the Foundation £47.85 richer.

NOVEMBER

QUIZ AND CURRY

On November 3rd, we held a Quiz and Curry evening at Tarrant Keyneston Village Hall. Such a successful evening – a wonderful, buzzy atmosphere and not a spare chair! Over 100 people enjoyed the Quiz and food.



Thanks to Paul and Bethan Speakman, our Quizmaster and Mistress and to Simon Tipping and Sue Brown for the delicious curry and dips. The sum of £1,178 was raised – thanks to all who attended.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Lovely friend, Nadine Sherborne, chose to support Louis's Foundation with the proceeds of the Christmas Fair held at her home. Gorgeous goods were on sale from various vendors and delicious cakes and coffee was served. Thank you so much to Nadine and her sale partner Helen Smith – a generous £570 was donated to us.



DECEMBER

W.I. GROUP

Once again, this festive season, Sturminster Marshall Evening W.I. Group dedicated its entry in the Christmas Tree Festival held at St Mary's Church, to Louis's Foundation. Thank you ladies, your tree looked gorgeous and £103 was raised for us.



In addition to this, W.I. member Debbie Stadden of Felted Allsorts fame, sold her beautiful, handmade elves which had adorned the tree, post-Festival and raised a further £135. Thank you for your generosity Debbie.



SEASONAL DONATIONS

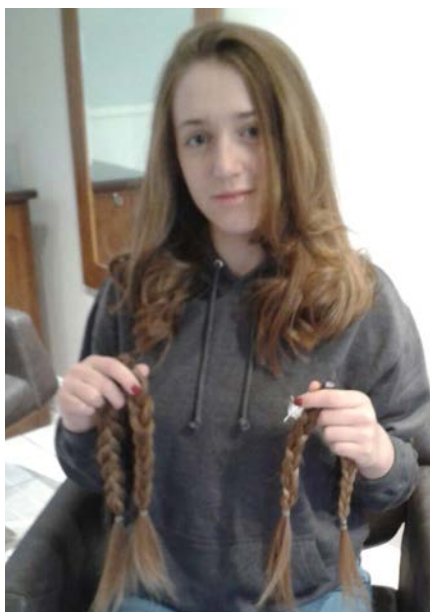
We were touched to receive seasonal donations from friends, some in lieu of Christmas cards and some to remember Louis at this particularly difficult time of year. Thank you for your thoughtful generosity - £310 was received.

In December we received funds of £1,439 from Canford's Bursary Dept. The funds were raised by Lancaster House's concert (£894), Wimborne House's collection (£405) and the beautiful roses sold-off at the end of last summer's Ball, donated by Tambuzi Roses courtesy of the Hobbs family (£140). Thank you to all involved for your efforts and for choosing to support the Foundation.

We were also grateful to receive £581 from the collection taken at Canford School's Carol Concert at Wimborne Minster. An event so close in date to our tragic anniversary, that the dedication of these funds is especially meaningful. Thank you Canford for your thoughtfulness.

LOTTIE WELLBELOVED

On Dec.9th, family friend Lottie Wellbeloved, pupil at Talbot Heath School, sacrificed 12 inches of her gorgeous locks and raised £240 for Louis's Foundation. Thank you so much.



Lottie's kindness also extended to The Little Princess Trust who received the donation of her hair. This will, of course, benefit a child whose own hair has been lost through cancer treatment.

JOHN'S PRU CYCLE

Donations towards John's PRU cycle ride continued to trickle-in, adding £250 to the total and raising it to £2,909.

JANUARY 2018

BURN'S NIGHT

On January 20th, the Louis Ross Foundation was proud to put on a fantastic Burn's Night celebration at the beautiful Shapwick Church. The event was enjoyed by 82 guests who wine, dined and danced in true Scottish style. Comments after the event were most favourable and £1,650 was raised for Louis's Foundation. We have several videos of the fun on our Facebook page.



Should this event be repeated? Maybe a year or two might just be enough for us to recover from the sheer hard work involved. A huge vote of thanks to all who helped, supported and attended.



FUNDRAISING

FEBRUARY SOUNDWAVES

A 'Soundwaves' contemporary music concert was held in the Layard Theatre at Canford on February 3rd, organised by Penny Carpenter. Many thanks for the £157 raised.

HEBE BROWN

On the 28th, Hebe Brown, Year 8 pupil at Talbot Heath School, chose to support Louis's Foundation as part of Charity Week within her school. Hebe and friend gave a presentation in assembly and held a raffle, raising over £200. Thank you so much Hebe.



MARCH CANFORD'S BURSARY

We received £391.90 from Canford's Bursary on the 19th, profits from the 2016/17 Sixth Form 'Louis Ross Business Enterprise Challenge'. Thank you to Mr Pearce and to Louis's Sixth Form peers. We hope you all enjoyed the project that Louis would have been a part of.

FRENCH MASSES

On the 20th, Canford School's Music Dept held a Concert of French Masses at Christchurch Priory. If the donations are to be the measure, this was an amazing concert featuring very talented people, as a generous £718.03 was collected for Louis's Foundation. Thank you to Mr Sparkhall and all involved, for your thoughtfulness in supporting our cause.

WIMBORNE HOUSE

Louis and his Foundation was remembered again by Canford's Wimborne House; on March 8th we received £569.19 from a charity event. Thank you so much.

APRIL LIPSYNC FOR LOUIS III



On the 21st, Canford's Sixth Form put on an amazing evening's entertainment for the third year in a row. Talent, bravery and sheer barefaced exhibitionism.



Huge thanks to Canford School for allowing use of the Layard Theatre, to Cosmo Hamilton- Davies and Ben Longrigg who were absolutely fantastic hosts, to Della Kearnes for working her magic behind the scenes to ensure that the standard of production more than matched the talents of the performers, to all the amazing performers and to those who helped and supported. As last year, Penny was the lucky adult who witnessed what many mothers can only wonder about!



Thank you for allowing me to share in the evening that remembers Louis's Foundation and his love of music and fun. Raising £1,210, we are so grateful that this event continues.

QUIZ NIGHT

On the 27th, the third annual Sturminster Marshall Quiz Night took place. The evening was attended by 134 quizzers and £1,600 was raised. Thanks to Badg Champion and Ann Cassidy for organising and to many friends for your help.

MAY

QE SIXTH FORMERS

A very heartfelt 'Thank You' to the previous Sixth formers in Stuart and Tudor Houses from Queen Elizabeth's School in Wimborne for the two cheques received. £746.74 from Tudor House and £504.31 from Stuart House – raised in 2016-17 by a variety of fundraising activities.

Some of the pupils involved were friends of Louis's or acquaintances from sports and socialising. We are incredibly touched by this gesture.

SHAPWICK COUNTRY FAYRE



Thank you to everyone who visited our stall at the Shapwick Fayre on the 27th. On a glorious day, we raised £182 from the cake sale and £310 from the AFCB Callum Wilson signed shirt raffle, won by Mr Ballam of Broadstone.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

We hope you'll be interested in participating in these future events. Perhaps you'd like to support or advise? We'd love to hear from you.

JUNE 9TH

CASTLE COURT SCHOOL'S STRAWBERRY FAIR

10am-12pm

Profits to be divided between Louis's Foundation and Julia's House

JUNE 10TH

BLANDFORD'S HIDDEN GARDENS

11am – 5pm

Kate and Geraint Hughes are opening their beautiful garden again at Hill House, 49 Salisbury Road, Blandford DT11 7HT and are kindly collecting for Louis's Foundation. They would love to see you.

JULY 7TH

'SUMMER PARTY NIGHT'

Drink, dance to the sounds of the 70s and 80s and be marquee-merry in the beautiful grounds at Castle Court School. Enjoy a hog roast and a complimentary drink. Bar available and plenty of secure parking. £15 per head.



JULY 15TH

TARRANT VALLEY 10K (www.tarrantvalley10.webs.com)

10.30am START

The Louis Ross Foundation is one of three charities to benefit from this fantastic event. We look forward to your participation or support.

AUGUST 12TH

CREAM TEAS, CAKES AND MORE

2pm - 5.30pm

Do drop in to Ashley Wood House for tea on the lawn. Raffle, Tombola and Sale Table. Plenty of parking available or take a walk across the fields! Hoping for a lovely afternoon as last year!

KEEPING LOUIS'S FOUNDATION IN THE PUBLIC EYE AND SPREADING THE WORD ABOUT 'WHAT WE DO'

On 28th November 2017, Penny was welcomed as the morning Assembly Speaker at Canford School. It was a great opportunity to thank Canford for all the amazing fundraising that has taken place in the school and also by pupils out of school; plus, informing the current school population about the Foundation, its aims and its achievements in terms of donations made to incredibly worthy causes. Thank you to Mr Vessey and his staff for this opportunity. A scary experience for a teacher used to addressing 5 year olds! However, the requisite 'bravery' was fuelled by a passion for the Foundation and its achievements and by the environment that represented an important part of Louis's life.



In December 2017, the fact that the Foundation had raised over £100,000 since it was established in early 2016, was of great interest in the local news. The Echo featured this and also Penny was interviewed on Radio Solent. Great opportunities to spread the word about our aims and fundraising.

OUR COMMITTEE

Numbers of committee members have receded and our once small committee is now tiny! We would love to hear from anyone who feels that he/she may be able to spare a little time to join us. We have meetings just once monthly at the most and just need 'ideas people' or people to bounce ideas off or people who are happy to act on ideas and help organise events. No major commitment required; truly! Alternatively, if you feel you could help with just a particular event, we'd love to hear from you too.

THANK YOU IN ANTICIPATION!

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