

Understanding Differences

A Self-Help Group

Raising Awareness to Support Children who have Experienced Difficult Times

th 2006

Awareness, support, friendship and fun for both children and adults. Only ever having 8 local families in our membership representing a knowledge of living with CHD, Asthma, Hypermobility syndrome, Diabetes, Domestic Violence, Learning Disabilities, Food Allergies/Intolerance, we have still had app. £4,846 in our account and £4,332 out of it!

We are not replacing what other support groups/charities already offer but, aim to bring all of that together under one umbrella to be able to offer a better network of families who understand; even if it is only part of what you may be going through. Families with rare conditions can find few or even no people nearby to be able to meet up with. We have also paid for many books which are based in a few schools/ playgroups in Crawley/Horley so that they are readily available to as many families possible (hence, cover a wide age range). They offer support, also awareness to those willing to learn and aim in the future to extend our aims by writing our own series of books about real life experiences. Starting at key stage 1 level such books would encourage children to learn from an early age about compassionate issues—a way to try to reduce bullying.

~ members can be anyone who is keen to offer or gain support or help support our aims

Memorial Fund (LRMF)

Firstly, I personally need to thank everyone who made donations around the time those who attended and helped organise the event at Halloween which raised further money in His Memory.

I really am very grateful—Thank-you. We would like to offer you a free wristband per family for your donations so please catch me in the school playground or come to a coffee morning to get yours.

Unfortunately we cancelled our meetings at the Air Balloon, Horley. In the meantime, we will hold some coffee mornings in our own houses, giving members and their friends an opportunity to offer or gain support or just to make new friends.

REGULAR MEETINGS

Children are very welcome, they will also benefit as they will build on their communication skills, confidence and self-esteem. Tues 7th February and 7th March 2006 Pop along anytime between 9.30 and 1.30 (I leave for school at 3pm) to 50 Ashdown Drive, Tilgate.

Anyone is welcome We will provide play equipment and refreshments and only ask for a donation as you would make at a Toddler Group. Please contact us if you would be interested to hold a session on our behalf to help raise a little money for our funds or if you would like to come along to one.

£83.05	Bereavement story books- Desmond
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	Anderson School (D.A)
£241.48	Wristbands
£130	Xmas fair expenses

MONEY IN

£347	Collection boxes
£99.51	Xmas fair
£26.25	D.A School Fair
£19.25	Asda

As Ross died in September 2005 after being born with Heart Disease (CHD) in 2002, I requested that donations be made at his funeral for this group with the plan to then donate some to the other heart charities. In total we collected £ 220 from friends, family and parents/staff at D.A School My mum made a donation of £100.00 that she wanted to donate only to UD. I also held a Halloween fundraising event where we raised money for wristbands. This event was really good fun. In total we raised £164.65 and £23.25 from doing crafts at my house, offering cooked lunch, Trick or Treating some of the local neighbours on the way to make a scary appearance at The Tilgate pub where more donations were made. In support of LRMF, other friends made collections;

Avis	£9.75
ICS	£24.61
Pumpkins	£8.13
CAA	£23.10 £27.84
Parent at school fair	£8

Donations of £51.51 were made when delivering Webb Ivory catalogues. We have bought another 20 collection boxes (£58). These are red and will be labelled (LRMF). Any money from these boxes will be used for CHD Awareness Projects ie. The wristbands being the first (£241.48)

OTHER WAYS OF FUNDRAISING

Quote our reference numbers and we receive the commission on all orders.

Yellow Moon -craft catalogue

<http://www.yellowmoon.org.uk/showitem.asp?fldImgID=3551>

Quote reference SUN 1062

Webb Ivory -gift catalogue

Please quote reference 001167871/86

RAISING MONEY FOR OTHER CHARITIES AND US

Anyone can do something to raise money for us. We have sponsor forms etc where we normally ask that you also donate a percentage to a charity of your choice too.

DONATIONS TO OTHER CHARITIES

From the money collected donated. £25 to Little Hearts Matter and a separate cheque for £25 was made payable directly to them by a parent. £25 to Heartline and £25 to ECHO
www.lhm.org.uk
www.heartline.org.uk and
www.echo-at-guys.org.uk

VACANCIES

CHAIRPERSON TREASURER

As our second set of treasurer and chairperson are resigning again due to lack of time to commit to the posts, we would like to attempt to fill the positions with 2 people per post to share the workload. Anyone interested to help further the aims of the group can be a member or apply for either of these posts. Please apply to Donna Nevill stating a bit about yourself and why you would like to be involved.

FUTURE PLANS

Hold 2nd AGM-not able to hold this until some applications for the above posts have been made as it is at the AGM that the committee must vote for the applicants. Register as a Charity orientated parties Fundraising Events; Craft days

Please let me know if you are in a team that would be interested to Host or enter a football/darts/pool tournament. Design a wristband competition. Would you like to see hundreds of people wearing a wristband that you have designed?