



Welcome to Ronald McDonald House Camberwell

Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) is an independent Charity which aims to provide free 'home away from home' accommodation at hospitals across the UK, enabling families to stay close to their child and maintain a degree of normal family life.

Rainthorpes step out through the rain in aid of RMHC

The Rainthorpe family and friends, including 7yr old Luke who fell a mighty 25ft while tree climbing in June, braved the downpour to complete their fundraising charity walk from Farnborough to Aldershot and back again. A 27 strong group of walkers set off from the Farnborough McDonalds after enjoying a complimentary breakfast. They were armed with balloons, RMHC T-shirts, stamina and heaps of goodwill. They were supported by the local 'Radio Eagle', and the Farnborough local news team who were waiting for them at Aldershot. After a complimentary lunch at Aldershot McDonalds, the team set off back towards Farnborough. They managed to raise over £370. We are indebted to them and the Thatched Cottage Pub.



Earlier in the month Luke had an unexpected visitor on the ward when Ollly Murs popped in to say hello. Ollly, an X-factor finalist, was visiting the wards and spent a few moments chatting with Luke. The sponsored walk is just one of many events that the whole extended family is getting involved with, in their commitment to supporting RMHC and our new house.

Inspirational adventure: Cycling challenge – London to Paris

Kirsten Cooper's friendship with the Rowlands family and her support of their 'ARMS' fund, in memory of their daughter Alice, is the reason for Kirsten's new endeavour. On September 16th she will embark from Camberwell at 9.30 am on an epic journey that will test her ability to deal with challenges to the max. She plans to discover her map reading, route planning, accommodation booking and cycle maintenance skills on her own. She will finish her ride at the base of the Eiffel Tower, in Paris 3 days later – having ridden more than 250 miles. Our gratitude for your effort is beyond words.

If you can support her please go to her just giving page @ <http://www.justgiving.com/KirstenLouiseCooper>

Family Focus

Tommy Aaron Bayly was born prematurely at 33 weeks with gastrochisis and a perforated bowel which resulted in surgery just hours after his birth. Having a room with RMHC meant that Tommy's mum and dad were able to stay close to Tommy during his long 155 days on the Neonatal ward.. "Having people to talk to, supportive staff who were always there and families who were going through similar problems was really helpful and gave me hope", said mum Kim. Words cannot express how grateful we are for everything that RMHC gave us."

Tommy returned to the hospital for a shorter 8 day stay when he was nine months old to complete his bowel repair. The improvements he has made since leaving us are clear and wonderful to see.



Greek night of music in aid of RMHC

Pavlos and his band of gifted musicians, The Basso Remvasso, joined forces with the Plastikes Karekles to form a strong 17 member group for their concert in April at St. Ethelburga, a multi-faith peace and reconciliation centre. The concert raised £500 which Pavlos has donated to RMH Camberwell in recognition of the support and accommodation he and his partner Sarah received when his youngest daughter Laetitia was admitted in the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit at King's College Hospital

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According to Pavlos, seven month old Laetitia is now 'happy, healthy and very round, she laughs a lot and she is a joy for all of us. It is wonderful that both Laetitia and her older sister Aglaia, can now accompany us to most of our various concerts.' Pavlos hopes that this is the first of many such fundraising events in support of RMHC and our new house.

Family Focus

Georgia and Michael Scobie live in Ayrshire and came to stay with us when daughter Ava needed a Kasai operation at 8 weeks old. During the next 12 months Ava and her mum underwent assessments for a living related Liver transplant, which took place when Ava was just 18 months old.

The happy, healthy little girl, now enjoys nursery and is thriving despite her difficult start, something which can clearly be seen in her recent 'Red Nose' photo.



The Family have not forgotten their time at RMHC and recently raised £750 for us, which apart from helping other families with a child in hospital, has also resulted in a leaf on our Tree of Life with Ava's name inscribed. Georgia would like to thank all her old school friends and the family are also very grateful for the support of Marie and the patron's of The Ayrshire & Galloway Hotel, Ava's granddad's local.

Family focus

Ed Ripley romps home through the rain in the St. Albans half marathon, a challenge that has enabled him to undertake some serious fundraising on behalf of RMHC.

Ed and Sally's fourth child Hugo was born at 28 weeks suffering from chronic lung problems A difficult time for a family with 3 other children to care for, but which was greatly helped by their 58 day stay with us, just a stone's throw from the hospital.



Although the family previously supported us in 2009 they were yet again keen to show their gratitude and support for our cause with Dad Ed's recent event. Ed Ripley's 'Just Giving' site (<http://www.justgiving.com/Ed-Ripley>) has already raised in excess of £1000, which exceeds the impressive support his employers also contributed. A very warm and heartfelt thank you from all of us here at Camberwell for your effort and support.

Amana Leaves Kings

This remarkable family has been with us for 607 nights. They are now starting the next stage on their journey home by transferring to their local hospital in Oxford, while staying at our House in Oxford. Many of our families, who have come to know the inspirational couple, will wish them well. Why not leave a message on our Camberwell Facebook page for them?



Last but not least

Bob Rickman, our 'right-hand man', who is a constant support with all our housing issues, has also been a loyal financial supporter, raising nearly £300 with his regular 'Every Penny Counts' cash boxes.

Tree of life

One wonderful way to help support the work of RMHC is to add a personalised inscription of your child's name to the tree of life. This means that not only can you donate funds, but also get a leaf or bird plaque. To our growing tree we now can add George Burrows, Hugo Ripley, Jessica Rudwick and Luke Rainthorpe.



To all who contributed to this publication, my very sincere thanks - Maddi Jatter