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Always there for them

WellChild Children's Nurse Jo Bennett has been in her post based in Birmingham for the past three years and was the first WellChild Nurse. Here she tells us why she loves the job.

Jo Bennett is living proof that the money raised to support WellChild Nurses is put to good use – because she sees every day the brilliant impact that it has on seriously ill children and their families.

“The WellChild experience here in Birmingham has been very good all round because without WellChild there just wouldn't be anyone here for children's complex care,” she said.

She finds her work very fulfilling and is a firm believer that many sick children are better off cared for in their own homes rather than long term in hospital so she is very clear what her favourite part of the job is.

“The best thing for me about the job is that children are in hospital and what I do ultimately helps them to get home. I meet a family on the ward, organise their discharge and organise staff and other arrangements and eventually see the family go home.

“Children just thrive at home. When you see a child in hospital, then give them a few weeks or months at home they become much more independent, much more confident and lead some sort of normal life. They should not be in hospital for years on end when there's no real need.”

She believes her work improves the lives of the children and the families she supports.

“I get phone calls from them all the time – they rely on me,” she said.



Jo Bennett, Birmingham's WellChild Children's Nurse

“You are always there for them, organising things behind the scenes and they have us to contact and to visit them when they need it. That's very important especially when the child first comes home.”

Her role involves everything from assessing families to see if they need her help, looking at what kind of care and support they require, finding carers to help the child in the home and training carers and families in the kind of nursing skills they need to cope. She is always there to offer advice, guidance and practical help. Jo says she would not hesitate to recommend being a WellChild nurse to other nurses considering it.

“It's a fab role, you are very autonomous, which is lovely, but you get a great level of support from WellChild as well and get involved in all the good things that WellChild does. It is really rewarding with all the right support.”



The message that care for seriously ill children could be delivered at home rather than in hospital was heard loud and clear by MPs at a Parliamentary reception recently.

The event was organised by the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) and WellChild and hosted by Tom Clarke MP. Representatives of the RCN and WellChild, including WellChild Nurses, went to the House of Commons with parents and children to highlight the need for more community children's nurses to MPs and other health decision-makers.

One of the things that Better At Home is calling for is the Government to invest in community children's nurses to bridge the gap between hospital and community services for this vulnerable group of children.

A number of families with experience of having a child in hospital long-term told MPs their story. Teenager Toni Bewley who has spent three years in hospital and her parents spoke passionately about their experience. Ann Keen MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary for Health Services at the Department of Health, and Baroness Morgan of Drefelin, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department of Children Schools & Families, responded positively to the family's moving speech and committed to working with the RCN and WellChild to resolve some of the issues raised.

Following the reception the support from MPs has continued. Conservative MP Sir Nicholas Winterton who attended the reception, has raised the issue of the lack of community children's nurses at Prime Minister's Question Time. More than 80 MPs originally put their weight behind an Early Day Motion placed in support of the campaign and we expect this support to grow as the campaign continues to gather momentum.

Toni's view of MPs' reception

A full version of Toni Bewley's account of her visit appears on www.wellchild.org.uk/betterathomelatestnews.asp

I got the chance to go to London to the parliamentary reception which was held to launch WellChild and RCN's Better at Home campaign. The reception was held in Portcullis house, it was packed, including families of sick children, top people from children's organisations and lots of MPs. I was really pleased when Chris Ruane the MP for my area, Denbighshire, North Wales arrived to hear me and my family speak. I felt quite nervous but as my dad and then my mum spoke I relaxed. They talked about the lack of community nurses and staff and disjointed services that prevent us from getting home. I finished our speech by asking the people in the room to help me to get home.

When the speeches were over, Ann Keen spoke to me about the difficulties I had been having getting home and apologised on behalf of the Government, it was nice of her to show a personal interest. If Elaine my WellChild Nurse had not been involved with me I would not even be able to get home at the weekends.



Toni and her parents speak at the reception

WellChild is the national charity for sick children



England players kick off WellChild partnership

Pictured left is England and Everton defender Joleon Lescott on his visit to see the work of WellChild Children's Nurse Elaine Hardiman.

Joleon Lescott and Emile Heskey visit children being helped by WellChild



TEAM ENGLAND
FOOTBALLERS CHARITY

The stars of the England football team have made it their goal to support WellChild for the next 18 months through the Team England Footballers Charity.

Members of the team made a collective decision to set up their own charitable trust which will use the time, influence and reputation of the players to support charities including WellChild. Players will also be donating their match fees to the cause – right up to the World Cup in 2010.

And the partnership has already led to two big name England footballers visiting children helped by WellChild to cheer them up and learn how we help the children and families we support.

England and Aston Villa striker Emile Heskey joined WellChild Children's Nurse Jo Bennett and some of the children she cares for at the Wilson Stuart School and Sports College in Erdington, Birmingham

for the afternoon during April.

During the visit Emile said: "This is one of the schools WellChild help out so it's nice for some of the lads to come down and have a look at what's going on. The kids here are brilliant. We have met quite a lot of them and they were very enthusiastic about what they are learning here in the school."

And later in the month England and Everton defender Joleon Lescott joined WellChild Children's Nurse Elaine Hardiman and some of the children she cares for at the Transitional Care Unit at Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust in Liverpool.

Joleon spent six months in hospital as a child when he was hit by a car aged five, so he knew how the children and their parents felt.

"I know in my situation it was a hard time for my parents. I spent a long time in hospital but I was young and did not know any different.

"Having kids of my own has really brought

it home to me. If either of my boys suffered a serious injury or long-term illness I would be devastated."

WellChild Director of Communications Colin Dyer said the support of the England players is an exciting development for the charity and a big thrill for many of the children we support.

"We are incredibly grateful to the England players for choosing to support WellChild."

makro

STORE'S MAGNIFICENT EFFORT!

Staff from leading cash and carry firm Makro raised a remarkable £103,000 for WellChild during 2008 when we were the company's charity of the year.

Money was raised by the stores through a range of activities in aid of WellChild including sales of Spot the Dog zip-pulls. There were store fun-days which included charity stalls, sponsored head-shaves and body waxes. An in-store sponsored marathon was run by staff on treadmills at the Cardiff store. There was also a Christmas Wishes poster instead of staff sending each other individual Christmas cards, with the money saved going to WellChild.

The company also gave us support in kind in the form of refreshments provided for WellChild Awards 2008 and London Marathon 2008. At the end of the year Makro generously topped up the money raised by staff by match funding some of the amount.

facebook

WellChild's group on Facebook is proving a big hit, we currently have almost 500 members. To join simply log on to Facebook search for WellChild groups and join the group: **WellChild – the national charity for sick children.** Please ask all your Facebook friends to join our group too.

New nurses for Cardiff and Barrow!

We are delighted to announce that two new nurses will be added to our national network of WellChild Children's Nurses from this year – helping us to support even more children and young people with serious and long term complex illnesses and their families throughout the UK.

The two new nurses will be based in Cardiff and Barrow-in-Furness. Working in these two new areas will help us spread our reach significantly across the north of England and into Wales, so that we can help many more children, young people and their families.

One of the main priorities for the new WellChild Children's Nurses will be for them to work within their communities and with other healthcare professionals to help get children with serious and long term complex health needs home from hospital as soon as possible and reduce the need for them to have frequent hospital re-admissions. Many of these children have spent many weeks and months in hospital when with the right support and care they could be at home with their families.

The new nurses will also focus on the needs of the families, such as supporting them in times of crisis and training them in the use of special equipment that their children will need once they are at home. In addition they will be a point of contact to help families make sense of what can be a complex and confusing medical world.

WELL DONE TO OUR MARATHON HEROES!



Our fantastic London Marathon runners did themselves and us proud in the 2009 London Marathon and already we've had a lot of interest from runners wanting to take part for us next year.

Sunday April 26 saw our runners battling round the course on a hot and sunny day in central London and raising lots of money for sick children and their families in the process.

Every one of the 220 WellChild runners put in a brilliant display and our enthusiastic team of staff and volunteers made sure that they were cheered loudly round the course. Our runners were well looked after at the

end of the race with a reception at the Guards Museum including food and massages for tired legs.

Special mention must go to Robert Schooling of Warrington who ran the marathon in our massive Nessa the Nurse mascot costume, achieving the incredible time of five hours and attracting a huge amount of media and public support on the way.



Picture left shows Nessa the Nurse, kindly being helped round the course by Robert Schooling!



personal stories

WELLCHILD TRIP TO HMS GLOUCESTER

A group of seven sick children and their parents were invited on board HMS Gloucester on February 28 by WellChild. The trip around the Type 42 Destroyer was made even more special for the families because the ship is not open to the general public. Midshipman John Gabb and Sub-lieutenant Paul Day spent the morning guiding the excited children around the working naval ship where they had the chance to get a feel of what it is like to be part of the crew and took turns to sit in the Captain's chair.

Here's what Luke Biggs, aged 11 and Lizzie Lansey, aged 9 had to say about their day:

I had a great time with my family and others at the Portsmouth trip. We went on HMS Gloucester where two of the crew showed us around. We saw the big missile launcher and went up on the bridge and sat in the Captain's chair (apparently no-one else is allowed to sit there!) It was a very interesting day and my family and I really enjoyed it – thanks WellChild.

Luke

I had a fantastic day! John, our guide, told us lots of stories and told us what a sailor's compass was. I made a new friend, Solly. We got to eat lunch in the officer's mess, the deserts were mouth watering (I had to have seconds!) After lunch we went to look at the HMS Victory. It was very small and I could only just about stand up! We got to see where Lord Nelson slept, ate and gave his orders and I got to stand on the spot where he fell on the deck!

Lizzie

We make it easy for you to play your part

This newsletter shows just a sample of the work done by WellChild as we try to reach as many seriously ill children and young people in the country as we possibly can – and your help is vital.

Every donation, no matter how big or small, has a direct impact on the children and families we support, and there are countless ways that you can help.

Running a marathon or climbing a mountain may not be for you, but people from all walks of life use their own time to hold their own events – coffee mornings, cake sales, sponsored walks, dress down days, etc – to raise money.

WellChild is second to none when it comes to supporting people who choose to raise funds for us, and really will help as much as we possibly can. So, if you have an idea, just give us a call – the few pounds you raise might just make a world of difference.

To read Luke and Lizzie's full accounts of their day in Portsmouth go to www.wellchild.org.uk/news-latest.asp



WellChild Awards continue to grow

This year's WellChild awards will take place on Monday September 28th and nominations have been flooding in from people who want to celebrate courageous children and the caring professionals who look after them.

Last year's event was a huge success. The star-studded fourth annual WellChild Awards was attended once again by our Royal Patron Prince Harry and host of well-known celebrities helping to celebrate the amazing achievements of our winners. The 2008 winners in the Best Brave Child category, chosen by our judging panel from a record number of nominations, were all selected for their courage and good humour in the face of tremendous adversity.

Celebrities who attended included Duncan Bannatyne, GMTV's Kate Garraway, DIY SOS front man Nick Knowles and Newsnight's Emily Maitlis. All of the 2008 winners are shown in the tinted panel opposite. ▶▶



Our Royal Patron, Prince Harry with 2008 Award winners Lily Slater and Harvey Fleming.

The 2008 winners

BEST BRAVE CHILD

Harvey Fleming (aged five) from North Lincolnshire

Lily Slater (aged four) from Tyne and Wear

Lizzie Lansley (aged eight) from Southampton

Jordan Mount (aged eight) from Glasgow

Jade Arnell (aged 11) from the Wirral

Thomas Arrol (aged 10) from Cleveland

Anna-Mae Cole (aged 12) from Newton Abbott, Devon

Haydn Longworth (aged 14) from Cheadle in Cheshire

Toni Bewley (aged 18) from North Wales

Drew Wayment (aged 17) from Upper Belvedere, Kent

BEST CARING CHILD

Lloyd Michael Joiner (aged 15) from Chichester

Ellie Devereux-Roberts (aged 14) from the Wirral

BEST NURSE

Irene McArthur from Glasgow

BEST MEDICAL TEAM

The Star Project from Manchester

BEST DOCTOR

Dr Alan Bosley from North Devon

BEST COMMUNITY PRACTITIONER

Mary Lait from Lincoln

BEST ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONAL

Elizabeth Wilkinson Paediatric play specialist from Oxsted

BEST SCHOOL PROFESSIONAL

Trystan Williams Headteacher from Calne in Wiltshire



David Lloyd Leisure and Olympian Jodie Swallow show their support

WellChild is delighted to have been chosen as David Lloyd Leisure's nominated charity for 2009 – which includes a partnership with Olympic triathlete Jodie Swallow (pictured, left).

David Lloyd Leisure is the UK's leading racquets, health and fitness group with 78 clubs across the country, and they will be running several national events over the coming year to raise money for WellChild.

The biggest will take place in the summer when each of the 78 David Lloyd Leisure UK clubs hope to be represented by a participant in the London Triathlon. These novice triathletes will receive expert training advice from Olympic triathlete Jodie Swallow in the three months leading up to the event so they are in tip top shape to raise as much money as possible for WellChild.

Jodie, who started the season with a win in the Far East last month and is now a fully-fledged WellChild Patron,

said: "I am delighted to be working with David Lloyd Leisure and WellChild, and I hope that we can raise many thousands of pounds to support the amazing work which WellChild is doing across the country. I also hope that the activities we are working on within David Lloyd Leisure clubs will motivate people to get involved and benefit from a healthier lifestyle."

David Lloyd Leisure clubs have also run a Marathon gym challenge inviting members to "Pound the Ground" by donating one pound and running a mile to raise funds.



Platts Energy Dinner provides power to help the UK's sick children

Movers and shakers in the energy industry gathered for the annual Platts-sponsored Energy Dinner on Thursday April 30th – and raised an amazing £170,000 for WellChild.

The glamorous dinner was held at the InterContinental Hotel in Park Lane, London, and was once-again sponsored by Platts, the energy information arm of McGraw-Hill.

Platts President Larry Neal spoke at the start of the evening and set guests the ambitious target of raising £165,000 at the event – an amount which pays for one WellChild Children's Nurse for a lifetime of care.

Fundraising at the event included an auction with

lots including a Dali etching and a Matisse lithograph, tickets to the FA Cup final, a shirt signed by England Captain John Terry, another signed by Luis Figo and an exclusive chance to see the Red Arrows in action at their training base. In addition, there was a prize draw on the night with a chance to attend the Formula One Santander British Grand Prix at Silverstone.

The evening had a burlesque theme with entertainment from dancers, acrobats and a magician.

WellChild is always on the lookout for company support.

Why not nominate us as your company's charity of the year?

Early warning is a lifesaver



Dr Neil Dalton and his team are based at the Evelina Children's Hospital in London and carry out WellChild funded research into childhood diseases. Dr Dalton has recently been made the new Professor of Paediatric Biochemistry at King's College London.

FOR 25 years Dr Neil Dalton has carried out WellChild funded research and his legacy is the thousands of children and young adults whose life expectancy and quality of life has been improved as a result of his work.

His pioneering research on screening children and babies for disease has meant that thousands have had the benefit of an early warning system – allowing them to be successfully treated rather than falling prey to potentially debilitating or life threatening diseases.

The work of his team has covered a wide range of conditions including kidney disease, diabetes, developmental delay, epilepsy, autism, liver disease, brain injury, sickle cell disease, and a comprehensive range of inherited metabolic diseases.

The team has not concentrated on one thing but has covered a wide spectrum of childhood diseases – homing in on the areas where they can do the most good in much the same way as WellChild does in its work with sick children across the UK.

Dr Dalton is proud of his quarter century

in a WellChild endowed post – the anniversary comes up in December this year. And, looking back on the time he has spent on his research, he is adamant that it would not have been possible without the help of the charity and its supporters.

"It is amazing to have been involved in it for so long," he said.

"If we had not had this endowment from WellChild we would have found it very difficult to do the work we do because it is not easily fundable. Thanks to WellChild we had a laboratory facility and a guaranteed salary that meant we had something to hang everything on."

Dr Dalton is still very motivated by his work and enthusiastic about the future gains that his research can bring.

"What motivates me is the love of science and the opportunity to apply that science to the diagnosis and treatment of disease in children. That is the driver on a day to day basis but, in the end, there is enormous satisfaction in seeing the clinical benefits of our research in both children and adults who need our help."

WellChild research put to work

▶ Among the achievements of Dr Neil Dalton and his team is their research into the screening of newborn babies for inherited disease.

They were the first in the country to introduce routine newborn Tandem Mass Spectrometry screening in 1999 and it has led to a number of breakthroughs.

All babies have a heel prick blood test at between five and seven days of age. For years this was used to screen for only two diseases. Dr Dalton and his team have pioneered simple techniques to increase the number of diseases that can be detected.

Work in the WellChild laboratory led to a simplified test that detects an inherited disease, MCADD, which can cause a severe fall in blood sugar. This often resulted in brain damage or death. Fortunately, the new heel prick screening test means that children with MCADD are diagnosed very early and a simple glucose drink can save their lives.

Sickle Cell Anaemia is another serious condition for which children can be screened with more certainty using methods developed in the WellChild Laboratory. Tandem Mass Spectrometry is not just used for newborn screening but can provide very quick diagnostic results in children who are acutely sick.

Dr Dalton said of rapid Tandem Mass Spectrometry: "It's a very simple system and the key thing is that the physician knows straight away what the clinical problem is. I would say that in the UK and internationally we are pioneers."

▶ One of the most significant areas of research undertaken by Dr Dalton and his team, in collaboration with a team in Cambridge, has been into children with type 1 diabetes.

The team has been screening children with this type of illness for more than 20 years. Children who suffer from it face a very high risk of developing kidney disease and Dr Dalton's team is working to spot the children who are most at risk as early as possible. Early intervention might be able to prevent children and adolescents with type 1 diabetes from developing renal disease in later life.

To this end a major international study, the AddIT trial, is to be undertaken. 3,000 children with type 1 diabetes from the UK, Australia and Canada will be screened. Of these children, 500 at high risk of developing kidney disease will be consented to take part in the study to test the effects of drugs in preventing the kidney disease. The WellChild laboratory is the central laboratory for what is one of the largest intervention studies in children with type 1 diabetes.

GRAND OPENING FOR NEW CARE UNIT

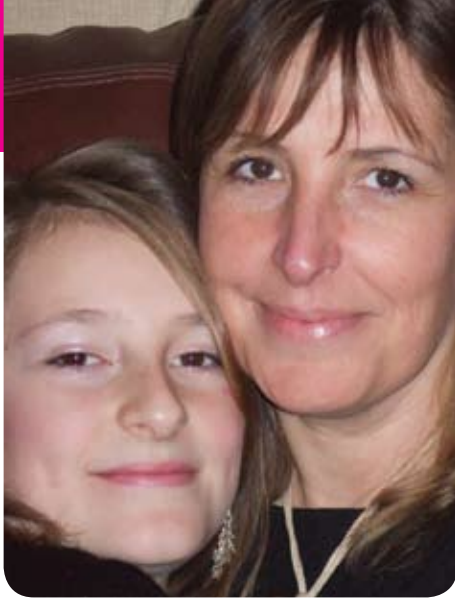


WellChild was delighted to take part in the official opening of the Transitional Care Unit at Alder Hey Children's Hospital for families whose children need ventilation 24 hours a day over a long period of time.

This unit within the Merseyside hospital is the next step for families preparing to go home. Many of WellChild Nurse Elaine Hardiman's patients are on the ward. In many cases the children have been on the intensive care unit for a long period so the unit provides a home from home and supportive environment which allows parents the time they need to learn how to care for their child. The unit was opened by Dr Sheila Shribman, National Clinical Director for Children, Young People and Maternity Services and there was an opportunity to meet some of the children and their families who are already benefiting from it.



WellChild
Research



Bryony Aveyard was only 11 years old when she was tragically struck down with a brain haemorrhage and died last year. Now her mum and dad are determined to raise as much money as possible for WellChild in her memory.

For the love of Bryony

Bryony was a sporty girl who played basketball so, as a fitting tribute to her, mum Katherine and dad Rob from York have put together a team of almost 30 runners to tackle the Great North Run in September 2009.

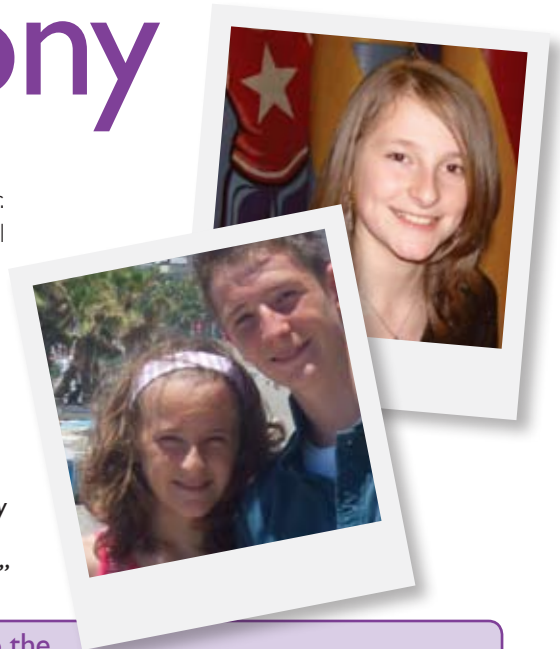
With this and other fundraising events they aim to raise an amazing £55,000 to support WellChild's work with sick children – enough to pay for a WellChild Nurse for a year.

They have a big programme of events planned for the next 12 months including a launch night at the David Lloyd gym in York, an auction, a quiz, coffee mornings and more.

And their team of runners will tackle the 13 mile Great North Run in September. Runners include Katherine and Rob as well as family and friends. Bryony's cousin will take part as well as her best friend's mum.

"We are doing this to give ourselves something to concentrate on and in memory of Bryony," said Kath Aveyard.

"We have had a lot of friends and family who wanted to do something to help us and we thought, since we have done a lot for charity before, that if they wanted to do something for us we'd like to do something to help WellChild."



If you'd like to make a donation to the 'For the Love of Bryony' fund, visit www.justgiving.com/bryonyaveyard

New research funded

WellChild is delighted to report that it is about to fund two new and very important medical research projects which will bring real benefit to children and young people in the years to come.

One of the research projects will be carried out by Dr Nadia Micali at King's College, London and will be a three year study of adolescent eating disorders. Eating disorders can start in early adolescence and the more serious and chronic forms can have the highest mortality rate of any mental health disorders in this age group.

Currently there is much uncertainty about what causes young people to develop eating disorders and the research will aim to identify the main causes and risk factors such as why, for example the pressure to lose weight, might cause an eating disorder to develop in some adolescents but not in others.

The second research project led by Dr Richard Reading at Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital will look at the incidence of sexually transmitted infections in children under 11. Though this is a very sensitive area to research it will be essential in identifying how widespread this problem is.

This study is also important because it will provide useful information and guidance to paediatricians as well as a wide range of professionals who work with these children.

Helping Hands hard at work

Our hard working Helping Hands team managed to complete three projects in March, improving the lives of sick children and their families.

In East Dulwich volunteers from Nokia helped out Joshua a three year old boy who was recently diagnosed as being autistic. Joshua's mum wanted to give him a stimulating and fun room to help engage with him, so WellChild and the team of volunteers from Nokia decided to help. We managed to re-paint the whole room, put up new curtains and a shelf, paint two mural walls and provide themed items for the room.



Helping Hands also created a new garden for Connor and his family in Heanor with the help of volunteers from Experian. Connor has Leukaemia and has had extensive treatment to keep this at bay. He is currently waiting for a bone marrow transplant.



In Ashton-Under-Lyne we completed a garden makeover for Cameron and his family with the help of Business in the Community, Manchester. Cameron has a brain tumour and brain damage. He can no longer walk, talk or move for himself and relies totally on the care of his parents. Cameron's mum Kimberly said: "We are so grateful for everything the team have done for us. Cameron loves his new back garden."



WellChild Support

Seasonal dates!

Cotswold Summer Fair 3 & 4 JUNE 2009

Make sure you don't miss our wonderful Cotswold Summer Fair in June which will be held in the beautiful surroundings of Bourton House, Bourton-on-the-Hill.

More than 70 stalls will sell everything from clothes and accessories to items for the home and garden. Lunch will be available. The historic gardens at Bourton House will also be open. The event takes place on Wednesday June 3 from noon to 6.30pm and Thursday June 4 from 10am to 4pm. Entrance is £5 with proceeds to WellChild. There will also be an evening event on Wednesday June 3, featuring a pig roast and music provided by Cheltenham Music Festival. Evening tickets are £15.

Ozleworth Park Estate Open Garden and Family Fun Day 9 AUGUST 2009

WellChild is inviting you to spend an afternoon among the flowers in the beautiful 12 acre garden of Ozleworth Park Estate in Gloucestershire on August 9.

The gardens near Wotton-Under-Edge will be open to the public and there will be a programme of family events. Ozleworth Park Estate, owned by Mr and Mrs Stone, has been restored over a period of 16 years and includes flowers and vegetable plots, greenhouse woodland and more. Tickets are £4.

**FOR INFORMATION ON ALL EVENTS,
VISIT www.wellchild.org.uk**

ORCHESTRA OF THE AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT & HARRY ENFIELD IN A Handel Celebration 4 JULY 2009



The HSBC Cheltenham Music Festival and WellChild are partners in a unique and exciting concert at the festival on July 4.

In 'A Handel Celebration' The Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment come to Cheltenham with a blazing, surround-sound corps of sixteen trumpets, stunning soloists and a programme of favourite choruses. They are joined by the formidable acting talents of Harry Enfield in the narrative role of Handel. The full breadth of Handel's genius will be explored in this stunning concert held in association with WellChild.

The HSBC Cheltenham Music Festival is proud to support WellChild's valuable work and will hold a champagne reception alongside A Handel Celebration as a special WellChild fundraiser.

HSBC 
CHELTENHAMFESTIVALS
MUSIC09

Tickets cost from £5 to £50 for the champagne reception tickets Festival Box Office: **0844 576 7979**.
You can also visit the festival website at cheltenhamfestivals.com/music

Why not organise your own challenge to support WellChild? However you choose to rise to the challenge you'll have our support all the way.

In April Richard Carlisle and David Snell, and a team from Kelly College took part in the Devises to Westminster Canoe Marathon and in August, Graeme Walsingham will attempt to swim the channel – visit www.justgiving.com/graemewalsingham

ANY CHALLENGE, LARGE OR SMALL CAN HELP THE WELLCHILD CAUSE!

TO HELP
RAISE MONEY
FOR WELLCHILD
WITH YOUR OWN
CHALLENGE EVENT,
CALL KARL ON
**0845
458 8171**

CHALLENGE EVENTS

BERLIN MARATHON 20TH SEPTEMBER 2009

Places are available in this prestigious event. There is no registration fee and no fundraising target – just raise what you can for WellChild!



Printed on chlorine free and environmentally friendly paper, manufactured with pulp supplied from sustainable managed forests

WellChild is the national charity for sick children. We help seriously ill children and their families throughout the UK focusing on care, support and research.

Thank you

Special thanks to everyone who has helped WellChild over the last few months. While we can't thank everybody individually some of you are shown below:

- Our continuing thanks go to former WellChild Chairman Dr John Padfield and his wife Mrs Jo Padfield whose generosity has funded the first three years of our WellChild Children's Nurse post in Cambridge. That post has just reached the end of a very successful first year.
- Laura Flanighan for continuing to support us following the sad death of her fiancée Simon Homigold who ran the London Marathon for us in 2006. Laura organised a second darts night in Simon's memory raising £410 for WellChild in what she hopes will become an annual event.
- Speedy Hire for giving us free tools to use in our Helping Hands projects which benefit sick children and their families. The company is always willing to help and very quick off the mark too.
- The hard working group of pupils from Leeds Grammar School in Yorkshire who set up a company called Handmade which made hoodies – and donated all the profits they raised to WellChild. They carried out the project as part of the Young Enterprise event which challenges 16 year old pupils to form their own company. The result was a fantastic total of £1,420 for WellChild.
- Four trusts who have all recently made substantial donations towards our WellChild Children's Nurses: The Rayne Foundation, The Eveson Charitable Trust, The Barbara Ward Children's Foundation and The Childwick Trust.
- The Rotary Club of Wallingford who raised £613 from their card evening.
- The 2009 PC Retail Awards for selecting WellChild as their beneficiary charity.
- Steve Lawton from New Look who managed to complete the London Marathon in 3 hours, 41 minutes – a fantastic achievement!
- The Property Managers Association who raised £8,000 during their annual Christmas lunch.
- Aldi, South West region who are supporting WellChild through gifts in kind donations and raffle/auction prizes.
- Next for sponsoring the Best Brave Child 16+ category at the 2008 WellChild Awards – also provided goody bags and vouchers to all of the child award winners.
- Procter & Gamble who ran a campaign in partnership with WellChild in the UK Makro stores in September 2008 raising £65K.
- The PricewaterhouseCoopers-sponsored PLC Awards in March 2009 which raised £2,500.
- Simplyhealth for their continued support of WellChild and generous donation of £25,000 in December 2008.
- The Olympia International Horse show chose us as its official charity for 2008. We were able to raise more than £4,000 during the seven-day event.
- Renishaw for its long-standing support of WellChild and recent donation.
- OAS West Midlands which raised £10,000 from its 2008 events bringing its total support for WellChild during the term of our partnership to more than £100,000!



WellChild 
the national charity for sick children