

Care at Home for local children with life threatening or terminal illnesses, providing nursing, emotional & financial support for their families

PRESIDENT
Mrs Geraldine Hamilton

CHAIRMAN & CO-FOUNDER
Di Levantine

OFFICE MANAGER
Jo Rule

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(Limited by guarantee)

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SNOWDROP CARE AT HOME TEAM

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FAMILY SUPPORT
COUNSELLORS
Phil Portway
Annette Lawrence-Owen

Snowdrop Room
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Co-Founder & Co-Chairman Kate Shaw Retires

In 1993 Kate Shaw and Di Levantine founded The Sussex Snowdrop Trust, and for the next 15 years they were the unpaid Fundraisers/ Managers/ Chairmen of this unique charity. For personal reasons Kate has made the decision to step down as Co-Chairman, which was of course a great sadness to everyone who had worked with her over the years.

From 1993 to 2005 Kate and Di ran the charity together, sharing their passion and enthusiasm. They talked daily, if not hourly, during the early days as they set up the charity. Kate is a dedicated and knowledgeable gardener, and when a name for the charity was being sought, Kate looked in one of her huge library of gardening books and came up with 'Snowdrop'. In the language of flowers it means 'Hope and Consolation'. It was agreed that this was perfect.

After their Co-Founder and Treasurer Frank



Snell died, Kate took over the charity's financial affairs. She acknowledged donations, banked all monies, liaised with the charity's accountant, was responsible for money matters concerning the Snowdrop families, and ordered and stored all Snowdrop saleable items, including Christmas cards in her house.

2 years ago the decision was made to rent an office so that the charity could have a permanent base and continue when either of the Co-Chairmen retired. This has proved to be a good move and the office is now manned by the Office Manager, Jo Rule, on a full time basis.

In 2005 they were honoured to receive The Queen's Jubilee Award for Voluntary Services and were invited for tea at The Palace! Earlier this year they were presented with the Chichester County Council Civic Award for their work with Snowdrop. Kate remains as a Trustee and will continue to help at events whenever possible.

Bone Marrow Transplant Success for Triplet

Last Summer, Mat Baker, who lives with his family in Walberton, was diagnosed with aplastic anaemia. Since then he has successfully received a bone marrow transplant from one of his brothers and is on his way to a full recovery.

Mat was admitted to Great Ormond Street in August '07 and had to stay in isolation for many weeks. It was thought that he would benefit from having a laptop computer with a webcam so that he could keep in contact with his family at home. Snowdrop provided Mat with a laptop so that he could take it

with him into hospital. It proved to be a great success as he was allowed to take it into his isolation room and he could actually



Photo by Kate Shemlit from The Chichester Observer

see his brothers, sister and parents via the webcam. Since his transplant Mat regularly attends out patient appointments

at Great Ormond Street. Snowdrop Nurses have frequently visited the Bakers at their home, and keep in contact with the family.

When Mat first became ill, the triplets were in the top class at Walberton & Binsted Primary C/E School, and in September 2007 his brothers started at Westergate Community School. Mat has recently joined his brothers and is now going to school full time.

Mat's father recently took part in a Triathlon and raised an unbelievable **£7,142** for Snowdrop, for which the charity is extremely grateful.

Hair Stylists Organize a 'Hair Spectacular' for Snowdrop – Organ recital



The most eye catching, stylish and elegant hair fashions went on the cat-walk at the Chichester Lawn Tennis & Squash Club. The beautiful young models and Hair Stylists gave up their free time to provide the guests with a very entertaining and informative evening,

which was incredibly well and efficiently organised by Kelly and the Team from Creations Hair Salon. The evening, along with some wonderful raffle prizes raised £715

REGIS ORGAN & KEYBOARD CLUB

The Sound of gentle foot tapping was heard during a wonderful evenings' musical entertainment organised by the Regis Organ & Keyboard Club. Special re-

quests for old favourites were played by the talented husband and wife duo. The evening was well attended and enjoyed by everybody. Their fundraising efforts raised the incredible amount of £1,078 which was presented to the Snowdrop's Chairman after the performance.

Rita Hope Trustee

Bosham artist and friends support Snowdrop

Local Bosham artist, Jan Guest, and her fellow artist friends, held an Exhibition and Sale at her lovely old cottage over a weekend in November. All the artists very generously donated a piece of their wares for a wonderful raffle, held in aid of the Sussex Snowdrop Trust. Members of the Snowdrop Committee



were at the Exhibition over the weekend, selling raffle tickets and talking to visitors. We all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves as we looked at, and bought!, beautiful pieces of jewellery, art and other artefacts. With a percentage of sales and the raffle, the exhibition raised an amazing £1,765. We are very grateful to Jan and her friends for adopting

Youngsters play war games for 24 hours non stop & raise £680

Snowdrop as their chosen charity.

Val Seddon Trustee

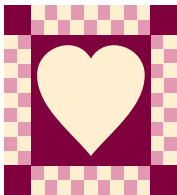
Youngsters come from as far a field as Worthing, Chichester and Walber-



ton to meet up every Saturday in the Walberton Pavilion, to challenge each other to War Games. Special dices are thrown and battle commences. Over a 24 hour period they played non stop, and in the process raised a fantastic £680 in sponsorship. The organiser, Mike Roddham, encour-

Quilters Exhibition at St Paul's Church Chichester

Our good friends, **The Chichester Quilters**, once again held their annual show at St Paul's Church in Chichester last October, which benefited Snowdrop. Tickets for a quilt raffle had been sold over many months which made **£584** for Snowdrop, and the raffle was drawn at the close of the exhibition.



On the morning I arrived, the sun was shining through the windows, and as the church had recently been freshly painted, it was a perfect setting for the Quilters' Show. The Quilters and their helpers had worked hard to remove and stack the congregation chairs in order to create the required large open space. The Quilts themselves were expertly displayed so that the intricate and interesting patterns, as well as the skilful use of colours, were shown to the full. Our thanks go to Judy Marjoram (Chairwoman) and the Members of the Chichester Quilters for choosing Snowdrop to benefit from their hard work. *Elizabeth Edwards Trustee*

Sue & Neil Edden's Garden of Snowdrops



This lovely spring garden has been open for the Garden Scheme since 2000 & Sue and Neil have invited Snowdrop take part for the last 5 years. The total raised this year was a wonderful £1431. £975 from teas, a percentage of the entry money & 10% the sales

from the various craft & plant stalls & £456 from the Snowdrop sales table. Sue & Neil started their garden from scratch in 1990, and opened it to the public

10 years later. Sue is adding many different varieties of Snowdrop each year. Vision, passion and very hard work was their mission statement and you can wonder at the growth of this charming garden browsing through Sue's scrapbooks over coffee. The flock of Super-Model Pekin Bantams pose elegantly around the garden and a look from Sue is enough to control their activities in the flower beds! Sue's friendliness in answering questions from old and young visitors, as well as the Treasure Hunt supplied for the young, make it a family day to treasure. If you haven't been yet, come next year. We are proud to be part of this enterprise and thank Sue & Neil for their generous support. *Geraldine Hamilton President*

The Little Holland Pancake House - Aldwick

This delightful family business in Aldwick opened its doors on a Sunday in March to sell delicious pancakes for Snowdrop. Charging £1 a pancake, the owners served 67 during a 2 hour period! **£845** has already been donated to Snowdrop from this event and from all the tips given to the staff since the New Year. They have also pledged to donate all tips for the rest of the year to the charity. 'Little Holland' is going to be open again for Snowdrop on **8th June, 14th Sept & 14th December 1 to 3p.m.** Please put it in your diary



A fabulous Easter Party for Snowdrop children & their families -82 children & 94 adults! was held at The Venue. The food was donated & served by Sean & Natalie Forry from FFFOccasions, their sons & other family members. Rainbow Theatre acted out 2 fairy tales. Easter eggs were given by The Wayfarers Masonic Lodge The Party was sponsored by Stamford Stoddard of Beaver Tools. Thank you to everyone

Questions that are asked about The Sussex Snowdrop-Trust

WHO does it help? Local children aged 0-19 yr. olds that have been diagnosed with a life threatening illness. There are 76 such children that The Trust is able to help

WHAT illnesses do they suffer from? Any life threatening illness e.g. cancer, leukaemia, birth abnormalities -sometimes of heart and lung, , cystic fibrosis, muscular dystrophy and sclerosis, Duchennes, Battens and other very rare diseases.

WHERE do these children live? In the area between Emsworth-Chichester-Selsey– Bognor Regis-Middleton-Arundel-Petworth-Midhurst. (Plus a few outlying villages)

HOW does The Sussex Snowdrop Trust help? By providing-
Community Paediatric Nurses

Who help families by nursing, supporting, advising and enabling parents to have the confidence to care for their child at home.

Sadly a few children do become terminally ill, and most parents want to care for their child themselves, in the privacy and familiar surroundings of their own home.

With the support of the

Snowdrop Care at Home Team, this has always been possible.

Nurse Support Workers Who help with transport, respite for mothers & so much more

'Snowdrop' Volunteers & Volunteer Co-Ordinator The volunteers befriend the families & help with travelling, babysitting & in many other ways

Family Support Counsellors who are friends & confidants for many parents & children.

Household bills and equipment e.g. washing machines, tumble dryers, refrigerators to store special medicines, computers to enable children to

The charity spends approx. £220,000 annually on direct care for these special families... for the Snowdrop Team and for the crucial financial help it is able to give to parents, coping with the day to day problems of caring for a very sick child. The financial problems that parents have, can be overwhelming, possibly the last straw. The Trust receives no help from the Government and depends on the support of this community- schools, clubs, church groups, Trusts, organisations and individuals. Every penny is appreciated and needed for Snowdrop to be able to continue to provide this vital help.

Please can you help us to help these children and their families ?

I enclose £.....

Please make cheques payable to

The Sussex Snowdrop Trust

Name

Address

.....

.....P/code.....

Send to The Sussex Snowdrop Trust,

3, Kingley Centre West Stoke PO18

9HJ gift aid forms can be supplied if requested

Good-bye to Jenny and Tricia and welcome to Annette Lawrence Owen

Jenny Bush our Family Volunteer Co-ordinator is retiring after being in post for the past 10 years, and has developed the Family Volunteer Team so much over this time. Families and volunteers have benefited from her friendly manner, discretion, approachability and dedication. When Jenny joined Snowdrop she worked one day a week and then as the number of volunteers grew, she took on another full day's work. She has provided the key stone for the Vol. Team and many volunteers have remained with the charity since it was founded. This says everything about how they have felt appreciated and valued by Jenny, The Trust and the families that they have been involved with.

Jenny's job is very complex. She not only interviewed every new Volunteer who applied to work with Snowdrop families, she also met 'Snowdrop' parents so that she could evaluate their needs. Matching Volunteers with a family is a very skilled job and requires a person that is intuitive and sensitive. This Jenny has in bucket fulls!

Over the years she has organised training days, Volunteers lunches so that they could meet other volunteers, and Jenny also invited a suitable speaker to talk about a topic relevant to their work. She was their friend and confidant. We will miss her so much and we hope that she will keep in touch and will also continue to come to Snowdrop events.



As she collects her pension and looks for a volunteering job to keep her out of mischief, all of us at Snowdrop thank her for heading our Volunteers and making us so proud of the service that has been available to parents. The Volunteers make a huge difference, to mothers in particular, as they try to cope with the problems that caring for a seriously ill child inevitably brings.

Tricia Wellings, the Snowdrop Art Therapy Nurse is leaving us

after 3 years. Tricia worked with many 'Snowdrop' children and their siblings and they benefited so much from her kindness and specialist therapy. Last year Trish organised an art exhibition of their work in her own home, which all of the children really appreciated. She was an artist before she trained as a children's nurse at Great Ormond Street, and although she continues to work on the baby unit at St Richards she is going to devote more time to her very suc-



Welcome to Annette Lawrence - Owen Snowdrop Family Support Counsellor

Annette is joining The Snowdrop Care at Home Team in April and will be a very welcome addition to the Trust. Phil Portway, has been the only Counsellor working with Snowdrop families since we sadly lost Pat Camilleri, and he is particularly looking forward to her arrival. The Chairmen knew Annette when the Bereavement Group was set up many years ago and she has worked as a Counsellor with local families when there has been a 'sudden death' of a child or young person. She has also been a Health Visitor and a Children's Nurse. We warmly welcome her and look forward to Annette joining The Team.

FUTURE FUNDRAISERS

THE 2008 FLORA LONDON MARATHON - Sunday, 13 April 2008

Simon Wagstaff and Nick Casburn are running the Flora London Marathon for Snowdrop. Please will you sponsor them on www.justgiving.com or send sponsor money to the office, with details

LITTLE HOLLAND DUTCH PANCAKE RESTAURANT details on page 2

CHARITY FASHION SHOW—

Jacques Vert, 70 North Street, Chichester Organized by Bognor Regis Lions Club Thursday, 3 April 7.00 for 7.30pm Tickets £10 (inc. wine + nibbles) from Jacques Vert or Dottie Pridie 01243 265939

EAST DEAN GARDEN 25/26 May

Louis & Gerry Adams invite you to the exquisite **Roundhill Cottage** Garden open 2-5 Teas served by Committee

ANNUAL CHARITY WALK -

Sunday, May 11th - Arundel Castle Park Walk between 2.00 - 3.30pm Sponsor Forms from office & web site

STRICTLY CRAFT - 24 & 25 May '08

West Wittering Memorial Hall 10.00 'till 4.00pm Snowdrop goods on sale

ALDWICK PRESERVATION

SOCIETY - GARDEN PARTY 21 June 52 Barrack Lane - Snowdrop goods on sale

VARIETY SHOW 28 June '08

(External Organiser) @ Barnham details on www.thesussexsnowdroptrust.com

SUMMER BALL 12 July (External

Organiser) @ Chichester Yacht Club (tickets at office and from 01243 268849)

LUNCH IN AN ENGLISH GARDEN NR ARUNDEL - 2ND JULY

by kind invitation of Mr & Mrs Newman tickets and details from Snowdrop office

SCULPTURE AT GOODWOOD 26 JULY

by kind invitation of Mr & Mrs Cass 6 p.m. Canpes and 'bubbly' and a chance to see the remarkable sculptures

SELSEY QUILTERS - PATCHWORK & QUILT SHOW—

22, 23 & 24 August 2008 Medmerry School, Selsey 10.00am - 5.00pm

TALK with Slides on 'Chichester Harbour' by Richard Williamson, well known local naturalist and author. +

Buffet diner 27 September '08 -7.00pm Chichester Yacht Club, Birdham - Tickets available in August

If you would like to attend any of these events please phone 01243 572433 for information

Thank you to just a few of the generous Snowdrop supporters

including **Richard Watson** who took part in a Sponsored Walk and raised **£554*** **West Wittering Church** who again supported Snowdrop and gave us **£250*** **Walberton & Binsted C/E School -£238** from collections at their Harvest & **£889** Nativity- *Thank you to all the staff, parents and children** **St Andrew's P.C.C. Oving** sent **£200*** **£308** was given by **Briony Wray** who sells the clowns that she makes * **Warninglylid Tennis Club** gave Snowdrop **£500*** **Harting Stoolball Club** **£465*** The amazing **Chichester County Hall Amateur Dramatics** raised **£1,000** from their Adams Family Production* **Petworth Players** have been very supportive and organised raffles at their Christmas Pantomime, from which they raised **£370*** **The incredible Arundel Players** performed the musical of Charlie Brown after rehearsing for 24 hours non stop. With a raffle and the ticket sales they donated a staggering **£1,000*** from Coffee Mornings -**Audrey Sampey** made



£426.78* **Elizabeth Potter** **£285*** and **Lois Jowett** **£438.**thank you ladies as it takes a lot of organising and

home upheaval! ***The Chichester Chamber of Commerce** ran a raffle at their most enjoyable Greek Night and raised **£300** for the charity * **Lindsey Macey** collected **£500** in sponsorship from her **Parachute Jump** and another energetic supporter **Jennifer Warwick** donated **£3,100** after taking part in the **Lochness Marathon*** * Many Churches have been very kind, including Carol Service collections at **Southbourne**



Church **£279.80** & **£400** collected by **Tillington All Hal-lows Church*** **£500** donated by members of **St Peter's Church**

Selsey* a Ball at **Gt. Ballard School** raised a wonderful donation of **£515*** **Southbourne Infant School** sent **£315.69*** we received **£2,850** from **Chichester Observer Newspapers** from their on line advertising, with which 2 oxymeters and a syringe driver were bought to be used for Snowdrop children * **Robert Houghton** again supported Snowdrop on his motor bike having taken part in an Endurance Race to raise **£250***



A fabulous **Fashion Show and auction** was put on by **Therapy4feet** in Petworth and Snowdrop was delighted to receive **£1,000** from the evening* **B/Regis Rotary (Penguin Club)** sent **£1,606*** **The Cowdray Golfing Seniors** put out a collecting bowl at the end of every monthly meeting and over the year an unbelievable **£2185** was raised for The Trust * Snowdrop Collecting Boxes are left at strategic places .. Shops and offices etc. & **Mrs Patel at Rose Green Post Office** rings the office at frequent intervals to ask Jo to collect it when it is full-**£255** was collected over the year * **Staples** customers are also very generous and **£240** was put in their boxes and **£257** from **Chichester Sainsbury's Petrol Station boxes*** **J & D Jewellers in B/Regis** collected **£125*** **£405** was sent by **Mr Stretch** who took part in the Paris to Hayling Cycle Ride for which we are truly grateful* and more fit supporters **Marie and Stuart Hood**, took part in the Norwich Half Marathon and generously sent **£900*** The stalwart helpers at the **Walberton Coffee Mornings** in Belindas Studio have chosen to support Snowdrop again this year. Last year they raised **£496** for the Trust which is a superb amount* **Bosham Dental Lab** sent a donation of **£300*** **£410** received from **Samantha Watson**, Family & Friends following a **Charity Clay Pigeon Shoot** in memory of her late Fiance '**Carte Blanche**' have been very generous and donated raffle prizes, teddy bears for Snowdrop children at Christmas and for the Easter Party plus a gift of **£500** raised at their in-house sale of



bears *£150 was given by **Freemasons** from **Itchen Cork Lodge & Lodge of Union No 38** donated **£500**

* and last but not least the **Girls night out Night out in Selsey**

raised **£300***

The Snowdrop Trust and all the families that are helped by The Trust, really appreciate the generosity of everyone who supports the charity

Di Levantine Editor

MARYANNE SCHOOL OF DANCING MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA -

Once again a very special event - well attended and very entertaining. Our thanks go to Wendy Griffiths, her helpers and all of the children taking part in the two performances. Over **£1,700** was raised from this dancing extravaganza.



CHANTRY HOUSE Furniture Shop in North Street raffled a beautiful oak table and chairs to raise funds for The Snowdrop Trust. The lucky winner bought their ticket on the morning of the draw! A magnificent **£ 520** was given to Snowdrop from this raffle and a promise that the shop will continue to support The Trust.