

Childhood First

Greenfields

Spring 2013-Issue 3

Warmest greetings from all at Greenfields Friends and Childhood First. We hope to keep you more closely in touch with what is happening with Greenfields Friends, the work of Childhood First in Kent and how we are progressing.

Situated in the heart of Kent, **Greenfields** House and School provide year-round specialist care, education and treatment for children aged 5 to 13 years old.

is part of a pioneering children at risk of out of the justice



systems, as a result of the severe emotional trauma they have suffered because of neglect and abuse.

Greenfields **Childhood First**, charity that helps a lifetime in and and psychiatric

The Gables is a residential therapeutic community and special school Greenfields, for aged 10 to 16 specialise in the children with result of difficulties rooted in early life trauma and abuse.



next door to up to 5 children, years old. They will treatment of problems as a attachment

020 3326 4755

support@childhoodfirst.org.uk

www.childhoodfirst.org.uk

Charity No. 286909

Our Lead Committee:

*Sarah Scarratt, Chair *Catriona Prest, Secretary *Deirdre Massey
*Amanda Petch *Marylyn Bacon *Natacha Woods *Sarah Dean
*Nikki Taylor *Holly de la Nougeréde (Head Office)

Recent Events

The Gables Launch



On Tuesday 23rd October 2012, 40 people came to the opening of The Gables; including the Greenfields Friends, our Trustees, local authority professionals and Childhood First head office staff.

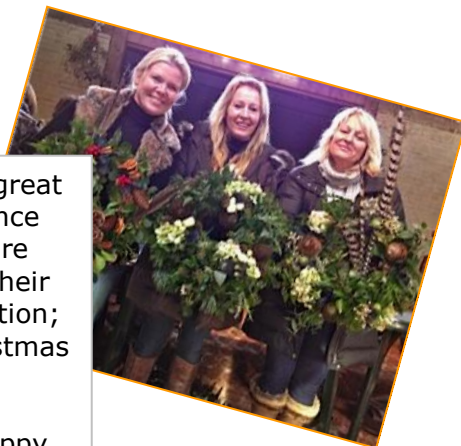
After taking tours of the new building, guests enjoyed hearing from Roger Stephenson (pictured above left); Business Development Director and Peregrine Massey.

Everyone headed out to watch the ribbon cutting at the front door (pictured above right) by Tim Bacon, Marylyn Bacon and Peregrine Massey, Patrons of Childhood First. Then they returned inside for a drink and bite to eat.

Wreath Making

The Lead committee organised a great event on 3rd December 2012. Once again Amanda Taggart and Claire Dunning from Jolly Lovely gave their time to give an expert demonstration; 13 people came to get in the Christmas spirit and raised **£770!**

Pictured here are three of the happy wreath makers



Late Summer Lunch



A Late Summer Lunch was held in Hawkhurst on 10th September, organised by the Lead and sub committee and by kind permission of Tom and Catriona Prest.

The sales of the tickets and a raffle on the day raised a fantastic **£3,158.06**



Store Cupboard Canapés

37 people attended this demonstration in November, held in barn at Owley by kind permission of Mr John Elkington and Ms Kate Whyld and organised by the committee.

Coffee, ginger cake, biscuits and a glass of wine were served on arrival. The canapés were tasted at the end of the demonstration and a fabulous **£1,030** was raised.

Our grateful thanks to all involved in

- ✚ The Boldshaves Garden Walk, raising **£138**
- ✚ The Late Summer Lunch raising **£3,158.06**
- ✚ The Hedgehoppers in September, raising **£1,250**
- ✚ The Wedding Flower Workshop hosted by Sheila Hume, raising **£495**
- ✚ The Coffee morning in October, raising **£300**
- ✚ The Benenden Tennis Tournament in July, raising **£500**
- ✚ The Store Cupboard Canapés workshop in November and raising **£1,030**
- ✚ The Coffee morning in November hosted by Sarah Dean, raising **£300**
- ✚ The Cookery workshop, raising **£505**

✚ The Wreath-making day, raising **£770**

✚ The Carol Singing in Hamstreet, Kent in December, raising **£50**

✚ The Christmas Fair and Carol Concert at *Marlborough House School*, thank you to all the Students and Teachers who raised **£4,483.62**

✚ The donation of **£6,000** for The Gables, from the *Clarkson Jersey Charitable Trust*

✚ And finally, thank you to all those who have become Greenfields Sponsors for their continuing generosity.

Charity Of The Year Success!



We are thrilled to announce, because of the fantastic work of The Greenfields Friends; Childhood First has been named **Talbot Underwriting Ltd's Charity of the Year**. We look forward to working with them in the coming months.

Dates for your diary

+ **Magical Evening with drinks and canapés**

Monday 3rd June

The evening will start with a tour of the gardens followed by drinks and canapés and then a magic show by Bertie Pearce. There will also be the chance to take part in a raffle and hear from Mr Stephen Blunden; the Chief Executive of Childhood First. Tickets will be £25 per person.

+ **Aquarelle Classical Guitar Quartet**

Godinton House – Saturday 23rd November

To be held in Godinton Hall; this black tie event will allow guests to enjoy drinks and canapés and then sit and take in the classical concert. Guests will also get the opportunity to take part in a auction draw and then hear from Mr Stephen Blunden. Tickets will be £45 per person.

+ **Wreath making - Friday 6th December**

Following the success of the previous wreath making days; this will take place again. This year we will have the chance to hear from Mr Peregrine Massey.

+ **Challenge Events - Year Round**

There are places in: the Virgin London Marathon in April, 10K runs in May and July, The London Triathlon in July, Run to the Beat Half Marathon in September, Santa Run in December and Trek for Children in April 2014.

+ **Capital Appeal - Over the next 5 years**

Please see the following page for details

Fundraising Appeal

Childhood First has over 40 years experience of providing unique and successful therapeutic residential care, education and treatment to some of the most severely emotionally and psychologically disturbed children and young people in the UK.

Unfortunately, the number of **children in care** in the UK rose significantly in 2012 from **65,520 to 67,050**. We therefore anticipate continued increasing demand for our services and are **launching a major appeal**, to raise **£3 million over the next 5 years**, to further expand these services. This includes building a new school for 20 children and providing 5 additional beds.

The day to day **costs of children's placements** are met by the state, **however this does not pay** for the development of **the specialist therapeutic facilities** that allow us to care for, educate and treat these children and young people on their behalf. This means that, for every specialist therapeutic `bed` and `school desk` we can provide, the state will pay the children's occupancy fees.

Our calculations therefore suggest that, for funds spent on extending Childhood First facilities for additional placements, we turn every **£1** donated into £100 of state funding that provides **£1000 of benefit** to traumatised children. In addition for every child who has been seriously damaged by abuse and neglect and whose life we can turn around, enormous lifetime savings are made for the public purse, by avoiding a life in and out of prison, courts, health services and psychiatric hospitals.

How can you get involved?

Fundraising activity to support the appeal will focus on generating donations from **charitable trusts, statutory funders, individuals** and **major donors** in **Kent**. We will also be looking to local companies for support and for individuals to raise funds by participating in challenge events, (marathons, cycle races and sky dives) for us. In addition we will be encouraging people to consider leaving a **legacy** to Childhood First to enable us to continue to expand our facilities and services into the future. If you are interested in supporting childhood first in any of the capacities detailed above please email events@childhoodfirst.org.uk



You can make a big difference to the lives of some of the UK's most vulnerable children with Greenfields Friends and Childhood First. There are many ways that you can get involved.



The **Greenfields Friends Committee** help the charity in a wide variety of ways. They help us to **raise awareness** about the charity and our life-saving work in Kent. They help us to **widen** our network of Friends and supporters. They lend us their **professional expertise** to help the charity realise a project, or further the development of the charity and its work. They help us to raise vital **voluntary donations** through fundraising events to fund new facilities, equipment and services for the benefit of the children in our care, as well as any improvements that we need to make to existing ones.

If you would like to become involved with Greenfields Friends Committee, please contact **Sarah Scarratt** on 01233 712346 or by email at sarah.scarratt@virgin.net

You can also help by becoming a supporter of the life-saving work of Childhood First in Kent. If you have any questions about the charity and its work, contact **Holly de la Nougerède** on 020 3326 4755 or by email at H.delaNougerede@childhoodfirst.org.uk

Values

The **values** which guide Childhood First are those we learn on a daily basis from each other in this work:

Interdependence
Hope
Thoughtfulness
Authenticity
Perseverance

Some years ago, I came across an administrative colleague who had cut this list of values out of our brochure and stuck it on the wall next to her phone, to support her in embodying them in her work and life. I was moved by this simple commitment to what it means to work for Childhood First, and have since tried to develop a habit of regular reflection on these values.

Every member of Childhood First, children and adults alike, learns so much from the others. It is openness to learning from others, at a profound human level, across all ages and roles, that is the core of our work and the 'method' of our community.



Stephen Blunden
Chief Executive



Address: 210 Borough High Street,
London, SE1 1JX

Phone: 020 7928 7388

Email: support@childhoodfirst.org.uk

Web: www.childhoodfirst.org.uk

Childhood First
healing hurt minds

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ChildhoodFirst

Twitter: www.twitter.com/ChildhoodFirst

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/childhood-first

Registered charity no. 286909
and a company limited by guarantee registration
number 1708301



Childhood First Donation Form

You can make a big difference to the lives of some of the UK's most vulnerable children by making a gift to Childhood First to support our life saving work in Kent at Greenfields and Gables House.

To make your gift, please **complete** and **cut out** this page and send with a cheque made payable to Childhood First (please write Greenfields on reverse) to Childhood First, 210 Borough High Street, London, SE1 1JX.

I, _____ (full name) pledge

to support Childhood First with a gift of £ _____

Gift Aid declaration – for past, present & future donations

Please treat as Gift Aid donations all qualifying gifts of money made

Today

In the past 4 years

In the future

Please tick all boxes you wish to apply.

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 28p of tax on every £1 that I gave up to 5 April 2008 and will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give on or after 6 April 2008.

Signature _____

Date _____

Title _____ First name or initial(s) _____

Surname _____

Full home address _____

Postcode _____