

# Child Concern Consortium

## Supporters' Newsletter

Your gift supports our 5 charities.



## Hello again everyone,



Well here I am again, sending out the autumn issue of your newsletter already. I can't believe how quickly time passes.

As most of you already know, the Consortium likes to send out two

newsletters a year in order to keep you up to date with the ongoing work of our member charities and to try to illustrate to you some of the ways in which your all important gifts are used. So I do hope that you enjoy receiving them.

Inside this issue, you will find an update on our very successful fundraising event at Canary Wharf Station, together with news of our redesigned website that will shortly be going "live". We hope the new-look site will help to raise the profile of the Consortium and encourage even more support for our worthy causes with its bright new, fresh approach.

Once again, I would like to say a very big thank you to all of you for your ongoing support throughout the years.

With kindest regards,

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## Telling Stories



Storytelling can play an important part in developing strong relationships between carers and children. It encourages exploration of their feelings through pictures and sounds and improves their listening and speaking skills.

Unfortunately, many children in foster care do not have the opportunity or books they need to enjoy reading with adults. And whilst it is widely known that children who enjoy reading outside of school often cope better with the demands of formal teaching; those in care often achieve far lower results at school than others of their age group.

This autumn sees the launch of an exciting new project for The Fostering Network, bringing the magical world of storytelling to children living with foster carers. We are holding five storytelling events across the UK, giving fostered children and their new families the chance to discover books and share stories together. There will also be a storytelling competition, 'Telling My Story', which will be judged by Jacqueline Wilson, the creator of Tracey Beaker.

By telling their own stories about their time spent in foster care, looked-after young people who are regularly portrayed as difficult, unintelligent or lacking in respect, are being given the chance to have their say. Thank you for your continued support of our work, which helps us to help those children in foster care make the most of their childhoods.

[www.fostering.net](http://www.fostering.net)



## Finding my Forever Family



"I am 11 years old and have a little brother called Kevin who is seven. When I was five, we were put into foster care because my mum couldn't take care of us properly. We were told that we would be getting a 'forever family' and although I was excited because I wanted someone to call mum and dad; I was also a little scared.

It took a long time for us to find a forever family because at five years of age I was too old! It seems that most people want babies or toddlers, which meant that my brother who was only 18 months old would find it easy to find a family - but not me! It was scary for me to go to a new family. But if I didn't have my brother, it would be a lot worse and I wanted to live with him - he was the only family I had left. Luckily, when I was seven a family decided they wanted to adopt both of us!

When we first went to live with our new family, I still had lots of memories of my 'tummy mummy'. I still loved her even

though she didn't take care of us properly and I would take it out on my new mum. I was really only testing my new parents to see if they really loved me, or if I was really naughty, would they give me back?

My forever family took me to therapy - they explained to me that what happened in the past was not my fault and it was OK for me to love both my mums. The first five years of my life were not very nice but I know that's all behind me now because I have good parents who will always look after me and my brother and I know our new mum and dad really do love us.

My mum said that lots of people will be reading this and they might be thinking of adopting. She also said: "It was worth it all and she wouldn't trade me for the world" - see, I am loved!"

Thank you for helping us to help children like these.

[www.baaf.org.uk](http://www.baaf.org.uk)

## Play schemes for disabled children



When I first spoke to Jenny, she was on the point of resigning from the job that she loved. She explained to me that although the local authority ran a summer play scheme offering a place for her disabled child during the summer holidays, it only covered two weeks. Also, the hours were nothing like a full working day, which would mean the loss of the all important extra income she was providing for her family.

On chatting to Jenny further, I discovered that she had a toddler at home as well as her disabled eight year old. On learning this, I was able to make her aware of her right to four weeks parental leave a year for each child.

Although parental leave is unpaid, I explained to Jenny that her loss of income would eventually be reflected to some extent in her Working Tax Credit award. She realised then that she could afford to take sufficient leave to get through the summer, keep her job and enjoy some time with her children. Working Families receives a wide variety of calls from parents of disabled children like Jenny, who work or wish to work, but struggle to find appropriate childcare for their children.

Thanks to your continuing support, we are able to be there for them so they know they are not alone in their very demanding juggling act. Thank you so much.

[www.workingfamilies.org.uk](http://www.workingfamilies.org.uk)

## One Million Children benefiting from Children's Centres



One million children can now have a better start in life, thanks to Sure Start Children's Centres. The centres are a one-stop shop for young children and parents, with early access to family health care, family services, early education and care for youngsters, right through to training and employment to give them the best possible start in life.

Many centres have additional new activities, including drop in sessions and groups for dads and kids where young children can play and enjoy themselves with their families.

Supporting creativity in the early years has much to contribute to early years' development. Sure Start can help families transform their lives by boosting children's development and supporting parents in finding childcare and employment.

Thank you for helping us to achieve this.



[www.4Children.org.uk](http://www.4Children.org.uk)

## House of Commons launch for 'Voices of Children and Young People'

Action for Sick Children feels very strongly that children and young people should be actively involved in the decision-making processes affecting all aspects of their healthcare. And we were delighted when Ann Keen MP agreed to launch our new publication "Voices of Children and Young People" – a review of the literature, at the House of Commons earlier this year.

### Why do we need a review of literature surrounding the views of children and young people?

One of the biggest challenges in children's healthcare is meeting the needs of the individual and by listening to the views of those concerned, we can ensure that we reach out to those most in need. But we must prove to them that we have listened to their advice and acted accordingly.



years but there is still more to do before our vision becomes a reality.

Practice must change if we are to deliver the improved outcomes children, young people and their families deserve. Your continuing support will help to make this happen – thank you.

Reviewing what has already taken place can help to ensure the views of children and young people are taken into consideration when planning future services.

ASC has been working tirelessly for over 40 years to improve services and attitudes towards sick children, young people and their families. Progress has been made over the

[www.actionforsickchildren.org](http://www.actionforsickchildren.org)



What's happening • What's happening • What's happening • What's happening

## Launch of redesigned CCC website

After much consultation, the new CCC website is almost up and running and due to "go live" mid November 2007.

We wanted to make the site as visually engaging as possible to attract new supporters so we've given it a fresh new look and made it easier to use. And as our charity is all about children, we thought we would arrange a photo shoot using as many local children as possible to appear on the site. With this in mind, we asked the Mudchute Farm who run an after schools club, if any of the children would be willing to join in. We were amazed at the positive response and so, on a beautiful sunny day we donned our wellies and "made hay whilst the sun shone"! It was a really great day working with so many enthusiastic children who were so full of fun and I think everyone will agree that the finished results are truly delightful.

So a huge thank you to Denise, Tina and Vicky who helped to make it all possible and of course to the children themselves who presented us with this beautiful hand-drawn picture. We do hope the new site will be fun to use and prove to be a big "hit" with our many interactive supporters. But why not take a look for yourselves and see if you can win a prize by entering our Grand Prize Draw. Finally, we would like to convey our special thanks to White Box Digital who so kindly provided their valuable time and expertise to this project.



## Christmas card deal gives 51% of profits to CCC

Internet shopping where a huge 51p in every £1 you spend will be donated to Child Concern Consortium! So please think of us when buying your Christmas cards this year and help your gift to work five times harder!

We've joined with Studio51 because we can receive a fantastic 51p for every £1 that you spend using their site. You receive fantastic quality Christmas cards at a fair price and we receive your donation without it costing you a penny! There are 58 designs to choose from, with three different price ranges and you can order as many or as few as you need. Each pack contains a set of personalised labels incorporating our logo, which allows you to customise your cards and there is even an extra envelope provided in each pack in case the odd one is spoilt!

You can show your support now by visiting [www.studio51.com](http://www.studio51.com) to browse their online catalogue. And if you don't have access to the internet, don't worry! You can write, call or complete the slip on the back of this newsletter to request a brochure, which we will send out to you. Then just forward your completed order, together with your cheque made out to Studio51.com on to us and we'll do the rest!



## Don't forget to click!

All these retailers have a charity donation facility...

- **Everyclick.com** donates half of its revenue to charity. If you haven't started using it yet, here's how: Visit [www.everyclick.com](http://www.everyclick.com), enter Child Concern Consortium in the text box and click on the i symbol. Once our details appear on the page, click the house symbol to save us as your home page.
- **Amazon** will donate an average of 5% of your purchase price to CCC when you visit them via our direct website link at [www.childconcernconsortium.org.uk](http://www.childconcernconsortium.org.uk).
- If you are selling items on **eBay**, click the "Donate a Percentage to Charity" tab under the "How you're selling" section and just follow the onscreen instructions. Register at <http://pages.ebay.co.uk/community/charity/>



Child Concern Consortium has recently teamed up with **Justgiving.com**, the online fundraising website that automatically reclaims 28% Gift Aid on all UK taxpayer donations. So if you're trying to raise money for an event or an appeal, or want to make a one off donation to CCC – make the most of the internet now!

Donating and raising funds online is a lot more fun than trying to hassle your friends and colleagues into completing your paper sponsorship form and there's no need for you to run around collecting cheques or cash! So why not set up a page now by visiting [www.justgiving.com](http://www.justgiving.com) where you can also check out our very first sponsored events: The Stormtroopers, Vicky's Birthday Ball, two Half Marathons and a Sponsored Slim – with huge thanks to Byron, Vicky, Jason, Lachlan and Claire for choosing to raise support for CCC through the sponsoring of their individual events.

And for all you real "techie" out there, yet another way to donate online through Facebook!

**Justgiving is now on Facebook!**

For those of you who are already using Facebook, you can now donate by linking your profile to Justgiving.com! This new service will allow you to accept international donations and reclaim tax from UK taxpayers. You can personalise your profile pages to show you are fundraising and families and colleagues can give to CCC by clicking through to [www.justgiving.com](http://www.justgiving.com).

It's estimated that 10-15% of Justgiving users already have Facebook accounts so it seems the perfect partnership for alternative giving for family and friends!

Payroll Giving • Payroll Giving • Payroll Giving • Payroll Giving • Payroll Giving

## It Pays to Give

Payroll Giving celebrates its 20th birthday this year! And during this time has raised over £700 million for charitable causes. This is a fantastic achievement when you realise that this is over £84 million generated for charities every year since it first launched. It's even more amazing when you consider that only 2-3% of the population give to their favourite charities in this way, which is why CCC is urging employers and

employees alike to increase income to their favourite charities in 2007 by introducing a few simple changes to existing schemes:

### As an employer

- Make a one off donation to the charity chosen by your employee.
- Implement Percentage Matching – Matching 10-50% of the donation made.
- Increase employee participation by 20 or more staff per month through email reminders.

### As an employee

- Ask your employer to match your gift £ for £ for a specified period of time.
- Increase your regular gift to your favourite charity by £1.00 per month.
- If you are a higher rate tax payer you can give 40% extra automatically through payroll giving.



Five children's charities in one

# Child Concern Consortium

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News in Brief • News in Brief • News in Brief

### Canary Wharf Station Collection

The collection at Canary Wharf Station on the 23rd of May was a huge success, raising nearly £2,000 during a very long but truly inspiring day! And I have so many wonderful people to thank for their efforts in helping to make it a very special day:

Danny from the City Pride Inn for providing free parking on the day, Nicky at Pret à Manger and Justina at Café Nero who provided free sandwiches and drinks all day – delicious! Also, the very patient lady bank teller at NatWest whose face dropped a little each time we brought in our coins for weighing, but who nevertheless still had time for a smile and a joke! And a very special thank you to our three young student volunteers from Tower Hamlets whose enthusiasm inspired us all. Not forgetting of course, the team of nine volunteers from Ernst & Young who came along for the day just to give us a hand!



Special thanks go to London Underground for not only providing us with such a fantastic fundraising opportunity, but also for their regular tannoy announcements throughout the day reminding commuters of who we were and why we were there. Their enthusiasm never waned and I'm sure this made the overall difference to funds collected by the end of the day. Our biggest thanks must go of course, to all the generous commuters who dropped a contribution into our bright red buckets, many of whom took time out of their very busy day to offer a smile and a few encouraging words. Many also took away with them mobile phone recycling envelopes and newsletters, which hopefully will help them to remember us should an opportunity come along in the future where they can show their support for Child Concern Consortium.

And finally, our grateful thanks to Ernst & Young who have shown their support in so many ways but who triumphed once again by matching funds raised with a £1,000 donation.

Thank you everyone for caring so much.

Competition • Competition

Win this beautiful oil burner to warm up your home this winter



You may have noticed Chuckles, our friendly logo waving his balloon somewhere earlier in this Newsletter.

If so, you could win this Virgin Vie oil burner (kindly donated by Mr Harris from London) by answering the following, simple question:

**Outside which famous London building is Chuckles photographed?**

Complete this form, email or ring us with your answer (details below), to reach us no later than end January 2008.

**Answer** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Get in touch - write to Child Concern Consortium, 5th Floor, City Reach, 5 Greenwich View Place, London E14 9NN

Tel: 020 7522 6910 email: office@childconcernconsortium.org.uk website: www.childconcernconsortium.org.uk

Child Concern Consortium Reg. Charity. No. 1103052 Company No. 4625902 Registered in England and Wales

Member Charities:	Action for Sick Children Reg. Charity. No. 296295	BAAF Adoption & Fostering Reg. Charity. No. 275689	4Children Reg. Charity. No. 288285	The Fostering Network Reg. Charity. No. 280852	Working Families Reg. Charity. No. 1099808
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**DONATION FORM / CHANGE OF ADDRESS** I would like to advise you of my new address details / I would like to make a donation that works five times harder! Please return to Child Concern Consortium - address above

I am enclosing a cheque for £\_\_\_\_\_ made payable to Child Concern Consortium.  
I have made an online donation of £\_\_\_\_\_ through www.childconcernconsortium.org.uk

**Please do not send cash through the post**

Please debit my MasterCard  Visa  CAF Card

Card number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Number \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of cardholder \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_



The Gift Aid declaration entitles us to reclaim the tax you have already paid and turns every £1 you donate into £1.28. All you have to do is tick below.

I am currently a UK tax payer. Please treat all of my donations to Child Concern Consortium as Gift Aid until otherwise notified.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Today's date \_\_\_\_\_

NB: You must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax equal to the tax we claim.

- Please send me:  A home moneybox so that my loose change can help change children's lives for the better.  
 Some mobile phone recycling envelopes to help raise up to £9.00 per phone for CCC.  
 A Christmas card catalogue so that CCC can receive 51p for every £1 that I spend.