



# Child Concern Consortium Supporter's Newsletter

Your gift supports our 5 charities.

Child  
Concern  
Consortium



Five children's  
charities in one

## Hello everyone



With the clocks going back and darker evenings drawing in, it's easy to get caught up in celebrating Halloween, Bonfire Night and the

forthcoming Christmas festivities.

But for those families whose parents need to work, the darker nights bring new worries of where their children may be and what they might be doing after school when returning to empty homes alone.

And for those with disabled children, the added worry is the cost of heating their homes during the winter months. Many conditions or disabilities worsen in the cold weather, forcing families to leave the heating on constantly. And quite often the choice becomes, 'eat or heat' during this time.

But thanks to your continuing support, we are able to assist in addressing some of these problems. Helping families across the UK to overcome the many difficulties they face and letting them know that they have somewhere to turn to for help and advice.

Without your help our vital work would be unable to continue – thank you so much. With warmest wishes for a very happy Christmas and New Year,

Tel: 020 7522 6910

email:  
office@childconcernconsortium.org.uk

website:  
www.childconcernconsortium.org.uk

## Give Me Strength



As part of 4Children's Give Me Strength campaign, a campaign which demands more help for families to help them avert crisis, 4Children is taking an in-depth look at a series of issues which threaten family stability.



In October 4Children published a new report which highlights the impact of postnatal depression on families and calls for urgent action to give them the strength they need to overcome it. One in ten new mothers in the UK experience maternal depression every year but many women are not coming forward to seek help or support. As one woman who tried to conceal her battle with postnatal depression explains: *"...you just lie. I ticked the boxes saying I felt fine. I didn't want to kill or harm my baby, and that was it."*

In reality she was struggling to cope. The combination of sleepless nights and being away from everyone left her with a fear of dying in the night. She recalls phoning her father and asking him to call her in the morning to make sure she hadn't died. *"Looking back now that is not a normal thing to be saying, but nobody recognized it as a symptom of postnatal depression as during the day I would be fine."*

Our report stresses the importance of identifying and treating postnatal depression in the very early stages. In doing so, we can help to minimize the potentially damaging impact on the family and help parents to get the best out of the first precious months of their newborn's life. Your ongoing support helps to make this work happen – thank you

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

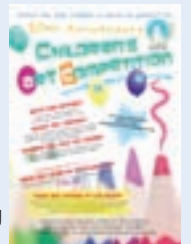
## Action for Sick Children

### 50th Anniversary Celebrations continue



Twenty one hospitals held parties for children in hospital around the UK during the 50th Celebrations. And for those children physically unable to attend their party, the party came to them with food and festivities taken to their beds to ensure they all joined in the fun!

The Art Competition was hugely successful, with children asked to draw a picture of their hospital and favourite member of staff and over 130 entries were submitted. The 8-12 age group prize was won by Max Bufron from Ludlow who spent three months in hospital and sent in several drawings, which helped him pass the time during his stay. Michael Ralph was flown over from the Isle of Man to receive his Under 8 Highly Commended prize and Olivia Vickery's hospital was able to re-jig her treatment at Great Ormond Street in order for her to collect her prize.



The Awards Ceremony was held at the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health in London with prizes awarded by the new Patron of Action for Sick Children, Professor Sir Al Aynsley-Green, the first Children's Commissioner in England.

The parties and Art Competition helped to make for a more pleasant hospital experience for these sick children and we are most grateful for your continuing support, which has helped to make these celebrations possible. Thank you so much.

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

## nationaladoptionweek

National Adoption Week is BAAF's annual

campaign to raise awareness of the need for

more people to find out about adoption and consider adopting a child. It is held in early November, and 2011 is set to be our most successful ever. In 2010 we recruited over 100 Adoption Champions, a community involvement scheme where we encouraged adoption-experienced people to use their experience, passion and enthusiasm to encourage others to consider adopting.

This year we want to recruit even more Adoption Champions and have already had over 200 people sign up. If you'd like to find out more you can visit [www.nationaladoptionweek.org.uk](http://www.nationaladoptionweek.org.uk). Not everyone is in a position to adopt or foster a child so we are very grateful for the continued support you give to Child Concern Consortium and BAAF, helping us to find more forever families for children across the UK – thank you.

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



ADOPTION & FOSTERING

## Fostering Achievement



Our innovative Fostering Achievement

is now five years old. The project, in Northern Ireland, supports foster carers to enable the children they look after to reach their full potential. Over the last year 1,000 children have benefited from activities such as literacy support, GCSE revision classes, summer courses for primary school children and sports programmes. Children have also received support for individual goals such as learning to drive or playing musical instruments.

Mark Kidd, aged 16, described the impact of the project for him. *"It gave me great insight into university. It's now achievable*

*for me."* He also paid tribute to the tutors for English and maths, provided under the scheme, who had made a difference to his education.

Mark was speaking at a celebration event in Stormont, the home of the Northern Ireland Executive. The evening heard ideas from foster carers and social workers, but it was the young people who stole the show. It was chaired by Jamie Lee Christie, a young person with experience of care, who praised the project for providing equipment for her twin passions – drama and art.

The project was also able to report strong GCSE results. Fifty one percent of children who took part in the GCSE support programme achieved five A – C grades last year, compared to just 16 per cent of all looked after children in Northern Ireland. This is a huge achievement and wouldn't have been possible without your support – thank you.

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



the fostering network  
the voice of foster care

## From Child to Adult – the Transitions Guide



Working Families is delighted to announce that, thanks to donations from Child Concern Consortium and others, we have produced a new guide for parents of disabled children who work or wish to work.

The guide is designed to take parents who care for disabled children through the benefits and tax credits they may be entitled to, and how their rights at work change when they are no longer defined as a parent of a disabled child.

The guide was written with input from a panel of parents, carers and disabled young people as well as our specialist benefits advisor. It is available as a download from our web site, following the links to the Waving not drowning section.

We now need to raise further funds to enable us to produce hard copies, which have been requested by our supporters. Indeed, our fellow CCC member, Action for Sick Children has said the guide is helpful and vital and shows just how important your ongoing support is to our work – thank you so much.

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

working families

changing the way we live and work



What's Happening • What's Happening • What's Happening • What's Happening •

## BT GAYE scheme reaches new record!

The BT Give as You Earn (GAYE) initiative is one of the largest payroll giving schemes in the UK that enables employees to donate to any recognized UK charity direct from their salary.

And it's thanks to the kindness of BT staff that the scheme is so successful, which saw generous employees reach a new record by raising a combined total of over £2.6 million for charitable organisations during 2010/11!



Child Concern Consortium is lucky enough to be one of the charities currently benefiting through the scheme and were delighted to receive a fantastic **£1,918.32** in matched funding from BT.

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone at BT for all their support and for helping us to help change children's lives for the better. **Thank you BT!**



## Ready for Christmas?

Neither are we! So what better excuse for taking a relaxing look at our ethictrade online shop from the comfort of your own armchair?

Whether it's a jumper or wallet for dad, a necklace or beauty set for mum, toys for the kids, something cute for the baby, or just about anything else you can think of, our online shop is sure to have something for everyone.

And with a fantastic 20% of your pre-vat purchase going to CCC, why not make your Christmas cheer spread that little bit further this year? It's a brilliant way to find your loved ones something special, whilst providing vital funding for our important work. Just click on the link to show you care:

<http://childconcernconsortium.ethictrade.com>



## Just Text Giving™ by Vodafone

Just Giving and Vodafone have launched the UK's first **free** text donation service and we're really excited to see such a simple new way of making one off donations **FOR FREE**.

We've realized that if all our Newsletter readers were to donate £3 by text, or encourage a friend to donate £3 by text, we could raise an incredible £6,000 – wouldn't that be an amazing Christmas present for all the children we help?!

Just text **CCCC01** and the amount you would like to donate, to 70070 (UK mobiles only). Check our Facebook page for updates; if you haven't visited our page yet please do come and be our friend – simply click on the logo below or log in to Facebook and search for Child Concern Consortium.



## Turn every pound you spend online into funds for CCC!



Help turn the £6.8bn that will be spent online this Christmas into donations for Child Concern Consortium!

Whatever your loved ones have on their Christmas lists, doing your Christmas shopping online this year will not only save you time and money but also help to reduce your stress levels. And with Give as you Live, every Christmas purchase can also raise donations for CCC without it costing you a thing! That's because thousands of retailers have signed up to Give as you Live and will donate a percentage of every purchase you make to your favourite charity.

So whatever you need to put in Santa's sleigh, visit [www.giveasyoulive.com/ccc](http://www.giveasyoulive.com/ccc) to sign up and share some Christmas cheer with all the children and families we support across the UK.



Don't forget you can also find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter



What's Happening • What's Happening • What's Happening • What's Happening •



# National 'wear a tea cosy on your head' day!

Did you know such a day existed? Neither did we; until 23 September 2011 that is!

Launched by one of our favourite online fundraising sites, [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk), we couldn't miss the opportunity to earn a donation for CCC and let even more people know that we're here. So off we went to find our nearest tea cosy - as it's not exactly the sort of thing we keep in our desk drawers!

And here you have the evidence that there is *almost* nothing we won't do to inform as many

people as possible about CCC and our important work with children desperately needing our help across the UK.

Sadly, we didn't win but we did get a huge mention for CCC on [easyfundraising's](http://easyfundraising.org.uk) charity blog, so it was all worth it in the end as well as being lots of fun, and ..... you never know where the next fashion craze might come from!

And if you think you can beat our "I'm a little teapot" photo shoot, do please send your photos in for publication in our next Newsletter!



*I'm a little teapot!*

## Home Moneybox Campaign



The moneybox and mobile phone campaigns are still proving very popular, with a fantastic **£8,644.00** being raised to date!

Regular donations such as these are so important to us and make such a difference to the lives of all the children and families we support. So thank you so much for your continued generosity.

And if you would like to take part, it's never too late. Just fill in the tear-off slip at the bottom of this newsletter and we'll send out as many envelopes and moneyboxes as you need.

And if you need some moneybox ideas to start you off, why not try using it as a:

- **Washing Well** – place it next to the washing machine to collect forgotten change from pockets!
- **Fine Box** – as a forfeit for those things you should do but never get around to!
- **Giving up Box** – for doing something you shouldn't!

**Remember, your change can help change children's lives for the better!**

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](mailto:office@childconcernconsortium.org.uk) web: [www.childconcernconsortium.org.uk](http://www.childconcernconsortium.org.uk)

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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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**CHANGE OF ADDRESS/DONATION FORM** – 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](http://www.childconcernconsortium.org.uk)

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

The Gift Aid declaration entitles us to reclaim the tax you have already paid and turns every £1 you donate into £1.25. All you have to do is tick below.

*giftaid it*

I am currently a:  standard rate  higher rate 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.

Title ..... Name .....

Address .....

..... Postcode .....

Telephone .....

Email .....

Signature ..... Date .....

- Please send me:  A home moneybox so that my loose **change** can help **change** children's lives for the better.  
 Some mobile phone/inkjet recycling envelopes to help raise up to **£30.00** per phone for CCC  
 ..... CCC water bottles at **£2.99** per bottle. Cheque for amount £..... attached.  
 A copy of CCC's Supporters' Questionnaire.