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2023



The Candlelighters
Annual General Meeting will
take place on Wednesday
4th October 2023 from
6.00pm to 6.30pm.

You are very welcome to come along. You can attend the meeting in person at The Square, or join online via Microsoft Teams. Attendance is strictly RSVP. Please email lucy.fletcher@candlelighters.org.uk by 15th September or call 0113 887 8333.



In this issue, you can read all about our summer of fun, and how the Community Support Team has been out across Yorkshire, supporting families much closer to home, as and when they need us the most. From feeding animals and making campfires, to flying high in planes, children and families have come together to support one another and build special memories.

As always, our Family Support Team have been busy bringing light and hope to families on the oncology wards and clinic at the Leeds Children's Hospital, which you can read about on pages 10-11. We know how vital this support is to families, so we're delighted to now also offer Candlelighters support at the Radiotherapy Department at St James's University

Hospital in Leeds one day per week. Our Family Support Workers will be there for children visiting St James's for radiotherapy treatment and their families – whether by getting them a brew, having a chat, or keeping them occupied while waiting for treatment.

Our CEO, Emily

And finally, an enormous THANK YOU to you for continuing to support Candlelighters in so many brilliant ways. Over the summer, we have seen so many of you conquer challenge events, amongst so many other activities, and we are truly inspired by your incredible fundraising efforts. The money you raise makes an enormous difference to children and families; you are all amazing!

Enjoy the read!

Your generous support enables our team to be there to make the everyday of living with cancer a little more bearable.

Here are some of the ways you've helped us do that recently...

Thanks to you



Parents on the ward have been taking time out to chat with others in the same position at our new 'Buns and Brews' groups for mums and 'Snacks and Chats' groups for dads. One mum said, "Snacks and Chats provided my husband with a space to just be a normal bloke. He probably wouldn't have spoken to anyone without this group."



Your support enables families

leave the hospital, by using the Candlelighters Pavilion. One

mum recently enjoyed a birthday

this lovely space with her family, knowing the ward was close by

takeaway and movie night in

on the ward to have some normality, and celebrate special

occasions when they can't

After a period of closure, the Teenage Ward recently reopened at the hospital, meaning that teenagers being treated for cancer have their own space again and don't have to share other wards. Our Family Support Workers have been busy using this space to run activities tailored just for them, such as an Easter quiz while Easter crafts took place on the children's ward!



Family Support Worker Ryan recently ran a get-together for dads who are sadly bereaved, with the group enjoying a pizza and a chat. Because of your generosity, all members of a family facing childhood cancer can access groups that provide the opportunity to meet others in a similar situation, and form a valuable support network through such a tough time.

A group of 21 family members enjoyed a magical outing to Leeds Arena to see Disney on Ice, after Quality Bearings Online kindly donated some tickets! One dad fed back, "My daughter loved it. We were supposed to go to Disneyland this year but haven't been able to make it. Candlelighters allowed us to experience that joy. We are so grateful for experiences like this."





Your support ensures families do not have to go through the devastation of a childhood cancer diagnosis alone. Thank you.

To support children with cancer and their families with a donation, visit https://candlelighters.enthuse.com/donate or scan the QR code.



Summer of Fun!

We want our families to know that Candlelighters' support is here for them wherever they need it, for as long as they need it. Our amazing Community Support Team hold regular events for family members in locations across Yorkshire, so families can access support close

to their home, meet others in a similar situation, and have some fun together!

Summer 2023 was jam-packed with community events for families, and lots of fun! Here are just some of the things our Community Support Team got up to...



If you would like to find out more about our groups and events for family members, please contact our Community Support Team by calling 0113 887 8333 or emailing **community@candlelighters.org.uk**

Over 200 family members had a fantastic time on our Family Day at Sherburn Aero Club in July! From getting to fly high in planes and ride in sports cars, to enjoying face painting and a DJ, this special day enabled families to make memories to cherish.

Family members from the Wakefield area enjoyed a trip to Ponderosa Zoo in Wakefield, where they saw all sorts of animals – from meerkats to parrots. A picnic lunch at a playground and an ice cream rounded off the fun-filled day!

Collecting chickens' eggs and a tractor ride were part of a funpacked day for Bradford-based family members at Hesketh Farm! The group also had the chance to feed some of the animals and spend time in the play areas.



How you can support families facing childhood cancer

All the support we offer to families facing childhood cancer is only possible because of you. Your kindness and generosity ensure that these families are not alone. Here are a couple of very important ways you can show your support.



Support children and families with a monthly donation

You don't have to do something big to have a life-changing impact. By giving a monthly donation to Candlelighters, you will be making a real difference to the lives of children and their families when faced with a cancer diagnosis. Over the course of a year...

£2.50 a month could fund a day trip for a patient or their sibling, providing some muchneeded time to just enjoy being children and have some fun

£5 a month could fund a child's birthday box, ensuring children spending their birthday in hospital can still celebrate their special day

£12 a month could fund two talking therapy sessions for a child, giving them the chance to work through difficult emotions in a safe space

£25 a month could fund a compassionate grant for a family whose child has sadly died, helping with expenses such as funeral costs

Ensure families aren't alone at the toughest time of their lives. Leave a donation in your will to Candlelighters.

No one affected by childhood cancer should face it alone. Will you help support families during their darkest days by leaving a donation in your will to Candlelighters? Your generosity puts an arm around the shoulder of Yorkshire families when they hear the devastating news: Your child has cancer. By remembering Candlelighters in your will, you'll become part of the Candlelighters family, joining other brave and caring people determined to help children and young people with cancer.



To support children and families with a regular donation, scan the QR code or visit https://candlelighters.enthuse.com/regulargiving



If you don't already have a will, our Free Will Service is available to you. To find out more, scan the QR code or visit www.candlelighters.org. uk/donate/legacies

Day of memories

On Sunday 22nd October, Candlelighters will be hosting 'Day of Memories' at Headingley Stadium in Leeds. This very special event offers families a chance to remember and reflect, and to celebrate the children who have sadly lost their lives to cancer. Day of Memories is a day for the whole family to remember their loved one, including siblings, so please join us for an afternoon of activities, poems, shared memories, and candle lighting. The event will include a late lunch.



If you would like to join us for this very special day, please email memory@candlelighters.org.uk or call 0113 887 8333 by Friday 29th September 2023.

During the event, there will be a moment of reflection, which includes a visual display of the names of children we are there to remember. If you would like your child's name to be displayed, please let us know.

Donations in Memory

Donations from 1st January 2023 - 30th June 2023

Donations in memory are so precious. Whomever your donation remembers, we thank you for this very special way of showing your support.



Abbass	£30.00
Abdul Latif	£31.25
Abigail Rose Haley	£28.75
Ailsa	£31.25
Alan Battams	£150.00
Alayna Kamran	£37.50
Alfie Musgrave	£358.20
Alison Crawforth	£37.50
Alistair Hathway	£10.00
Amna Zaheer	£50.00
Ann East	£87.50
Anne Woods	£215.00
Archie Vaughan	£750.00
Baby Aisla	£971.00
Barbara Slater	£962.20
Billy Pilotille	£85.20
Bradley Stevens	£25.00
Brian Denton	£250.00
Brian Yates	£121.50
Carl and Lesley Fisher	£625.00
Chris and Chloe Smith	£1,652.00
Christian Buckley	£62.50
Christine Solk	£242.38
Claire Pickles	£75.00
Colin Brown	£25.00
Colin Geoffrey Brown	£570.20
Collette Rhodes	£365.00
Daniel Bayes	£75.00
Daniel Jackson	£150.00
David Coopland	£18,183
David Romans	£410.00
David S Markey	£18.75
David Thomas	£804.24
Denise Garthwaite	£220.00
Doris Arnold	£15.00
Dorothy Sauer	£25.00
Douglas Shuttleworth	£164.15
Eileen Patton	£25.00

Eirik Kjellstad	£18.75
Elaine Stankevitch	£25.00
Elizabeth Jessie Bonnar	£304.44
Ella Crann	£100.00
Faye Bland	£136.25
Finlay Thomas Nuttall	£250.00
Frances Lynn Gilmore	£165.63
Freya Lewis	£58.75
Geoffrey Elliott	£143.00
Geoffrey Jessup	£400.00
Gladys Fox	£184.90
Glen Charles	£746.56
Gloria Joyce Burnell	£80.50
Grace Wheeldon	£51.25
Graham Beaumont	£83.75
Guy Metcalfe	£500.00
Gwynne Roulston	£125.00
Gwynne Roulston	£62.50
Harrison Torr	£37.50
Harry Buckley	£240.00
Harry Flatt	£90.18
Harvey Pettit	£125.00
Hayley Blogg	£31.25
Helen Smith	£93.75
Henry Hamer	£75.00
Hughie Wilson Eyles	£1,621.00
lan Short	£100.00
Ian Williams	£70.00
Irene Frost	£125.00
Isabelle Ellis	£20.00
Isla Greenwood	£1,030.45
Jack Gales	£150.00
Jack Riley	£31.25
Jacob Ullah	£1,878,17
Jacqueline Patrick	£100.00
Jaiden Worrall	£30.00
James Brook	£2,538.37
James Harry Faulkner	£221.50

lean Gillett	£62.50
Ioan Badrick	£10.00
loan Hudd	£302.00
Iohn Elliott	£6.25
lohn Markham	£145.30
loseph Mayman	£382.78
Ioshua Kinnear	£291.25
loyce Fisher	£900.00
Kate Burns	£3,235.70
Kathleen Adcock	£150.00
Kathleen Clayton	£484.75
Kathryn Hopwood	£125.00
Cathy Murphy	£125.00
Kayleigh Loggs	
and Diane Townend	£152.50
Kenneth Chapman	£25.00
Kev Wray	£630.00
ance Bradbrook	£300.00
aura Hart	£2,038.80
aura Loftus	£15.00
aura Susan Hogan	£369.10
auren Young	£270.00
ee Clayton	£50.00
eo Spavin	£1,407.50
ilian Lewins	£137.50
inda Barry	£140.31
ucy Moore	£50.00
Maci Craddock	£6,100.00
Malcolm Stewart Clark	£18.75
Margaret Walsh	£595.00
Marianne Shackleton Mark Butterfield	£50.00 £737.99
Mary Clarke	£15.00
Maxine and	£15.00
Margaret Bolland	£91.25
Megan Bell-Walker	£91.25 £281.25
Melanie Laffey	£2,169.25
Michelle Monaghan	£342.23
viichelle ivioriagnan	2342.23

£4,902.32

Millie Wright

•	
Musadique Ahmed	£150.00
My young cousin	£750.00
Nicholas Gill	£786.25
Nola Shipley	£21.02
Oliver Field	£10.00
Pamela Kisby	£31.25
Paris Sloan and	
Phoebe Gibson	£288.00
Patricia Jagger	£236.63
Patrick Donnelly	£150.00
Paul Emmerson	£41.55
Peter Woodmansey	£8,276.85
Rachel Bennett	£6.25
Rebecca Jayne Varney	£18.72
Rebecca Roberts	£313.75
Rhian Barber	£3,207.85
Rita Bland	£118.75
Rita Cuthbert	£812.50
Rita Holdsworth	£110.00
Rodney Hudson	£25.00
Ryan Cottingham	£1,000.45
Saavi Patel	£313.75
Sebastian Smith	£365.40
Shaun Markey	£47.55
Shirley Milner	£324.64
Sienna Shield	£75.00
Skye Sutcliffe	£825.31
Stewart Graham	£125.00
Summer Rose Thompso	
Sylvia Jones	£769.25
Taylor Sheldrake	£2.46
Thomas Belcher	£187.50
Thomas Cammack	£365.00
Thomas Hudson	£150.00
Thomas Hutchinson	£993.75
Valerie Allan	£407.33
Victoria Granger	£62.50
Vincent MacDermott	£425.00
Virgina Payne	£50.00

We'd be in and out of hospital so much when Aspen was diagnosed"

Meet the Smith-Morris family from Wetherby – Ste (dad), Kira (mum) and their three children – Aspen (aged eight), Zanthi (aged five) and Esri (six months old). In May 2020, when he was five years old, Aspen was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL). Ste tells us their story.

"Aspen had been ill for a couple of weeks before his diagnosis, with what we thought might be a bad flu. The pandemic had just started so it was nearly impossible to see a doctor, but we eventually got a video appointment. The GP told us to take Aspen to hospital straightaway, where a blood test revealed that he had acute lymphoblastic leukaemia.

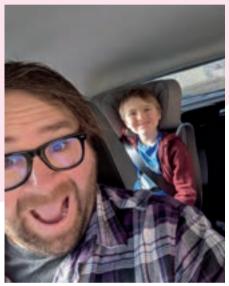
a comfort to know that Candlelighters will always be there if we need them

"We were transferred to the Leeds General Infirmary (LGI) in the middle of the night, and Aspen stayed there for three weeks. It was on our first morning at the hospital that we first met Candlelighters. The Candlelighters Dinner Supervisor, Elaine, gave us a very warm welcome and explained what Candlelighters do for families on the ward and outside of the hospital. Elaine and the rest of the Candlelighters team on the ward were a huge support during that time. They would often sit with Aspen while I went out for a walk, which was such a fantastic help. Candlelighters is like a friendly security blanket when you're in the hospital. They make that clinical environment feel more human.

"When Aspen's strength had improved and we were back home, the whole family had to adapt. Aspen didn't go to school for about 18 months, and Kira took a year off work to be there for him. With the care and the medication he needed, it was difficult for anyone else to help.

"After that initial three-week stay, Aspen kept getting temperatures and would consequently need to be readmitted to hospital. This happened every six to eight weeks or so, and often a few times in a row. A couple of times, Aspen was discharged from hospital and then got another temperature less than 24 hours later (sometimes in the middle of the night), so we were back in for another few days. Aspen and I were back and forth to the hospital so much, sometimes we just didn't see the other members of the family. I even missed the birth of our daughter. It was really hard to juggle work and look after the other kids, but luckily





we've had amazing support from family and friends and both our employers have been very understanding. We just didn't realise that we'd be in and out of hospital so much when Aspen was diagnosed.

"On a few of these occasions,
Aspen has had to isolate so
we've had to stay in a side room
at the hospital. These times were
really tough on both of us, and
we never knew how long we'd
have to be there. He would get
mentally drained and I really
missed being able to interact with
other parents. The support from
the Candlelighters team on the
ward was invaluable during these
stays. Having someone I could
talk to, to help process everything



and understand what was going on, was such a huge help. I sat in the ward a few times and just cried because I just didn't know what to do. Candlelighters got me through those times. They always had time to listen to me and, because they see childhood cancer every day, they really understand what's going on better than even your family members could.

"Three years on from his diagnosis, Aspen is doing really well. We're currently at the hospital every other week for a check up, and he is due to finish his treatment in September. It's actually quite a scary prospect as we'll lose the safety net of the hospital, but it's such a comfort to know that Candlelighters will always be there if we need them."

Being there for families at the hospital

When a child or young person diagnosed with cancer is admitted to hospital, it can be an incredibly tough time for them and their whole family. Because of the generosity of supporters like you, our Family Support Team are at the hospital six days a week to make this difficult time a little easier for families. They work incredibly hard to make the wards and clinic feel less clinical and more enjoyable, bringing some comfort and fun to the hospital environment.





We went all out at the hospital for the Candlelighters 'Pink it Up' campaign week in June! While Pink It Up fundraising was going on out in the community, we made sure there were activities every day at the hospital for children, young people, and families, so they didn't miss out on the fun. There were pink-themed games and crafts, including making a pink fort out of cardboard with some of the patients, and decorating biscuits and cakes. I even got gunged!



Families love having the Candlelighters Pavilion near the ward. It's a great space, where they can just have a bit of normality and spend time together. We've held some great events in there for families recently, including a 4th July party, complete with decorations and American hotdogs, and a Father's Day quiz, where patients answered questions about their own dads. These events are really valuable, as they give family members a chance to just have a bit of fun and escapism, and also help the families at the hospital get to know each other and build a support network.

We also use the Pavilion for one-to-one time with children to give them some time away from the ward and the chance to have a chat. Recently, I spent some time with a patient and his mum in the Pavilion while we made SpongeBob figures out of clay.





don't know
what we would
have done
without you.
I wouldn't have
been able to
afford to do
this for him

When families are staying on the ward, everyday activities can become impossible. We're there to make the day-to-day living with cancer a little more bearable for these families and, if there's something we can do that will make their day just a bit easier, that's amazing for us.

Recently, a patient was staying in an isolation room on the ward with their family. Being in isolation meant they needed to wear clean clothes every day. As the family were there for some time and had no way of doing laundry at the hospital, they would have had to wear hospital gowns to comply with isolation rules. However, we were able to do their laundry for them six days a week, so they could wear their own clothes and be more comfortable. The patient's mum told us, "I honestly don't know what we would have done without you. I wouldn't have been able to afford to do this for him."

The vital support that our amazing Family Support Workers give to families facing childhood cancer is only possible because of your amazing generosity. Thank you for bringing support to families when they need it most.

To support the essential work of our Family Support Team, please scan the QR code to donate today, or visit https://candlelighters.enthuse.com/donate



Stacy's story

Stacy Procter lives in Leeds and, since 2017, has volunteered an incredible 135 hours of her time and raised over £22k for Candlelighters. In June 2023, she was shortlisted for Volunteer of the Year at the Yorkshire Choice Awards. Stacy tells us her story.

I started volunteering for Candlelighters by helping at family events, including the siblings groups and the bereaved mums groups. I was so nervous at my first group, but, from the moment I walked through the door, everyone was so welcoming – I was part of the Candlelighters family.

I'd help prepare the room, make drinks, and ensure the families had everything they needed to feel welcome and comfortable. I remember at one of the groups, I played with a patient's younger sibling so their mum could have a cup of tea and get her hair done. She was so grateful, but I thought it was a privilege to be able to help. When families say thank you to me, I just wish I could bottle up the feeling.

"Stacy has all the qualities of a brilliant volunteer; she is reliable, committed, enthusiastic, empathetic, flexible, and fun! A lot of the support we provide for our families is only possible with the help of volunteers, so Stacy's generosity with her free time has made a huge difference and I can't thank her enough!"

Corinne Dicker, Volunteering Manager At a family picnic I helped at last summer, I met a little boy who was on treatment. He was in a wheelchair and couldn't walk very far, but still had lots of fun. At a patients group a year later, I saw the same little boy. He was doing so much better, and it was lovely to see him again.

Since 2018, I've also volunteered as a marshal at local challenge events. I felt so inspired by the Candlelighters runners, I thought maybe I could give it a go, too. I'd never run before, but having gotten to know the Candlelighters families so well through volunteering, I felt so motivated to raise money for them. In my first year of running, I completed the Leeds 10k, Great North Run and the Yorkshire Marathon for Candlelighters.

I've raised money in other ways too. For example, for the past few years, I've held a Candlelighters fundraising event for my birthday at my local church, with afternoon tea, a tombola, and raffle, with some prizes donated by my local community.

Candlelighters makes me who I am, and I am truly blessed to be part of the amazing Candlelighters family. The little time I offer is never about me – it's about an amazing charity that supports families and children affected by childhood cancer and I will always do all that I can to keep the candle burning.

If you'd like to find out more about volunteering or fundraising for Candlelighters, visit **www.candlelighters.org.uk/howyoucanhelp** or scan the QR code.





Celebrating 900

- our amazing supporters & fundraisers!

We are forever grateful for all the incredible, inspiring ways you support children facing cancer and their families. Take a look at some recent amazing fundraising stories.



Caddick Group has donated £107,323 to Candlelighters over five years of incredible fundraising activities, including holding an annual ball and taking on the Total Warrior challenge!



Gary Hollins & Sharon Healey have pledged to donate £10,000 a year for the next three years! They told us: "We are thrilled to be involved with the amazing work of Candlelighters".



John Kerr performed a piano recital in Gloucester in support of his nephew, Barney, who is receiving support from Candlelighters, and raised an amazing £138.



The fabulous Team
Frankie have so far raised £10,000 through a variety
of fundraising activities,
including taking on the
Leeds Half Marathon and
the Scammonden Steps
Challenge!



Poppy Wood raised £800 in memory of her best friend, Rhian Barber, by holding a raffle at a holiday caravan park and selling badges she'd made at her school.



By shaving his head in support of his daughter, Emilia, who is currently receiving treatment, Paul Stephenson raised £11,000 for Candlelighters.



Four-year-old Noah Rawnsley raised £185 by completing an obstacle course with other children at North Leeds Community Nursery. The children raised an amazing total of £1,360!



Horsforth School raised an incredible £11,262 in one month through a range of fundraising activities, including a 'Challenge 30' campaign where they completed challenges involving the number 30!



Oakwood Garden Rooms started supporting Candlelighters in 2021, and in that time have raised an incredible £180,453 by hosting online raffles.





Christmas cards and merchandise

We're so excited to show you our lovely Christmas card designs for 2023! You can order your cards by completing the order form below, or by visiting our online shop at: www.candlelighters.org.uk/shop

Our cards all come in packs of 10 for £4.50

Which cards will you choose?

More designs available online!

















No	Description	Qty	Price	Total
1	Dressing the Snowman		£4.50	
2	Cat Postie		£4.50	
3	Waiting for Santa		£4.50	
4	Town Centre Tree		£4.50	
5	Penguin Party		£4.50	
6	Highland Cow Herd		£4.50	
7	Santa Dressing the Tree		£4.50	
8	Peace and Joy		£4.50	
			Sub total	
		Postage		
		Optional donation		
	TOTAL			

Postage & Packaging costs

1-2 packs - £1.90 **3-10 packs** - £3. All postage is second class. For orders of more than ten packs and for any other enquiries, call 0113 322 9283. Postage fees on our online shop may vary.

Name: Address:

Postc

Tel:

Email:

Payment method

- I enclose a cheque/postal order made payable to 'Candlelighters', **OR**
- Please debit my total order sum from my debit/credit card
- Visa Mastercard Maestro

Card Number:

Expiry date: / Security code:

donation, thank you so much! Did you know you could boost this donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate?

If you've chosen to give us an optional

YES I want to Gift Aid all donations I make in the future or have made in the past four years to Candlelighters until I notify otherwise.

Please enter today's date

I am a tax payer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/ or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay the difference.

Please fill out this form and return it to us using the prepaid envelope.





Candlelighters Merchandise

There's a wide range of Candlelighters merch items available to buy from our online shop! Scan the QR code to take look, or head to www.candlelighters.org.uk/products/merchandise



Join us at the Candlelighters

Christmas Party

We're so excited to announce that our 2023 Christmas Party will take place on Sunday 3rd December at Cedar Court in Bradford.

We'd love you to join us for an afternoon of fun and Christmas magic! If you'd like to attend, please register your interest by scanning the QR code below and filling in the online form by 3rd November 2023.

Our Candlelighters Christmas Party is for all families affected by childhood cancer – whether they are currently on treatment, post treatment, or sadly bereaved.

Please note that this event is for siblings, patients and parents/ guardians only. We have around 300 places available for the party, due to capacity at the venue, and places are limited to a maximum of two adults per household.





For family support, please call 0113 887 8333

To make a donation you can give online, call 0113 322 9283, or send a cheque to the address below. You can also leave a gift to Candlelighters in your will.



8 Woodhouse Square Leeds LS3 1AD **←** CandlelightersTrust

candlelightersyorkshire

CandlelightersT

candlelighters.org.uk
Registered Charity No: 1045077

