



# Tree of Hope

*Transforming the health of  
sick and disabled children*

JUNE 2023  
**newsletter**

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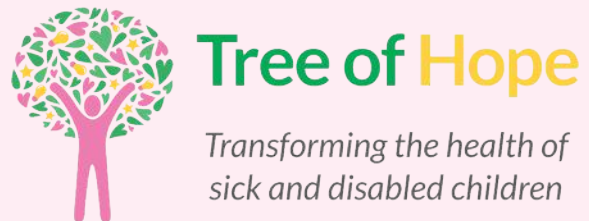
Jake Whillock

Introducing Oakley!

Our Research project







Fundraising over the warmer, sunny months has now started in earnest and many of you are busy with events and activities so don't forget to chat to the family's team to see what help they can give and if any publicity locally can be arranged. Whilst the realities of the continued increases in the cost of living are hitting many hard, we are finding that many of our families are still able to fundraise effectively. Please don't feel alone if you are worrying about asking for money, just call us for help and support – we have lots of ideas to help you to find funds from many different sources. We can share what others are doing successfully, help you think about how to ask local businesses for support or see if there are other funders who may be able to help you.

Don't forget that many challenge events are held during these summer months – I know we have encouraged you before to consider asking your supporters to sign up for a run, a bike ride or a triathlon or any similar events that their friends and family might be happy sponsoring them for. The more it is a challenge for them personally the more people will often support them. If you don't ask them, you will never know if they are just itching to help you out with your fundraising challenge!

As always if you need our help and support or know a child who would benefit from fundraising with us, please do contact us and we will do the very best we can to help. Do follow us on social media and like and share our content- this helps many more people to become aware of our vital work supporting the NHS to deliver the best healthcare it can to children and young people across the UK.

Please do contact us with any thoughts or comments on this issue at [Info@treeofhope.org.uk](mailto:Info@treeofhope.org.uk) We would love to hear from you.

Kind Regards,

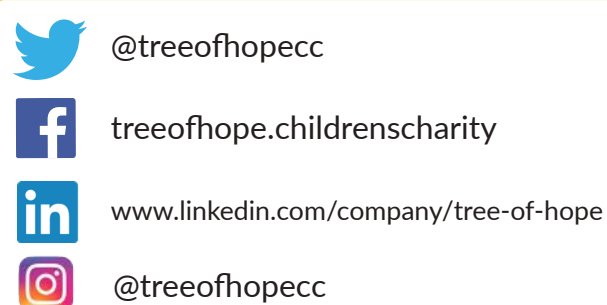
*Gill*

Gill Gibb



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## HELLO



Summer has finally arrived and we're more than happy to welcome the warmer and longer days, and my goodness, it appears our families are too!

We have been absolutely blown away by the amount of fundraising happening for our children's campaigns over the past few months and well into the Summer too! From marathons and sky dives, to hikes and summer balls, we have never seen so many individuals, groups and pairs taking on some truly epic challenges in aid of children's campaigns!

We have been really busy behind the scenes putting together a brand new website thanks to one of our brilliant sponsors which will be launching later this summer, so keep your eyes peeled – a big thank you to those of you who helped give us feedback on our current site, which was super useful in making sure the new website is as user friendly as it can possibly be.

In this edition, we will be introducing our brand mascot, Oakley. He has been joining us on our adventures across the country, so read on to find out what he's been up to and how he came across Tree of Hope!

As always, we want to hear from you – do you have an event coming up that you'd like some PR support with, perhaps you're struggling to come up with some ideas for fundraising, or maybe you want to explore some new fundraising avenues – we can help, whether you're a family fundraiser or a Tree of Hope supporter!

Please, never hesitate to contact [families@treeofhope.org.uk](mailto:families@treeofhope.org.uk) or call us on 01892 535525 with any questions, big or small.

**Steph, Editor**

## SPECIAL NEEDS EQUIPMENT-BUY AND SELL

We're always on the lookout for things that will make our families lives easier, and we have recently found a Facebook Group which is aimed at buying and selling second hand equipment, suitable for those with additional needs. Take a look at the link to the right to have a look at the page for some bargains. We do, however, always recommend that a healthcare professional casts an eye on any piece of equipment for your child, to ensure their safety and correct usability for them!

If you have a piece of equipment that your child no longer needs and is taking

up space (from mobility aids to sensory toys), why not consider adding a listing to this Facebook group, rather than making a trip to the tip. Any money that you make on the equipment, you can donate straight back into your child's Tree of Hope campaign, to go towards other items that your child needs.

The same can be said for buying equipment for your child – if there is something on this site that your child needs and you're considering making a purchase, please contact [families@treeofhope.org.uk](mailto:families@treeofhope.org.uk) with a screenshot of the item. We can

then advise you on the next steps of purchasing the item. This would usually involve purchasing the item yourself and submitting an expense claim form, alongside your initial screenshot showing the price of the item, as well as details of the seller and a confirmation of payment from your bank and the seller of the item!

We hope you find this super useful!

[www.facebook.com/groups/223452871046280](https://www.facebook.com/groups/223452871046280)

## PLEASE LEAVE A GOOGLE REVIEW!

Thank you so much to everyone who has left Tree of Hope a Google review recently - we are so pleased to see the impact we have made on your lives.

If you are yet to leave us a review, please scan the code today to rate

our services. Our reviews allow other families to see the work that we do, and the support that we can offer when they may be looking for their child too. Your experiences all help!

**Thank you!**



REVIEW US





Meet Jake!

# Jake Whillock

Here at Tree of Hope, we are all too aware that illnesses in children and young adults are often unexpected and overwhelming to come to terms with, and the whole family are forced to deal with new and scary situations, which they had not planned or even considered would happen to them. For Jake, his diagnosis of Diffuse Midline Glioma was the news that every family dreads, however they have been blown away by the support of others, whose main aim is raising money for life saving treatment, so that Jake can live a life just like his peers. Read on to find out more.

Passionate about all things Lego, Jake Whillock is a happy sixteen-year-old boy who lives in Eastbourne with his Mum, Sandie and four younger siblings. However, things changed in December 2021 when he started feeling unwell with migraines and randomly began being sick. Jake said "I just couldn't get out of bed in the mornings, Mum thought I was making it up because I didn't want to go to school!" Initially Jake was given the all-clear by the doctors, but the

sickness continued and a CT scan revealed he had a rare brain tumour called Diffuse Midline Glioma.

Diffuse midline gliomas usually appear as a mass that spreads in the middle area of the brain – the cause is not known. Jake began radiotherapy and chemotherapy on the 27th June 2022, and an MRI scan on the 11th January 2023 seemed to show the brain tumour was shrinking. Unfortunately, despite

the treatment, Jake developed a second tumour and the treatment for the initial tumour stopped working. Jake's tumours are inoperable due to their location and his only chance was with Chemotherapy and/or Radiotherapy. Whilst he has the option of Chemotherapy in the UK, his tumours are growing and are no longer responding to treatment, which also gives him terrible side-effects that massively affect his quality of life.

After extensive research, the family opted to try a new drug ONC201. The treatment is not currently available in the United Kingdom, so the family were offered treatment at the Gustave Roussy Cancer Centre in Paris. The institute treats patients with all types of cancer at any age and is an expert centre in the treatment of rare and complex tumours. Natasha Uys, who is a family friend of the Whillock's has taken the lead for Jake's fundraising campaign.

Natasha explained that "the treatment in the UK is unable to effectively reach his tumour due to the size of the molecules and the blood-brain barrier. The treatment in France has smaller molecules which are more able to reach the tumour and attack it more effectively. This treatment is his only chance and it also has fewer side effects to his previous treatment, which will mean that he will feel better, he won't feel so tired or unwell, and he'll be able to carry on with his life, while on treatment."

Natasha went on to say "If effective and he starts to feel better, he'll also be able to start going out with his friends again and not have to be accompanied everywhere! We're hoping that this treatment will shrink the tumours and effectively get rid of them as he is unable to have them surgically removed" This treatment also does not carry the risk of other cancers forming somewhere in his body later in life.

It was not known at the beginning how long treatment would be needed, so the family set an initial fundraising target of £20,000 to cover the first four months. The campaign got off to a flying start with the support provided by Jake's school being particularly helpful. Sandie commented that "Jake's school has been amazing. They published the fundraising page to all parents, and within a day, our total doubled! The school also held a Bake Sale for Jake, which raised over £900." Sandie went on to say "the school were also prepared to have other fundraisers for Jake and will support in any way they

can."

In addition to the support of their family, friends and Jake's school, The Azaylia Foundation gladly provided the family with a grant to ensure that their £20,000 target was met, all in the space of just four weeks. The Azaylia Foundation are a charity that Tree of Hope have recently partnered with, who were established to fight childhood cancer, advance early diagnosis and new treatments, and support families to access the treatment that they need which is not available on the NHS. Supporting Jake and his family with their treatment, The Azaylia Foundation ensured that Jake could head off for his first treatment session on 21st March 2023.

All went well and mum, Sandie commented that "Although it was a really long day, we really believe we are on the right track for his treatment. There were no side effects to taking the tablet apart from a bit of tiredness, and all the staff at the Gustave Roussy were really helpful and so kind." Whilst initially not knowing how long Jake would need

treatment for, it was confirmed at this appointment that he would need at least one year of treatment, so Jake's fundraising target was increased by £25,000 to £45,000.

Undaunted, the family have lots of plans to raise the extra funds including a family fun day, an Eastbourne music night, and several Facebook raffles going on. A SkyDive on the 19th May raised £1365.

When asked for any advice for families that might find themselves in a similar situation, Natasha advised that "Tree of Hope



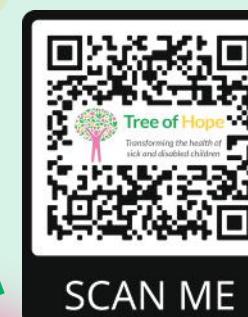
Jake on his 16th birthday!

were really helpful and enabled us to reach our initial £20,000 target really quickly. Make sure you use the information that Tree of Hope give you, and talk to them about any concerns as they are able to give advice."

Despite the disrupted year at school, Jake took his GCSEs in May 2023 and is looking forward to starting college in September. "I have applied and been accepted into a course in construction at college. I have great support from family and friends around me and strangers who have helped me raise funds to have my treatment, and I will be forever grateful", Jake told us

We wish Jake all the best on this journey and are pleased to be able to support his fundraising efforts!

You can make a donation here!



Keep up to date with their fundraising efforts here:

[www.treeofhope.org.uk/jake-whillock/](http://www.treeofhope.org.uk/jake-whillock/)



# BIG PICTURE CHARITY FILMS

to utilise high quality films and digital media. Big Picture became a charity so they could fundraise themselves to be able to offer their quality services at a fraction of commercial rates, which lets charities keep the bulk of their money for doing what it is they do best!

Nik, who is Head of Production at Big Picture told us "We had seen too many charities being overcharged for services that need not cost the earth. Having

Big Picture have really been the ticket into films like this being possible for Tree of Hope which is important for us to get the support needed to run our services. On working with Tree of Hope, Nik told us "Working with Georgie and the Tree of Hope team has been a wonderful experience for us, mainly because she understands the needs of the people we are filming, but also the need for us to capture their story in a sensitive yet emotional way, one that will hopefully raise awareness of the cause and therefore financial support for the families.



Nik filming our families

Here at Tree of Hope, it's always important for us to get across the value of our work and the difference Tree of Hope makes to family's fundraising campaigns. The power our family's stories hold is so unique and how we communicate this to our funders, supporters, corporate supporters is really important.

When the pandemic hit, we kicked our marketing into high gear as this was a tool that we could maintain throughout tricky times. We wanted to showcase the difference we make to families via video, to help get across the great impact that the charity makes across so many different circumstances.

Georgie, Our Head of Marketing & Family Support came across Big Picture in 2021 after a search for film production companies. Formed in 2012, Big Picture was born out of the huge need for charitable organisations

worked in production since the late 1980's, we believed we had the experience and the technical ability to be able to offer broadcast-level films to charities that would otherwise have been priced out of being able to afford them."

Since 2022, Big Picture have created 5 impactful and moving films about our families and their own experiences of how Tree of Hope have supported their fundraising journeys. Nik told us "Tree of Hope is a perfect charity for us to work alongside, as they support normal, everyday people that have found themselves in very difficult situations, often with limited knowledge of how to promote their causes. Working together, we create a film that not only highlights the need for support, but also tells the viewer the difference that Tree of Hope is making to these families."



Zion being filmed by Big Picture



BIG PICTURE CHARITY

Head to our YouTube Channel to see our awareness films and some of our lovely families and the difference we have made.



WATCH OUR FILMS

# Meet Oakley the Bear!



Hello everyone! My name is Oakley. I'm the new mascot for Tree of Hope which means I get to encourage everyone I meet to help disabled children and their families get the help they desperately need to help their children thrive!

I will tell you the story of how I came to meet Tree of Hope. I was walking through a forest one day when I came across a family who seemed sad as they were struggling to find the help and support they needed to support their child with additional needs. I knew I had to do something to help, and then I came across Tree of Hope, a wonderful organisation that are dedicated to helping families and their children and helping them to fundraise. We are so lucky to have our wonderful NHS, but the extent of the support this is able to supply, is very limited sadly, but Tree of Hope offer the solution.

I just knew I had found the right place to get families the help that they need with lots of opportunities for fundraising, as well as kind and helpful people to speak to, so families aren't on their own. And with that, Tree of Hope made me their charity mascot and I am delighted to be here!

I've already been a very busy bear, the team and I do get out and about, which is really important because there are so many children in the UK that need our help, so I am very happy to play my part in helping Tree of Hope spread the word about their important service.

I'd really like it if you became a friend of mine and followed the work Tree of Hope does, maybe you could help us to make a difference too?

I have my very own TikTok channel called @OakleyfromTreeofHope so do follow me and my journey here!

You can see here what I have been up to so far with the team!





# A Garden Sensory Room for William



William loving the garden!

Here at Tree of Hope, we understand how sensory spaces, toys and equipment can help regulate a child who might have complex needs. A sensory area can be considered a safe and comfortable space to provide respite and it is for this reason that we support families who are fundraising for sensory areas in their home or garden. Read on to find out more about William's journey to his very own Garden Sensory Room!

Meet William. William lives in Lancashire with his Mum, Amanda, Dad, Doug, big brother James and Molly the Multi Poo. William was born with Congenital Hyperinsulinism, a life-threatening disorder that causes dangerously low blood sugar levels.

Congenital Hyperinsulinism is a rare disease, with 1 in 40,000 diagnosed every year in the UK. For William, he has the genetic version of the disease, which is the rarer type. William relies on 24-hour care to keep him safe. Congenital Hyperinsulinism can cause seizures, sight and hearing loss and low glucose levels which puts organs in constant danger.

On asking about the realities of living with a child and managing William's condition, Amanda explained how William is always at risk. "His condition really limits his opportunity for any activity as any activity at all makes his condition worse." She went on to say "It's really difficult to

manage and is why we have the care for him that we do."

Children with Congenital Hyperinsulinism have very low blood sugars, often dangerously low. Amanda explained, "when William's glucose levels drop, it means his brain is starved and things can get dangerous very quickly, so every hypo that he has, he is at risk of experiencing a brain injury." She went on to say, "the really difficult thing is that he is a really active little boy, and he just wants to do everything, so it's really hard. He has to have an adult or carer within 6 metres of him at all times and every adult around him has a monitor on them so they can keep an eye on his glucose levels." On asking Amanda how they manage the everyday, she told us, "it's so challenging, we have 50 hours of care a week to help and we do our best to make sure he can take part in things. He absolutely adores swimming, he's so happy when he's

in water, but even that is limited to 20 minutes because of his monitor." She went on to say "His hypos are so frequent, even when he's sleeping, so the monitor is crucial, though it can feel like a blessing and a curse all at once as we don't always want to rely on technology, it is always in the back of your mind."



Enjoying a yummy ice cream!



William, James and Molly!

We asked how William manages to take part in activities, given the constant danger he's in. Amanda told us "We just make it happen! It means we always have to intervene to give him snacks and drinks throughout whatever he's doing. He deals with it really well though and never complains." She went on to say "considering he has autism as well and it's difficult to get autistic children to comply with what's needed, we're really lucky that William understands why we do everything, and it is to keep him safe."

We asked Amanda how soon they knew William had complications when he was born. She said "I had a very difficult pregnancy and experienced a lot of sickness. We have an older child, so I knew something wasn't right with the amount I was unwell. I lost a lot of weight and then I ended up having an early labour at 30 weeks." She went on to say, "even though he was premature, he still weighed 9.11 lb. From the start he wouldn't feed, and he was also shaking so we knew something wasn't right, which we now know was his glucose levels. A normal baby's glucose levels should be around 4 and William's were 0.9 when he was born, which is dangerously low." Amanda explained.

William got transferred to Alder Hey

Children's hospital at 1 week old and was put under 24-hour care, where he remained for many months.

On asking about the family's home life and what they enjoy doing together, Amanda told us, "we're a very busy household as you can imagine, and family time is really important. James and William love playing football, it's one of William's favourite things to do with his brother, we just ensure we get enough breaks and snacks in!" She

went on to say, "we love watching the football and are big Glasgow Rangers fans! William gets so excited and always shouts "GOOOOAAALLL!" when they score!"

William's Mum told us about the little bond he has with Molly their multi poo dog and explained that "we love going for dog walks, William has a wheelchair, and he just loves it. Molly adores William, she pines for him whenever he's not there too, it's very sweet."

On a sunny day, William loves going to the beach as well. Amanda explained, "William

struggles to be in busy places due to his autism, so going to Bispham, a lovely quiet little seaside town and eating sausage and chips on the beach, he absolutely loves it."

William's family are fundraising for a sensory garden room.

On asking what this will mean to the family, Amanda told us, "our friends and family realise what a difficult situation we're in and they recognise how important it is for William to have a space that we can chill out in." She went on to say, "William does have bad days so it will just change everything if he has somewhere he can go and be safe and relax in a sensory space. Sometimes the bad days mean we can't go anywhere

to keep William safe, it will just be life changing for us as we don't have a lot of space."

On asking Amanda how they found out about Tree of Hope, she explained that Caudwell Children had pointed them in our direction. She explained "we applied to them for a grant and understandably they are so oversubscribed, but they explained how Tree of Hope would be able to help us." We asked how the family's experience has been so far with Tree of Hope and Amanda remarked "it's just been amazing, everything from the constant contact, the fundraising ideas and having people to talk to and be in touch with, it's just been absolutely brilliant."

William's family have lots of great support from their own network and have some plans in the pipeline including a summer fair. Amanda told us "we've had a lovely guy who shaved his head 6 weeks before his wedding and that raised over £600, so that was a great help to get us going." Amanda went on to say "we're currently looking at different venues for our summer event at the moment. I really want William to be a part of the fundraising so the venue is quite important but we've got lots of ideas and we've got a friend who is in a band so I think music for both the adults and kids will be something we want to make happen."

Amanda added, "We're so grateful for the support we have, we know people don't have a lot of spare money at the moment, so it's just so kind that people are willing to help us to help William."

"It will just change everything if William has somewhere he can go and be safe and relax in a sensory space"

You can make a donation here



See William's journey here:

[www.treeofhope.org.uk/william-orr/](http://www.treeofhope.org.uk/william-orr/)



# MEET OUR UNIVERSITY OF KENT PLACEMENT STUDENT

**In September 2022, Tree of Hope welcomed University of Kent placement student, Charlee Pugh to our team! Charlee's role was to lead a new round of research for Tree of Hope, based on some of the conditions that we have supported over the years, but she has offered so much more than that, as she has delved into the world of Family Support, Marketing and Funding, to name just a few. Whilst Charlee's time at Tree of Hope is sadly coming to an end, her research projects will help shape our understanding of certain conditions and what families are up against for many years to come. Read on to find out more about Charlee's project.**

“Hi, I'm Charlee, I am 21 years old and currently studying Psychology full time at the University of Kent with a year in industry. I chose to study psychology as I have a keen interest to understand the human brain and behaviour. I have also spent a lot of my time working and volunteering with children and young people, in particular teaching Gymnastics to young children, and have found child development to be a big interest of mine. When applying for placements, I wanted to go into a field where I could get experience



Charlee Pugh

with child development to see if it was something I would be happy to proceed with in the future, after graduation.”

When Charlee started at Tree of Hope, she worked alongside Georgie, our Head of Marketing and Family Support, as well as our CEO Gill to prepare a schedule of research projects throughout her placement, and she was asked to lead research projects covering three separate conditions. We spoke to Charlee about all of her research projects, to give you an idea of what she's been up to!

## **SMA research**

We asked Charlee about her first research project and she told us that “I was tasked to investigate the impacts that treatments and support for Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) have had on children and their families.” As Tree of Hope have only recently begun to see enquiries soar for support with fundraising for children with SMA, Charlee told us that “the aim of the study was to gain more in-depth knowledge surrounding NHS support of the condition, and where the gaps in NHS funding lay” so that we could understand in greater detail how Tree of Hope can help children with SMA.

Charlee explained that “I interviewed Tree of Hope families, as well as children and their parents outside

of the charity and the parents that I spoke to gave me an insight into their own experiences with diagnosis, treatments, support available, adaptations and lifestyle since treatment”.

When asked about the interview process, Charlee said that “the interviews took place over zoom and in person over the course of three months” and went on to say that throughout the interviews “I began to understand how SMA impacts a family's day to day lives, and how fundraised treatments and services have helped each individual family.”

Charlee's research will give us a greater insight into the short and long term impacts that specific treatments, equipment and therapies have on children with SMA, and will maximise the support we can offer to families in the future. Charlee added “A huge thank you to the families who I spoke to during this study!”

## **ASD research**

For her second research project Charlee investigated the services and support that is offered for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and how this has impacted children and their families.

Charlee explained that “this research formed part of my university coursework therefore I took a

different approach. The study consisted of an online survey that we sent out to our families via email. The survey was written and reported using an online platform called Qualtrics and all responses were exported and analysed using a software system called RStudio.”

Explaining the aim of this study, Charlee explained that she aimed to “learn more about parent's experiences of ASD support and services, and how this is offered to their child, as it's important to see how fundraising for these services have impacted our families' everyday lives.” Charlee added that she hopes that Tree of Hope can use her research project so that “we can continue to improve and expand our support for these families in the near future.”

## **SDR research**

Finally, for her last research project, Charlee studied the longitudinal impacts of Selective Dorsal Rhizotomy (SDR surgery) on children with Cerebral Palsy, aiming to compare the short-term and the long-term effects of the surgery.

After altering her initial research methods, Charlee turned her study

into a case study of a handful of families. She told us that “families were interviewed over zoom with questions regarding diagnosis, surgery, other treatments and the impacts of surgery and fundraising experiences”.

We are fortunate at Tree of Hope to have children with us who have grown up and see the impacts of what they have fundraised for, which gave Charlee a “greater understanding of the longer term effects that SDR surgery can have on children and how it has impacted both the children and the parents' lives.”

## **Charlee's time at Tree of Hope:**

We wanted to know what Charlee thought of her time at Tree of Hope and were delighted to hear her say that “everyone has been so lovely and welcoming, helped me to understand all their individual roles, and allowed

me to join them and be a part of some amazing experiences”. Having worked with each department Charlee said that “I have learnt so much from the great team here at Tree of Hope, I feel like part of the family and will be very sad to go when my year here is up”.

Explaining that whilst “the research has been a big part of my role, I have also really enjoyed the time spent talking to families, attending events such as the Carols at Christmas in December, getting the opportunity to become involved in networking events

and receiving some great advice and experience from meeting with our trustees.” Charlee went on to say “I have also been given the opportunity to sit in on board meetings and had the chance to get involved with building our new website” to give her a broad variety of experiences within the charity sector.

Explaining some of her highlights, Charlee told us that she has really valued “researching Trusts and foundations with Emma, including receiving invitations to bid advice days and participation workshops, which has helped in my placement setting and given me lots of great tips going into my final year of university.”

On final reflections of her time at Tree of Hope, Charlee summarised that “all opportunities that this placement has given me will help me not just this year, but have helped to advance my skills and experience for the future after I graduate. I am very thankful for the time here and would do it all again if I could!”

We would like to thank Charlee for all of her amazing work at Tree of Hope over the past few months as her support has been invaluable. Keep an eye out for more information on the findings of Charlee's research which we will be sharing with you soon!



Charlee at a Volunteer Fair



Charlee at our Networking Event



# Fundraising News

## Thank you!

**Asda Kingshill** for our Green Tokens nomination at the end of 2022. We are delighted to hear that we were voted as the winning charity, receiving a gift of **£500**. Huge thanks to Christine at Asda Kingshill for her support and encouragement.

**Christopher Hull Sports Tonbridge** continue to be regular and generous supporters of Tree of Hope, having recently given us another donation through their reward scheme.

**Radnor House, Sevenoaks** have adopted us as their charity since 2021 as part of a two year charity adoption. Green House have been our fundraising team and we recently received our first donation from them of just over **£3000**. We look forward to continuing to work with them this year and wish them lots of luck with the Big Climb, their big fundraiser for the chosen charities this year. Come on Green House!

**Consortium More than Marketing** hosted a morning of pampering at the **House of Kuene** in aid of Tree of Hope. A huge thanks to Andrew Barton and his fabulous hair dressing team for a great morning, and thank you to everyone who attended as well as 4-5 Gray's Inn Square for sponsoring a brilliant event!



## Our Challengers!

### Team Tritans at Tonbridge Triathlon

This year we had 8 participants in the Tonbridge Triathlon on the 1st May – fondly know as Team Tritans. For some of them, this was their very first Triathlon and for others, it was just the start of a series of challenges that they are taking part in for us this year. They have so far raised over **£1600** for Tree of Hope, which is amazing!

Thank you to Tonbridge Lions for gifting us some places to help with our fundraising, another well run event and I am sure our challengers will be back again next year.



**Claire Rea** ran the Crystal Palace Half Marathon in March, raising over **£2000** for us, how amazing! We are hugely grateful to Claire for her support, and to everyone who donated to her Just Giving page.



### Consortium's Worthing 10K!

A huge good luck to Lara and Will who will be running the Worthing 10K in June as part of Consortium Business Solutions Charity Adoption with us. We will be cheering you on and look forward to hearing how it went. Look out for an update in our next Newsletter.

### Truly Twenties Manchester Peaks Ultra Challenge

Our Family Support Officer Katie and her team of friends are taking on the 10 mile Peaks Ultra Challenge! The challenge is a 10 mile loop starting and ending at Bakewell basecamp and they will be running & walking the route! Good luck Katie and team!



We are looking for more Challenge Eventers to take part in the Ultra Challenges and Dragon Boat Races this year. If you are looking for a challenge for your work team or friends and family there will be something to suit you we are sure.

For more information contact [Challengeevents@treeofhope.org.uk](mailto:Challengeevents@treeofhope.org.uk)

## Charity Golf Day at Hever Castle Golf Club

We had another amazing day at Hever Castle Golf Club on the 4th May. The sun was shining as we welcomed 9 teams to our first Golf Day of 2023.

Our Teams were treated to a full English breakfast, 18 holes of golf and sandwiches and chips before our presentations began.

We were delighted to present our Winning Team prize to Nathan Palmer and the Pure Nails teams, who were also one of our sponsors, they scored 92. Our Individual Winner was from Team CCLA, also one of our sponsors and with a winning score of 41 - Sam Lynes took the prize!

Prizes were also presented to Peter Seamer for the Longest Drive and to Neal Turner for Nearest the Pin.

Thank you to all of our golfers for the support and generosity and of course to our sponsors Pure Nails, CCLA and Handelsbanken Tunbridge Wells. We raised just over **£5000** which is awesome.

Our next Golf Day is at Westerham Golf Club on Tuesday 19th September. We would love to welcome you! Contact – [Karen.Warner@treeofhope.org.uk](mailto:Karen.Warner@treeofhope.org.uk) for more info!



## Save the date!

### Charity Golf Day at Westerham Golf Club

Tuesday 19th September - £75 pp  
Contact – [Karen.Warner@treeofhope.org.uk](mailto:Karen.Warner@treeofhope.org.uk)

### TN Charity Dog Walk

Sunday 8th October  
Tonbridge Old Fire Station and Tonbridge Park

### Carols at Christmas

Thursday 14th December  
St Nicholas Church Sevenoaks

[www.treeofhope.org.uk/get-involved/upcoming-events/](http://www.treeofhope.org.uk/get-involved/upcoming-events/)





# TN CHARITY DOG WALK

In aid of Tree of Hope  
**YOU'RE INVITED!**

Sunday 8th October @10:30

From The Old Fire Station, Tonbridge



THE TREE OF HOPE POOCHES WILL BE COMING, WILL YOU?

[www.tonbridgedogs.co.uk/](http://www.tonbridgedogs.co.uk/)

## Support Tree of Hope

Tree of Hope offers hope to seriously ill and disabled children living in the UK and their families by helping them to raise funds for vital operations that the NHS can't provide, therapies and treatments needed for rehabilitation and improvement, and specialist disability equipment and/or adaptations to a family home.

### We need your support to make a difference!

You can help to improve the lives of children with complex disabilities and illnesses by making a regular donation or a one-off gift to Tree of Hope.



### Your gift will enable Tree of Hope to:

- continue providing the legitimacy of belonging to a well-respected charity to hundreds of families, enabling them to access funds for their child that would not be possible otherwise
- offer online giving platforms for fundraising, making the fundraising journey far more simple for the family than it could be otherwise
- provide advice and guidance on the best ways of fundraising, and giving support throughout a family's fundraising campaign, including dealing with invoices and suppliers, and sharing news of other families in similar positions, reducing the stress for families in very difficult situations

- You can donate by cheque which needs to be made payable to 'Tree of Hope'. Cheques can be posted to our address: Tree of Hope, 61-63 Camden Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2QE

- You can donate by paying directly into our bank account, details below:

Tree of Hope  
Metro Bank

Account Number: 21862665

Sort Code: 23-05-80

Payment Reference: TOHGDonation

- You can set up a standing order from your own bank account for a monthly donation using the above bank details
- You can donate online via [www.treeofhope.org.uk](http://www.treeofhope.org.uk) using the Donate to Tree of Hope button. We use a platform called Go Cardless which pay us via direct debit. DD are used for either a monthly or one-off donations.
- To donate by text, text 'TOHDONATE' to 70085 with the number of how much you would like to donate between 1-20. The cost of a standard rate message plus the amount donated will be debited. All donations can be gift aided.
- You can set up a donation or a fundraiser via Facebook, please visit [facebook.com/treeofhope](https://facebook.com/treeofhope). childrenscharity for details and set up.
- You can now donate by shopping on Amazon, Easyfundraising and selecting Tree of Hope on the list of available charities, this is a great way to support, just remember to click Tree of Hope every time you shop.

Remember to Gift Aid where applicable to add 25% to your donation at no extra cost. Please contact [accountsreceivable@treeofhope.org.uk](mailto:accountsreceivable@treeofhope.org.uk) to obtain a gift aid declaration form.

*giftaid it*



# How we help...



**Tree of Hope helps children and young people with a disability or illness by supporting their families to raise the funds that they need to pay for specialist care that is not available through the health care system.**

## Our staff team support Tree of Hope families by:

- Assisting with the creation of a Tree of Hope online fundraising campaign via Just Giving
- Making fundraising tools and advice available to parents
- Ensuring staff are available on the telephone
- Enabling each campaign to claim gift aid because it is part of registered charity Tree of Hope
- Putting families in touch with other families in similar situations for moral support
- Giving greater exposure to campaigns nationally through being associated with a well recognised charity brand
- Support with managing funds and paying invoices

**[www.treeofhope.org.uk](http://www.treeofhope.org.uk)  
01892 535525**

## Who We Help...

- Children under the age of 18, with access to funds up to their 25th birthday
- Children anywhere within the UK
- A child suffering from a disability, illness or autism

## Medical Conditions we have helped families with (not an exhaustive list)

Cerebral Palsy  
Retts Syndrome  
Downs syndrome  
Global Developmental Delay  
Hypermobility  
Congenital Hypotonia  
Epilepsy  
Visual Impairments  
Meningitis complications  
Lebers Congenital Amaurosis  
Dravet Syndrome  
Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy Injury  
Dystonia

## What you can fundraise for

Equipment including but not limited to trikes, hydrotherapy pools, specialist pushchairs & sensory equipment

Therapy, including; physiotherapy, horse riding & swimming lessons

Operations and treatment inside and outside of the UK

House Adaptations including sensory gardens and bathroom adaptations

Please remember to include all your fundraising needs at the start of your campaign. Speak to our Family Support Team on 01892 535525 for advice.



**Tree of Hope**

*Transforming the health of sick and disabled children*