



Registered Charity No:052284
B.U.G.S. Fund Number 1223

B.U.G.S. Autumn 2009 NEWSLETTER

Salisbury District Hospital

To contact B.U.G.S. write to: B.U.G.S. c/o Sister in Charge,
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or Telephone: (01722) 345507
Find us at: www.bugssalisbury.co.uk

Dates for your Diaries

Open Day Salisbury Fire Station – Saturday 3rd October 2009

Front Hall Stall, SDH- November 18th

Winchester Christmas Market B.U.G.S. Stall – 30th November and 1st December

10th year Celebratory Event- May/ June 2010 see Spring Newsletter
for details

Hullo from the Chairman

What an odd year this has been. Although we were promised a 'barbeque summer' all we seem to have had is rain and most days have hardly been scorchingly warm. However the two children who went to camp this year have been lucky enough to have had really nice weather while they were away. One of the young people is at the National camp in Cambridgeshire as I type. The other went to the FAB camp in South West Wales during the May school holiday.

This reminds me of an interesting chat I had with a mother recently. I was chatting generally and suggested that in the future her child might like to go to camp. Her reply surprised me. She said that she didn't think her child had been burned badly enough to warrant going to camp.

It really is important that you all realize that *any* of the children who have been in the Unit are able to have the opportunity of going to camp. B.U.G.S. receives a fair amount of money especially to provide grants to give the children the opportunity of having some fun with other children who understand what having a burn injury means. Attending the camp *is* great fun as I know, for I too have been. I went as a volunteer a few years ago, so I know that what we offer is worthwhile.

At camp the children are fully occupied with indoor and outdoor activities. They don't necessarily talk about their experience, but the opportunity is there, either to talk to a volunteer

who will understand or to one another. Great, and long term friendships have been made at the camps and that can be a great comfort to the children.

Even a small burn can result in children being teased, left out or made to feel different at school and parents don't always know. So, please do remember that any child between 8 and 18 is entitled to apply to go to camp at any stage of their recovery. There are some restrictions and a few criteria to meet, but there is nothing to stop parents writing to ask for their child to attend. So, when the Spring Newsletter comes out advertising the Camps I do hope *Parents* that you will consider asking your child if they would like to go to one of the camps.

As I have said it is an ideal way for your child to have fun and mix with children who understand what it is like to have had a burn injury. B.U.G.S. provides grants which cover the cost of the camp. All you have to do is to get your child to camp, and we may even be able to help with that.

The Newsletter this time contains details of several Fund Raising events, some items from children and an Invitation from the Salisbury Fire and Rescue team to visit their Fire Station. Those of you who live in and around Salisbury will receive a personal invitation, but anyone else is welcome to contact us if they would like to attend.

Best wishes from
Jenny



White Watch takes up the Challenge for B.U.G.S.

In July Stuart Carpenter of White Watch, Southampton Airport Fire Service wrote to tell us about the Three Peaks Challenge that he and other colleagues did to raise money for B.U.G.S. Here is what he wrote.

“The challenge was to climb three mountains in 24hrs.....all in the name of charity!! This challenge was completed by the Southampton Firefighters a few weeks ago. They were aiming for gold but did so well they were awarded Platinum medals!! (Jenny says “Amazing!”)

Myself, Malcolm Bevis, James Dajlid and Stuart Creese started the climb of Ben Nevis in Scotland on 25th June at 17:40hrs, the weather was glorious but with the sun beating down it made our progress a little harder. We had the intention of getting a Gold medal (which would entail running most of the distance) this year which was going to be tough but after getting up and down Ben Nevis in 2hrs 40mins we were on course for a Platinum medal !

We made the long journey to Scarfell Pike in the Lake District and arrived there about 02:00hrs on the Friday. We were given a start time of 04:00hrs so had a bit of time to get some rest before the next mountain. Feeling very groggy we made our way to the start line and set off. We were one of the first teams off and with the sun starting to rise it was a spectacular sight. There was no time for sightseeing as this mountain is always the hardest and we just wanted to get up and down as quickly as we could. 2hrs 18mins was all we needed to get up and down and we knew that we would have more than enough time to reach the summit of Snowdon where the clock would stop.

Five hours later we arrived at the final mountain, Snowdon in Wales. Although we were all feeling absolutely exhausted we were now running on adrenaline as we could see the chance to get a Platinum medal was well within our reach. After a quick team talk we set off at 11:14 and reached the top 1hr and 18mins later.

After getting the official time we were presented with a Platinum medal as we had taken a total of 17hrs and 10mins, including 11hrs for driving!!! Out of a total of 113 teams we finished 11th which we are all immensely proud of.

I would like to especially mention our drivers, as without them the event is not possible, Mick Brown, Pete Hart, Darren Nield and Paul Abbott.”



Stuart, Malcolm Bevis, James Dajlid and Stuart

Another Generous Donation

On Friday 3 July two volunteers, Deborah Welsh and Anna Treseder, visited the EssoMobil Refinery at Fawley to collect a donation from Jim Rowsell, Business Team Leader, and his Fire Response Group. Anna describes their visit:-

“Jim and his team are responsible for ensuring safety throughout this vast site, particularly regarding fire prevention. We were very impressed by the strict routines for security and safety that we observed during our visit, and the obvious adherence to those procedures by everyone we met.



Deborah and Anna receive the cheque from Phil Rixon and the Fire Response Group at Fawley

Arriving at the impressive site we reported to Reception and having presented our credentials were given security passes. Jim collected us and took us to a meeting room where members of his Team were just concluding a briefing. It was good

to meet them all. I spoke briefly about the smart new Burns Unit, especially the facilities in the ward, and described the work that B.U.G.S. volunteers undertake.

Deborah continued by outlining the benefits to patients resulting from donations from benefactors like the Fire Response Group, (and B.U.G.S.' own fundraising efforts). These including information booklets and video, the quiet room, the relaxing chair beds for parents and a tropical fish tank in the children's ward; the emergency packs of toiletries and other essentials for new arrivals in the Unit; hand massage and, most importantly, sending children to annual Burns Camps where they enjoy meeting other children who are recovering from the trauma of suffering burns and experience adventures and comradeship at Camp.

We were overwhelmed when we were told that the Group were donating a large sum of money to B.U.G.S., especially as the money was part of the Group's own reward in recognition of setting and achieving high safety standards at work throughout the site. Deborah and Anna gave sincere thanks on behalf of the patients at the Burns Unit in Salisbury who will benefit from this generous donation.

The presentation of the enormous cheque by Phil Rixon, the Safety Rep on the 'A' Shift took place outside next to a shiny red fire engine with all the members of the Fire Response Group (FRG) grouped around. B.U.G.S. greatly appreciates the support they have provided over the last four or five year which has enabled B.U.G.S. to provide comforts for patients during and after the time they spend in hospital.

Recently Jim explained "There's a natural link and empathy between the FRG and B.U.G.S. – we try to prevent fire from breaking out and B.U.G.S. tries to support those that have suffered from its effects.

"Each year, we donate some of the money allocated for our safety award schemes to B.U.G.S. As a result of the success of the 2008 Safety Award scheme, we were able to donate a large sum to the group. We're delighted to be able to help them in this way – they do a great job of helping to reduce the physical and mental scars suffered by the children."

Jim then took Deborah and Anna on a tour of the refinery site which was very interesting and informative from the huge tankers of crude oil

anchored in the mouth of the river, to the pumping stations and the fascinating towers where the crude is broken down into its component parts by chemical processes."

Jenny comments: "We have built up a special relationship with the ExxonMobile Fire Response Group and the Southampton Airport Fire Service over the years and really value all they do for us. We have got to know such nice people too!"

The National Burned Children's Camp 2009.

As usual this camp, for children between the ages of 8 and 18, was held again be at Grafham Water in Cambridgeshire. Our website has a link with the Burned Children's Club website. **Billy went again this year and writes:-**

A big thank you to you and everybody who gave, helped and made my holiday at Grafham waters such a brilliant time. I really enjoyed myself because of all the things we did like wind surfing, sailing, bike riding and the disco. The best part of the water sports was falling in. The thing that I liked was sharing a room with my friend the chatter box, his name is Rob. Rob and I stayed up playing around until late. The younger children would go to bed earlier, but the older ones were allowed to stay up later. I was really tired in the mornings! Rob and I got on really well, we played



football a lot of the time.

Billy enjoying the National Camp

I loved the cooked breakfasts it gave us loads of energy for the activities during the day. The chef was really good and made a lot of good and tasty food. There is also a tuck shop where I spent my five pounds pocket money, it was really good to be able to buy stuff. When the fire men came they got everyone saturated we really enjoyed ourselves

with them. Rob and I were talking to the girls a lot of the time, making them laugh.

This year I was able to pick up the coach at Chieveley service station, which saved my mum and dad a lot of driving. I enjoyed going on the coach and meeting with all the other children travelling up with me to Grafham water. They started from Bristol but children on the bus come from all around the south.

It was great to meet up with all my friends and make some new ones. It's a fantastic opportunity to try new things and make new friends, and I am going to stay in touch with some of them.

Karen and Caroline were 2 of the helpers and were really great.

The FAB Camp

This camp, organised by the FAB Club from Frenchay Children's Burns Unit, in May was held in Pendine in South West Wales.

Oliver went again this year and wrote us a very nice thank you letter after he came back, but has also sent me this by e-mail

"I went to B.U.G.S. camp at Morfa Bay, Wales in May and I thoroughly enjoyed it! We did lots of activities like body boarding, canoeing, abseiling and a lovely messy obstacle course, plus lots of other activities.



Here is a photo of Oliver enjoying the mud!

However one of the best bits is making friends and meeting up with friends from previous camps. I would recommend camp to anyone!"

Visit to Salisbury Fire Station



Red Watch at Salisbury Fire Station have invited children between 8 and 16 to visit the Station on **Saturday October 3rd 2009, at 2.00 p.m.** The children, and their parents, will see what a Fire Engine is like inside, what it is like to wear the protective clothing, and play with the hoses. It may be possible to have a drive around the yard in the Fire Engine, too!

The children should have received individual invitations, but if not, and they would like to come, please write to me via the Burns Unit. (Address above). *Jenny*

A present for B.U.G.S.!

Earlier this year Zoe was in the Unit for a time and while she was there she drew this lovely Ladybird for us. It was put up on our notice board for a few weeks and now is being kept safely for ever! We may use it for a card if she will let us! (*Jenny*)



Zoe's Bug

B.U.G.S. Stalls

B.U.G.S. has 3 stalls planned this year. You will find they are mentioned on our website as well, under the headings Fundraising and Agenda.

The dates are: **Wednesday, 18 November** at the Main Entrance of Salisbury District Hospital from 10.00 a.m. until 3.30 p.m.



The Front Hall and Winchester Market Stalls
This year we shall also be back at the Winchester Cathedral German-Style Christmas Market in the Charity Chalet on **Monday, 30 November and Tuesday, 1 December** from 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.
PLEASE COME & SUPPORT US.
See & buy our new merchandise!!

