



Fundraising News

January 2018

helping children with special needs shine

As we pack away the Christmas decorations and prepare for a New Year our thoughts turn to how we can make 2018 another great year for the Playgroup. In October 2017 our treasurer Paul was concerned about balancing the books as we were behind on our targets to raise the £50,000 a year we need to supplement the funding we receive from County to operate our playgroup to the high standard our precious children deserve. Our fortunes changed at the Dinner Dance on 28th October last year and although we did have to use £5000 of our reserves we have had some amazing events and donations which will hopefully put us back on track in 2018.

The Dinner Dance on 28th October was a smash hit, the new venue at CIM Moor Hall in Cookham was amazing. We enjoyed delicious food, great music from the Black Sheep and thanks to Tracy's amazing organisation, the generosity of those who donated and the frenzied bidding at the auction, we raised a staggering £9000.

The good fortune did not stop there, thanks to a contact made

on the night through one of our generous auction donators and bidders, Steve Novak, we received a nomination for a Goldman Sachs grant through the Michael Marsh Annual giving fund of an additional £15,000.



The Entertainers Grant Foundation, which is a charity run by the owner of the Entertainer Toy Shop Gary Grant, gave us a generous donation of £2500. The pharmaceutical company Allergan, based in Marlow, donated \$5000. We also recieved another donation of £500 from the local charity - Relief in Sickness. Marlow Town Band did carols at Asda before Christmas which raised £250 for MOP. We also had £500 from Chalfont St Peter Montessori as a result of their fundraising and £250 from Inixion - a regular Christmas donation in place of their Christmas cards, a donation of £200 from the Neeld Lodge (Masons), £250 from Simmons & Sons in Marlow, £130 from Simon and Clementine Fox, £250 from Charlotte Gwynn, £4299 from the Galtruccio family and £500 from the Louis Baylis Charitable Trust.



The Christmas festivities officially started on 25th November at our fantastic Christmas fair expertly organised by Sharon.

Thanks to all the staff who helped man the stalls, I think Jake Fielden could win an Olympic medal at HoopLa !!

Thanks to Mary and Georgie in the kitchen for the yummy refreshments, Audrey and Danny on the plant stall, all of you for coming along and supporting the event and of course Santa for making an early appearance.

We raised an amazing £1500 on the day and an additional £1000 from the HSBC matching funding scheme.

One of our Trustees Cath has been raising our profile with local Rotary Clubs and the Marlow Club have made an initial donation of £1845 and pledged further support in 2018.

The proceeds from the Marlow Coral Society Christmas carol concert have been to donated to MOPs thanks to our retired trustee Alison.

Samantha and Steve Batey donated the money they would have spent on Christmas cards and postage via our Virgin giving page thanks for thinking of us.

Thank you to all of you who have set up direct debit donations. These regular donations are much appreciated and help our treasurer Paul balance the books each month. Details of how you can set up a monthly donation and more about how to support the playgroup can be found on our web site.

<http://www.marlowopportunityplaygroup.org.uk>



You can also support the playgroup and have a chance to win by joining the Wycombe Lotto, details can be found on their website and searching for Marlow Opportunity Playgroup.

www.WycombeLotto.co.uk

It was great to get together with some of the new and returning mums and carers at the Coffee Morning on 28th November and we are looking forward to working with you all in 2018 to put into action some your fabulous ideas. If you have any fundraising suggestions or need any support for your own events please contact me, Jeanette Galloway, jeanettehgalloway@gmail.com.

