



# Fundraising News

October 2019

helping children with special needs shine

At the start of a new Academic Year at Playgroup, I would like to welcome all our new children and their families and invite them to join us in supporting the wonderful Marlow Opportunity Playgroup known to us all as MOP. As you may be aware, to operate our playgroup to the high standard our precious children deserve, we need to raise over £80,000 a year to supplement the funding we receive from Bucks County Council.

This newsletter is our way of thanking the organisations and individuals who have chosen to make Marlow Opportunity Playgroup (MOP) their charity of choice and hopefully inspire all our readers to join one or more of our events or even to organise one of their own.

We kick started our fundraising with our Quiz Night on the 24 March which raised over £700.

A fun evening of intellectual challenge, fierce competition and a lot of laughter. The evening was expertly hosted by Ian Galloway with his high-tech presentation and electronic score board. Team 'After Eight' won the coveted MOP trophy and will I am sure return next year to defend their winning position.



Next on the calendar was the Spring Fair on 18<sup>th</sup> May organised by Sharon and her team, a fabulous morning of fun and games, tombolas, hoopla, guess the weight of the cake, craft stalls, face painting and fantastic raffle raised an incredible £1000. Thank you Sharon and all who came along and supported the event

Since our last newsletter we have received generous donations from a number of our friends and supporters.



Phoebe and Simon Fox raised over £4000 by taking on the gruelling 874 mile cycle ride from Land's End to John O'Groats. What an amazing achievement, thank you for all your effort in training and raising money for Playgroup.

We also received a generous donation of £5000 from a MOP parent's business, £882 from High Wycombe Cricket Club, £250 from Pub in the Park, £423 from MRIB, £2000 from an unknown donator and a £10,000 grant from Goldman Sachs Gives Charity. Many individuals also make donations to MOP and since January this has totalled a fantastic £3700.

White Stuff in Marlow continue to support Playgroup and made another welcome donation of £232. The Masonic organisation held another Pig Roast and gave us £1500 from the event. Thank you everyone for choosing MOP so we can continue the great work at Playgroup.



Marlow Thames Rotary continue to be a great support for our fundraising, not only by a generous donation of £1500 but by actively working with local charities (which we are lucky to be one of) to look at other ways they can help us achieve our objectives and promote our charity. John Birbeck, Steve Ilman and Richard Gyselynck invited us to Cookham Regatta to spread the word about all the amazing work our Playgroup does for our incredible children and their families. We set up a stall "Hooking Ducks" and selling CupCakes and raised over £50 but more importantly we raised the awareness of Playgroup and had fun.

As most of you know we were lucky enough to be one of the nominated charities for last year's Marlow Santa Fun Run organised by the local Rotary Clubs and have now received £3000 from the event. If you want to take part this year the entry web page with details of how to enter is now open. <https://www.santasfunrun.org>

The £105 regular monthly donations we receive are always very welcome and will help our new treasurer Howard Sinton (welcome on board) to balance the books. 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 now support Playgroup as you shop through a scheme called Amazon Smile, Amazon donates 0.5% of the net purchase price (excluding VAT, returns and shipping fees) of eligible purchases to the charitable organisation of your choice. MOP is listed as one of their charities.

1. Enter "[smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk)" in your browser address bar
2. Shop & place your order
3. Amazon donates to the charity of your choice (Hopefully this will be MOP)

You can also continue supporting 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](http://www.WycombeLotto.co.uk)

## Dates for your Diary

9<sup>th</sup> November Charity Dinner Dance

Tracy still has some tables/places on tables to sell so 'please get in touch with her asap if you would like to come along to support our biggest fundraiser of the year!

30<sup>th</sup> November Christmas Fair

Christmas may seem a long way off but it's never too soon to start thinking of making gifts to sell or gathering prizes for the Tombola and Raffle.

Watch out for details of events posted at playgroup and on our FaceBook page.

If you have any fundraising suggestions or need any support organising your own events please contact me, Jeanette Galloway, [jeanettehgalloway@gmail.com](mailto:jeanettehgalloway@gmail.com).

