

Spring 2009

offering quality of life... for life

# Hollybank

## How you can help

It costs more than £8 million to run Hollybank every year, and we rely heavily upon the generous gifts of individuals and organisations to maintain high standards of care and provide our very special children, young people and adults with the best possible opportunities and quality of life.

**There are so many ways for you to support Hollybank,** from donating your spare change to making us your company's Charity of the Year and everything in between!

Please accept my donation of £ .....  
(Please make cheques payable to Hollybank Trust)

Please send me more information about:

- Running my own event
- How my business could support the Trust
- Becoming a volunteer
- Becoming a regular donor

Title: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms (delete as appropriate)

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

..... Postcode: .....

Tel: .....

Email: .....

I am a UK tax payer and would like to Gift Aid my donations to Hollybank.

Please return this form to:  
Hollybank Trust, FREEPOST NAT5356, Mirfield, WF14 0BR

www.hollybanktrust.com

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# Hollybank

Picture courtesy of John Edder Photography

## Every Penny Counts

Registered Charity Number 1043129

SUN EUROPEAN PARTNERS, LLP

Hollybank Trust would like to thank Sun European for their generosity and support in sponsoring the design and printing of this Newsletter

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## Top of the class!

**At the end of February Holly Bank School was chosen for the pilot of a new integrated inspection by Ofsted.**

The new guidelines assess the School and Hollybank's Children's Home alongside one another, and apparently we were the first school in the country to be inspected under the system.

The inspectors spent 3 days observing our work, and on the last day revealed our result – Grade 1, Outstanding for both School and Children's Home.

An added bonus was when Ofsted

acknowledged that some of the criteria by which they have to judge our provision is not appropriate, because our children cannot achieve in the same way as those in mainstream schools.

Because this is a pilot inspection, they will therefore request that some criteria are reviewed and alternatives introduced to better reflect the areas in which our learners are able to achieve.

We are all very proud to have received an 'outstanding' report, especially if we have inspired changes to the criteria to make it fairer for children in other special schools.



The report is available to the public via Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk).

Well done everyone! This brilliant news continues to build upon our achievements as the School was awarded Specialist Schools Status in September.

## Home sweet home . . .

**Many of the young people at Hollybank are gearing up for their eagerly awaited move to one of the two homes in the community which are due to be opened in the next few months.**



### The Sycamores

This beautiful 8 bedded home finally replaces the Three Pips accommodation that fell victim to flood and fire in 2007. It has been expertly renovated and extended so that it is perfect to meet the needs of the 8 adults who will be living there. All building work on the property has been finished and as soon as registration is achieved the new tenants will be making themselves at home.

*Peter, who will be moving in to The Sycamores very soon, said; "I am really excited about moving to The Sycamores as it will be the home where I can stay for the rest of my life."*

### Rowan Court

This brand new development will provide a stunning new home for 15 of our young adults. It has been purpose built over three floors, with individual en-suite bedrooms, balconies in each lounge and spectacular views. It is located near the cottage hospital in Holmfirth close to many amenities and is really something special. The building is now complete and as soon as registration is achieved the tenants will be getting settled in – they can't wait!

Mrs Tucker whose son Sam is moving to Rowan Court said, "Sam is very excited with the move and he is looking forward to being with old friends who he has grown up with over the last five years. The



Trust is wonderful and it is such a relief that a lovely placement has been built in this way so that the excellent services that Hollybank give will continue throughout Sam's life."

A number of organisations helped us to provide these beautiful homes for our young people and adults including The Baily Thomas Fund, The Beatrice Laing Trust and The Masons.

This brings the number of houses in the community up to 6, but more accommodation is still needed to meet the great demand for adult services nationally. We are currently planning our next phase of developments so watch this space . . .



## Skills for Care

**Hollybank is delighted to have been recognised as the Best Employer of over 250 staff by the Skills for Care Accolades that were held in November.**

Skills for Care is an employer led authority on the training standards and development needs of nearly one million social care staff in England. It provides funding to support improved training and qualifications for managers and staff, including personnel at Hollybank.

They have worked with the Trust, as they do many organisations in



England, to establish the necessary standards and qualifications we require to deliver an improved standard of care.

The awards ceremony was held at the Landmark Hotel in London and was attended by our heads of Human Resources, Business Development and Residential Services, and Training Co-ordinators along with Sylvia Ryan from Thomas Danby College who has helped to train many of our staff.

The Trust also made the top three finalists of the most innovative and effective recruitment initiative that brings new and returning people to the workforce.

This will enable Hollybank to continue to provide high standards and opportunities for the very special people we care for.



## ACT Foundation **Hollybank is delighted to announce its partnership with the ACT Foundation.**

The Foundation have provided funds in support of a number of our developments in recent years and following a visit in November it was decided to further cement

the relationship with a formal partnership. This will result in a grant of £500,000 and access to an interest free loan of £1 million that will be used to fund our

development plans in the next few years.

**Thank you ACT!**



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## China comes to Hollybank

**The children and young adults at Hollybank recently celebrated Chinese New Year through a special week of dance workshops led by nationally renowned dance company 'Mouse on the Move'.**



has made to the children and young adults living within the Trust."

Kirsty Soanes, Project Co-ordinator said, "This project has enabled the children and young people to take a full and active part in the Chinese New Year celebrations".



Alan Martin, the Creative Director describes himself as "the only dance workshop leader in the UK to deliver workshops using his electric wheelchair and electronic communication aid".

The week entitled 'Dance of the Dragon' included two days of dance workshops working with all



of the children and young adults at Hollybank and culminated in a spectacular showcase performance at the school hall.

The children and young people explored dance as an aid to promote advocacy and empowerment. The project used cutting edge technology to enable the children and young people to promote their work and communicate creatively.

Mirfield Educational Charity has very generously awarded Hollybank Trust the funding to make this project possible. Nicky Doyle, Fundraising Administrator said "We are delighted to have had such generous support from the Mirfield Educational Charity and were proud to show them what a difference it

## Marsh Ladies' Choir

**Hollybank is delighted to have been chosen by Marsh Ladies' Choir to be their 'Charity of the Year'.**

A number of concerts will be taking place throughout the year. For more details please contact the Fundraising Department on:

**01924 489069**

## Hollybank Dinner

*Bertie's*



**The final preparations are being made for our Annual Dinner which takes place at the end of this month. This year it falls on St George's Day - 23rd April - which will lend us our theme for the evening.**

Guests will arrive at Bertie's Restaurant in Elland for a short drinks reception before being served a traditional English 4 course menu in the Crystal Ballroom. Throughout the evening, they'll be entertained by medieval minstrels wearing typical costumes and playing period instruments.

Following the entertainment will be a prize auction, raffle and

stand-up sit-down bingo to round off the night.

As with all our events, the proceeds will be spent on securing a happy and fulfilled future for our children, young people and adults.

If you would like to attend, or think you could help with raffle or auction prizes, or in any other way, please contact **Angie Dickinson on 01924 489069.**



## Golf Day

**Dust off those golf clubs as the Hollybank Golf Day is set to take place on Thursday 18th June.**

The prestigious Huddersfield Golf Club which plays host to the event is an excellent course and boasts USGA standard greens and magnificent panoramic views across Kirklees and Calderdale. Each team of four golfers will receive a goody bag on arrival and a light lunch before taking to the greens. As well as team prizes, players will be competing

in nearest the pin and putting competitions.

Guests will be welcomed back to the club with a hearty 3 course dinner followed by a prize presentation.

A small number of teams are still available for the day costing £450 per team of four, and can be booked by contacting Angie Dickinson on 01924 489069.

Can't make the date? We also have sponsorship opportunities available starting from £50, allowing your company to have a presence at the event, even if you can't be there in person. For more details please contact Angie on the above number, or via email: [a.dickinson@hollybanktrust.com](mailto:a.dickinson@hollybanktrust.com).

## HMS Ark Royal

**In January we were delighted to welcome a contingent of sailors from HMS Ark Royal**

Members of the crew visited the Trust renewing the friendship that they have held with Hollybank since the mid 1980s. We were honoured that so many of the staff were prepared to spare the time to visit us at the Trust. The children and young people were really excited by the visit and hopefully this will lead to us working together in the future.

**We would like to wish them 'Bon Voyage' for their next journey.**





## Get your running shoes on...

**The Hollybank Fundraising Team took part in the Kirklees 10k Challenge relay race on Sunday 19th October to raise funds for the Trust.**

Cath, Angie and Nicky trained hard for the event alongside other members of staff from the Trust including Mick Hewitt who pushed Sarah Brannan around the course in her wheelchair.

An outstanding amount of over

£1,000 was raised through this event and we would like to say a big thank you to everyone who supported us. Without you we may have still been running!



## Pens at the ready...

**Hollybank was honoured once again to be chosen by LDC to receive the proceeds from its annual quiz night that was held on 5th February.**

In the last three years Hollybank has benefitted from over £50,000 from the quiz nights which has all been used to help the very special children and young people that we care for.

Jayne Dunford, Office Manager at LDC in Yorkshire, said: "Hollybank is a really worthy cause that LDC has supported with various fund raising events over the last few years. The services they provide are tremendous and it's important for local businesses and professionals to help in any way they can."

## Gledholt Male Voice Choir

**The Choir will be hosting a concert on Saturday 9th May at Huddersfield Town Hall in support of Hollybank.**

They will be joined by special guests Kirklees Youth Symphony Orchestra and Huddersfield Choral Society Junior Choirs. For tickets please contact Mr B. Clayton on 01484 711633 or Kirklees Tourist Information Office, Huddersfield.

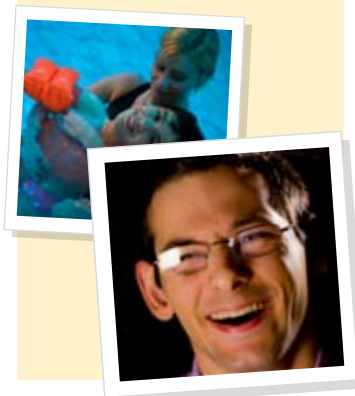
## Hollybank Ball

A fundraising ball was held at Chester Racecourse in October and raised £22,000 for Hollybank. The event was organized by Mr & Mrs Bird who also very generously donated a mini bus to the Trust and lots of toys. Thank you!

## John Edler Photography

**John Edler, a professional photographer, visited the Trust and spent 4 days with our young people and adults.**

He took some wonderful pictures which he very generously donated to us. Look out for them in future issues of the newsletter. Thanks John!



## When the going gets tough...

Once again staff from Eversheds have been breaking a sweat in support of the Trust. On 1st February some very brave souls fought their way through the arduous 'tough guys' challenge to raise funds in support of Hollybank.



## Royal Antediluvian Order of the Buffaloes

**The RAOB lodge based at Turnbridge Working Mens Club in Aspley, Huddersfield have kindly informed us of their intention to support Hollybank Trust over the next twelve months.**

Nicky Doyle, Fundraising Administrator said "We are always delighted when outside organisations such as the RAOB's recognise the value of our work

and we are very grateful for their support".

An evening of entertainment will be held in April and then on Friday 11th September where an excellent comedy duo 'Slapdash' will be performing in aid of Hollybank Trust.

Further details will be available if anyone is interested in attending by contacting Nicky on 01924 483923 or alternatively e-mailing [n.doyle@hollybanktrust.com](mailto:n.doyle@hollybanktrust.com).

## Proctor and Gamble

Hollybank is delighted to have the support of Proctor and Gamble. The company whose products range from toothpaste to curling tongs are supporting the Trust with a number of staff led initiatives. In fact, they have already raised over £1,000 for our children and young people!

**P&G**

## Southdale Homes

We are pleased to have been named 'Charity of the Year' by Southdale Homes. The Halifax based company have been building homes in the North of England for almost 20 years, and want to support causes within their local community.



## It's swing time...

**Building work is about to commence on new outdoor play facilities funded through the generous support of the David Jefferies Memorial Fund.**

The specially adapted swings will be constructed in the orchard on the Roe Head site. This will give pleasure to many of our children and young people who, through the specially adapted equipment, will be able to thoroughly enjoy all the thrills and fun of the swings.

Tony Jefferies, Trustee of the Fund said: "It's great to be able to support a local, worthwhile cause that helps children and young people."

## Volvox Dinner

**The Annual Dinner organised by Volvox Group Ltd in November, was a huge success and raised £25,000 for Hollybank!**

We are delighted that the event was so well supported, and would like to thank everyone involved in organising the night!

