

THE FAMILY HAVEN

helping vulnerable families to a brighter future

Fun In The Snow!



Arts & Crafts



April 2009

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Registered Charity No 1088622

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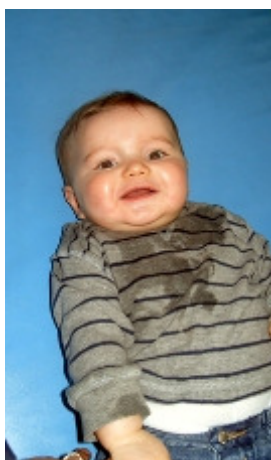
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The Dick Whittington Hidden Valley Half Term Trip



The children had a wonderful time, our sincere thanks to a donor who paid for the coach for the trip. The children have also just enjoyed their Easter Trip to the Cotswold Farm Park, the next trip will be in the summer holidays, we arrange four trips a year. The children really love every minute of their time out.

The Family Haven Needs You.....

The Country is going through some tough financial times and there are fears that the charity sector will be hit hard this year as people have to reign in their spending, Charitable Trusts may not be able to donate as much as their wealth and dividend incomes fall and corporate donations may reduce in line with declining profits. As a small local charity it is critical we weather the storm well, we have loyal supporters from local businesses and the community and we thank you all for your continued support. Sadly we do predict more people will lose their homes and this will mean the numbers accessing our service will grow again this year and we want to ensure we can help in any way we can.

Your contribution to the Family Haven certainly does not have to be a financial one; we are currently looking for more volunteers to help with our fundraising activities. The benefits of being a volunteer are far reaching. Many of our current volunteers have made good friends, for those who work it is a great way to switch off from day to day stress, for those who do not work what better reason to get out of the house and know you are making a real difference to the lives of vulnerable families in Gloucestershire. You will get the opportunity to attend some events free of charge and we always have fun. Why not try volunteering for just one event, if you like it we can then add you to our bank of helpers. You choose how much you would like to do, there is no obligation even one event a year will make a big difference to The Family Haven.

The Family Haven is now a registered charity on E-bay so if you are selling items you can give a proportion of the proceeds to us, statistically you also have a greater chance of obtaining a higher price when you opt to donate to charity. We also will be selling a number of items under our E-bay ID thefamilyhaven so do have a look, we have a large selection of autographs of some very famous people and a range of items that have been donated.

We are always in need of good raffle prizes and items and services we can auction off for our forth coming events, if you can help in any way or know a local business who may be able to help or maybe even sponsor an event, would you be kind enough to let us know. If you are interested in volunteering or can donate a prize please contact Catherine Crawshaw on 01452 528692 or e-mail Catherine@thefamilyhaven.com.

Thank you



Thank you very much to the employees of the Land Registry in Gloucester who raised £31.00 from a book sale and for the donation of "Bob" the bear who will be auctioned off.

Thank you so much to Robinswood Church (pictured), Stratton and Baunton Church and QAA of Gloucester for their donations of Easter Eggs, the children were delighted with these wonderful gifts.



We would also like to thank the following organisations for their kind generous donations; Beaufort School, Forest Churches, France Lynch WI, Rotary Club of Stroud and Upton St Leonards Ladies Probus.



A big thank you to the staff, mums and children from The Family Haven who took to the streets of Gloucester in their pyjamas! They raised £112.00 towards the Easter Holiday trip.

2009 Events Calendar

Saturday 30th May 2009 Table Top and Toy Sale with Teas

2pm - 4pm Quedgeley Village Hall

Sell off all your unwanted items at The Family Haven table top sale, £5.00 a table. The Family Haven will also be holding a new toy sale and selling teas and cakes to raise funds for the centre. Please do come along either as a seller or buyer, entry for adults 50p.

Monday 31st August 2009 The Berkeley Show we will have a stall at the show to raise funds for the centre.

Sunday 13th September The Frampton on Severn Country Fair we will have a stall at the show to raise funds for the centre.

Wednesday 4th November 2009 Christmas Shopping Evening

7pm - 9.30pm Quedgeley Village Hall

Why not book some time out for a relaxing evening with a chance to do all your Christmas shopping, our wonderful range of stall holders will be selling items including jewellery, handmade gifts, books, toys, childrenswear and beauty products.

Saturday 21st November 2009 Casino Themed Dinner Dance with Giant Scalextric

7.30pm - 12am The Thistle Hotel Cheltenham

We are holding our annual dinner dance at The Thistle Hotel in Cheltenham this year. The three course meal will be followed by the opportunity to have some great fun at the casino and giant scalextric. There will also be a disco, charity auction and raffle. This event is an excellent fundraiser for the centre. The tickets cost £35.00 per person, or you can purchase a table of 10 for £325.00, so why not have a company table(s) and use this as an opportunity of a great Christmas party event for your staff, whilst also helping a valuable local charity. There will be an opportunity to pre-select your menu choice.

How to take part

Please contact Catherine on 01452 528692 or e-mail Catherine@thefamilyhaven.com for any of the following;

- 1- Book your table for the table top sale at £5.00 each.
- 2- Book a table to sell items from your business at our Christmas Shopping Event at £10.00 a table.
- 3- Purchase a ticket for the Christmas Shopping Event at £2.50 each (these will be sent out from September).
- 4- Book your tickets or table for our Christmas Dinner dance (these will be sent out from September)
- 5- To volunteer at any of the events.

Welcome



A warm welcome to our new trustee Anthea Graham, who joins us as the trustee with responsibility for volunteers.

Spring 2009 Appeals

Tesco, Sainsbury's and Asda Vouchers

The Family Haven are collecting the Tesco Computers for Schools, Sainsbury's Active Kids and Asda Sporting Chance vouchers. We are doing really well so far and would love to exchange the vouchers for nursery equipment, please do collect and keep your vouchers and send to Catherine Crawshaw at the address on the front page.

Fone Club

I am sure everyone has old mobile phones lying around at home, we can exchange these for money to help raise funds for the centre. Please do let us have any old phones to trade in by the end of May 2009.

Editorial

As I write this newsletter it is a lovely sunny day and the snow seems to be a long time ago, but it really is not that long since we were able to enjoy some traditional fun here at The Family Haven. The children as you can see had a ball!

I started here as the New Fundraising Manager in January and I am pleased to announce in this newsletter our exciting programme of fundraising events and appeals for 2009. We hope by planning our annual dinner dance around Christmas to attract companies looking for somewhere to take their staff for the Christmas "do" and with our casino and giant scalextric we guarantee a fantastic night out. Much sooner is our table top sale, where you can sell off all those unwanted items or grab yourself some bargains.

There is a large fundraising target for the year ahead to ensure we can continue our valuable work, including our Outreach Project, Healthy Eating Workshops and one to one nursery sessions. We want to add to our programme of events with some exciting activities. Do you have burning desire to run a marathon, jump out of a plane or maybe fulfil a lifetime ambition? Why not be sponsored and raise funds for the centre, we may even be able to help with some of the costs.

This newsletter will be published twice a year, but we are updating the website every week with details of forthcoming events and the money we are raising.

I have already met some of our wonderful friends whose support is invaluable and would like to thank everyone for welcoming me to The Family Haven.

With warm wishes

Catherine