

Silver Jubilee Upcoming Events

We have some exciting events coming up, with the chance to purchase our Calendars and Recipe Books.

Saturday 2nd November, 6pm-8.30pm – Gloucester Quays Fireworks Festival

Gloucester Round Table will hold its annual charity fireworks display in Gloucester Docks on Saturday 2nd November 2013. The docks will be hosting the event from 18:00 to about 20:30 although they are aiming to try and open the gates to advanced ticket holders sooner (possibly 17:30).

Tickets available online and in selected outlets. For more information and updates on the display please visit their Facebook Event Page <https://www.facebook.com/GloucesterQuaysFireworksFestival2013>

9th & 10th November weekend - Bath bomb making and fundraising at Lush, High Street, Cheltenham

There will be a chance to make your own bath bomb and sales of their lovely Charity Pot moisturiser on our behalf during the weekend. Should be a lot of fun!!!

Friday 29th November, 5pm—9pm - Painswick Goodwill Fair.

There will be Stalls selling quality, arts & crafts, food & novelty items; Coffee/tea, drinks at the Bar, mulled wine & mince pies; Great opportunity to buy Christmas gifts.

Saturday 18th January 2014 - Quiz and Pudding evening at the Salvation Army Gloucester—People can enter as individuals or in teams of no more than 6, cost £3 per Person. All tickets are available from Paul Garwood paul.garwood@blueyonder.co.uk or Telephone 01452545960. Tickets can be booked up until the day before the quiz but for catering purposes early notification would be required.

Please keep us updated on events you may be running/participating in for us and we can spread the word in emails, newsletters, on Facebook and on Twitter. Either call 01452 422971 or email Debbie@thefamilyhaven.com

Volunteers Needed

We would be so grateful if you could let us know if you would be able to lend a few hours at any of the events if you can, please do email me aggiEGraham@hotmail.com

Saturday 2nd November, 6pm-8.30pm – Gloucester Quays Fireworks Festival We need volunteers to help with the marshalling.

9th & 10th November weekend - Bath bomb making and fundraising at Lush, High Street, Cheltenham. We need volunteers throughout the weekend to man an information table in the shop during opening hours.

Saturday 14th December from 10am - Carols on the Hour and Christmas Market at Gloucester Cathedral. We need volunteers to help man our stall selling calendars and cook books for one or two hours between 9 am and 5 pm.

To be confirmed

We may also need some volunteers over the Xmas period at Blooms to do some collections. Plus for anyone who can be a Father Xmas for a few hours at a time.

Many thanks and hope you are all well, Best wishes and thanks for all your kindness and support.

Anthea and all at Family Haven

Staff and Trustees



It is with a heavy heart that we have to say farewell to one of our longest serving and hard working trustees John Price.

He has been a very conscientious treasurer for nine and a half years and has steered The Family Haven through some very difficult and challenging financial situations. I am glad to say that John has agreed to continue in a voluntary capacity as company secretary, so he will remain a much-valued member of the team.

On a personal note I would like to say a huge thank you to John for all the support he has given me throughout the years, in many aspects (not just financial). He has not always given me the answer I was hoping for but I know that the good of The Family Haven has always been the basis for all his decisions. His wonderful sense of humour made the bitter pills a little sweeter to take. Thank you John, we will all miss you.

Lorraine

Become A Friend

Why become a Friend? As a Friend of The Family Haven you will be supporting the trustees and staff in helping provide the services our families so desperately need. Your regular subscriptions and offers of voluntary help are invaluable and support us in delivering our aims.

Call 01452 422971 for an application form or download it from <http://bit.ly/YtnESd>



We held an event in May to thank our supporters, volunteers and friends.



To help us please follow the link below to do your Christmas shopping online at no extra cost to you.

<http://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/thefamilyhaven>

Follow @TheFamilyHaven

Like our facebook page

www.facebook.com/thefamilyhaven.gloucester

THE FAMILY HAVEN

Helping vulnerable families to a brighter future for 25 years

Newsletter

Volume 25, Issue 2

October 2013

Honorary President:
Anne Cadbury OBE, JP, DL

Chairman:
The Very Revd Nick Bury

Deputy Chair:
Robin Buchannan

Treasurer:
Gerald Holyhead

Secretary: John Price

Trustees:
Gillian Lunn
Doreen McLellan
Anthea Graham
Theo Platt

Vacancy—if you are interested in becoming a Trustee we have a vacancy, please contact us.

The Family Haven
A company limited by
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New Patron for The Family Haven

We are delighted to announce a new patron for the charity – local business man Roger Head



Nick, Chair of Trustees, and Roger, New Patron

Roger has been a Friend of The Family Haven for several years and knows the charity, and what we do for disadvantaged families in Gloucestershire, well. Roger has a wealth of experience in the charity sector being

chairman of the Gloucestershire Community Foundation and The Pied Piper Appeal.

Roger said: “There are many poor areas within the county and the work The Family Haven do is vital to many local families. I am pleased to be their patron and hope to help build local support for them over the coming months and years.”

Nick Bury, our chair of trustees, said: “We are thrilled to welcome Roger as patron. Roger is a local person who loves his home town of Gloucester and has done much good work with local charities. We hope that through his support we can

New Conservatory Roof for Soft Play Room

The children have not been able to access the soft play room on and off for several years now. We had been struggling for quite some time with leaks and damp creeping in where the roof was leaking, especially during winter and on very wet days. This autumn we have been very fortunate to have gained funding for a replacement roof which covers the whole of the children's soft play room and bathroom. This project was managed over a few weekends and has been a great achievement.

The room is an important area for the children to play and develop physically. The older children enjoy playing together by making dens and using the soft play to slide, jump and climb. The younger children enjoy the safety aspect of the room, they can tumble and roll knowing they have soft flooring underneath. The younger children also enjoy sitting in the large ball pool as they begin to develop co-ordination and motor skills.

To have such an important room now water tight, clean and also redecorated is wonderful. The staff and the children gain so much pleasure from using it as part of the daily routine.



Day Trips and Parties

August 1st : A fantastic day out to Weston – Super – Mare.

Our Nursery staff and families had a fantastic day out at the beach at Weston -Super -Mare. The nice sunny and hot weather made for a perfect August day where the parents and children enjoyed building sand castles, playing in the water, eating ice cream and going on donkey rides. We would like to say a big thank you to the Mother's Union (AFIA) for their generosity in donating the funds to pay for the coach trip.



August 14th : Train Trip to Lydney Park

Every year in August some of our Nursery staff with the help of a volunteer take the children who will be leaving us in September to start school on a train trip to Lydney Park. The children enjoy a day of fun, picnic, ice cream and most of all a chance to say goodbye. It always makes it hard for the nursery staff to say goodbye to them. This year 7 children enjoyed the train trip and the Park.



August 23rd : Summer Party to mark our 25th Anniversary

We held a summer party in August for our families to mark our 25th Anniversary. Our families and children enjoyed the activities which included a Tombola, Lucky Dip, Bubble Photos which proved to be a hit with the children, Catch a Duck, Face Painting and more. Burgers, sausages and soft drinks were served. A good time was held by everyone. A big thank you to all the staff who helped out and put everything together so the families could have a good time. We would like to say thank you to Warburton's who donated the rolls.



What's new

Add your Leaf to our Family Haven Jubilee Tree!

To celebrate our 25th anniversary we hope to raise £25,000 to help us continue support for local disadvantaged families for another 25 years. To show progress towards this target we are starting a giving tree with Green, Bronze, Silver and Gold leaves to represent donations from you, our supporters.

The tree is painted in our meeting room and as we receive donations we will add leaves with the name of the donor on them. We will photograph it periodically and update our website so you may see the progress we are making.

We enclose a leaflet with more information and hope you would like to add a leaf to our tree.



Our Calendars & Cookbooks

Keeping with our 25th Anniversary celebrations our Calendars and Cookbooks are now ready to buy.

If you wish to purchase one we have included our Sales Order Form with this Newsletter.



Volunteer's Interview

Jojo Lingwood, owner of The Homeshaper
For clutter, clearing and more.

How long have you been a volunteer at The Family Haven?
3 years

What first inspired you to get involved?

I used to do fostering. I have volunteered for other local groups. I have always been drawn to work with children and young adults from chaotic/traumatic backgrounds. I was attracted by what The Family Haven does, and that it is such a friendly local charity. Helping the community they're in, it is an intimate environment.

What do you do for The Family Haven as a volunteer?

I fundraise via the collection boxes, promote The Family Haven with local businesses, help process the donations from boxes and second hand clothing. I'm available to the parents who know me for a chat and I volunteer at events.



What is the Highlight of your time as a volunteer here?

Santa's grotto at Blooms. Good fun, it was freezing the first year. I also run some of the classes in healing, yoga, relaxation techniques for the parents.

Do you have any advice for people interested in volunteering?

Be flexible. Be prepared to do something you've never done before. Make sure it is a charity you feel passionately about. Be aware you may end up giving over and above what you expected.

What are the benefits you've gained from volunteering?

Lots, they are hard to define. I've met some really nice people. It has given me more compassion in lots of ways. I have a much broader understanding of the problems in our area.

Christmas 2013

**Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat....
Please put a penny in The Family Haven's Hat
If you haven't got a penny...an hour of time will do..
If you haven't got an hour...Then GOD BLESS YOU..**

Seriously though we appreciate all the help you have given us during the year at The Family Haven, whether you volunteer your time, or have donated unwanted items, gifts and money.

Everyone can help us especially at this time of giving and hope for the future by providing a small gift or box of chocolates for the parents or a small toy for the children. Festive food is always appreciated as we provide Christmas parties for both parents and children.

**The staff, trustees, parents and children of
The Family Haven would like to wish you all a very
Merry Christmas and a Happy New**



Volunteer's Comment

Just wanted to say a really big thank you for the opportunity to come and lend a hand at the Family Haven and for the really warm welcome I received from everyone.

Prior to my visit I had looked at the web site and read about how the Haven came about and what it did, but to be honest I wasn't really too sure what to expect. From the moment you walk through the door you feel like you are walking into a family home, warm and inviting with lots going on. As the day went on it became more and more apparent that it is a family home and that everyone is treated as a member of that family. I know that you have structures in place and have to adhere to health and safety and other policies, but they do not intrude on the ambiance or atmosphere, you are not bombarded with signage or do not notices, and yet everyone seemed to know what was expected of them.

The ethos of treating others with kindness and respect (as you would in your own home) has created a place where individuals can come and experience many of the things we all take for granted. I was so impressed by the facilities available, obviously the quality of the food, the magic of the nursery and the myriad of rooms all serving different functions.

I really enjoyed every moment I spent with you and have the utmost respect and admiration for the Haven and everyone who contributes to its success, am looking forward to joining you again, vegetable peeler in hand for the Christmas meal preparations.

Best wishes

Francesca Gearon ,
Income Support Claims Maintenance |
Department for Work and Pensions

Harvest 2013

The Management Committee, Staff and families of The Family Haven would like to say a big thank you to everyone for your Harvest donations.

This is a busy time for us but we look forward to it, as your generosity will help us to continue to provide nutritious meals for our families and children.

