

3rd Edition 2018

Friends

OF DOWNRIGHT SPECIAL

NEWSLETTER



Fancy becoming a volunteer community fundraiser?

We're on the lookout for volunteer community fundraisers! It currently costs about £90,000 to run Downright Special per year and, although the majority is funded through grants, we'd like to raise at least 30% through community fundraising.

Whether it's through regular giving, challenges, events, corporate support, or providing services to reduce our costs, this is something we're planning to focus on going forward.

One of the most recent supporters to come on board is Thieving Harry's in Humber Street, Hull, where we have been named as their Charity of the Year! We're so grateful for this support.

Gillian Bowlas, Charity Manager at Downright Special, said: "Our children are reaching their teenage years and we're always thinking of new activities for them, as well as our younger children. We want to make sure as many opportunities as possible are open to them, which is why raising funds in the community is so vital. We'd also love to hear your fundraising ideas and plans for Down Syndrome Awareness Week next year."

"Our children are reaching their teenage years and we're always thinking of new activities for them"



If you'd like to support Downright Special, or know of a business looking to partner with a charity for 2019, please contact us via:

office@downrightspecial.co.uk

Hull print company sponsors newsletter

We'd like to say a huge thank you to GKD Print Limited for agreeing to print this newsletter and supporting us in this way.

The company is a leading digital and litho commercial printing company in Hull, and the team will print the newsletter three times per year, which is fantastic news!

Phillip Taylor, Operations Director at GKD, said: "Downright Special does a fantastic job supporting families in Hull and the East Riding and we're delighted to support the charity."

Special thanks also go to the team at Hull-based design, print, web and marketing agency Umber Creative, who very kindly design the newsletter at a significantly reduced cost.

Support like this means we can reduce our costs while keeping you up to date with all our news!



Dear Friends

What a wonderful summer we've had!

As you can see from the selection of photographs, our children and their families have enjoyed many Downright Special activities and events over the past few months, which were made possible through sponsorship and donations.

All the work we do is supported through grants and fundraising and, with this in mind, we have looked for other ways in which we can raise the vital funds to continue our work.

There are many ways in which you could help:

- **Easyfundraising** (www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/downrightspecial) - shopping through the app and choosing to support Downright Special means we receive a donation based on the money you spend. It doesn't cost you anything, but you are still changing lives!
- **Amazon Smile** - (smile.amazon.co.uk) - Why not use Amazon Smile to order your gifts online and choose us as the charity? At no cost to you, any money raised through Amazon donations would support the employment of our teachers. Without them, our children would not go on to achieve their full potential.

We hope you enjoy receiving this newsletter & thank you for your continued support.

Angela Broekhuizen,
Chair of Trustees



Law firm's support continues

Our friends at law firm rradar organised a fantastic event in Hesse recently and we were thrilled to be part of it.

Entitled 'Through My Eyes', TEDxHesse included inspiring speakers from across the world, arts, music, entertainment, and a photographic exhibition aimed to show how the world looks to people with Down Syndrome, who all have problems with visual acuity.

The rradar team also recently completed Trekfest, the ultimate trekking charity challenge, in the Peak District, raising at least £2,225 for Downright Special. We have a fantastic partnership with rradar as their Charity of the Year and really appreciate the support from the whole team.



The half marathon & fun run success



Would you like to become a Trustee?

We're on the lookout for Trustees to join our Downright Special team.

Jenny Ross, a researcher in executive search, has recently become one of our Trustees. Jenny has previously carried

out voluntary work for Downright Special and we're delighted to welcome her.

To apply for the role, or to find out more, please e-mail

gillian@downrightspecial.co.uk



This year's Humber Bridge Half Marathon and Family Fun Run included Team Downright Special and the 24 team members raised an incredible £5,000! We were overwhelmed by the response and support. Thank you to everyone involved.

A date for your diaries!

We're looking forward to our Christmas party at the Holiday Inn, Hull Marina, on December 8th.

The hotel kindly allows us to hold the event there and it's always a special day.

How you can help

There are so many ways you can support Downright Special and help us continue our work with families of children with Down Syndrome in Hull and the East Riding.

Did you know lots of employers offer payroll giving schemes in which you can make regular donations to charities through your wages? To out more, please speak to a member of your Human Resources department.

More information about fundraising is available online at:

www.downrightspecial.co.uk/fundraising



International gathering to raise awareness

The World Down Syndrome Congress took place in Glasgow in July and was attended by Downright Special's Gillian Bowlas and Sam Findlay.

"It was a great opportunity to hear experts talk about the latest research and best practice on a huge range of health and education topics, and network with people from other Down Syndrome support groups."

"However, by far the most inspiring part was listening to the adults with Down Syndrome who presented. They were eloquent, funny, intelligent, independent individuals who prove that having Down Syndrome does not have to be a barrier to achieving your goals in life."

Charity Manager Gillian

New faces in the Downright Special team

Welcome to our new Key Stage 1 teacher Katie Bewell and volunteers Kay Anderson and Erin Findlay! Kay is helping at

our Friday Group, setting up and welcoming families, while Erin is leading our music and movement dance sessions.



Here are some images from social events



Charity book case in new hands

Thank you to Jill Lambert, who has kindly agreed to maintain our second-hand book case in the cafe at Sandhill Garden Centre in Preston.

The book case generates around £900 per year for Downright Special. Thanks also go to to Jim Dobbs, who has looked after the book case for us in recent years.



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