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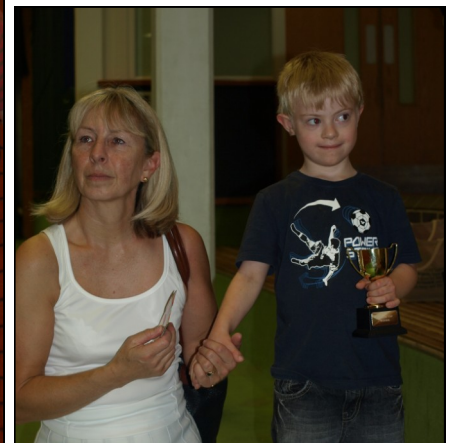
SCAMPPS NEWS

The Charity that is...

**Striving for Children's Additional Medical,
Physical and Personal Support in Surrey**

Registered Charity No. 1112112

Welcome to the latest issue of our Newsletter. In this edition we review our **AGM** and other exciting events. Our **Useful Recommendation** section is packed with great ideas! Our **Future Events** are listed and more **Charity Updates** are discussed. Plus, as always **How to Contact Us**.



Selina Master with her SCAMPPS supporters after £1,115 was raised for us!
(Top right) We had a fantastic speech at the end of the evening. (Bottom right) Selina waiting to help present the trophy.

A small tennis tournament held on 13th September at David Lloyd's, Raynes Park, managed to raise over **£1,115** for SCAMPPS. **Selina, George and Harry Master** were joined by friends and their families who generously sponsored the 12 tennis players. It was a great opportunity to catch up with 'old' friends across the net and over a drink and nibbles afterwards!

Sam & Paul xxxxxxxx, Andrew xxxxxx and Conor xxxxxxxx were there, together with their parents and siblings, to cheer on the players and present the prizes. Selina and George would like to thank Charles Jude, General Manager of the Club, for allowing them to use the courts to raise funds for SCAMPPS. They would also like to express their sincere appreciation of those who played and financially supported the venture.

AGM Review

On 18th September, we held our AGM at St. Joseph's Church Hall in Epsom. Our

Chair, John, was as enthusiastic as ever. He was thrilled to announce the great news of our ever increasing size. We now have almost **100 members** that we are reaching. The vast majority are families who have a child or children with special needs, but we also have some medical professionals and other interested parties as members too.

John continued by highlighting our aims, which remain the same:

- To provide a network for families who have children with disabilities in our local area.
- To offer financial support to individual families and groups when government agencies are unable to.
- To raise awareness about disability in our community.

In order to provide a network of support for our families we organised many events to bring people together. Last year we held four swimming parties, where we had exclusive use of Banstead Leisure Centre pools. The most successful of which had about 50 participants!



We also organised a couple of Family Days with specialist entertainers at Imber Court in Esher. These are now becoming so well attended that we now require a larger room at our venue! We will be using it for our upcoming Halloween Party on November 2nd.

Our traditional Mums night outs and Dads nights outs, whilst not funded by the charity, continue to offer relaxed evenings with the chance to chat with old and new friends. In other words, people who understand the challenges that are presented by raising children who require greater than usual levels of commitment. Knowing you are not alone is a wonderful feeling in a world that can at other times feel quite isolated.



Financially, we are receiving more support than ever. (Long may that last!!!) So much so that we now need to be externally audited. Most of our turnover has been used to fund bids for equipment that isn't available from public funds, but is nonetheless felt by us, to be very beneficial for our applicants. Our applications for funding are always supported by professionals so that we can be confident that our funds are spent wisely.



As we are growing, we now can look into the future and consider larger projects for the benefit of our members. These projects will utilise existing funds but will require further fundraising if they are to be sustainable into the future. One of the directions that we are currently researching is possible provision of respite care for our members, beginning with a specialist babysitting service tailored to meet the requirements of children with special needs. In order to proceed we will be sending out a survey that will be assessing your needs and requirements for this type of service. So look out for that in the coming months.

These are exciting times for SCAMPPS, but as usual our dedicated Board members are at full stretch. Many of us work as well as having the additional responsibility of caring for children with disabilities. So if we are to continue to grow more support will be needed. If you feel able to help in any way, do let a member of the Board know. Our contact details are on the back page. Your support is vital to our future!



Our AGM evening was rounded off beautifully by Anna Roberts, Senior Occupational Therapist who gave a very enlightening speech about 'Growing up as a Sibling of a Child with a Disability'. Anna is certainly gaining a reputation as a fantastic speaker, and her vivid recollections of her childhood gave us many chances to laugh as well as times to appreciate her warm and uplifting experience of life with her brother. We would like to say a huge thank you to Anna for her efforts. Thanks also goes to Helen Morrison for organising the cheese and wine, and to all of you that came along to attend our evening. *(The Editor would like to thank John for contributing his speech towards this article!)*

Useful Recommendations

We hope you will find the following articles helpful. Of course, SCAMPPS doesn't endorse any of the information listed here, but it's nice to know that some things have been successful for other members. If you would like to recommend something, please submit a paragraph to the Editor.

DSOK

DSOK (local branch of the Down Syndrome Association) are running a training day for parents, teachers and learning support assistants on 8th November at Overton Grange School. Anna Roberts will be talking about writing and cutting skills among other things, and also Cecilie Mckinnon, the DSA Education Officer, will be talking about reading and writing. Plus there will be a speaker on language development relevant to schools. *(Helen P.)*

I'm not sure what the deadline to apply for a place is. It may be that it is too late for this year, but if you have child with Down syndrome I would recommend their future Education Days. It's worth becoming a member for those if you are not already - Editor



St. George's Church

St. George's Church just round the corner from JOG on Barnet Wood Lane (Ashtead), opposite the green, has a coffee bar open to members of the public.

They have just started allowing young people from the Ashtead Learning Difficulties Alliance to staff the coffee bar, both in the kitchen and as waiters and waitresses.

If you are thinking of meeting up for a coffee or lunch on a Monday or Tuesday, they would be glad of your support. *(Helen P.)*

Epsom Playhouse

The prices are really reasonable and if you state that your child has special needs at the time of booking, the carer goes in free. Also access for wheelchairs is good and you can wheel it straight in. It is a fairly small auditorium so good view for the children. *(Mel)*

Muckers

I have just bought a pair of 'Muckers' Boots for my son who wears splints. They are like a wellie boot at the bottom with a fabric top and Velcro straps that open up just wide enough to fit the splint into. They are four sizes larger than his actual foot but they fit the splints just right. He is now very happy as he can splash in puddles with all the other children and he looks the part when he goes horse riding. I got mine on the internet on eBay from a company called Franshams. They are also called 'Froggies' and available from most horse wear companies. *(Sara D.)*



Encouraging Positive Behaviour!

Here are a couple of suggestions to help you with positive behaviour from your little ones. The first is a reworking of a reward chart: have 3 or 4 photographs of 'reward' activities printed on the right hand side of a piece of paper. Leading up to each reward have 4 circles or boxes. Each time your child is behaving in the desired manner, let them put a sticker on the chart towards a treat of their choice. When they achieve 4 stickers in a row they get their reward. This would be particularly useful if you wanted the good behaviour to be going on throughout the day as they don't have to wait so long for the reward and the incentive is there to persevere. (NB If you laminate the chart you can peel off the stickers and start again the next day!) For younger children you might try enlarging a picture of a favourite activity and cutting it up into 4 or 6 pieces. A piece of the puzzle can be given each time they are being good. When all of the pieces are in place they can have their reward. *(Rachel)*

Charity news

Finance committee

We were delighted to have lots of bids for funding again this quarter. We have agreed to help JOG spruce up the sensory room as well as funding more equipment for the computer room. We have also supported personal bids for a number of individuals with equipment to help ongoing therapies taking place in the home setting. To apply for funding please make sure we receive your application by **December 1st**. Application forms and guidelines can be found on our website

Website

We are currently trying to upgrade the content of our website as well as it's general design. This will hopefully increase the chances of finding what you are looking for. Look out in the coming months for our new design. NB Volunteers to help with our website are always welcome!



Reminder to shop online and raise money for SCAMPPS in Surrey

Did you know that you can use our webshop to help raise money for us?

When shopping online, you can access over 100 leading retailers - such as Tesco, Thorntons, Marks & Spencer and John Lewis - using our

Webshop. Visit www.buy.at/scampps and then click on your retailer's

website. If you subsequently buy something, you'll automatically earn money for us! You don't pay anything extra by using our webshop, so please try to use it whenever you can. Please spread the word. Thank you! Remember our webshop is at:

www.buy.at/scampps

Happy shopping and thank you for your support!

Helen Morrison (Fundraising)

Recycle4Charity

Please also find enclosed with upcoming newsletters

Recycling envelopes which is another easy way to raise money for us. See the envelope for full details - Thank you!



Review of SCAMPPS Events

Not as many people as we'd hoped came along to the **Greyhound Evening**, but thanks to **Sharon Coleman** for her efforts anyway. We always welcome feedback; do let us know if you find our events too late, too early or too expensive. We know we can't suit all tastes all the time, but the more information we get back from you, will help us to deliver events that meet your needs.

The **Dads Night Out** was on Oct 3rd and was a great mix of Dads this time, which is always a good thing. Thanks goes, as always to **John Conway** for organising these nights.

The **Mums Night Out** was held on Oct 11th at Esteem in Esher, who generously donated the use of their facilities to us. It was a great change to be somewhere where we could swap seats and chats with lots of different people. Thanks to **Becky Quin** for organising the evening.

I hope to see you at our **Halloween Party** which will be on Nov 2nd. And I look forward to reviewing it in the next newsletter!



The Epsom College Pavilion Club, which meets every Monday afternoon during term-time, voted this year to split its subs equally between two charities that mean most to its members: SCAMPPS and the British Heart Foundation. The club was formed two years ago to cater for the ever increasing numbers of very young children in the College community. The children really look forward to playing together every week and the mums (and occasionally dads) get a welcome chance to share news too. The College's cricket pavilion is provided free of charge for the weekly get-togethers on the understanding that the families who benefit make an annual donation to a charity of their choice. We hope that the **£100** raised will find a useful home. *(Catrin)*

Thanks to Peter Browning!

Peter has become a regular supporter of SCAMPPS. On Friday 25th of July he held another Guest Golf Day at the Wisley Golf Club and managed to raise a staggering **£2,000** for us! Thanks to him for all of his efforts, and we look forward to the possibility that his Golf Day could become an annual event! Fingers crossed!

Everything Adds Up!!! Thanks to All of our Supporters who donated the following:

- £25 **Fundworks**, c/o Paul Humphris
- £43.23 from our buy.at/scampps webshop
- £33.60 from our **Recycle for Charity** envelopes
- £55.01 Collection Tin held at the **Butchers on Stoneleigh Broadway**
- £50 Golden Wedding Anniversary gift from **Liam & Christine Conway**
- £330 from **Clare Grocock** for a 10K run
- £107.34 Collection tin at **D R Tucker Butchers**
- £27.51 Collection Tin **Manor Green Road Butchers**
- £25 Collection Tin **Sharon Coleman**
- £145.71 from **Jodi Battley** who held a Pampered Chef evening
- £410 from friends of **Nikki Wilkie** who did a parachute jump for us!

Collection Tins do seem to add up to quite a bit of money for us, but we don't have that many out there. Do you have an idea where we could put one? Please contact a member of the Board as we have plenty of spare collection tins floating around at the moment!



Don't forget to reserve your place at our next **Swimming party on Sunday 16th November!** Please let Sara know if you can come by the 9th on xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx To be held at Banstead Leisure Centre, 3:45 in the pool followed by food at 5pm. Family, friends and carers of your child are welcome.

2 Jan 23rd 2009- Dads Night Out - As usual at the Barley Mow, Pikes Hill, Epsom **2**
0 from 8pm! Questions? Contact John 01372 720 133. New dads always welcome! **0**
0 Feb 6th 2009- Mums Night Out - Catrin will send out invites closer to the time **0**
9 with the details! Just remember to put it in you 2009 diary now!!! **9**



Christmas Quiz Night

will be held on
Dec 6th (Sat)



This year we decided to do something completely different to our previous Christmas parties. Our Christmas Quiz promises to be a fun, entertaining and (for some) highly competitive evening! It will be held at St. Josephs Church Hall from 8pm. Tables of 8 can be reserved (make sure all your smart friends have their babysitters booked), or come by yourself and we'll find you a team!

Particularly in light of the credit crunch we are keeping the cost of the evening down to only **£7.50 per person!** And yes that does include food and soft drinks. If you prefer to have something more inebriating to loosen the cogs, please bring your own booze. Please send cheques payable to '**SCAMPPS**' to **PO Box 503, Epsom Surrey KT17 9DE** with your name and contact details, mentioning the Christmas Party.



SCAMPPS, PO Box 503,
Epsom, Surrey KT17 9DE

contact@scampps.org.uk

www.scampps.org.uk

Or contact one of our Board Members below:
Please see website for current contact information



2008 Dates

Nov 2nd - Halloween Party
Dec 1st - Applications for bids
Dec 6th - Christmas Quiz

Jan 23rd - Dads Night Out
Feb 1st - Newsletter Issue 14 out
Feb 6th - Mums Night Out

2009 Dates

You can always make a donation to us by cheque, or at www.scampps.org.uk with Pay Pal. Alternatively why not try the following Fundraising initiatives, which continue to help us:



To find out more, contact Helen at Fundraising. All support is appreciated!

The next Newsletter Deadline is Jan 15th 2009. Please send any articles and photos to me by this date to make the next newsletter as exciting as this one! To antonia.rowland@btinternet.com