

Leukaemia Busters

The Children's Leukaemia Research Charity

Newsletter No.13

SUMMER 98



Reg Charity No.1010957

Prime Minister Backs Busters



On the steps of No 10 for a good cause. The Prime Minister Tony Blair and wife Cherie together with 16 year old leukaemia patient Richard Hurst, Michelle and Gary Lineker, Leukaemia Busters patrons and scientists Drs David and Bee Flavell.

The Prime Minister Tony Blair put his weight behind the Leukaemia Busters Millennium Appeal when he invited the charity to 10 Downing St earlier this year. Leukaemia Busters scientists Drs David and Bee Flavell and 16 year old leukaemia patient Richard Hurst together with patrons Gary and Michelle Lineker spent over two hours at No 10 discussing the charity's aims with Tony Blair and his wife Cherie. Before a blaze of press cameras Mr Blair commented: "Leukaemia Busters is an important charity for a good cause. I'm delighted to be associated with it and give it all the support I possibly can." Full story on page 3.

The Millennium Appeal

In October of last year we launched our *Millennium Appeal* aimed at raising one million pounds before the end of this century. You have now helped us well on our way toward this goal with fundraising events taking place not just along the South Coast but in all corners of the British Isles.

So why do we need to raise a million pounds? Leukaemia Busters funded scientists have developed a promising new treatment for leukaemia and lymphoma for use in both children and adults. Clinical trials are already underway with some of these in adults at centres in both Southampton and Leeds. Our plans are now to take these

promising new treatments into a **national** clinical trial in children with relapsed and currently incurable forms of leukaemia within the next few years. To achieve this ambitious objective we need to expand our current facilities to enable us to manufacture more of the drug for treating larger numbers of patients at childrens cancer units around the UK.

We are constantly fighting for their lives and need all the help we can get from you to achieve this. Let's together make the next millennium a time when we banish leukaemia from our children once and for all.

"Fighting for Their Lives"

Patrons: Gary & Michelle Lineker

- Summer Ball
- World Cup Rose
- Lords v Commons
- YOUR fundraising
- The latest research news
- Events calendar

Millennium Appeal Hotline: 01703 796528/796270

Millennium Appeal Website <http://www.penlex.org.uk/lbindex.html>



BARCLAYS

The International Business Club's Grand Charity Summer Ball Friday, 31st July



in aid of Leukaemia Busters with special guests

Leukaemia Busters have teamed up with the **International Business Club of the Southampton and Fareham Chamber of Commerce and Industry**, for this fundraising Ball attended by charity patrons and celebrities. We are grateful to **Barclays Bank** for sponsoring this superb evening which will be held at the prestigious **De Vere Grand Harbour Hotel, Southampton from 7.30 pm**. Dress is black tie and the evening will combine fine wine, excellent food, dancing to the live band **"The Silver Beatles"**, raffles and a charity auction.

If you would like to attend this glamorous occasion, bookings are



Gary & Michelle Lineker



David & Thorunn Gower

either for a table of ten (£500), or per person (£50), (drinks and wine with dinner extra). Companies also have the opportunity to place advertising in the commemorative brochure which will be handed to each guest. Within the brochure there will be a page for everyone to pledge their personal support to Leukaemia Busters. For a donation of £15 per name you can have your own, child's or pet's names listed.

To obtain a booking form for Ball tickets, ring Ravinder Chahal at the Chamber of Commerce on 01703 223541 without delay. **To take advantage of advertising your company or listing a name in the commemorative brochure** call Kate Tonge at the



"The Pride of Leukaemia Busters"

Leukaemia Busters patron, Michelle Lineker, (left to right), Minister of Sport, Tony Banks and Dr Bee Flavell Leukaemia Busters Scientist, attend press Day of the Chelsea Flower Show - where the "Pride of England" rose is launched. One of the World's most famous pieces of Silverware, The F.A. Cup is filled to the brim by the deep dark velvety red roses on the Wyevale Garden Centre stand. The first ever official rose launched by the Football Association - Leukaemia Busters has been nominated by the FA as one of the charities to benefit from the World Cup. On sale from one of the 64 Wyevale Garden Centres from October at the price of £5.99 - £1 from every sale is being donated to Leukaemia Busters.



This disease resistant rose, will grow to between 3ft and 3ft 6in. To order - don't delay ring freefone number: 0800 413213 to obtain the "Pride of England" and help boost the Millennium Appeal.

WE WISH HIM WELL ON HIS WAY!



Our best wishes and support go to Peter Martin who hit the road alone on 3rd May to start the gruelling 1,113 mile, 3 month walk from Land's End to John O'Groats. He will be taking the smaller routes and walking over the highest peaks in the country to reach the tip. Peter will be phoning in weekly to report on his progress and we'll include pictures of his journey in the next newsletter. In the meantime, we are thinking of you!!!

Leukaemia Busters at No.10

It was a dream come true for 16 year old leukaemia patient Richard Hurst when he, together with Leukaemia Busters scientists Drs David and Bee Flavell and the charity patrons Gary and Michelle Lineker were invited to 10 Downing St to meet the Prime Minister and his wife Cherie. "They were so kind and hospitable" commented Richard, "they even took us on a personal guided tour of 10 Downing St themselves - we saw it all."

The purpose of the visit was to bring to the attention of Mr Blair the work that Leukaemia Busters is doing, particularly in relation to the charity's plans for a national multicentre clinical trial in children with relapsed acute lymphoblastic leukaemia with a new drug developed by Leukaemia Busters funded scientists. Mr Blair commented "This is an important initiative - it is important to give children with cancer the chance they deserve and Cherie and I are delighted to be associated with Leukaemia Busters."

The importance of the work that Leukaemia Busters supports was acknowledged by the Prime Minister Tony Blair earlier this year when he invited lead scientists Drs David and Bee Flavell and Leukaemia Busters patrons Gary and Michelle Lineker to No 10 for informal talks about the work and the progress being made.



Dr David Flavell and 16 year old leukaemia patient Richard Hurst take tea with the Prime Minister at No 10

The Blairs have been personally affected by leukaemia when the child of a friend of Cherie Blair contracted the disease. Dr David Flavell, Hon. Scientific Director of Leukaemia Busters commented: "I'm so very pleased and grateful that the Prime Minister has so kindly given up some of his valuable time from his very busy schedule to help us promote the importance of what we're trying to achieve here. The basic fact is that despite the enormous successes of the last two decades there are still children and adults dying with leukaemia that has become resistant to the drugs that are normally used. This means that there is an urgent need to develop new drugs that work in a totally different way to overcome this resistance problem. That's exactly what the work supported by Leukaemia Busters aims to do."

Meanwhile Mr & Mrs Blair have promised to follow developments closely. Like ourselves they would like to see leukaemia as a disease banished forever.

Lords versus Commons at Donington Park Races



Dr. David Flavell (centre), Honorary Scientific Director of Leukaemia Busters receives a cheque for £4,000 raised from the House of Lords v House of Commons race. Left to right: Lord Strathcarron (leader of the House of Lords team), John Cleland (Vauxhall BTCC team driver and winner of the first race of the day), Dr. David Flavell, Derek Warwick (former Grand Prix driver) and The Rt. Hon. Richard Burden (leader of the House of Commons team).



Schoolfriends and younger brother and sister, Jamie and Ellie of Emma McCulloch who died with leukaemia earlier this year collected £552 from visiting race enthusiasts at the Donington Park event.

Donington Park racetrack in Derbyshire was the venue for a very special car race event on Spring Bank Holiday this year...the House of Lords versus the House of Commons and raised a total of almost £5000 for Leukaemia Busters. This annual event organised this year by John and Meg Kirkpatrick from the Jim Russell Racing Drivers School was in memory of fifteen year old Emma McCulloch who died with leukaemia earlier this year (see page 8). Many of Emma's school friends and younger brother and sister, Jamie and Ellie, collected money from visitors to the event. Lords and Commons tore around the Donington circuit in their Jim Russell cars for 12 laps. The House of Commons were the winners, with the Rt. Hon. Richard Page MP winning the race and holding the fastest lap time.

FANTASTIC FUNDRAISERS!!!



A musical effort struck a chord when Southampton Musical Society donated £700 to LB from the proceeds of a memorial concert for long standing member Ted Estill. The picture shows the cheque being handed over on the Piam Brown childrens cancer ward at Southampton General Hospital.



A football tournament organised by St Joseph's Youth Club, Aldershot, enabled the young Rushmore Saints Football Club players to raise £500.



Portsmouth marathon-mad Colleen and Steve Lyne showed a clean pair of heels and raised £235.00 in the Dublin marathon. Colleen and Steve have also competed in the London Marathon, raising over £3000 for LB. They hope to visit South Africa in the near future to run in the Comrades Marathon. Whew!



The Waterside Tae-Kwondo Club from Southampton, gave a real 'kick' to the Millennium Appeal when they raised over £114 through a raffle held during a recent competition.



Five went Live when they walked from Southampton to Winchester, 18 miles, raising £325 for LB. Chris Reardon (centre) spurred husband Darren and friends Lisa, Eve and Fred on, after reading about the plight of LB and being blessed with five healthy children.



Brave teenager Sara Bevan, who died of leukaemia in 1996, is the inspiration behind the tireless fundraising of her friends and family in Northampton. Recent money-spinning ideas include a coffee morning and bring-and-buy sale which raised £435. Another unusual fundraising venture is the sale of pine-mounted pre-decimal coins, which continue to raise regular sums of £100 by her grandfather, Richard Burton.



Sorry Bob... I can't quite hear you!

Still raring to go after the third Fleet half marathon for Leukaemia Research, Derek Menzies and chums raised £1,004 in memory of Leanne Kisko.



Ruth Kay from Salisbury continues to make and sell these fantastic Rupert Bears donating regular sums to LB, since the sad loss of her grand-daughter, Helen Kay to acute lymphoblastic leukaemia in 1995.



Golfers and their families got right into the swing of things at the annual Norman Barnes Golf Memorial Day which took place at the Isle of Purbeck Golf Club. They raised an amazing sum of £3000. The photo shows the winning team including Harry Redknapp, West Ham Manager, brothers Dave and Mike Werner. Our thanks go once again to Peter Joliffe (far left) and Len Robinson.



The Leukaemia Buskers (from left: Leanne, Karen, Jemma, Lori and Jo) as budding models raised an absolutely fabulous £500.00 in a Fashion Show Extravaganza they organised at Taunton's College, Southampton.



Trade refuse workers cleaned up and raised £301 for LB at their Hedge End, Southampton, Depot Xmas raffle. The accumulation of these yearly raffles since the death of a colleague from leukaemia has now totalled a donation of £1,400.



The children of St Michael's Church in Dorset, flew into action for the 9th year for LB. They raised £428 at their Xmas panto 'Peter Pan' and an additional £146 raised from the annual jumble sale organized by St Michael's Playgroup.



Are you a chocoholic? Could you give up sweets and chocolate for two weeks?! Gemma, Laura and Elaine from Southampton, did just that and raised £160.



Emma, Chris, Hannah, Lucy, Martin, Alissa and Jonathan from Salisbury, camped out for 24-hours and raised £23.70 for LB.



North Baddesley Junior School pupils in Southampton, Ryan and Peter had a fun-d-fight with pillows as part of the schools fundraising week which raised £620, with a further anonymous donation of £120 to LB.

FANTASTIC FUNDRAISERS!!!



The bowmen of Bournemouth Archery Club took careful aim and raised the grand total of £625 at a recent archery competition.



Shoe City, Southampton got off on the right foot by organising a fun day and the LB Xmas raffle raising over £800.



Stewart Dunn, Managing Director, Southern Region, Southern Newspapers hands over a £600 cheque to boost the Busters' Millennium Appeal.



Staff and pupils of St Michael's Junior School put their heads together and raised over £490 through various fundraising activities. In memory of Leanne Kisko, former pupil at the school who died in 1997.



The Hound Evening Townswomen's Guild, Southampton, raised £300 through a range of fundraising events. Pearl Moore, member, is also an employee of Barclays Bank who matched the amount through their staff £ for £ scheme totalling a donation of £600.



Odeon Cinemas General Manager, Steve Christie (second from the right) donates a Hollywood sized cheque for over £5,000 from the proceeds of ticket sales from the UK Premiere of Demi Moore's film GI Jane at Leisureworld in Southampton.



Ann Channell donned her LB t-shirt to spur on her colleagues at GEC-Marconi Electro-Optics, Southampton, who organised a variety of fundraising activities including a raffle of donated goods and the sale of hand-made crafts. Altogether, their efforts have raised the total of £912.



The Phoenix Theatre Company, from Romsey, Southampton, staged their musical comedy '70 Girls 70', raising £200.

+++ RESEARCH NEWS +++ RESEARCH NEWS +++ RESEARCH NEWS +++

A Year of Progress

Whenever I attend fundraising events I always emphasise just how important the support we have and continue to receive from ordinary people has been in enabling us to realise our important objectives, namely the development of new antibody-based treatments for patients with currently incurable forms of leukaemia. This has never been more so than it is now. Let's together make the next century the time when we completely banish leukaemia and other related diseases from the human race. I and many of my colleagues around the world believe this is a very real possibility. New technology and a better understanding of the processes that make leukaemia cells behave the way they do provides us with new insights into ways in which leukaemia cells can be destroyed in the patient in more effective and yet safer and gentler ways that will not endanger the patient. The targeted treatments that we have developed over the past five years and now in clinical trials at centres around the UK will hopefully make a direct contribution toward this process - we are compelled and indeed obliged to do the very very best we possibly can for the patients of the future of which there will unfortunately be many.



Dr David Flavell, Honorary Scientific Director and chief scientist leading the Leukaemia Busters research team describes some of the major scientific events that have taken place over the past year and the progress that has been achieved with your support.



Armored Noss, Senior Technician in The Simon Flavell Leukaemia Research Unit working with one of the latest pieces of equipment for the purification of antibodies and other drugs purchased with a grant from Leukaemia Busters.

It has been a spectacular year, with the charity's profile rising ever higher as people at all levels from the Prime Minister downwards recognise the urgency of our commitment to improving treatment for leukaemia patients. The future, we feel, holds great promise and we have every intent to carry through our ideas. The biggest challenge still lies ahead as we plan for a multi-centre national trial for children with relapsed leukaemia - giving them a chance where perhaps they had none. To bring this to reality will require some major expansion of our current facilities and of course the all important funding that will allow for this to happen. I am confident that our supporters will come through as they always do and raise for us the necessary money to enable this dream to become reality. Let me say thank you now for any past, present or future support you may give and assure you that any money you raise will go right to where it is needed. Leukaemia Busters still has remarkably low overhead costs. I always remember that without people like you nothing of what we have achieved over the past years would have been possible. Please keep on helping us to make it happen.

A Vote of Thanks



Leukaemia Busters are eternally grateful to all of their supporters. There are many people who dedicate hours of their own time as volunteers to organise events in order to raise these important funds and we'd like to thank them for their hard work and dedication. In this edition, we'd like to start thanking some of the voluntary fundraisers and where better to start than the Veteran fundraisers - Lyn Wiltshire and Pam Pitcher. Over the last nine years they have raised an amazing £10,000, without the use of a car and any secretarial help to organise events during this period. A considerable amount of work can go into organising events and Leukaemia Busters would in this issue like to express sincere thanks to Lyn and Pam for all their hard work.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Leukaemia Busters do however still need more and more volunteers to follow the example set by Lyn and Pam to organise events in their localities to reach the Millennium Appeal target. This is a chance to do something very positive to help the important work of the charity. By joining or starting a fundraising group in your area you could make a very real personal

contribution towards helping save the lives of children. The charity can provide you with the tools to do the job, so call Helen Diment on 01703 796270 for advice on setting up your event, legal guidelines, local media and advertising. Call Cheryl Mist on 01703 796528 for a charity information pack, sponsor forms, merchandise, T-shirts, badges, posters and other marketing materials. Every little helps, all ages from all backgrounds are welcome. To her amazement, Helen recently received a telephone call from Mr Alan Davey, who has a blood disorder needing a blood transfusion every six weeks. He offered to cycle across the Highlands of Scotland and then all the way down to Hampshire to raise funds for LB. Just before the conversation ended he told Helen that he also only has one leg!!! We would like to pass on all our thanks and support to Mr Davey for this journey and for his dedication to our cause.

- REMEMBER, IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE, YOUR HELP MAY SAVE A CHILD'S LIFE.

In Loving Memory of Emma McCulloch ("Emma The Strong") 14.9.83 - 28.11.97



Emma photographed with her beloved and adoring younger brother Jamie and sister Ellie.

Fourteen year old Emma McCulloch lost her two and a half year fight against leukaemia in November of last year and passed away amidst her loving family and friends. Emma, a young woman of very special quality, was known by her immediate family as "Emma The Strong" for her determination and resolve and for her great sense of maturity, perception and understanding the sentiments and needs of others in so many selfless ways. Emma's parents, both doctors, write: "It is impossible to transcribe Emma's life so cruelly brief into a limited space as it was so very full and wholesome, enriching us all, but we feel a very strong need to do so because we love her so very dearly. We feel extremely proud of her in her whole entirety, not just in her talents and achievements but in so many other ways that go beyond what words can say". Emma,

*"You are the one who leads us on.
When the going gets tough.
You fight for what you believe in
Your strength smooths out the rough"*

Emma was laid to rest in December at Wilfred Hill Cemetery, West Bridgford, Notts.

The Simon Flavell Leukaemia Research Unit is a living memorial to all those children who have lost their lives to leukaemia.



The laboratories are dedicated to these children so that the work carried out in them will provide a better chance for those children who come after.

Forthcoming Events



Sat 18 - Sun 19 July

'Cinderella' a children's production by the
Parkwood School of Dance
The John Stripe Theatre, Winchester
For tickets call: (01703) 739355

Fri 31 July

The IBC Summer Charity Ball

Sun 2 Aug

Southern Newspapers
6-A-Side Football Tournament
The Littledown Sports Centre, Bournemouth
Contact: Chris Alexander
at the Southern Evening Echo
(01703) 424777

Sun 30 Aug

Eastleigh Angling Club, Fete and Table Top Sale
The Lakeside Country Park, Eastleigh
Contact: Jim Cook (01703) 422098

Sun 30 Aug

Model World Exhibition and Fete
Thornden School, Chandlers Ford (M3, Jct. 12)
Organised by: The Rotary Club of Itchen Valley
Contact: Nick Campbell-White (01962) 713891

Mon 28 Sept

Brockenhurst Football Club, Charity Golf Day
Paultons Park Golf Course, (M27 Nursling)
Contact: Bernie Hallam
(01705) 504413 (evenings)



The photograph above shows Newsletter No 12, rolling off the press under the watchful eye of David and Bee Flavell, Helen Diment and Martin Mason, Managing Director of Romsey Communications Group. Leukaemia Busters would like to thank them for their very generous donation of this newsletter.



The design & production of the Leukaemia
Busters newsletter was donated by
Romsey Communications Group 01703 255255

Ways in which you can help...

- 1.) Joining an existing or setting up a new fundraising group.
- 2.) Organising a local fundraising event such as coffee mornings, jumble sales, craft fairs and so on.
- 3.) Entering a sponsored event for Leukaemia Busters such as swimming, running, walking and so on.
- 4.) Persuading the company you work for to adopt Leukaemia Busters as their charity.
- 5.) Introducing Leukaemia Busters to a group or association which you may be involved with at work or socially.
- 6.) Making a direct contribution, possibly by gift aid or a deed of covenant.
- 7.) Making a bequest to Leukaemia Busters in your will.

**For more information please contact
Leukaemia Busters at:**
Southampton General Hospital
SOUTHAMPTON. SO16 6YD

A Donation in support of Leukaemia Busters' work is always very welcome. Please use this form if you feel that you are able to help:

(Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) Initials _____ Name _____

Address _____

I would like to make a donation of £ _____ in support of
Leukaemia Busters. (Cheques payable to Leukaemia Busters), or
I wish to make a credit card donation by
Visa - MasterCard - Delta. (delete as applicable)

Name of cardholder: _____ Card
Expiry date: _____

Card No.

Usual Signature: _____
If you are making a donation of £250 or more. please consider **Gift Aid**, which enables us to recover an extra third in Tax relief - a tax form will be sent to you for signature. Or if you would like to make a regular gift, please consider **Deed of Covenant**, please ring us for further information.

Please send to address to the left or phone: 01703 796528