



Dear Sarah,

For our summer newsletter we have lots of stories to share about children's achievements and fundraising eventsI hope that you enjoy hearing about the work of Footsteps Foundation.

Livvy's Footsteps



Livvy Aged 3, has the rare condition IP36 deletion syndrome, which can cause severe disability. Recently, Livvy's mum, Rebecca told us how she is getting on: "My daughter has been coming to Footsteps since she was 16 months old and she has just turned three and taken her 1st steps! In 2017 we came 3 times. She has worked on transitioning and she learnt to pull herself to stand. We came back in June 2017 and while she didn't present any new skills during this session, when we got home within two weeks she was crawling up and down the stairs and we know that is all down to the strength she gained at Footsteps. In 2018, within 3 days of returning to Footsteps, she took a few controlled steps, by the second week I was told we are no longer counting steps and are now measuring in distance! These therapists are miracle workers, 75% of children with my daughters condition never walk, and I am sure that my daughter only walks because of the therapy that these people have done with her. Thank you to all the therapists who had to listen to her crying and shouting! Thank you, thank you, thank you!"

Livvy's grandad said that they were at a family event at the weekend and Livvy simply walked from one parent to the other and then towards her three-year old cousin – completely unaware of how amazed the whole family were! It is stories like this that give us our name, and our motivation to do the work that we do.

Grace Roscoe's charity concert – Stepping into Song



On the 25th of February, we were delighted to attend a fundraising concert held on behalf of Footsteps Foundation which raised a great sum and was a wonderful evening of music – all organised by fifteen year-old Grace Roscoe, a Dorchester resident. There were beautiful choral pieces and solo instrumental pieces and songs, as well as rousing popular numbers from the local Rock Choir. It means so much to Footsteps Foundation to have the support of the local community in this way and Grace is a talented singer, event organiser and charity fundraiser – Thanks Grace!!!

Footsteps News



Booking for 2019 is open and some spaces are available outside holidays for 2018 and 2019. Please call Kirsty on 01865 343851 or email kirsty@footstepscentre.com.

New Data Protection Laws – GDPR We only use Footsteps families data for keeping you updated about the work of the charity and the physio centre and we don't pass your information on to third parties. We keep emails to the bare minimum, as nobody wants to wade through tons of unsolicited mail! We are making sure that we are compliant with the new data laws, and so we will be updating permissions to use child photos and case studies, as well as the ways we keep in touch with you, over the coming months. As always, you can unsubscribe from any mailings using the links at the end of this letter.

Radley concert and music therapy



On the 21st of March, Radley College organised a concert to fund music therapy at Footsteps. It was a wonderful event, organised by the head of music at Radley, Sam Gladstone. The event was a huge success and it was so lovely to see Footsteps children perform onstage alongside other primary age children and senior-school musicians. Ronnie gave a short talk about his experiences at Footsteps, which was a huge success, and five Footsteps children gave a music therapy performance with four Radley boys, for which Evie enthusiastically conducted our 'orchestra'. The children were confident and their beaming smiles showed how much they enjoyed performing in the beautiful Abbey in front of a huge crowd.

Lizz Lipscombe, who has been organising the music therapy at Footsteps said: "The whole concert was of a very high standard, and each school made a wonderful contribution. It was a pleasure for me to help facilitate a music therapy improvisation performance. We saw incredibly attentive communication between the Radley boys and Footsteps children. Every performer was equally involved, irrespective of physical differences, creating a beautiful and spontaneous composition for the audience."

The music therapy at Footsteps has proved popular with children of all different ages and abilities and parents and staff have been really impressed with how children react to the addition of music in to the therapy, it can motivate and help children persevere when things get tough.

Upcoming Charity Events

We have some fantastic events coming up this month which Footsteps are very pleased to be part of and which will help raise funds for Footsteps therapy.

PUMA PULL - FRI 15 JUNE 9-12NOON at RAF Benson

A helicopter will be pulled up the main airfield and the squadron will be raising money for Footsteps. There will also be two static helicopters which everyone can look around, a Chinook and Puma.

The squadron would like us to show support for this event, which will be fun to watch and there will be press and a party atmosphere! It is on from 9-12noon on Friday 15th June, but to attend, you will need to email in advance at sarah@footstepsfoundation.com

BEACON FESTIVAL – FRI 15 & SAT 16 JUNE at Watlington Hill Farm

The Beacon Festival is a family-friendly event, celebrating real ale, music and good food with plenty to do for the kids. Footsteps will have a stall where we will be selling our merchandise and spreading the word about our work and what we do, and the festival will make a donation to Footsteps along with three other local charities. <https://www.beaconfestival.net/>

RUGFEST – FRI 22 & SAT 23 JUNE in Wallingford

We are the charity partner for Rugfest this year.

It is a family music festival held in Wallingford. It will be a fun-filled day with lots going on for the whole family. Footsteps will have a stall on the gate and will be taking tickets, promoting Footsteps, selling our merchandise and will have a hamper raffle. <https://www.rugfest.org>



Thank you to all our supporters!



Many thanks to our regular givers, Jane Mellor, Percival Violando, Louise Van Heyningen, Doug Tillman, Christine Briggs & Sarah McAdden.

And also special thanks to Debbi & Steve Barnett, V Broadbent, Karen Hall, Gemma & Julian Munsey, Pat West, Pangbourne College, Radley School, Reading Rotary Community Project, The Lions Club-Henley, Kim Thompson, Hayley Froud, James Gesner, Kokomo Studio Ltd, Lochinvar Ltd, Catherine & John Morris, Rikki Massey, Grace Roscoe, All Saints Highfield Church, So Charitable Lottery, RAF Benson, Midcounties Co Op Community, Lionel Wigram Memorial Trust, Newman's Own Foundation, Rowe Family Trust, The Alchemy Foundation, The Hugh Fraser Foundation, The Worshipful Company of Innholders, The Christopher Laing Foundation, The Iron Bridge Trust and Theodore Rousset Memorial Trust.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME A REGULAR DONOR TO HELP CHILDREN LIKE LIVVY? <https://www.justgiving.com/footstepsfoundation>

Thanks for your ongoing support,

The Footsteps Team.