

helping hands

enabling us to make a difference



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

HELPING HANDS - donor evening

30th March

6:30 - 8:00pm

The Mayor's Charity Silver & Black Ball

2nd April - in Thame

For more details call
01844 260495

See our website for more information ...

VISITING THOMLEY

We welcome donor visits to Thomley at any time.

The best time to visit is on Saturdays and during school holidays when you can talk to children and their families.

Just get in touch and let us know.



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fundraising@thomleyhall.org
www.thomleyhall.org

Thomley Patrons
Ken Bruce
Jeremy Irons

Thomley Sports Ambassador
Bryan Steel

Registered Charity
No. 1089224

Issue . 3

Spring 2011

Thomley Activity Centre - Proud Owners 2011

We are delighted to tell you that on 18th February Thomley became the proud owners of the freehold of its buildings and 10 acres of land, meaning that Thomley now has a secure future as a facility for disabled children, their families and friends.

Thomley now has a fundraising target of £1 million to cover the purchase cost, together with essential building repairs to preserve our premises long into the future.

We are currently concentrating our efforts on securing major grants and donations. If you have personal links with Trusts or individuals who might consider a major gift, please contact Claire Acworth either by phone or claire@thomleyhall.org.... We need all the help we can get!



- Be a sporting hero for Thomley -

With spring just around the corner it is a great time to set yourself a fitness challenge. Why not combine it with raising money for Thomley and the children we support.

One person who is doing just that is Paul Kimber who is running the Reading half marathon for us in March. He was inspired to take on his fundraising challenge when visiting Thomley as a contractor working on our new Teenage provision.

"After winning a contract at Thomley and learning about what they did there, I thought it was time to get out of the office and give something back. My aim is to raise as much money as possible by the time of the race, which coincides with our completion date. Hopefully this money can

go towards some specialist equipment to give the kids the help they need in life for many years to come."







There are many events you could get involved in big or small, and with Justgiving fundraising couldn't be easier. You can create a fundraising page in less than a minute, and donate in less than 20 seconds! For a list of some local running events which you could sign up for visit the Headington Road Runners website - www.hrr.org.uk/events/



If you or someone you know is interested in supporting us with your own fitness challenge please get in touch - we would love to hear from you.

How you can lend a helping hand...

We know that people can choose to help in many different ways. Below are just a few ideas of how you could support Thomley:

-  By nominating Thomley as a charity to a school, church or group for their support.
-  By organising a fun event with your family or friends.
-  By setting yourself a challenge and get sponsored — run, cycle...swim!
-  By supporting the charity with a personal donation.
-  By speaking to your local companies about Thomley. Perhaps they could do corporate and employee fundraising for our charity.
-  By donating unwanted shares to us through ShareGift. Even if you have only one or two shares they can help you donate them easily - see www.sharegift.org for more info.

Inspiring ambition in disabled teenagers.

Thomley is now in the final stages of refurbishing an unused Manor Hall building for use by disabled teenagers. Aiming to open the facility in May 2011, the first year of this project will focus on establishing a basic but varied range of social, healthy living, early vocational and life skills activities. During term time, the project hopes to support school and home schooled young people by linking with curriculum objectives.

Thomley welcomes your financial support to develop, run and equip this service steadily over the coming years. In order to run projects, we first need to equip the following activity areas which will cost approximately £2500 per room:

- ★ **mini gym** i.e. physical activities such as dance, yoga, exercise classes or a space for use by therapists.
- ★ **life skills & kitchen area** i.e. cooking healthy meals from vegetables grown within the horticultural area, food hygiene and daily living skills such as cleaning, laundry and personal hygiene.
- ★ **hobbies & vocational training area** i.e. sewing, woodwork and other practical activities. Helping young people understand the work ethic and developing basic practical or administrative skills which could be used in their future vocations.
- ★ **teenage den** i.e. a social area in which young people can enjoy interactive games, mini cinema, information sharing hub, discussion groups, youth group activities or just a space to chill out.



If you would be interested in supporting our new teenage provision get in touch for a copy of our wish list.



Good luck to Paul Kimber for his half marathon in aid of Thomley.



The fantastic 'Dream Rides' event held by the Sporting Bears in support of 3 children's charities.



How any money you donate could bring a smile...



£20 could allow 5 children to use our **sensory room** which provides a therapeutic atmosphere and can help to stimulate, develop or balance their sensory systems.

£50 could fund a **playworker for a day** to encourage children to participate in active play which promotes social interaction and helps to build their self-confidence.

£100 could fund the replacement and purchase of our **sports equipment**. Physical play is an essential part of every child's development but due to physical or attitudinal barriers, accessible playgrounds like Thomley are few and far between.

£250 could fund a **creative workshop** at Thomley for a group of children, which can help to develop imagination, coordination and sensory awareness whatever their ability.

£500 could fund a day of supervised **art and craft activities** for 50 children to enjoy. Art & craft is something that children of all abilities can join in and helps them to build confidence in their ideas and ability.



Thomley Stars - the heart of our community fundraising



We would like to say a big THANK YOU to everyone who has supported us - we are really grateful for all your support. Below is just a small selection of things that have been done to raise money for Thomley - we hope they will inspire others...

Sporting Bears raised an amazing £11,000 for Thomley at their **Dream Rides event** at the NEC Classic car show in November. The event gives people the chance to take a ten mile passenger ride in the car of their dreams in exchange for a donation to charity; *Shop 'Til You Drop* the annual charity **shopping event** for South Oxfordshire raised over £3000 for us; *1st Princes Risborough Scout group* held a **bring and buy sale** raising £30; staff from *Barclays bank* chose to support Thomley on the company's 'make a difference day' - they did lots of **maintenance work** around the site with a **grant** of £500 to cover all the materials used on the day; Following a **talk by our patron Ken Bruce** at Chinnor Village Hall we received a donation from them of £150; *St Leonards church* donated their **Christmas collection** of £186 to Thomley; *Paul Kimber* is taking on the Reading **half marathon** for Thomley and has raised over £1500; *Headington Road Runners* gave Thomley a generous donation of £500 which they raised from their **10K race**; Thomley continues to receive a great many generous donations and valuable support from local **Lions, Rotary & Roundtable** clubs.

If you are taking part in a sporting or challenge event please think about supporting Thomley. We will support you every step of the way with a fundraising pack, tips & ideas.

Get in touch...

Claire Acworth

(Director)

claire@thomleyhall.org

Trusts & foundations
Statutory bodies
Major donors

Ruth Dickson

(Fundraising Officer)

ruth@thomleyhall.org

Individuals
Schools
Companies
Community events
Legacies

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