

# helping hands

enabling us to make a difference



Issue 4

Summer 2011

## Thomley's new teenage facilities are now open...

Thomley would like to publically acknowledge the kind support given by those involved in the planning and financing of the new provision for disabled teenagers, including ADP Architects and Wards of Oxford. We would like to thank the following extremely generous supporters, without which this project would not have happened: these include *The Boshier Hinton Foundation*, *PF Charitable Trust*, *Event Shed Ltd* & other donors listed below.



See our website  
for dates for your diary.

[www.thomleyhall.org](http://www.thomleyhall.org)

Join us on Facebook &  
share our news...



### 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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Thomley Patrons  
Ken Bruce

Thomley Sports Ambassador  
Bryan Steel

Registered Charity  
No. 1089224

## Company lends Thomley their helping hands!

In April a local company came along to Thomley to help with jobs around our big site. This is the second time Qliktech have supported us in this way and with a team of over 20 volunteers they managed to get stuck in to jobs all over Thomley. Furniture for the new teenage provision was painted, outdoor furniture was given a new lease of life, patios were cleaned and the horticultural area given a good push forward!



John Sands from Qliktech said  
*"During the day at Thomley the employees at Qliktech really felt they were making a difference and the weeds never*

*stood a chance once we got started! We hope that the children enjoy themselves in this lovely garden.*

*Qliktech take social responsibility very seriously and this was a chance for us to get involved and help Thomley which we all felt is an extremely worthwhile cause. We look forward to helping out again in the future."*






A big THANK YOU to the team from Qliktech who also covered all the cost of materials and are already looking at coming back a third time to offer those helping hands for Thomley again!



*If you know any companies who might be interested in supporting Thomley please get in touch to let us know...*

## 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 - to a school, church, superstore or group for their support.
-  By **organising a fun event** with your family or friends.
-  By **setting yourself a challenge** and getting 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 Thomley...



Interested in supporting our new teenage provision?...get in touch for a copy of our wish list.



Thank you to Sue Rudman for running the Thame 10K in aid of Thomley.  
[www.justgiving.com/Sue-Rudman](http://www.justgiving.com/Sue-Rudman)



Great team of volunteers from Qliketech who volunteered at Thomley for the day.

## Get in touch...

Claire Acworth

(Director)

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Trusts & foundations  
Statutory bodies  
Major donors

Ruth Dickson

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Individuals  
Schools  
Companies  
Community events  
Legacies

 01844 338380



## Thomley gives support with home education days



Families with disabled children often face difficulties when the time comes to choose the right school for their child. Some families decide to home educate; for some this is their first choice, whilst for others it is their only choice.

We continue to look at ways to broaden the support we can offer to families and have recently introduced home education days which are evolving with a warm atmosphere. Each session begins with a welcoming introduction to new families. These discussion groups have helped define the nature of these days, with families deciding what they would like to do in the next session. So far feedback from families has been that we should provide non-curriculum based opportunities for social interaction, exercise and sports, sensory activities, life skills and activities to develop fine and gross motor skills for their disabled child. Families have been eager that these days offer free choice for children with some timetabled activities for those who want to join in a group activity. The group is also keen to welcome parents of disabled children who are at the stage of considering the pros and cons of home education and would like to talk to people who have taken the plunge.

Emma Rissen said "My son has now not accessed full time school since September and I have no outside help, despite it all being promised to me. It would be useful to have someone other than me help for a day, and help Paul with some school work I haven't had to invent for him to do! It will also be helpful to meet other parents who may be having similar problems."

★ Please get in touch with us if you would like to know more about our home education days ★



How the money you raise could bring a smile...



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

**£50** could fund a **playworker** for a day to encourage social interaction by supporting children in active play which can help build up their self-confidence.

**£100** could fund **sports equipment**. Physical play is essential for every child's development but physical and attitudinal barriers mean accessible playgrounds are few and far between.

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

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



## Thomley Stars - the heart of our community fundraising



A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who has helped support Thomley.

★ Below is just a small selection of things that have been done recently to raise money - we hope they will inspire you... ★

A year long adoption by the Thame Mayor as one of his charities ended with a fantastic civic **ball fundraising event** raising £3300 for Thomley; Sue Rudman is taking on the **Thame 10K** for Thomley and so far has raised over £250; *The Dragon School* in Oxford donated £1000 from the funds raised during their annual Christmas **Charity Sale**; *Oxford High School* raised £70 for Thomley when the pupils had a **cake sale**; Karen Scrogg arranged a **dress down day** at *Facilities Services Group* where she works and raised £118; Pupils at *Wycombe Abbey School* have been continuing to support Thomley - recently we have had cheques totalling over £300 from their **school fundraising**; Our patron Ken Bruce spoke at a district Rotary conference and *Banbury Cherwell Rotary Club* organised a collection on our behalf at the event resulting in a cheque for £1600; **Sports Club Headington Road Runners** raised £500 for Thomley at through their annual **10K road 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. ★