



Giving kids with limited life unlimited possibilities

## PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

**Children at local children's hospice set to benefit from £20,000 donation from Hampshire and Isle of Wight Freemasons to children's charity Lifelites  
Donation will be used by Lifelites to provide its fun and educational technology project for the children at the hospice.**

A generous donation of £20,000 from the Masonic Province of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight to unique children's charity Lifelites has been welcomed this month. The money will go towards the Lifelites project at Naomi House children's hospice, in Hampshire.

Lifelites provides all children's hospices with specialist technology, such as touch screen computers and a 'head mouse' for children who cannot use their hands. The special adaptations make it possible for children like four-year-old Edward at Naomi House to use the computers for themselves, exert their own will and gives them a unique type of freedom they don't get from anything else.

Playing 'Let's Go to the Seaside' – where Edward presses a special red button and then a voice tells him what the image is on screen - not only keeps him entertained but is also vital to his development.

Nurse Andy Chapman believes it is important for the children to be given tools to express themselves. He said: 'So many of them have a strict regime of medicines and of physiotherapy, that any amount of control and freedom that we can give to them with the Lifelites technology is really appreciated.'

Provincial Grand Master Brian Bellinger said: 'Brethren and Lodges of the Province of Hampshire and Isle of Wight have supported this local children's hospice for many years, recognising its splendid work on behalf of our community.'

'We have been delighted to give further support through the initiative of Lifelites to ensure the continued provision of computer equipment and other fun technologies for the children at the hospice.'

'As always, this donation is from Freemasons' own funds and not from any public appeal.'

Simone Enefer-Doy, Lifelites chief executive, said: 'We are very grateful to the Freemasons of Hampshire and IOW for this very generous donation to Lifelites. The money will be used towards our work at the hospice to help the children there to enjoy their stay.'

Lifelites also provides all children's hospices with music software where children can compose their own tunes, and a flight simulator programme that has proved popular with older children.

**Notes to Editor:**

About Lifelites

Charity No.1115655

Today technology is part of the way with live, work and play; for children even more so. Lifelites is the only charity in the country supplying a full package of home education and recreation technology for the 5,000 children and their families who use any one the 40 children's hospices around the UK. This package includes computers, special equipment for children with disabilities to use the computers for themselves, printers, TVs and cameras. With our help, the children can play games with their brothers and sisters or simply relax in front of their favourite programmes with their parents and feel normal for a while. Our digital cameras and camcorders help the families make a lasting record of the special time they spend together with their child at the hospice.

For more information about Lifelites, visit [www.lifelites.org](http://www.lifelites.org) or email Neeta Norton at [nnorton@lifelites.org](mailto:nnorton@lifelites.org) and/or call 020 7440 4200