

# 2022 Annual Review



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## Welcome from the Chairman

I am pleased to introduce our 2022 Review which covers a year of transformation for our children's hospice partners and for ourselves.

In March 2022 our Chief Executive for over sixteen years Simone Enefer-Doy retired and I begin by recording our appreciation of her devoted service and tireless efforts. She left a strong foundation on which our Trustees and new Chief Executive Rob Lightfoot are building as we review our mission and strategy while continuing to deliver our core objective.



During the year we have installed new technology packages and provided training for hospice staff at thirteen children's hospices across the British Isles. The continued success of any organisation, including Charities, depends on the capability to continually review, adapt and change to meet the challenges of a changing world. This we refer to as organisational agility and sadly we see many organisations which are failing because they do not have sufficient agility. By contrast I am proud to report that Lifelites has been able to adapt and change by developing, sourcing and installing different or improved technology and equipment packages and by offering our hospice staff training, annual conference and other services online.

We have come a long way since we began life as the millennium project of the Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys and believing in the "power of partnership" we now work with many other organisations and people. Some ten thousand children with life limiting conditions together with their families currently benefit from our magical technology and equipment, but there are many more who need and deserve our support. We want to be able to bring joy and unforgettable moments to them also, but we can only do this if we increase our funding. If you are a one of our donors or volunteers, I extend our heartfelt thanks for your valued and hopefully continuing contribution. If not, we hope that you will consider becoming a donor or supporting us in other ways. If you would like to discuss the possibilities please feel free to contact Rob Lightfoot or myself directly. In the meantime I thank you on behalf of all of us at Lifelites, for taking the time to read this brief review of our continuing progress.

**Mike Woodcock**  
Chairman

## Lifelites 2022 - Our impact

Thanks to our wonderful supporters we were able to donate **100%** of the technology that we hoped to donate following our consultation with each of the children's hospice services. Each bespoke package of technology will give the children in their care the best chance to play, create and communicate.

100%

10,000

We have continued to support every children's hospice service across the British Isles, helping **10,000 children** with life-limiting conditions over the year.

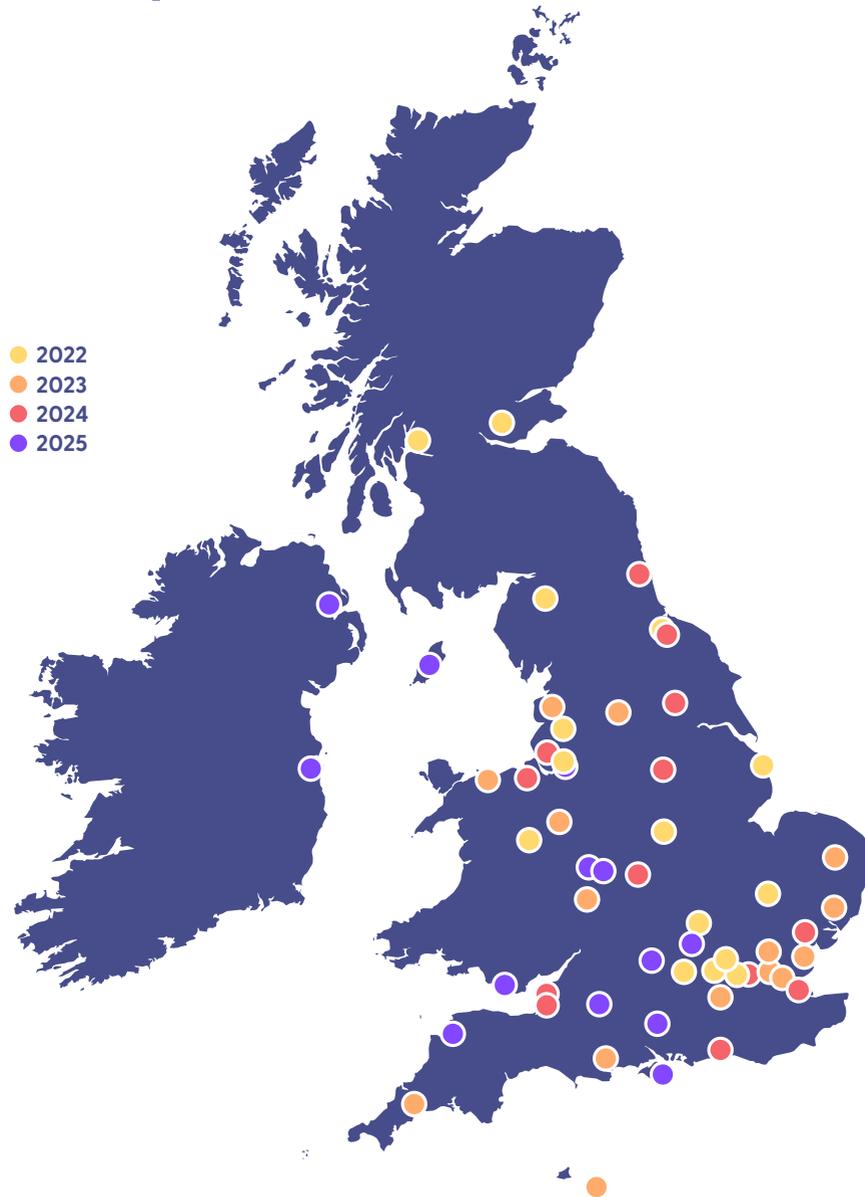
2,500

50,000+

Our partners across children's palliative care accessed **50,000+ hours of high quality training**, to ensure that the technology we have donated will make the biggest impact for the children in their care.

Installations of life-changing technology - we donated and installed new packages of technology, giving over **2,500 children** using hospice services the very latest assistive equipment.

## Lifelites projects near you



## Projects due for new installations

### 2022

**Andy's**, Lincolnshire  
**Alexander Devine**, Berkshire  
**Butterwick Children's Hospice**, Durham  
**The Children's Trust**, Surrey  
**Claire House Liverpool**, Lancashire  
**Derian House**, Lancashire  
**EACH Milton**, Cambridgeshire  
**Hope House**, Shropshire  
**Jigsaw**, Cumbria  
**Keech Hospice Care**, Bedfordshire  
**Rachel House**, Kinross  
**Rainbows Children's Hospice**, Leicestershire  
**Reubens Retreat**, Derbyshire  
**Robin House**, West Dunbartonshire  
**Shooting Star**, Middlesex

### 2024

**Bluebell Wood**, West Yorkshire  
**Charlton Farm**, Somerset  
**Chestnut Tree House**, West Sussex  
**Claire House**, Wirral  
**Demelza Sittingbourne**, Kent  
**Demelza SEL**, London  
**Jessie May Trust**, Somerset  
**Martin House**, West Yorkshire  
**St Oswald's Children's Service**, Newcastle  
**Zoë's Place Coventry**, West Midlands  
**Zoë's Place Liverpool**, Lancashire  
**Zoë's Place Middlesbrough**, North Yorkshire

### 2023

**Acorns for the Three Counties**, Worcestershire  
**Brian House**, Lancashire  
**Christopher's (CHASE)**, Surrey  
**EACH Ipswich**, Suffolk  
**EACH The Nook**, Norfolk  
**ellenor**, Kent  
**Forget Me Not**, West Yorkshire  
**Haven House**, Essex  
**Julia's House**, Dorset  
**Little Harbour**, Cornwall  
**Little Haven's with The J's**, Essex  
**Noah's Ark**, London  
**Oakwell House and Jersey Hospice Care**, Jersey  
**Richard House**, London  
**The Donna Louise**, Staffordshire  
**Tŷ Gobaith**, Conwy

### 2025

**Acorns Birmingham**, West Midlands  
**Acorns for the Black Country**, West Midlands  
**Francis House**, Manchester  
**Helen House**, Oxfordshire  
**Horizon House**, County Antrim  
**Isle of White Hospice at Home**, IOW  
**Julia's House**, Wiltshire  
**LauraLynn**, Dublin  
**Little Bridge House**, Devon  
**Naomi House and Jacksplace**, Hampshire  
**Rebecca House**, Isle of Man  
**Rennie Grove Hospice at Home**, Hertfordshire  
**Tŷ Hafan**, Cardiff

## Introducing our new CEO

**Since joining Lifelites in January, I have been inspired by the stories of the families and children that we support. It has been an enormous privilege to visit children's hospices over the last few months and experience, first-hand, the transformative power of the technology we donate.**

Lifelites has an extraordinary story itself, demonstrating a powerful culture of innovation and collaboration since its inception as a Millenium Project. For over twenty years, Lifelites has adapted to the changing needs of our partners, evolving continuously to better support the children we serve. Inclusion is inbuilt to our offer, as we seek to empower children and young people with disabilities and life-limiting conditions to increase their independence and enjoyment of life through play, creativity and communication. The dynamic partnerships we have with children's hospice services and our extensive knowledge of the latest assistive technology has combined to create immeasurable joyful moments.'

This incredible track record and these ingrained values will be integral to our future. A change in leadership is always a good opportunity to take stock, identify strengths and areas for development. Remarkably, we remain entirely unique and trusted by our partners and supporters to deliver transformative outcomes.

**“ We are immensely proud of our story so far but there are always areas for improvement. So with this strong foundation and unique mandate, what do we want to do next? ”**

Firstly, we remain committed to delivering our core objective; enhancing the lives of children and young people with life-limiting conditions through the power of technology. However, we know their world is changing at pace. So we need to work with our partners to better understand the increasing demands on palliative care services and the growing complexity of need faced by the children and families we support. Through this, we will identify gaps and innovative service development opportunities to increase our impact further in this changing landscape.



Alongside this work, we want to identify opportunities to expand our reach. We are proud to say that over 10,000 children can access our services through children's hospices each year. However, our partners at Together for Short Lives estimate that there are 99,000 children in the UK with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions. It has long been an aspiration of Lifelites to support more children. To that end, we will be looking at opportunities to extend beyond children's hospices and develop new ways to increase our reach.

To enable these mission-led ambitions, we know we need to evolve, modernise and invest in our people, our governance, our fundraising and our brand. You will notice, in particular, that we have already updated our branding to reflect our vibrant, high-impact services. Development in these enabling foundations will serve us well as we seek to increase our reach and our impact. To bring this all into focus, we will be developing a robust, goal-focused strategic plan to set the tone and direction of travel for the coming years.

Ultimately, we believe every child with a life-limiting condition should be able to engage and interact with the people they love and enjoy the world they live in. We are under no illusions that there is a lot of work to do but we are confident that, together with our partners, we can continue Lifelites' extraordinary story.

**Rob Lightfoot**  
Chief Executive

## Our work over 2022

Imagine being a child or young person who has never been able to experience what it's like to walk along the beach or swim in the ocean but with the help of virtual reality.

Imagine having severely limited movement of your head and limbs but being able to communicate or create your own artwork simply by moving your eyes, using Eyegaze.

Lifelites can make the impossible, possible.

These quotes from our partners highlight the powerful impact of our services...

“The equipment [donated by Lifelites] can be used to stimulate a child, to take part in an activity, to communicate with others.

Acorns Black Country

“Our Magic Carpet is used every day and used by the whole family. The children get so much from the interactive experience and the staff member can specifically design the experience for the child. The Magic Carpet has been used for many occasions, even as a projector for an adolescent to use as a karaoke screen for her “wicked” themed party.

Helen House



“All the specialist equipment is used to help explore a child's development, to gain control and independence and also to make precious memories with their family members.

Ty Hafan

“I recall one session where a young man didn't really engage with any musical instruments at all, but he loved to play hide and seek, and so I set up the soundbeam and got a cloth and we took it in turns to hide. As the cloth and our bodies moved, the sensors created the sounds and he very quickly made the correlation between his movements and the sounds he was producing. After a few sessions together I was able to sit at the piano and accompany his soundbeam music, as he had discovered a new way in which to express himself...

Little Bridge



# Lifelites responds to an urgent request for support

By Fiona Devine

CEO of Alexander Devine children's hospice

When we recently reached out to Lifelites with an urgent request, we were blown away by the charity's response. The request was from a family facing a critical and deteriorating period in their child's condition, they knew how much pleasure and the benefit the equipment gave.

The Lifelites team understood the critical timing and reacted swiftly. Even though it was on a weekend, Rob Lightfoot, Lifelites' CEO, personally collected the assistive technology that was needed from their London office and drove it to our hospice in Maidenhead to meet me. His actions, along with his team's, meant that this family was able to quickly access the technology to help their child at a crucial time, it enabled quality of life to be maintained, the child to feel they still had some independence and the ability to express themselves.

“ **Lifelites is a very special charity run by people who truly understand the complex challenges faced by children with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions and their families.**

They understand that having access to assistive technology can be life-changing and also an important means of communicating as a family.

We are deeply grateful for their incredible support and the magic and empowerment their technology brings to the children and families that we support.



## In an exclusive interview Dom Shaw, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator at Ukie and long-time supporter of Lifelites, shares why gaming inclusivity is vital.

**Lifelites: Dom, you've been supporting Lifelites for a long time now, how did you come to hear about Lifelites work and why did it resonate with you?**

**Dom:** I've known about the charity for almost a decade now. I actually discovered Lifelites through the university I attended for my undergraduate degree, London South Bank. Lifelites partnered up with the university to deliver a module in my final year called Tangible Play, which was all about learning and considering accessibility in games, featured special guest lecturers like Ian Hamilton, and for the final project of this work we had to create a one button game prototype that was tested at one of the hospices Lifelites worked with. This module not only expanded my perspective on how games could be used to interact with other people, it also started a real passion in me for inclusion, and a great respect for those that advocate and strive for greater accessibility throughout the games industry – including Lifelites.

**Lifelites: Inclusivity is a word that we hear in lots of different contexts. What does inclusivity mean to you and how do games help to represent this?**

**Dom:** I guess for the context of games in this conversation inclusivity means making sure everyone has the opportunity to get involved, everyone is welcomed to engage and that there is space for all to work, play and feel safe. That not only means giving players wonderful worlds to explore and diverse characters to interact with, it's also about making sure people are not excluded both in and outside of the game (e.g. Can see characters with similar representation to them or can play an online match to a multiplayer game comfortably), alongside having choices and options to how they play games and engage with industry.

**Lifelites: Why is gaming so important?**

**Dom:** Everyone regardless of age likes to have fun and play – video games can fulfill this to a T. Yet they are more than just a form of entertainment – they can allow a kid to unwind from a long day of school and/or studies. Live their wildest dreams on a rainy day when they can't go out. Compete with friends on a level playing field or connect with friends regardless of distance. Yet most importantly of all in this instance, games can empower and give control to kids on how they play, what they interact with and how they feel; all the while in the comfort of their home or some form of safe space that can be created through gaming being present. Which is why Lifelites' work is so important because they are assisting some of the most isolated children to discover these possibilities through video games and assistive technologies every day to make their lives happier!

**Lifelites: Thanks to people like you, Lifelites has had increasing support from the gaming industry and individual gamers too. What would you say to those who haven't heard of Lifelites before, why should the gaming industry want to support our work?**

**Dom:** Those that haven't heard about Lifelites before – I would simply tell them about the great work the charity has done. As for why the industry should support the charity – simply, because it is making a difference for children and young people who really appreciate it, the impact gaming has on them is truly life changing. The gaming industry can be a force for good and create magical moments for many young people. We just need to do less theory and more action while ensuring we lead with inclusivity at the forefront always to ensure everyone is thought of and in turn included along the way!

## Lifelites Live: Taking Virtual Reality across the country

**Lifelites campaign with Freemasons across the country to build partnerships in support of children using every hospice service.**

In March, our Lifelites Live campaign involved working with Freemasons from across the British Isles to support children with life-limiting conditions in their area.

Lifelites held photoshoots across the country with Freemasons from eleven Provinces and the Widows Sons Masonic Bikers Association at iconic locations including Hereford Cathedral, Ironbridge in Shropshire, Lake Windermere, and of course the United Grand Lodge of England. The aim was to support children using hospice services through the use of life-changing technology.



Virtual Reality (VR) is one item of technology that Lifelites donates to give children at every children's hospice across the British Isles the chance to walk along virtual beaches, or explore other countries or other worlds. The photoshoots also served to highlight the ongoing support of Freemasons in many parts of the country for Lifelites work in their area. Many Provinces have recently signed up to become Platinum Partners and support Lifelites work each year for the next four years. This will help to ensure that Lifelites can give ongoing access to life-changing technology for the children with life-limiting conditions accessing hospice services in their area.

This event saw the handover of Lifelites from retiring CEO Simone Enefer-Doy and new CEO Rob Lightfoot.



## Adopt, Pledge, Volunteer

**Adopt a Lifelites project** in your area to become a partner of Lifelites. Every partner helps to ensure that Lifelites can continue to support all children with life-limiting conditions using hospice services. All partners are listed on our partners web page, receive updates on their adopted project, and have opportunities to come and see the work and the children that they are supporting.

**Pledge a gift** in your will as part of a free will writing service to help ensure your family are looked after while also ensuring that Lifelites' vital work continues to support children using hospice services, long into the future. We don't know what the future of assistive technology holds, but we do know that it has the potential to change the lives of children with life-limiting conditions.

Join our new **volunteer** speakers group on behalf of Lifelites at talks both virtual and in-person, to help us explain the unique challenges that children face and the technological solutions that Lifelites is able to provide them with. We need volunteers who are willing to speak to local groups in person and virtually about our work and we will provide everything you need to do this, including a presentation and script.

For more information about adopting a Lifelites project, our free will writing service, and volunteering to make a difference for the children we support please contact [admin@lifelites.org](mailto:admin@lifelites.org)



## Why support Lifelites' work?

“The memories we have made over the years with the equipment provided has been invaluable and has provided deeply memorable experiences for our service users.

Acorns Black Country

“Quite simply put, the Lifelites package every four years is a lifeline to us! There are no other words to describe what you give to the children and families we have the privilege of caring for.

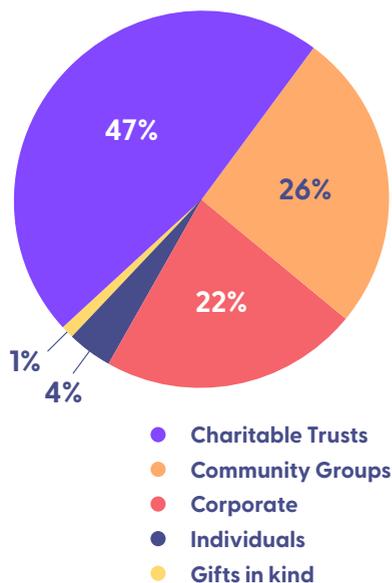
Little Bridge House

“Lifelites has truly transformed the services that we provide. To give the children and young adults a choice of new, exciting interactive technology means that we can provide a high quality person centred service with top of the range technology for the children and young adults to engage, learn and have fun with.

Naomi House & jacksplace

# Donation and expenditure breakdown 2021/22

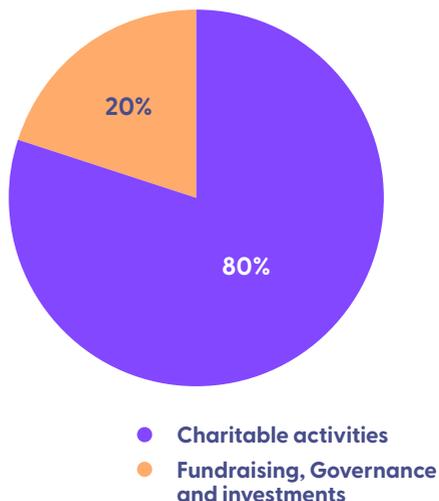
## Donations



Lifelites does not benefit from any government grants or contributions. The work we do is only made possible thanks to donations from organisations and individuals like you.

The Masonic Charitable Foundation (MCF) continues their generous donation of office premises and administrative services to Lifelites. This means our overheads are kept to a minimum so we can focus the funds we raise on providing and maintaining our donations of assistive technology.

## Expenditure



# How to donate

## Via Bank Transfer

Please use your name or organisation name as the transaction reference.

**Bank:** NatWest  
**Account Name:** Lifelites Ordinary  
**Account Number:** 26601672  
**Sort Code:** 60-30-06

## By post

If you prefer to donate by cheque, please make your cheque payable to **Lifelites** and post it to us: **Lifelites, 60 Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ**

## Make a donation online

You can make a payment directly from your CAF Account to Lifelites, charity number 1165791 Via Direct Debit. If you are a regular supporter of Lifelites— or you would like to be – you may want to consider setting up a regular gift by going to [Lifelites.org/Donate](https://Lifelites.org/Donate)

## Make a major gift

Major donors join Lifelites list of honoured supporters. If you are considering making a major gift to support the work of Lifelites, please contact us on 0207 440 4200 or email [admin@lifelites.org](mailto:admin@lifelites.org)

## Boost your donation by 25p for every £1 with Gift Aid

I want to Gift Aid donations to Lifelites (Charity no. 1165791), including donations that I make in the future and have made in the past four years.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference. I will notify Lifelites if I wish to cancel this declaration, change my name or home address, or no longer pay sufficient tax on my income and/or capital gains.

Signature

Date



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