Fun and educational technologies for children in hospices

Annual Review 2013
Over the last four years we have expanded our operations to every part of the British Isles, we have won a number of prestigious awards and we have made our projects more accessible and exciting for terminally ill and disabled children in hospices. This year is no different. This review is packed with stories from around the country that illustrate our on-going commitment to the latest innovations, such as providing iPads with drop-proof covers and state of the art Eyegaze technology that means all children can benefit from our projects, whatever their ability.

Having installed our 49th project this year, you can be sure that wherever you live or work there is a child nearby who is smiling because of the technology Lifelites has provided at their local children’s hospice. Despite our continued growth we maintain our focus and ambition; to provide all of our projects with ongoing training and technical support; and only to install technology which is relevant and will have a positive impact.

Our work would not be possible without the dedication and generosity of our volunteers and fundraising supporters; they enable us to put smiles on the faces of children and their families in every children’s hospice in the British Isles.

Making even more children smile

Each year we have ever more exciting news!

Children and young people with life-limiting, life-threatening and disabling conditions are given opportunities to benefit from the power of assistive and inclusive technologies to learn, to be creative, to communicate and to take control.

Thank you. Mike Woodcock Chairman of Trustees Andrew Ross Chairman of Lifelites Management Committee Simone Enefer-Doy Chief Executive
Thanks to the generosity of our donors like Thomas Cook Children’s Charity, we have been able to do something amazing this year, including taking Lifelites packages to the special little ones at all three baby hospices. Some of these babies and very young children have profound disabilities, so it’s great to be able to help them access the latest specialist technology. With our first ever packages in baby hospices we wanted to try out some technology based toys. And they’ve gone down an absolute storm.

Moya, the play team member at one of the baby hospices told us she was really pleased that the children could continue to play even when receiving treatments or during their regimented meal times, something they couldn’t do before, “Things like the switch-activated toys will be great for a lot of our children who use a pump-feed. They have to sit upright, so it usually stops them playing and they get restless. But these toys will let them carry on enjoying themselves. It means their condition isn’t stopping their fun and they can keep playing.”

Still got game

Lifelites ‘Enable Gaming’ Project

Gaming is really important for children in hospices. It’s not just a fun activity; it can help to break down barriers, complement development and give them control.

With the help of students from London South Bank University’s Game Cultures degree course, we have launched Enable Gaming, a project to develop games that are accessible to young gamers with disabilities. They haven’t let us down; they’ve made some incredible things – from traditional platform-games to more abstract ones – each built with the Lifelites package and accessibility in mind.

This has never been done before and we are really excited about this new project. We hope to make 2013 the year that Enable Gaming becomes a really big deal. We want people in the games industry to be working with us to make these innovations a reality for disabled gamers.

Most importantly we want to get these games where they should be: into the hands of children in hospices.

Taking baby steps

We know each child will find different things they like about the equipment so it’s brilliant to have so much variety.

Moya, play team leader, Zoë’s Place Liverpool

Hey! It’s Fulvio Fulvi, student, London Southbank University. We built a game that tells a story in an emotional way and we believe that it’s something everyone should be able to enjoy, that’s what’s been brilliant about this project: because we focussed on accessibility, anyone can play it. That’s incredibly powerful.

Fulvio Fulvi, student, London Southbank University
Joe’s journey

After his diagnosis he was referred to his local children’s hospice so he could receive care and his parents could enjoy some respite from demands of looking after a severely disabled child. Joe didn’t usually take much interest in his surroundings, but one of the hospice care team knew that Lifelites had just installed a brand new package of specialist technology at the hospice and she couldn’t wait to get him playing with it. Joe’s parents couldn’t believe it. Their son hardly ever made a sound, but as he pressed a big red button to make a fluffy toy pig ‘oink’ and walk across the floor he began to giggle!

The Lifelites technology helped Joe develop fast. It wasn’t long before he was playing with the “big boy’s toys”: playing games with special switches to help him understand he could make his own decisions, all at the click of the big red button provided by Lifelites. Then, when Lifelites brought the first iPads to the hospice, there was no stopping him. The iPad’s touchscreen is ideal for children with limited mobility and dexterity. Armed with this bright and shiny device with high definition colours and an unlimited range of applications, Joe discovered he was able to communicate with his parents and carers through the special apps.

He was making real decisions: he could tell them what he wanted to drink or where he would like to go for the day. It wasn’t until Joe had started using the picture apps that the real surprise came and they discovered Joe’s wicked sense of humour! Sadly, as Joe got older his condition worsened and he found it increasingly difficult to use the iPad and red button. It was upsetting for his parents to see the frustration in his eyes as he struggled to communicate even his most basic needs.

But now there’s a solution to this too. EyeGaze, an amazing product which enables users to communicate by using a computer by tracking the movement of their eyes, means that even ‘locked in’ users have the opportunity to participate in the activity around them. It’s exactly what’s needed to enable a life-limited child like Joe to stay in touch and involved for as long as possible.

Unfortunately EyeGaze came too late for Joe, but it’s not too late for thousands of children like him. Lifelites provides technology that can be used throughout their journey, from their first encounter with our special toys to the last stages of their short lives.
We are delighted that there is a Lifelites project at every one of the 49 baby and children's hospices in the British Isles which means over 70,000 children and their families are enjoying our very latest technology.

Most children’s hospices can’t afford the equipment and dedicated support and training we provide and we don’t ask them for a penny towards it.

**PACKAGES INSTALLED IN 2013**
- Demelza House
- Grace House
- LauraLynn House
- Zoe’s Place, Coventry
- Zoe’s Place, Liverpool
- Zoe’s Place, Middlesbrough

**PACKAGES INSTALLED IN 2012**
- Charlton Farm
- CHSW
- Chestnut Tree House
- Claire House
- Demelza South East London
- NICH Horizon West
- Martin House
- St Oswald’s

**OTHER LIFELITES PROJECTS**
- Acorns for the Three Counties
- Bluebell Wood
- Brian House
- Butterwick House
- Children’s Trust
- Christopher’s (CHASE)
- Derian House
- Donna Louise Trust
- Douglas House
- EACH Ipswich
- EACH Milton
- EACH Quidenham
- Eden House
- Ellenor Lions CHYPS
- Forget Me Not
- Francis House
- Haven House
- Hope House
- Julia’s House
- Keech Hospice Care
- Little Harbour CHSW
- Little Havens
- NICH Horizon House
- Rachel House
- Rainbows
- Richard House
- Robin House
- St Andrew’s
- Ty Gobaith

**To be installed in 2013**
- Helen House, Oxford
- Shepherds House, Hull
- Shepherds House, Walsall
- Shepherds House, Sunderland

**Packaging**

- Acorns in Birmingham
- To Helen’s voice, Watford
- Acorns in Walsall
- Shepherds House, Sunderland

It’s great to be installing a replacement package in Acorns, Birmingham. It means we can continue to help the children and families who use our services in this area.

**To be installed in 2014**
- Naomi House & Jack’s Place, Winchester
- Little Bridge House, CHSW, Devon
- Helen House, Oxford

**Acorns in the Black Country**
We can’t wait to return to our project in Walsall after four years. Your support can help us make this a project to remember.

**Funding**

- Shooting Star (CHASE), Middlesex
- Shepherds House, Sunderland

We raised a lot of money for this project through the annual London to Brighton Master’s Ride this June. We’re looking forward to continuing our fundraising efforts and raising even more money next year.

**Support**

- To Helen, Watford
- Naomi House & Jack’s Place, Winchester

It’s great to be installing a replacement package in Helen House, Watford. It means we can continue to help the children and families who use our services in this area.

**We need your help**

- To Helen, Watford
- Naomi House & Jack’s Place, Winchester

We need your help to continue our work and make a difference to the lives of children and families in need. Please consider making a donation today.

**Help us reach our goal**

- Shepherds House, Sunderland
- Shepherds House, Sunderland

Please help us reach our fundraising goal so we can continue to provide essential support and care to children and families in need. Thank you for your support.

**More information**

- Rachel House
- Rainbows
- Richard House
- Robin House
- St Andrew’s
- Ty Gobaith

For more information about the Lifelites project or how you can support us, please visit our website or contact us directly.
What you’ve done

“I love fundraising for Lifelites. You receive so much support and you get a tremendous feeling that you’re doing something really worthwhile.”

Ed Beardsell, Lifelites Running Club member

Sponsor a Project

Become a Lifelites Champion

We were delighted to install our 49th project in 2013. It means more children than ever before will have access to the specialist Lifelites technology when they need it most.

We simply can’t continue this vital work without your help. A single Lifelites project costs around £9,000 per year to fund and the children’s hospices don’t pay a single penny towards any of our work.

We are looking for people like you to become Lifelites champions; to take up the challenge and help make sure we can continue to make a difference to children across the country.

Together we can continue to put smiles on the faces of the youngsters who need their Lifelites project to communicate, get creative and take control.

Support Your Local Lifelites Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support Level</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>£500</td>
<td>Gets the latest games console – including special assistive adaptions for children with disabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£1000</td>
<td>Pays for our helpline and on-site maintenance at one hospice for one year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£2400</td>
<td>Provides a touch screen package with special mice and software</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£5000</td>
<td>Enables us to provide revolutionary eye-tracking Eyegaze technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£9000</td>
<td>Is the average annual cost towards a four year Lifelites project at one hospice</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contact us on 0207 440 4200

Ed Beardsell, Lifelites Running Club member
Lifelites champions

Corporate Gold Sponsors
BPMA  Cable & Wireless Foundation  Thomas Cook Children’s Charity
Corporate Silver Sponsors
Smells Group PLC
Principal Sponsors
Children with Cancer UK  City & Guilds  Clanmores’ Foundation  D E Charitable Trust  Essex Masters’ Lodge  Provincial Grand Lodge of Essex  Donald Fossemer Trust  The Rossall & Hicks Charitable Trust  The Shirley Astley Foundation  Metropolitan Masonic Charity  Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex  Shanly Foundation  W I O Street Charitable Foundation  Provincial Grand Lodge of Surrey  Provincial Grand Lodge of West Kent  Jacob's Alman  Provincial Grand Lodge of Worcestershire  Zochonis Charitable Trust
Sponsors
Barbour Trust  Cassy Trust  Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall  Gwydir and PC World  Poole Deae Rosie Findlay Charitable Trust  Gildsworthy Charitable Trust  Girard Gundle Philanthropic Trust  Kent Lodge  Kirah Foundation  Tony Lane  Lechimro Volunteer Lodge  Rosslyn & Nicholas Springer Charitable Trust  Zürich Community Trust, Glasgow
Benefactors
Provincial Grand Lodge of Arsin  Lord Austin Trust  John Coates Charitable Trust  Cygnet Lodge  DSG international plc  The Essex Mason Charitable Trust  Jacqueline and Michael Dale Charitable Trust  Mary & Albright’s Ginley Charity  Holborn Underground Station staff and customers  Intern Lodge  Susan & Stephen James Charitable Settlement  Lazaran Charitable Trust  Joseph Levy Foundation  Lodge of Desired Haven  Maria Holland and St Joseph’s Charity  Mayvick Lodge  Gary Moore
A M Penny Charitable Foundation  RD Orndorff Foundation  Rushbrooke Charitable Trust  Stanberry Family Charitable Trust  Joyce Kathleen String Charitable Foundation  Provincial Grand Lodge of Sussex  Lewis Ward Trust  Worcestershire Installed Masters’ Lodge  Zürich Community Trust, Manchester
Supporters
Anita’s Lodge  Aylesford Family Charitable Trust  B-CH 1971 Charitable Trust  Barclay  James Beattie Charitable Trust  David Beavan  Steven Black  Bourne Lodge  Edward and Dorothy Daisy Charitable Trust
Lady Munt Trust  Christopher Holmes  Dr Barry Howells  Brighton College  Lodge of Bon Accord  Lodge of Enlightenment  Lodge of Good Fellowship  Lynn Foundation  Mandella Lodge  Moseley Lodge  Old Bromsgrove Lodge  Robert and Second Beech Charitable Trust  The Fund Foundation  Edward Roberts-Beadwell  Sherfield Hundred Lodge  The Royal Grammar School  Patrick & Donald Shepherd Charitable Trust  Shepherd Group  Provincial Grand Lodge of Shropshire
Sibbald Lodge  Provincial Grand Lodge of Somerset  Somping Lodge  Springfield Lodge  St Mary’s School Shalford Trust  Leonard Lilibyte Stainton Charitable Trust  Brandon Masons Lodge  Leslie Speed  Surevine  Technical Lodge  Technical Lodge (Ladies)  The Thistle House  The Vassilou Charitable Trust  Hamilton Wallace Trust  West Essex Round Table Lodge  Hoxton Wood  Wythall Lodge  Zürich Community Trust, Bristol  Zürich Community Trust, Leeds

In Kind Supporters
ACEVO  Charity Technology Exchange  Hospice Technical Volunteers  Tony Fillingham  James Kellner  Pam Lake  Microsoft  The Information Technologists’ Company  Thinkology  Ian Turner  UBM  Volunteer Technical Advisory Panel  All our hardworking volunteer fundraisers
Very important partners

Looking after children is a team game. We couldn’t continue to bring smiles and laughter to children in hospices without our partners.

Children with Cancer UK
Once again, the trustees of Children with Cancer UK have agreed to give Lifelites a substantial donation to enable us to continue to assist children and young people with cancers who use children’s hospices.

Survivine
Survivine have been our partners for two years now. This international software security company has run, baked and cycled for us.

The Company of Information Technologists
The brains behind the original concept of Lifelites are continuing to support us with their technological expertise.

Thomas Cook Children’s Charity
Joanna Wild, Chairperson for the Charity said: “We’re very proud to have supported the work of Lifelites over the past three years through funding for high tech computers and flight simulator software. This has given children, who might not otherwise get to travel on a plane, a wonderful opportunity to explore the world from within a children’s hospice.”

Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys (RMTGB)
The Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys continues to provide Lifelites with a very generous donation of offices and accountancy services at no cost. This helps us keep overheads to a minimum allowing us to spend more on technology for the children we serve.

Dixons
We have been partners with Dixons for a number of years now and their staff are simply tireless. We love hearing about all the in-store fundraising antics and we are extremely grateful for their support.

Surevine
Surevine have been our partners for two years now. This international software security company has run, baked and cycled for us.

GamesAid
This gaming industry charity supports small to medium children’s charities in the UK who use technology to help disabled and disadvantaged children.

Children with Cancer UK
Our performance compared to 2011

We worked really hard in 2012 to provide more technology to more children in hospices. We raised more funds than previous years to help us do just that.

Tougher times: Like a lot of charities we saw a drop in the average value of our donations; ours went down by 20%.

Still upbeat: The number of donations we received went up by 25%.

Best of all: We reduced our fundraising expenditure by 9%.

Finances 2012

Expenditure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>£000s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Providing technology for children in hospices</td>
<td>323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of generating funds (including investment fees)</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governance*</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total expenditure</td>
<td>437</td>
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* Thanks to the generosity of the RMTGB, Lifelites does not have expenses for office or accounting services.

Donations by type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trusts</td>
<td>45%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community groups</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual donors</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Companies and staff</td>
<td>8%</td>
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To request a copy of our detailed Annual Report and Accounts 2012, please call us on 0207 440 4200.
Alternatively, it can be viewed on our record on the Charity Commission website www.charity-commission.gov.uk.
Our patrons

Digital Leaders Award
Winner, 2012

TalkTalk Digital Heroes Awards
Claire Floyd (Regional Winner, 2011)

Technology4Good Awards
Overall Winner, 2011

Technology4Good Awards
Accessibility Category Winner, 2011

TalkTalk Digital Heroes Award
Bernie Wighton, (Regional Winner, 2009)

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@LifelitesOrg

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