

Save the Children

Issue 9
October 2009

around Northern Ireland

IKEA DOES IT AGAIN



Pete Snodden, Cool FM with sisters Katie and Megan Atchison from Bangor

Home furnishing giant IKEA, once again teamed up with Save the Children and UNICEF with its Christmas Soft Toy appeal. The IKEA Belfast store raised almost £25,000 for children in the developing world.

Globally, over 90 million children, the vast majority of them girls, miss out on a basic school education. For many of these youngsters, the chance to go to school, to learn and to play remains their greatest wish.

This Christmas IKEA is teaming up with UNICEF and Save the Children to give customers the opportunity to help give disadvantaged children the ultimate gift - an education. Between 2nd November and 26th December 2009, for every IKEA soft toy bought in its 17 UK stores, IKEA will donate £1, to be split between UNICEF and Save the Children. This money supports vital education projects in 12 countries: Bangladesh, China, India, Ivory Coast, Pakistan, Macedonia, Moldova, Tajikistan, South Africa, Uzbekistan, Sierra Leone and Vietnam; helping to provide clean water and sanitation (toilets and hand-washing facilities) to schools, training teachers and giving girls, often excluded from school, the chance to attend and learn.

We are delighted Ikea will be supporting us again in 2009.



90 and counting!

Esther Coughlan received an MBE this year for services to Save the Children. Esther's 90th birthday coincides with our 90th anniversary so it was the ultimate birthday gift.

Esther has dedicated her time to working with us since 1963 and was one of the founding members of our organisation. She said "I have been with Save the Children for 46 years. I started with the charity when the offices first opened in Belfast. My job was organising fundraising events that included musical evenings at schools, bridge drives, coffee mornings and bridal exhibitions."

Esther was also a voluntary member of the fundraising committee which arranged the annual ball at the Plaza Ballroom. She retired from the Belfast headquarters in 1979 and joined the Belfast committee and from 1980 ran the Christmas card depot with her husband, distributing Christmas cards all over Northern Ireland.

Esther still works as a volunteer at the Botanic Avenue shop.

2007 & 2008 Gala Ball Update



Our first Gala Ball took place in 2007 and succeeded in raising much-needed funds which paid for vital refurbishment of maternity rooms in five health centres in Burera, Rwanda. This work was completed in July this year and is benefiting 150,000 people. Some health centres now enjoy running water, waste disposal units and sanitation facilities.



The 2008 Gala ball was another very successful evening, we were joined by celebrities; Eamonn Holmes and his partner Ruth, Emma-Louise Johnston and her husband, and Orlaith McAlister. Pete Snodden compered the evening, Terry Bradley kindly donated one of his paintings which raised over £5000 in the auction, which May McFettridge hosted with a sharp eye and a great line of craic. We raised nearly £37,000 which will go towards helping young people here in Northern Ireland.

Save the Children join forces with Girlguiding UK

As we celebrate our 90th anniversary, Girlguiding UK is preparing for its 100th birthday celebrations and invited us to join in. Girlguiding UK has been in partnership with a number of charities, including Save the Children, since 2008. As part of the "Changing the World" Centenary Project, each of the charities has produced an activity pack for every guiding group and to date, 612 Girlguiding group units have enjoyed working on the project developed by Save the Children.

Belfast County Guides held their centenary launch party at Stormont on Saturday 5th September and Paul Grundy, Save the Children's Schools Co-ordinator, together with Jo Keating and her sister (and Save the Children volunteer) Margo Keating, gave a demonstration of how we cope in emergency situations around the world. Twelve groups of Guides enjoyed the talk and saw exactly how we are working to "Change the World".





Condico

Solicitors for Children

The events committee of Condico met for cocktails at the Merchant Hotel, Belfast to plan their gala ball which took place at the Whitla Hall, Queen's University Belfast on 2nd October 2009 at 7pm.

All proceeds will go towards Save the Children's local projects. These include direct programmes with children and young people engaging them in Speaking Out Against Poverty (SOAP) an awareness-raising and capacity building project which aims to target policy change at devolved Government and Westminster levels.

Condico is a not-for-profit organisation run by solicitors for all children's law solicitors throughout Northern Ireland.

Condico aims to focus upon achieving the best outcomes for those children who are subjects of proceedings before our family courts by improving the knowledge and practice of children's law solicitors.



L-R: Mark McClintock, partner; Aoife Morgan, Social Committee; David Simpson SC; Hugh Crossey, Managing Partner.

A big thank-you to the hard working staff of **Price Waterhouse Coopers** who raised almost £9,000 through various fund raising events during the past year.



L-R Brenda Shankey, Nigel Grey, Area manager Marks & Spencer NI, Elizabeth Munnis, Retail Manger Save the Children

Congratulations on a fabulous amount!

A big 'thank you' for all your hard work during Save the Children week. Once again, Marks & Spencer (M&S) supported us by providing fair trade tea and coffee as well as delicious Irish 'whiskey loaf' from Premier Bakeries to volunteer groups who held parties that raised almost £9,000.

Over the entire 'Save the Children Week' an amazing £41,000 was raised, due to the tireless efforts of our volunteer force from all over Northern Ireland.



L-R Alison Crothers, Sharon McCracken and Gail Trainer

CHRISTMAS FROCK SWAP

To get a designer bargain for Christmas get in the queue for the special Christmas 'Frock swap' to be held at Café Vaudeville on 12th November at 7.00pm. This event will be the perfect way to dazzle at the Christmas party without breaking the bank. We expect celebrities, designer dresses, free cocktails so it's definitely a date for the diary.

For tickets (£10) to the Christmas Frock Swap or to find out how your Supporter Group can run their own Frock Swap contact Anne, Hazel or Jo.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE BADGES



We know that without the support of our volunteers and supporters, Save the Children would not be able to continue its work here at home or overseas. These badges are to show our appreciation for 5, 10 and 15 years service as Save the Children volunteers in recognition for your commitment and dedication. Contact Anne to let us know how many you need, and we will endeavour to have them with you when we visit for your AGMs throughout the year.



GOING UNDER THE HAMMER

Gerry McAfee, Auctioneer with McAfee Auctions has teamed up with Save the Children to help raise funds for children in emergency situations in more than 20 countries around the world, including conflicts in Gaza and Zimbabwe. Our volunteers have responded in a typically enthusiastic fashion, working really hard gathering donations from all over the Northern Ireland, ensuring the auction will be a great success.

The 'Cash in the Attic' style roadshows visited nine locations around Northern Ireland asking the public to donate LOTS and this will culminate in a charity auction. The best 100 items will go to an auction in the Opera House on 9 October (including a Yamaha Baby Grand piano with music lessons) and the remainder sold at a special 'Save the Children Auction Sale' at McAfee Auctions in Ballymoney.

Gerry said: "We're excited to have worked with Save the Children's 22 volunteer Supporter Groups, we're off to a great start and we really hope the public will continue to get behind us by attending the auctions. All proceeds raised will be donated to: www.savethechildren.org.uk



FAREWELL SHERI

A fond farewell to Sheri Chamberlain, Sheri headed up Save the Children in NI for the last 23 years. During that time Sheri lead SC through many groundbreaking projects championing children's rights in Northern Ireland. It was with great sadness we said goodbye. She was honoured with an award from Princess Anne in February, for all her dedication and hard work enabling and empowering children and young people.

New contact details

At Popper House we no longer have a receptionist but you can now contact us directly. Please use the following numbers:

Jo Keating, Community Fundraising Executive - Tel: 028 9043 2837
 Hazel Stirling, Community Fundraising Assistant - Tel: 028 9043 2838
 Anne O'Callaghan, Administrator - Tel: 028 9043 2839



As part of our Student Enterprise Scheme you'll be supporting our work and making a real difference to children's lives while you develop your skills and hopefully have fun!

- Develop a business.
- Organise and publicise a fundraising event.
- Co-ordinate a campaign.

You choose!

Gain skills in:

- Marketing
- Event management
- Media and publicity
- Campaigning
- Leadership and team work
- Finance and business sense

Learn more about:

- How charities work
- Your power to change the world
- The impact of your support
- How to make your voice heard



The Best Bit...

Save the Children has just become an Approved Activity Provider under the volunteering section so taking part in our Student Enterprise Scheme will help you to fulfil the volunteer criteria of your Duke of Edinburgh award. Sound good?



For more information you can call the Schools and Youth Team at Save the Children on **028 9043 2837**

Visit our website

savethechildren.org.uk/enterprise to register for your student enterprise pack.

We Save the Children Will you?

We're the world's independent children's charity. We're outraged that millions of children are still denied proper healthcare, food, education and protection. We're working fast out to get every child their rights and we're determined to make further, faster changes. How many? How fast? It's up to you.

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