

The background of the page features a close-up of vibrant red maple leaves on the right side, set against a clear, light blue sky. The leaves are in sharp focus, showing their intricate vein patterns and serrated edges. The overall composition is clean and visually appealing, with the text overlaid on the left side of the image.

Chris Westwood Charity

For Children with Physical Disabilities

**Progress Report
December 2009**

Introduction

The Charity was formed in November 2003, and after an initial start up period, it has continued to grow rapidly

This year we have again seen that the demands on our resources have continued to increase rapidly, highlighting the needs that exist for our work. So far, we have been able to manage the difficult balance of matching requests received against the funding resources available, but, having doubled our activity level this year, we face an interesting challenge to raise the funding necessary to both continue at this level, and to sustain the further demands for growth that we anticipate in 2010.

I am very proud of the fact that due to the generosity of Trustees and friends, who all provide both their time, and access to facilities, at no cost, we have again been able to operate with no overhead charges for the year, meaning that every penny given can be used for the purpose the donors intended. We intend to continue to do this in 2010, which will help us to make maximum use of the funds raised during the year.

We have also been active in continuing to develop our systems. This year, our website has been considerably extended, again at no cost, and now includes the facility to download both Gift Aid and Standing Order Mandate forms, together with copies of both the current Progress Report, and our Annual Report to the Charity Commission, so that visitors to the website can find out more about what we are actually doing.

We have also been very busy adding a range of financial facilities, so that donations can now be made by cash or cheque directly to us, by internet banking directly into one of our Charity accounts, by regular standing order, and by credit or debit card through an online charity donation website. All of these methods are explained in more detail on page 12 of this booklet.

We are particularly keen to develop the funding raised by standing orders, and, where possible, we have requested potential donors to consider the possibility of a contribution by a regular standing order. This area of fundraising is growing, and provides a stable income, but one of our aims in 2010 is to try to increase this significantly.

Thank you for reading this, and I hope that you find the rest of this booklet interesting, and that you are able to gain an understanding of some of the activities with which we are involved, now that we have completed our sixth year of operation.

Chris Westwood.



www.chriswestwoodcharity.co.uk

Fundraising Activities and Grants to Date.

Year Ending	Funds Raised (£)	Grants (£) made during the year	Grants (number) made during the year
31.12.04	1,501	600	2
31.12.05	6,810	500	1
31.12.06	1,435	3,375	3
31.12.07	5,075	5,644	5
31.12.08	9,558	8,998	9
31.12.09	19,846	19,421	18

Total funds raised to date now exceed £44,000.

Recent increases in our fundraising activities have substantially enhanced our ability to expand, but longer term, we have to accept that there will be a practical limit to the extent of our annual fundraising, and hence our rate of expansion, unless there is a major change in our funding position.

The challenge in 2010 is to concentrate on sustaining and increasing current income, growing the secure funding from standing orders, and maintaining the operating costs at, or as close to zero, as possible.

We accept the challenge, and we have set ourselves the following target for 2010:

Total funds raised to exceed £65,000 by the end of 2010, which should enable us to provide help to at least 24 more children during the year.



Fundraising Activities During 2009

A selection of some of our Fundraising Activities/Donations received:

March: The Wollaston Fish Bar opened on a Sunday and donated all the takings, which together with a further donation of £250 raised £1000 from this event. The Saturday before the event, there was an interview on Stourbridge Radio, which helped to publicise the day, and gave us the opportunity to explain what the Charity was doing. We would like to thank Louchas Partali, the Wollaston Fish Bar proprietor, for his fundraising efforts for us.

April: We were selected as one of the three charities for the monthly collection in the Stourbridge branch of Waitrose, which raised £229 for us.

June: Our Legal trustee organised a sponsored cycle ride of 140 miles from London back to Stourbridge. This was a truly tremendous effort which raised a total of £9,173 in sponsorship, and has had a major effect on our funding position for the year.

August: We were contacted by Sunrise Medical, a large American owned mobility equipment company, with a UK presence based locally in Wollaston. They have formed a new Social and Charity Committee, and wish to form an association with a local charity. With our work in the same field, and local operations, we were selected, and we were pleased to be able to give some short presentations to their employees, explaining what we are doing, and our aims for the future. We are looking forward to the establishment of a long term relationship which will be a great help towards providing a more secure funding base for the future, and we can only thank them for deciding to help us.

October: We again circulated a report on our progress to the end of September. Last year we raised £3,000, and to date this year, with some collections still to come in during January, we have raised £1,122.

December: In January 2009, we helped a little boy by purchasing a special car seat, and his father promised to try and help us with a fun run later in the year. During the year, various fundraising activities for his son have progressed well (Friends of Alfie Johnson), and he has very kindly given us a donation of £1,000 to help other children.

If you are able to help in any way, please contact us at:

Chris Westwood Charity for Children with Physical Disabilities,
For the attention of Martyn Morgan,
Talbots Solicitors,
63 Market Street, Stourbridge,
West Midlands. DY8 1AQ.

Tel. 01384 445850



www.chriswestwoodcharity.co.uk

Martyn's Cycle Ride



On the start line, in the early morning sun, looking suspicious.

On the 28th June, Martyn completed a sponsored cycle ride of 140 miles from London to Stourbridge.

He set off from the gates of Buckingham Palace at 6.00am, took a wrong turn out of Hyde Park, and was diverted away from the A40, putting 6 miles on the journey.

He had a puncture north of Oxford, repaired it, and then had another. A support vehicle had been supplied by Showells (Subaru) of Stourbridge, and he changed to the reserve bicycle (which explains the different bicycle in the photo on the inside of the back cover).

Undaunted, he then continued in the searing heat, before reaching Stratford in a thunderstorm. He eventually returned to the Talbots' Offices in Stourbridge at 4.50 pm, after doing two laps of the Stourbridge ring road, just to ensure he had covered the full mileage.

Throughout the journey he posted regular tweets on his Twitter webpage, so that we could all follow his progress.

Thanks to the generosity of everyone who supported this event, Martyn raised a total of £9,173, which has really made a difference to what we have been able to achieve this year.

We can only wonder what plans he has for the future, after a well earned rest of course!



The Objective of the Charity and
the link to our **MAPLE LEAF:**



Make
Available funding for children with
Physical
Limitations,
Enabling them to

Lead a more
Enjoyable,
Active and fulfilling
Future.

www.chriswestwoodcharity.co.uk

How Do We Achieve Our Objective?

Background:

The Charity was founded on the 19th November 2003, specifically to help children and young people with physical disabilities. While our Trust Deed does allow us to operate throughout the UK, we initially confined our activities to Stourbridge and the surrounding areas.

The Charity is registered with the Charity Commission, registered no. 1101230, with the stated aims of covering the provision of financial assistance, at the discretion of the Trustees, to provide the relief of physically handicapped children. This includes improvement to the quality of life by the provision of financial or other assistance, or any other purpose the Trustees deem to be in accordance with the stated aims.

Typical Areas of Assistance Provided to date:

- Special exercise equipment to assist in regaining and maintaining mobility
- Wheelchairs, special mobility chairs, special car seats, mobile vehicles, and support and lifting equipment, to improve the quality of life.
- Contributions to Trust Funds set up for suitable specific purposes.
- Contributions towards the cost of home modifications, to improve access, or provide specialised facilities required.
- Contributions towards special holidays, particularly in the case of life limited children.

How we Operate:

Following an initial approach, we request the submission of a detailed grant application. In order to assess the position, we typically require the following details:

- Background and reason for the request
- Supporting information from a suitable professional person detailing the medical position and the advantages of the proposed equipment purchase
- A detailed quotation, following assessment by the supplier's competent person
- Details of any funding already raised, any other sources of funding, and the financial position of the family

Then, provided that we are assured that our help will be for those in real need, the application is in accordance with our grant criteria, and we have the funding available, the application can be approved. The grant is provided by a cheque payable to the supplier, to ensure that the funds are only used for the intended purpose.

All remaining order and delivery arrangements are then left to the applicant, so that we are not involved in any overhead operating costs.



Why consider a donation to us?

With so many charitable causes needing help, it often becomes necessary to make the hard decision of which charities to support.

We offer four key points to differentiate our activities, so that you may perhaps consider giving a small part of your charitable donations to us:

Targeted:

We are a local charity, targeting small sums for specific uses, which can make a dramatic difference to both the life of the individual, and the family.

Typically this will involve the purchase of a special piece of equipment to help with daily life, which can range from a special car seat, special support chair, a walker to aid mobility, or special exercise equipment to aid development.

Safety Net:

The State systems often have gaps which leave individuals with little hope of receiving help, and it is in these areas that we often operate. For example, no child under 3yrs can be assessed for a mobility vehicle, but if the child needs special support equipment (eg oxygen/feeding systems) the parents struggle to be able to provide transport in a standard vehicle. The State provides wheelchairs for school use, but little else, resulting in the special equipment required often having to be funded from the general school budget. We can help by providing the required funding directly to the individual children with the identified needs.

Timescale:

We try to respond to a request within 24 hrs. Larger organisations often have quarterly cut off dates for applications, and periods of 3 to 4 months before a determination is made. When a young child needs exercise equipment for development, we believe that speed is critical, and for suitable applications, we can give a fast response, allowing improvements to start much earlier.

No Costs:

We operate without any overhead costs. All the Trustees, and their friends, provide the necessary services free of charge, and no person receives any payment from the Charity. This includes office services, printing, postage, website development etc. As a result, every penny donated is put to the use that the donor intended.

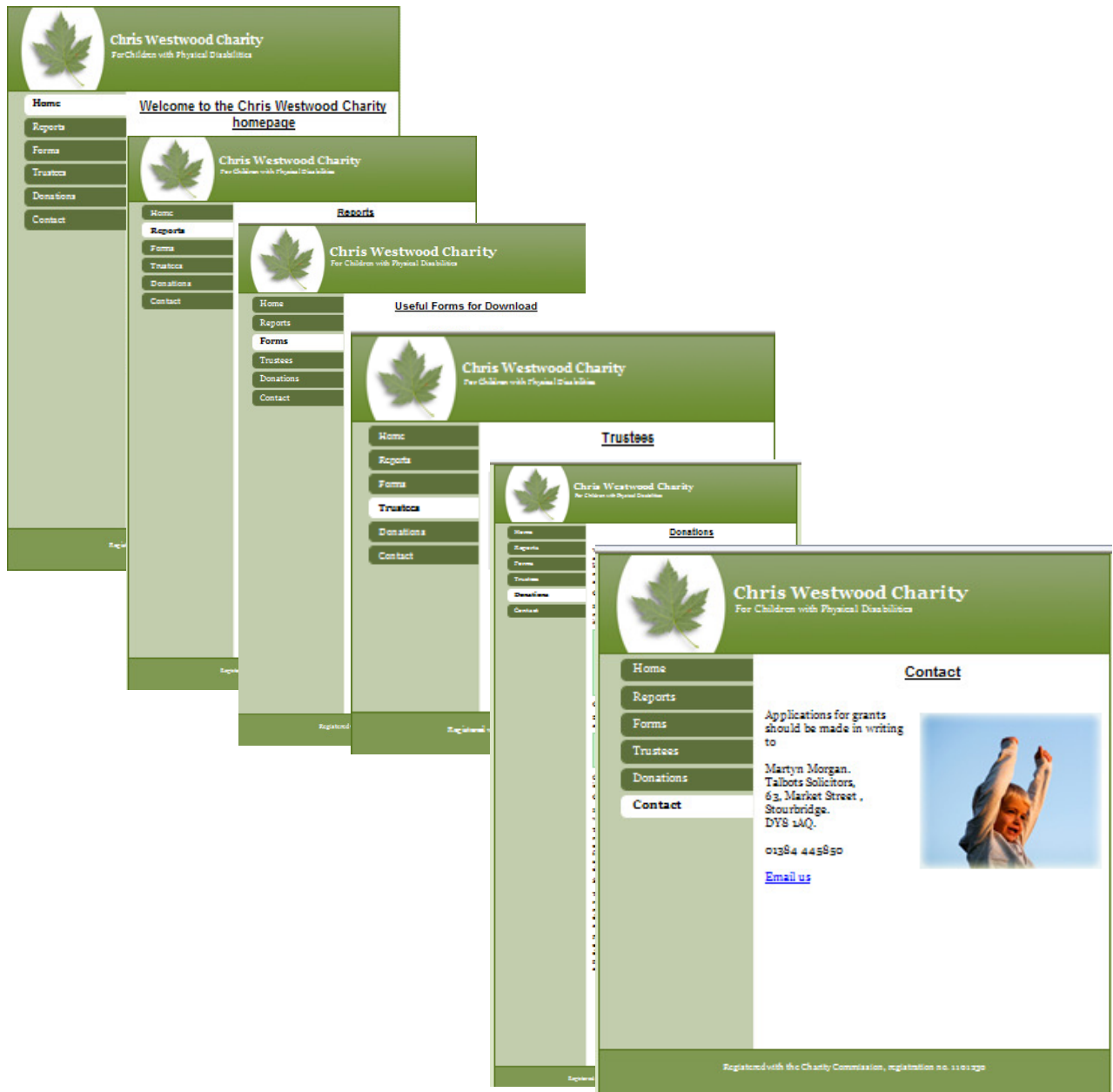


Details of Grants Made in 2008

Name	Age	Grant	Details
E	3	423 + 459	Has a genetic disorder, and grant made to purchase equipment for physiotherapy at home. A larger support chair was also purchased later, when she outgrew the first one.
M	24	1500	Handicapped, in residential full time care, and needed £3000 to replace his mobility vehicle. Grant made for half the replacement cost. While a little older than usual, we aim to help both children and young people, and this was felt to be a case in need of our help.
J	16	429	Cerebral Palsy and uses a wheelchair. Due to have operations on his legs to help mobility, and may take up to a year to recover. Unable to use a pen, and needing a scribe, a computer purchased to allow him to study at home.
N	17	1731	Severely disabled, epileptic, uses a wheelchair and blinded himself in one eye. A special chair urgently needed to allow parents to cope with him at home. Grant made to purchase the chair.
N	14.5	1094	Unable to stand unaided, coordination problems and epileptic. To purchase a support chair for mobility at school.
M	3.75	517	Motor problems from a left hemiplegia, and visual problems. To also purchase a support chair for mobility at school.
N & M	2	1525	Twin girls with Micro syndrome, needing a special sleep system each. This will help greatly with correct posture at night, as they are unable to turn themselves..
J	1	1300	Microcephaly, infantile spasm and developmental delay. Needs a special support seat in the car. A small sum already raised by the family, balance granted will complete purchase.



Our Website



The website was extended in January, with two new pages, giving access to useful forms - Gift Aid, and the Standing Order Mandate, and current copies of both the Charity Progress Report, and the Annual Report to the Charity Commission.

In October, a further page, covering the methods we now have available for donation, was also added.

If you have the opportunity, please take the time to look in more detail at what we have been doing.



Details of Grants Made in 2009

Name	Age Yrs	Grant £	Details
A	1	924	Hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy, epilepsy and developmental delay. Needed a special car seat to hold and support him.
E	4	1092 + 350	Cerebral Palsy, and although a walker is provided at school, she needed one at home to help her start to walk, rather than crawling on her back. Also the later purchase of an all terrain buggy to allow her to be part of family activities when they go out walking in the countryside.
A	4	750	She has Leigh's Syndrome, a degenerative brain condition, with a short life expectancy. The grant helped towards the cost of a special holiday, the bulk of the money having been raised by the family through sponsored events.
L	3	384 + 1092	Has a range of physical difficulties affecting general development, mobility, speech & hearing. Unlikely to become independently mobile. The grant purchased special seating for use at his School for both eating and table top activities. Also, the later purchase of a Miniwalker for home use to help to develop his ability to gain mobility, following a recommendation from his Physiotherapist.
I	1.5	338	Has a small cerebellum, microcephaly, poor growth, and development delay. Grant purchased a number of items for home use to aid physical development.
B	8	1002	Has Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, and learning difficulties. Recent deterioration in mobility, and likely to become wheelchair bound by the age of 12. The grant purchased a special trike, for school use only, to give him some independence, and the ability to move around.
G	9	1577	Has profound and multiple learning difficulties. Requires support both sitting and standing. Has severe hypotonia, epilepsy, and microcephaly. Grant purchased a special flexible support chair system to enable him to join in with his classmates during activities at the table.
T	4	397	Has global development delay and significant learning difficulties. Significant physical needs, requiring maximum support to stand and a supportive chair for activities at a table. Grant purchased a suitable chair.
D	3.3	807	Hemiplegic cerebral palsy affecting right side. Unable to walk unaided. Grant purchased a tricycle to provide mobility to allow her to play outside with other children, and also help to strengthen her right leg with the exercise.
M	3.25	1326	Cerebral Palsy, poor head and limb control, can not sit unaided, or move independently around the room. Attends the Phoenix Centre (pre-school), and the purchase of a special chair with raise/lower facility will allow him to interact with the other children, is similar to the chair he has at home, and will give him some independence.
A	4	1279	Has Spinal Muscular Atrophy Type 2, and is unlikely to ever walk. Has a scoliosis of her spine and is at risk of recurrent respiratory problems. A Dragon wheelchair had been purchased, but, without a docking station, it could not be transported and used at her nursery. Grant purchased the docking station, allowing wheelchair transport, and helping participation with other children at the nursery.
H	3.5	1495 + 1617	Has development delay, low muscle tone, seizures and visual impairment. Having outgrown existing car seat and unable to support himself for any period, a new special seat is urgently needed. Also required a special seating system for school use, as he is unable to mobilise himself, and this enables him to join in with other children in activities at the table.
J	4.75	824	Laryngomalacia, Hypotonia, Development delay, and hip surgery. A tricycle was recommended to build up her core strength, but Pedmore School has nothing small enough. Tricycle purchased for home and school use.
J	17.8	3232	Teenage brothers, both had spinal surgery and both fully wheelchair bound. Special toilet/shower chair, with comfortable seating, required for school use, similar to equipment used at home.
A	15.5		
R	2	935	Development delay, hypotonia, severely deaf, and unable to support himself. Recently started to have seizures, and requires a special car seat to hold and support him.

Online Donations.

Online Donations:

A further facility we introduced this year enables donations to be made online by debit or credit card. After much research, we chose the Charities Trust website, as this is operated by a charity, for charities, with total deductions of only 4% of your donation plus the gift aid, with no other administration costs. This means that for every £1 donated (if gift aid can be reclaimed) we eventually receive £1.23 (Your £1 donation plus 28p Gift Aid minus 5p total charges). It also offers a quick and convenient method of donation for anyone wishing to use an online facility.

The details for Credit/Debit Card Donation are:

Go to www.charitiestrust.org and then in the search box at the top right, enter the Charity name. This will find our main Charity webpage, which has a donation facility. Click on the donation button, amend the donation amount to the figure you wish to give, and proceed to the checkout, to donate by credit/debit card.

Alternatively, you can make a lump sum donation by internet banking, direct to our Charity account, avoiding any charges.

Our Bank details for Online Donation are:

HSBC Bank, Sort Code 40-43-17
Account Number 72275813.

Will you please use your name as a reference for the payment, so that we can track the payments into our account.

Could you please also complete a gift aid form, if you have not already done so, as this enables us to reclaim the tax at the year end. Gift Aid is explained on the facing page, and a copy of the Gift Aid form is available towards the end of this booklet.



Standing Orders & Gift Aid.

Standing Orders:

This method of giving allows small sums to be donated regularly, with no transaction costs, thus maximising the value of any donation. It also has the advantage of giving us a more secure source of regular funding, which helps us to decide on the allocation of funds to the various grant applications that we receive.

Any amount from £2/month upwards is of great value to us, and only requires the completion of a Standing Order Mandate, which can be stopped, or changed, at any point in the future, should you wish. The Standing Order Mandate goes directly to your bank, so we never see it, or any of your bank details.

A copy of the required bank mandate is available towards the end of this booklet, and should you choose this method, could you please complete a gift aid form, if you have not already done so, as this enables us to reclaim the tax at the year end.

Gift Aid:

Gift Aid is tax relief on money donated to UK charities. HMRC treat donations as if the donor had already deducted basic rate tax from them, and the Charity can then reclaim this tax to increase the value of the donation.

Provided that the donor pays enough UK income tax and/or capital gains tax to cover the tax relief that the charity reclaims, a payment, currently amounting to 28.2p for every £1 donated, is paid to the charity by HMRC. With recent changes in tax rates this should have already been reduced to 25p, but the Government has granted transitional relief for three years, of 3.2p, until 2011, after which it will reduce to 25p.

Regrettably, this will reduce the income of all charities, and it is another challenge to our fundraising in future years. This is another reason why it is so important for us to maintain our administration costs as close to zero as possible.

If you are a UK tax payer, you can, therefore, greatly increase the effectiveness of your donation by completion of a gift aid declaration form, a copy of which is available towards the end of this booklet. If the third box down, of the three options on the form, is ticked, the completion of one form will cover all donations past, present and future. Would you please return any completed forms directly to Talbots Solicitors (address on page 4).



Our Accounts

Cash balance brought forward at 01.01.09:	£ 5,253.47
Income:	
(a) Fundraising Events	
Wollaston Fish bar	1,000.00
Martyn's Cycle Ride	9,173.00
Waitrose	229.00
September Report (to date, with some collections not completed)	1,122.00
Friends of Alfie Johnson	1,000.00
(b) Gift Aid	
Gift Aid Received for April 2008-April 2009	1,081.67
Gift Aid for Online Donations to Cycle Ride via Charities Trust	598.40
(c) Standing Orders (First year of operation)	650.00
(d) Other Donations/Income	4,992.18
Total Income:	£19,846.25
Expenditure:	
Grants made during the year	19,420.79
Other expenditure/costs/overheads	nil
Excess of Income over Expenditure:	£425.46
Leaving a cash balance at 31.12.09 of:	£ 5,678.93



Gift Aid declaration

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Name of charity or CASC _____

Please treat

- The enclosed gift of £ _____ as a Gift Aid donation; **OR**
- All gifts of money that I make today and in the future as Gift Aid donations; **OR**
- All gifts of money that I have made in the past 6 years and all future gifts of money that I make from the date of this declaration as Gift Aid donations.

✓ *Please tick the appropriate box*

You must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax in each tax year at least equal to the tax that the charity or Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) will claim from HM Revenue & Customs on your Gift Aid donation(s).

Donor's details

Title _____ Initial(s) _____ Surname _____

Home address _____

Postcode _____ Date _____

Signature _____

Please notify the charity or CASC if you:

1. Want to cancel this declaration.
2. Change your name or home address.
3. No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

Tax claimed by the charity or CASC

- The charity or CASC will reclaim 28p of tax on every £1 you gave up to 5 April 2008.
- The charity or CASC will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 you give on or after 6 April 2008.
- The Government will pay to the charity or CASC an additional 3p on every £1 you give between 6 April 2008 and 5 April 2011. This transitional relief for the charity or CASC does not affect your personal tax position.

If you pay income tax at the higher rate, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return if you want to receive the additional tax relief due to you.

STANDING ORDER MANDATE

<i>To the Manager</i>	
<i>Name of Bank:</i>	
<i>Address</i>	
<i>Post Code</i>	

Please pay: HSBC Bank, 114 High Street, Stourbridge, West Midlands. DY8 1DZ

For the credit of: Chris Westwood Charity for Children with Physical Disability

Sort Code: **40-43-17**

Account Number: **72275813**

The sum of: (in words) _____ Pounds £

On the _____ (day) _____ (month) _____ (year)

And thereafter every month until further notice and debit my account accordingly.

Name of account-holder to be debited:

Account Number:

Sort Code:

Signed: _____ Date: _____

When completed, will you please pass this form onto your bank.

Thank you.

giftaid it

If you are a UK tax payer and pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that can be reclaimed on your donation, you can further help us by using Gift Aid. This enables us to reclaim the tax and increase the value of your donation.

If you would like to help, will you please complete a Gift Aid form and return it to:
Chris Westwood Charity, C/o Talbots Solicitors, 63 Market Street, Stourbridge, West Midlands. DY8 1AQ.

And Finally:

The Charity Trustees involved in the serious business of holding onto fundraising cheques:



Chris Westwood Graham Wood Janine Barnes Martyn Morgan

And sometimes involved in the serious business of fundraising itself:



The Chairman seems pleased with a fundraising result



**Our Legal Trustee in major fundraising mode.
(140 mile sponsored ride)**

Acknowledgements.

The following organisations have provided help to the Charity at no cost:

Talbots Solicitors: provision of office and webspace facilities.

Conscious Solutions: development and updating of the website.

Holmdale Print: provision of printing services.

As a result, the Charity has been able to continue to operate, for another year, with no overhead costs, resulting in all the funding being available for use where it is most needed, and where the donors intended.