

ANNUAL REVIEW 2015



It is with the deepest sadness that we announce the untimely death of Marc Pereire who died of Lung Cancer on 1st August 2015.
With his wife, Marie-Antoinette, Chair of Miracles, Marc was joint Vice President of La Fondation *MIRACLES* Suisse and prime benefactor of The *Miracles*' Centre for Prosthesis and Care in Bosnia. Marc has been a 'father figure' to *Miracles* since its formation in 1994. His memory will be treasured forever and he will be sadly missed.



MIRACLES at Twenty-One—for sick children in poverty

Miracles 'coming of age' was welcomed with a brand new project to provide Respite Breaks for our increasing number of families who desperately need the chance to leave their problems behind them and unwind for a few days in a holiday atmosphere with a breath of fresh sea air.

This 21st Birthday Present, made possible by three of our very generous Spanish benefactors, is our own Static Caravan at the Bunn Leisure Holiday Complex in Selsey, West Sussex. Officially ours on 7th August, many families have already enjoyed a *Miracles*' break in this glorious spot—right on the beach and adjacent to the many holiday attractions so popular with adults and children alike. The Caravan has its own parking space and is immediately adjacent to a lovely sandy beach and nature reserve. It is also very close to the Oasis Centre with its swimming pools, shops, restaurants and bars with top flight entertainment, and just minutes from the popular West Sands Fun Fair—the cherry on the children's' cake. (See overleaf)



The *Miracles*' Caravan has one double bed room, two twin bedded rooms and a pull-out bed in the living room. It is centrally heated and double glazed and is available for our families free of charge for ten months of the year—excluding January and February.

For bookings please call Debbie on 01903 775673.



For further information on all *Miracles*' work please read on ...
If you would like more copies of this Report, contact us at the address below:

***MIRACLES* P.O. Box 3003 * Littlehampton * West Sussex * BN16 1SY**
Telephone: 01903 775673

Email: miraclesthecharity@gmail.com www.miraclesthecharity.org

ALL THE FUN OF THE FUN FAIR

The Bunn Leisure Holiday Complex has all the amenities *Miracles'* families need for a truly relaxing and revitalizing Respite Break. The children's favourite, however, is the West Sands Fun Fair and *Miracles* is deeply grateful to owners, Gary and Melissa Butlin, who have adopted *Miracles* as their Charity and offer all our visitors a free session at their great Fun Fair.

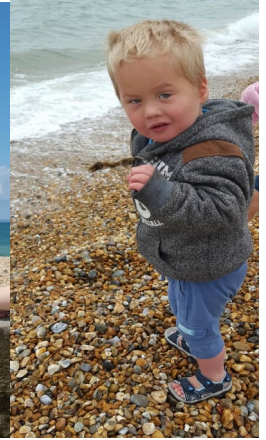
Below are comments and photos from the first of our Caravan visitors:



Joshua Groves is 3 and suffers with Chronic Heart Disease. Referred by Southampton Hospital, Joshua, with his sister Chloe, 6, and brother Callum, 8, were the first family to visit.

Their mum, Heidi wrote:

The caravan is lovely. You've thought of more than was ever expected. The kids love the games and colouring books – and the tea and coffee on arrival went down a treat. They really loved the Fun Fair too – especially little Joshua – and it was so lovely to watch all the children enjoying themselves. A real miracle!



We have kept in close touch with little Jay Broderick (a patient at The Royal Marsden Hospital featured in last year's Review) who in March was invited to a Training Day by Chelsea Football Club, meeting his heroes, John Terry and Willian da Silva. Later in the year Jay and his family enjoyed a break at the *Miracles* Caravan.

Sarah wrote:

It was lovely to have a change of scenery and the caravan is lovely. The boys enjoyed a show at The Embassy, swimming in The Oasis Centre and walks along the beach – and they loved the Fun Fair, too. We have some great pictures of Jay and his brothers playing together. Thank you so much.



Our voluntary Caseworker, Michelle Williams, was another of our August visitors, taking a group of the *Miracles* children in her care.

Michelle writes: *Thank you, Thank you, Thank you! We all had a lovely time. The Caravan is in the perfect spot and has everything we needed. The kids really enjoyed the pool, beach, arcade—and, of course, the Fun Fair! Miracles always makes things wonderful. xxx* (See Back Page re Michelle's son, Louis, running marathons for *Miracles*.)



Courtney Adams is 13 and attends the Lavinia Norfolk School in Sussex with which *Miracles* has been associated for many years. Courtney has a multitude of problems and the family really needed a Respite Break.

Her mum writes:

Thank you to Miracles for a great break. Courtney and her brother, Oscar, loved the Fun Fair and the Beach. The Caravan has everything you would ever need. A fantastic family holiday!



Sweet Dreams!

Chloe Groves fast asleep in the Miracles' cosy Caravan after a fun-filled day.

HIGHLIGHTS OF *MIRACLES*' YEAR

November 28th at ONE GREAT GEORGE STREET the amazing pre-Christmas *Miracles*' Fundraiser

The swirl of the kilt and the call of the bagpipes welcomed guests to the *Miracles*' pre-Christmas Party held on 28th November at the prestigious One Great George Street venue in Westminster.

Guests were piped into dinner in The Great Hall during which *Miracles*' Founder, Theo Ellert paid tribute to the Late Marc Pereire. She also introduced 19 year old Louis Williams, one of the first leukaemia children to be helped by *Miracles* when he was just two. Louis is running in the London and Paris Marathons in 2016 and was at the dinner to appeal for sponsorship for his fundraising efforts for the charity.

The Broad Gallery lithographs were once more part of the Ibid electronic auction while prizes in the Live auction included luxurious holidays in Ireland, Spain, Uruguay and South Africa as well as Disney Work Experience and some fabulous jewellery.

After the auction, *Miracles*' Trustee and Event Chair, Silvia Gil-Alberdi thanked her many wonderful friends who made up the event Committee for yet another magnificent evening which ended with a display of Scottish dancing and a Disco with dancing at a genuine Scottish Ceilidh until the early hours.

Our warm thanks go to Silvia and her Committee for the enormous effort made to ensure another triumphant *Miracles* fundraiser.

Below: Lourdes Taunton-Collins presenting her oil painting,



"Never Lonely" to top bidders, Denise and Michael Schmitz. Right: Juan Chavela and Rafa Gil-Alberdi; Arturo and Ana Miranda with Marta and Jose Carretero. Above right: An impressive group with Fr. Augusto Zampini and seated: Wenceslao Bunge. Right: Rafita Gil-Alberdi with Jose Miguel Alvarez.



Fifty Children Fifty Artists

Fifty Children Fifty Artists was launched in 2013 in Tower Hamlets in response to the high number of children living in poverty there.

The project has proved a huge success gaining significant media coverage and developing new partnerships with companies such as Citi Bank, the London Stock Exchange, St. James's Wealth Management, Winton Capital, as well as Adgenda, Ivan Massow and the Eaton Square School—all sharing *Miracles*' objective to support children and their families living in poverty and to help them through crisis situations.

Another welcome partner is the Harkable agency who created and managed the dedicated website for the project.

Fiftychildrenfiftyartists.com

Fifty Children Fifty Artists

Adelle Wagstaff
All Robinson
Andrew Solgado
Anthony Berraw
Anthony Williams RP
Bernice Wilson
Carla Bred
Carol Peace
Caroline Vincent
Charles Wilmore
Christian Furr
Dan Lanyon SAH
Daphne Guinness
Elaine Cooper RA
Emma Sergeant
Gerald Adamson
Gerald Scarf
Henry Byrne
Hannah Brown
James Lloyd RP
James Proctor
Jason Walker RP
Jessica Allbery
John Wray SA
June Mendelsohn RP
Katherine Bowers
Kathy Prest
Marta Ines Aguilar
Michael Scott Miller RP
Michael Frith
Nick Boney RA
Nick Archer
Nick Offer
Nick Sherratt
Oliar Pryor SA
Rachael Wraith RP
Sam Leagie
Simon Biles RP
Sophy Bristol
Stephen Forthing RA
Steve Cashner RP
Sue Wordsworth
Susan Ryder RP
Tat Sham Scherzinger RP
Theo Ellert
Theo Ellert
Tom Barton
William Sawyer RA
Zachary Walsh

Ideas Store
Whitechapel Road
London E1 1BU
Monday 7 December 2015
to
Thursday 31 March 2016
10:00 till 21:00

The paintings - by some of the UK's finest artists such as Emma Sergeant, Robbie Wraith, John Wragg, Daphne Guinness, Gerald Scarf, and James Lloyd—have been exhibited in some stunning locations: from the Headquarters of Citi Bank in Canary Wharf to Shoreditch Town Hall and the Brady Arts Centre. Its final location is the Ideas Store on Whitechapel Road. (See Poster left)

Most significantly we have seen child poverty in Tower Hamlets drop from over 52% when we launched to 48% this year—still unacceptably high but going in the right direction. *Miracles* can't end child poverty on our own but, with your help, we can be part of the solution.

Miracles' heartfelt thanks go to the artists who have participated in this important project, creating some truly miraculous artworks.

WHO'S DOING WHAT FOR *MIRACLES*

THE *MIRACULOUS* EATON SQUARE SCHOOL

Since adopting *Miracles* as their school charity for 2015 and 2016, parents, teachers and pupils alike from the Eaton Square School in London have taken *Miracles* to heart in their efforts to raise funds for our work in this country and with particular focus on our commitment to Tower Hamlets where the child poverty rate runs at one of the highest in the country.

The school's Annual Fundraiser was held at The Savoy Hotel in March with *Miracles* very much in mind and presence. With so many of our supporters having children at the school, we all felt very much a part of the school family and extremely proud of what had been done to make the event the huge success that it was. The splendid sum of £85,000 was raised for *Miracles* on the evening thanks to a most emotive address by the Headmaster, Sebastian Hepher, and many innovative money-raising ideas including an auction of plates made by the pupils as well as a live and silent auction with some magnificent prizes including holidays at Caroline Bond's Angmering Beach House and at the Pereire's Hunting Lodge in South Africa.



Throughout the school year each different class arranged their own fund-raising projects from cake bakes to book stalls and a great many fun days.

There was the International Mufti Day (see left) Fahad Al Saud (9) in Mexican guise; (right) Gregory Upton (9) as Poseidon for World Book Day.



Harry Gallagher and Archie Johnston (8) did their bit for Mad Hair Day. That was a unique happening in that even the Headmaster donned a rather fetching wig!

We are deeply grateful to Eaton Square School for their support of *Miracles* and look forward to more exciting activities in the year ahead from which more of our cases can benefit.



Miracles' Prison Music Project

Following *Miracles*' long-term commitment to helping Jane Andrews through her fourteen year prison sentence and the many and varied cases for support which came out of that association, we are delighted that our prison work is continuing through an exciting project being developed by *Miracles*' Project Director, James Burton.

For six months during this past year, James, himself a singer-songwriter, has been running music workshops in co-ordination with the Drug Rehabilitation Unit in Brixton Prison, teaching prisoners to play the guitar and other instruments and to write their own music and songs. Music can be of immense value in helping prisoners to unravel their complex emotions and combat tendencies to self-harm. For those coming off heavy drug use it gives them something to work towards on a daily basis creating feelings of achievement and working towards the whole rehabilitation process to help ensure that when they are released they stay clean.



35 men went through the initial programme, 15 learning to play the guitar to intermediate level. The initial six-month programme culminated in a concert where participants performed in front of the entire prison wing.

So successful was James' project under *Miracles*' wing that we are delighted to have been asked to continue it. If anyone would like to sponsor these efforts or to donate a musical instrument, James would love to hear from you.

MIRACLES MISSION IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

The *Miracles*' Prosthetics Team in Mostar continue to work miracles. This past year the number of procedures they have carried out totals 126 including 30 new limbs made and fitted, making a total of 244 since the Centre began.

La Fondation *Miracles* Suisse continues to work hard to raise the funds needed for the *Miracles*' Centre and all those involved with the Fondation are very impressed with what is being undertaken there.



Following the sad death of Marc Pereire, Patrick Fauchier, Francois Pereire and Nicolas Tissot have been appointed as Trustees to the Fondation while Ingrid Tissot has been employed on a full time basis to run it from a newly rented office space in Geneva.

In September Marie-Antoinette visited the *Miracles*' Centre in Mostar accompanied by Ingrid Tissot and their friend, Sophie Fauchier, who took many excellent photographs of the Centre's work and its patients. These have now been incorporated into the Fondation's website: www.lafondationmiracles.org created by Francoise Pereire.

The scope of the limbs being treated has widened beyond just land mine victims and the Centre is running at almost full capacity. Amel, one of the boys 'adopted' by *Miracles* during the war, is progressing well with his prosthetic training and will soon be able to work on his own.



Nino Pendic, the double amputee who met and danced with Marc on a previous visit to the Centre, is now visiting regularly to give counselling to new patients awaiting treatment - a service which is greatly appreciated. Marie-Antoinette met him again on her September visit and will hopefully do so again when she revisits with Sophie Fauchier next February.



Photos: Top: Work in progress. Below left: Prosthetist Nihad Subasic with Amina Secunovic, a five-year-old who was born without a leg and with serious problems in her other leg and her hands. She will need three new limbs and a minimum of three corrections each year as she grows up. Centre: The *Miracles*' Team (left to right: Ingrid Tissot; Elvira Dugalic; Matthew Procter; Marie-Antoinette Pereire; Amel Mrkonjic and Nihad. Right: Amina admiring her new leg.

Other visitors to the Centre this year included Father Edward's pilgrim group from Ampleforth School, two groups from Saint Joseph and the Helpers Charity (UK and Ireland) and two from the Jericho Foundation USA. In the Spring we also welcomed physiotherapy students from Mostar university to gain practical work experience over a two week period and on the National (BiH) Day of Disability Awareness and Inclusion in December, children from the Potoci Elementary School will be with us for the day.

To these, and all supporters of the *Miracles*' Mission in BiH, we send our heartfelt thanks, and particularly to The John Armitage Charitable Trust for ongoing support of The *Miracles*' Centre.

MIRACLES MISSION IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

Miracles Roma Community in Zenica

Our Roma families in Zenica go from strength to strength, preparing for the time when they will be independent of *Miracles* and, hopefully, self sustainable.

The community now consists of thirty-six people, ten adult/parents, thirteen young/school age children and thirteen of our original 'children', now eighteen and over—one of which is at University. All the rest have completed their schooling and two already have jobs in the town nearby. They are all hardworking and caring individuals, proud of their homes and gardens with some of them working wonders at Home Improvement. The children are well disciplined and doing well in their school work. The older children are studying hard to fit themselves for employment when their studies are complete.



Project Green Shoots continues to thrive and the produce grown was a welcome bonus to their food supplies. They have just planted a crop of spinach which will grow over the winter months and we look forward to getting more pictures in the spring.



And Happy Birthday to Sara!

Another *Miracles'* family that is growing fast is that of our Trainee Prosthetist at the *Miracles* Prosthesis Centre in Mostar, Amel Mrkonjic.

Hearty congratulations to Amel and his wife Mika on the birth of their new baby girl, Sara, born on 15th October, 2015.

Left is the beautiful little girl with her very proud seven year old brother, Daniel.

Right is Amel and his family pictured in their home adjacent to the *Miracles'* Centre—one of the Refugee Houses built at the same time as the Centre to provide homes for some of the families within *Miracles'* care.



Los Rosales Kindergarten, Mostar

With the generous sponsorship of Julia and James Ogilvy, *Miracles* was once again able to support

Los Rosales in Mostar, the only Kindergarten in the Herzegovina-Neretva county for children with special needs. There are currently 14 children at the school aged between three and seven, many of whom are unable to speak. The Kindergarten faces ongoing financial problems with very little help from the State and constantly struggles to provide food for the children, sanitary needs and transport.



Miracles is deeply grateful to Julia and James whose support was initiated in memory of two very special cousins, Hayden and Cameron Lord, who died very young from Tay Sachs disease.

The Ogilvy's son, Alexander, visited the school recently on his visit to the *Miracles'* Centre in Mostar. He is pictured (*left*) with the Kindergarten Director, Mirna Mezil, and on the wall beside him is the picture of his two little cousins. Alexander is 19 and on a Gap Year before heading for University in America.

WHO'S WHO IN THE *MIRACLES* CHARITY

Miracles Board of Trustees: Marie-Antoinette Pereire (Chair) * Maria Abaroa
Robert and Anna Bean * Joseph Caruso * James Dench * Theo Ellert (Founder)
Silvia Gil-Alberdi * Charles Hornung * Dominic Lynch

Miracles UK Executive: Robert Linley-Munro (Chief Executive)
James Burton (Project Director)
Deborah Aldridge (Casework Co-ordinator—*sponsored by The Sobell Foundation*)

Miracles Mission in Bosnia: Matthew Procter MBE—Head of Mission
Elvira Dugalic—Trustee Divita-*Miracles* * Nihad Subasic—Prosthetist
Aida Saric—Trustee Cudo-Cuda-*Miracles*

Miracles' Patrons: Christopher Biggins * The Earl of Bradford
Father Michael O'Malley

La Fondation Miracles Suisse:
Board of Trustees: Pierre-Laurent Bel; Patrick Fauchier
Marie-Antoinette Pereire; Francois Pereire
Secretary: Ingrid Tissot
Website: www.lafondationmiracles.org

Financial Summary taken from the Accounts for the Year Ended 31st October 2015

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

<u>Incoming resources:</u>	Voluntary income:	£317,941
	Fundraising:	£125,091
	Other:	£ 1,591
		£444,623
<u>Expenditure:</u>	Fundraising:	£ 38,913
	Projects:	£323,955
	Other:	£ 9,637
		£372,505
Net Income before depreciation and impairments		£ 72,118

BALANCE SHEET

Tangible Fixed Assets	£631,705
Net current assets	<u>£133,640</u>
	£765,345
Represented by the following funds	
Designated funds	£602,827
Other charitable funds	<u>£162,518</u>
	£765,345

STAR ACHIEVERS FOR *MIRACLES*—2015

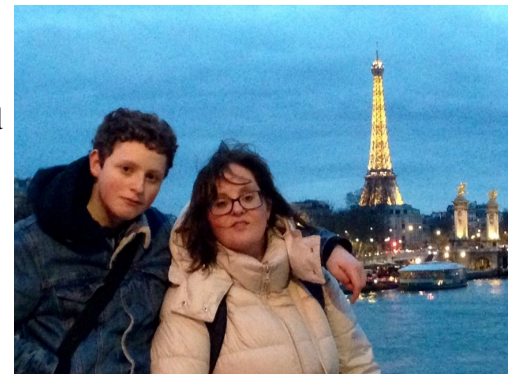


JUBER AHMED from Tower Hamlets is fourteen and lives alone with his pensioner father. He has overcome a great many problems with health and learning difficulties and now gives his time to help some of his younger schoolmates. In recognition of his outstanding improvement he was picked by his school to be part of a residential project run by the Tall Ships Youth Trust. At the request of his Case Worker, *Miracles* was proud to fund the hugely successful trip. Good luck, Juber: keep it up!

Pictured above is Juber in the rigging of the Tall Ship he was on and with a friend at the wheel!



Also from Tower Hamlets is **DECLAN DALY**, a 16 year old boy constantly battling with a host of health and social problems whose lifetime dream is to visit Paris. When *Miracles* heard how well he was coping with his ongoing health issues as well as helping as a volunteer for younger children with special needs, we decided to make that dream come true.



Declan still has his problems but he has some wonderful memories, too.

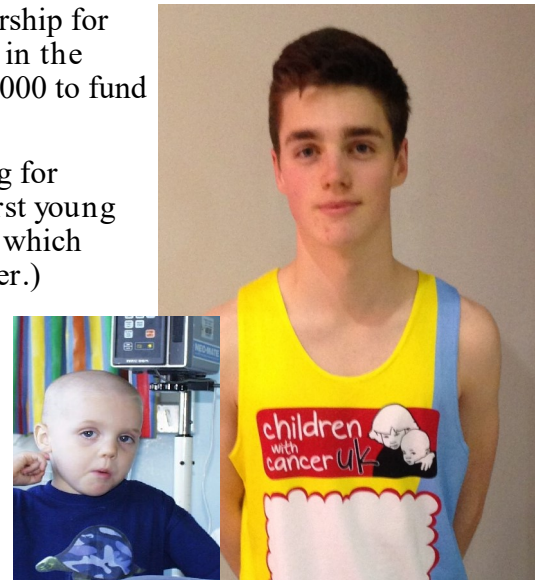
*Above left: Declan in front of the Arc du Triumph and right: with his Mum, Christine, on their *Miracles* trip last Spring.*

Last year our Annual Review was accompanied by an appeal for sponsorship for **LOUIS WILLIAMS** to run the London Marathon. He completed it in the fantastic time of 3 hours, 58 minutes and 47 seconds and raised over £2,000 to fund respite breaks for *Miracles*' families.

Louis puts a huge amount of effort and time into training and fundraising for *Miracles*, the charity he has known since he was two and one of the first young Leukaemia patients to benefit from a respite break at the Holiday Home which *Miracles* ran for Children with Leukaemia (Now: Children with Cancer.)

*Pictured right is Louis in his Children with Cancer running shirt and as *Miracles* first knew him sixteen years ago when he was under-going treatment for Leukaemia.*

Louis has now been given a place to run with the Children with Cancer Team in both the London and Paris Marathons next April raising funds for cancer families to enjoy breaks at the new *Miracles*' Caravan.



WATCH OUT FOR LOUIS' JUSTGIVING PAGE ...

www.justgiving.com/louis-williams96

AND PLEASE SUPPORT HIM AS GENEROUSLY AS YOU CAN

Here's how else you can help us to make more miracles happen

Join the **Friends of *Miracles* Support Group** with a monthly donation direct from your bank
Include *Miracles* as a **Beneficiary in your Will.**

Support *Miracles*' **Gala Events and Sponsorship Projects.**

www.miraclesthecharity.org

Registered Charity Number 1041449