



Registered Charity 1041449

## ANNUAL REVIEW 2016

Another busy and exciting year is under our belt and we are delighted to report that our caravan has proved a huge success with 80% occupancy over its first fifteen months of operation and bookings throughout the whole of the year ahead. But this is only one aspect of *Miracles'* wide reaching charity work and it is often difficult to encapsulate the wide variety of needs we embrace. From our free prosthesis treatment in Bosnia to Rapid Response Casework here at home; from offering Respite Breaks to paying off a telephone bill for a mother submerged in debt; from refurbishing wheelchairs to helping with hospital transport and special medical equipment - and so much more. And now our prison work is developing, offering music therapy as part of drug rehabilitation and welfare work with prisoners' families.



### NEW FACES IN *MIRACLES*

To help us to 'tell our story' in a simple but impact way we are very fortunate in having welcomed to our Board of Trustees the Managing Director of Adgenda, one of the top agencies dealing with Brand Image and Projection. Ben Williams (*top left*) joined our Board in May 2016 and was followed in September by Rodrigo Rodriguez who is of invaluable help in organising and promoting our major fundraising events. And the third 'New Face' we are extremely proud to have on board is Terry Waite CBE who, despite his other important and time consuming work, has accepted our invitation to be a Patron of our charity in company with Joseph Caruso (*right*), our Australian ambassador.



This this is Harmonie. She is just three and has lost all her lower limbs as a result of Meningitis. She came to our caravan in June with her family and had the time of her life on the trampoline at the Fun Fair where all our children are given free sessions thanks to Gary Butlin who met Harmonie and her dad during their visit. Also being entertained by the Bun Leisure Bunny Team is six-year-old and severely disabled Brody with his sister, Maddison.

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

**Email: [miraclesthecharity@gmail.com](mailto:miraclesthecharity@gmail.com)      [www.miraclesthecharity.org](http://www.miraclesthecharity.org)**





# GOODWOOD HOUSE

# 12th March 2016 Spring Ball

Saturday, 12th March, 2016, saw the last of the *Miracles'* Goodwood Balls after twenty-one years of the charity's Flag Ship event.

Though a little sad, the evening was just as delightful as all the others and hugely enjoyed by all our guests—many with their families who had literally grown up with *Miracles*.

The main Appeal was for the new *Miracles'* Caravan—the charity's 21st 'Key to the Door' for which Louis Williams was present to seek sponsorship for his Marathon Runs in London, Paris and New York.

After the Hacienda's delicious Pink Cava Reception and this year's Silk Orchid Tombola, guests were then wined and dined in the Grand Ballroom under some of Goodwood's finest art treasures, serenaded with everyone's favourite songs by vocalist Gregg Valentine.

Theo Ellert's Presentation was followed by Louis who raised over £800 to provide holiday treats for our Caravan families—with more to follow.

This was followed by the live auction conducted by Steve Cook of CBS Entertainment who provided the giant Scalextric and Casino in the Yellow Drawing Room while dancing in the Supper Room continued until the early hours.

While guests were still seated, Theo paid a special tribute to David Edney, Goodwood's Head Butler, who had been with us over the years, always ensuring that the *Miracles'* events were fault free.

A framed print of Theo's painting of the famous Goodwood Cedar Tree was presented to him—  
With Many Happy *Miracles'* Memories.

The photographs were once again taken by our superb photographer, Frances Newman, and can be viewed and ordered online at Frances Newman Smile Event Photography.

*Far left:* *Miracles'* Founder, Theo Ellert with her grandchildren Nancy (3) and Bertie (7) Lawrence-Smith

*Right:* Father and son Rafa and Rafita Gil-Alberdi



Three generations of Lawrence-Smith/Bush families.



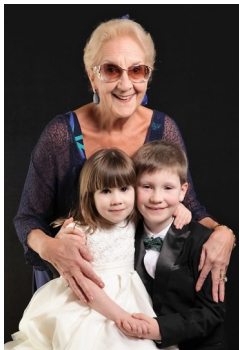
*Miracles'* wonderful Spanish and Argentinian families



Louis Williams with his mother, Michelle, *Miracles'* voluntary Caseworker, and brother Rhys.



Beautiful Ana Miranda with daughters Ana and Ines



Theo's painting of the Goodwood Cedar



*Miracles'* Trustee, Silvia Gil-Alberdi with Rafita, Rafael and Paula



Wenceslao Bunge with Maria, and daughters, Ines and Maia



Chairman, Marie-Antoinette Pereire's table with Robert and Anna Bean and friends



Dads will be boys!! -





# A Great British Experience

At the Eaton Square School fundraiser for *Miracles* in March the “Guards Experience” was an auction prize for which the winning bid of £1,500 was won by *Miracles’* CEO, Robert Linley-Munro to be given to a group of *Miracles’* children.

The prize, arranged by Tommy McDonald-Milner in conjunction with Colonel Tom Bonas of The Welsh Guards, was in two parts. The first was to be present at the rehearsal of the Trooping of the Colour, and was taken by our marathon runner Louis Williams’ family.



The second was a visit to Wellington Barracks to witness the behind the scenes activities prior to the Changing of The Guard at Buckingham Palace.

This was given to a group of children from The Tommy Flowers School in Tower Hamlets who were accompanied by Project Director James Burton.

James writes: *It was a privilege to accompany The Tommy Flowers students on this memorable experience which started with a tour of the barracks, stables meeting the horses and the dedicated men and women who keep them in their prime. We saw and touched the famous gun carriages and the guns which were used at The Battle of The Somme in 1916. Also we watched, at close quarters, the Troop inspections and the ceremony of handing over The Queen’s Colours on the parade ground, the spectacles which attract thousands of visitors every day. The Band of The Coldstream Guards then serenaded the students with a couple of uplifting tunes, marching off to Buckingham Palace for the daily Changing of The Guard to take place.*



*The visit was topped off with a look at some of the uniforms and even trying on some of the iconic bearskins, handling the swords and inspecting the boots with their soles containing twelve iron studs, each one representing a guardsman who won The Victoria Cross during The Crimean War.*

*On departure every student was presented with a hard back book describing the history of the Guards. What a Great British keepsake to remind them of a most memorable visit!*



# La Fondation Miracles Suisse Fundraising Dinner

Her name is Amina Secunovic. She is five years old and was born without a leg. Marie-Antoinette and Ingrid Tissot met her when they last visited The **Miracles** Centre for Prosthesis and Care in Mostar, Bosnia-Herzegovina. This year, on 21st April, Amina was the Raison D'Être for the fundraising dinner held by La Fondation **Miracles** Suisse to raise funds specifically for limbs like hers.



The elegant Soiree was held at The Richmond Hotel—right on the banks of beautiful Lake Geneva. One hundred and fifty guests enjoyed a champagne reception and four-course dinner in the company of La Fondation's Trustees and Event Committee. The evening was organised by the Director of La Fondation, Ingrid Tissot, who herself conducted the highly successful auction.

Together with the massive tombola and the huge generosity of guests, the evening raised the grand sum of one hundred thousand Swiss Francs. The night belonged to Amina but the Guest of Honour stole the show! He was the famous Swiss author, Joel Dicker, whose novel 'The Truth About The Harry Quebert Affair' was one of the world's best sellers with his third book likely to follow suit. Such a really lovely man, too, and one of the original supporters of La Fondation **Miracles** Suisse.



Left to Right: Joel Dicker with the Event Committee and guests from **Miracles** UK and from The **Miracles** Centre; Joel with Ingrid Tissot and Matthew Procter MBE; The Reception gathering.



Above: Robert Linley-Munro, Chief Executive of **Miracles**; Theo Ellert (Founder) with Joel Dicker; Celine Boudry with Aude Pe-Lady Vernon, Patron of La Fondation, with Marie-Antoinette Pereire, President of La Fondation and Chair of the **Miracles** Charity.



# MIRACLES MISSION IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

The *Miracles* Prosthetics Team's excellent work in Mostar goes from strength to strength and we are all deeply grateful to the Children of The World Charity for its pledge of \$30,000 pa over the next three years towards the general running of the *Miracles* Centre. This past year, with funding from La Fondation *Miracles* Suisse, The International Trust Fund and St. Joseph and the Helpers Charity we have been able to provide a total of 43 new limbs over the year along with 57 corrections; 3 foot replacements; 27 insoles; 5 orthotic devices and 12 silicon gels.

We are delighted to have welcomed Sophie Fauchier twice this year along with several representatives from La Fondation, the ITF and German Embassy, St. Joseph's and The Helpers Charity and the Jericho Foundation as well as Pierre Kern and Tony Giglio, CPOs from Switzerland (*right*) whose help, professional input and ongoing commitment to our work is most welcome.



Visits from local schools and student seminars have taken place at the Centre plus sessions with physiotherapy students and those from the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering at Mostar University.



The Jericho Foundation has also generously donated to our work with Roma families in Zenica of which there are now 6 adults and 24 children: 16 being of school age and one who is now studying at university.

Project Green Shoots continues to be fruitful, providing vegetables almost all year round.

Pictured right are some of the proud gardeners displaying the massive crop of tomatoes grown in the Project Green Shoots Greenhouses.

Growing their own crops and raising their chickens and animals is both rewarding and enjoyable.



Their gardens, greenhouses and orchards form a particularly valuable legacy when *Miracles*' ten-year commitment comes to an end with the houses being gifted to the families and the Project to the Municipality of Zenica. *Miracles* will, of course, be always there for them.



Our heartfelt thanks also go to James and Julia Ogilvy for their continued support of Los Rosales, the kindergarten in Mostar which provides special needs education. Without their support the school would be struggling to keep the doors open.



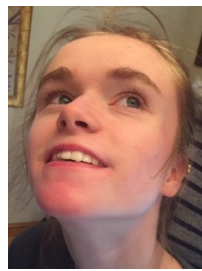
# Miracles Creating Smiles



This little 'Goddess' is severely disabled. Hers is just one of the families in *Miracles'* care.

ANNUAL REVIEW  
2009

Remember India? Our very beautiful but very disabled Cover Girl in 2009. She has now reached her eighteenth birthday: still a very beautiful if sadly disabled young woman we are proud to have been able to help..



Little Harmonie is pictured right on the terrace of our Caravan in June.

Taylor (centre) is another three-year-old.



He is also a victim of Meningitis for whom *Miracles'* help has been sought. Recently the two of them met and we hope to welcome them both to the Caravan in the summer.



6 year old Brody Maul (left) and his sister Maddison visited the *Miracles'* Caravan in the Summer and their mum wrote us this letter:

*I just wanted to say a massive Thank You for allowing us to stay at your beautiful caravan. It was wonderful to get away and forget about our day to day struggles and see the children enjoying themselves.*

*It is a lovely and well equipped van and the park itself is beautiful with lots of things to keep the little ones entertained all day. **Miracles** is a fantastic charity and we are extremely grateful for all that you have done for us.*

Amongst the many other letters of thanks came this from the Citizens Advice Bureau in Epsom and Ewell as a result of an urgent request for our Rapid Response help:

*Dear Miracles, You are, without doubt, the most amazing charity I have worked with through my ten years here. I cannot thank you enough for getting back to me so quickly. Thanks a million!*

This is a Message from Kerry White on *Miracles'* Facebook Page

*Hi Miracles! We had the privilege of staying in your caravan last week. My son, Mason (7), suffers with a rare genetic life-threatening condition and it is hard to go on holiday with all his needs. But we did it and we had a wonderful time. My two kids absolutely loved it. We made lots of memories and hope we can go back one day as the location and caravan park was brilliant for families like ours. Thank you so much for choosing us for a **Miracles'** holiday!*

Photographed right: Mason in the Caravan with big sister, Georgia; and with Mum, Kerry, enjoying the sunshine.



## Miracles Music in Prisons Project

Following the success of last year's Music Workshop held in Brixton Prison Drug Rehabilitation Wing, *Miracles'* Project Director, James Burton, along with a fellow musician, Andrew Harwood, has developed the project further, running another four month course in the women's prison, HMP Downview.

Launched on 4th November 2016, the sessions took place each Friday afternoon and included vocal and physical warm up; a group song 'Lean on Me' by Bill Withers, beginners guitar and song writing activities.

Ten prisoners attended the course. The background and age of each being very varied with most having drug related convictions ranging from months to 7 years. The feedback from the course was excellent, all participants benefitting enormously from being able to develop their individual musical talents and shared ideas, creating feelings of achievement to counter their complex emotions.

With full backing from the *Miracles* Board of Trustees and a grant from the Big Lottery, James and Andrew (Pictured left) are now working to develop the project further in other London Prisons.

As one of our Trustees commented: *'This project is a truly excellent way of making miracles happen in some very tragic lives.'*

# WHO'S WHO IN THE *MIRACLES* CHARITY

**Miracles Board of Trustees:** Maria Abaroa \* Robert Bean  
James Dench \* Theo Ellert (Founder) \* Silvia Gil-Alberdi \* Dominic Lynch  
Rodrigo Rodriguez \* Ben Williams  
Marie-Antoinette Pereire (Chair)

**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  
Joseph Caruso \* Father Michael O'Malley \* Terry Waite CBE

## **La Fondation *Miracles* Suisse:**

**Board of Trustees:** Pierre-Laurent Bel; Patrick Fauchier; Celine Boudry;  
Francois Pereire; Marie-Antoinette Pereire; Ingrid Tissot; Nicolas Tissot

Patron: Lady Vernon

**Director:** Ingrid Tissot

**Website:** [www.lafondationmiracles.org](http://www.lafondationmiracles.org)

## **Financial Summary taken from the Accounts for the Year Ended 31st October 2016**

### **INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**

<b><u>Incoming resources:</u></b>	Voluntary income:	£466,687
	Fundraising:	£ 98,270
	Other:	£ 4,014
		£568,971
<b><u>Expenditure:</u></b>	Fundraising:	£ 42,957
	Charitable Activities:	£380,451
	Other:	£ 7,050
		£430,458
<hr/> Net Incoming resources:		£138,513

### **BALANCE SHEET**

Tangible Fixed Assets	£618,313
Net current assets	£307,413
	£925,726
<hr/> Represented by the following funds:	
Designated funds	£589,435
Other charitable funds	£336,291
	£925,726



# Miracles' Project Respite

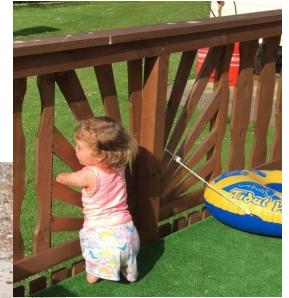


The first *Miracles'* Caravan in the Bunn Leisure Holiday Park in Selsey, West Sussex, has now been in operation for fifteen months in which time it has catered for some forty families with 80% occupancy. It is almost fully booked through the coming year and this not only highlights its success but also the need to offer more of these badly needed breaks.

Through the past year we have welcomed a number of severely disabled children—like Harmonie, a three-year-old who has lost all her lower limbs as a result of Meningitis.

Her family managed to cope in our existing caravan but as with other families like this they really need wheelchair access and special adaptations such as lower work surfaces, hoists and a purpose-built wet room.

*Miracles* is now determined to acquire a unit such as this, the cost of which—complete with all its essential 'extras' and running costs for the year ahead comes to a total of £60,000. An appeal has now been launched for our supporters to contribute to this very necessary cause.



## *Miracles'* Challenge Champions Raising funds for Caravan Number Two



*Louis Williams ran for Miracles in the London Marathon, the Paris Marathon and the New York Marathon .*



*James Barclay (above) and Nick Harris (with James right) took part in the South Tough Mudder Challenge and The Great South Run*

*Zara Ozade (far right) spent a sunny Sunday on her bike on the gruelling London-Brighton Cycle Ride.*



*And they're all on for next year too!*

**Could YOU join our Challenge Champions?  
It would mean a huge amount to Harmonie if you would.**

**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](http://www.miraclesthecharity.org)

Registered Charity Number 1041449