



Registered Charity Number 1041449

ANNUAL REVIEW 2012



Registered Charity Number 1041449

Welcome to *Miracles'* new-style Annual Review

In order to save on production and postage costs this 'Newsletter' type report is on the *Miracles'* website (www.miraclesthecharity.org) but is available in hard copy for those who do not have a computer and who prefer a 'coffee table' copy sent by post. We hope that you will enjoy reading it, talk about it amongst your friends and pass it on to others who may like to help us make miracles happen.

First of all we are delighted to announce that **Christopher Biggins** has accepted our invitation to become a Patron of our charity.



Christopher's presence at our events is always a joy and his support means a huge amount to us all. As Patron, he now joins The Earl of Bradford in flying the *Miracles'* flag.

(Left): Christopher Biggins conducting the Auction at *Miracles'* annual Goodwood Ball.

With him in the photograph is Friend of *Miracles*, Jose Carretero and Trustee Silvia Gil-Alberdi.

Two new members have joined our Board of Trustees this year: **James Dench** and **Dominic Lynch**. An old friend of *Miracles*, Dominic is from the financial world of Polygon Investments and James, who is helping us with

the redesign of our website and social networking, is Graphic Designer with The Body Shop. Their enthusiasm for the *Miracles'* cause is infectious and will be a great asset to the development of our supporter base.

Alongside the academic studies of the new 2012/2013 school year, 480 pupils at the Chesswood Middle School in Worthing produced an outstanding CD of Christmas music in aid of *Miracles*. Under the genius and determination of their Music Teacher, Claire Cossins, the album begins with a song called

'BELIEVE'

and believing in miracles is what this amazing supportive initiative is all about.

Sales of the CD will fund a special 'treat' day out when some of the Chesswood School singers from Sussex will join *Miracles'* children from one of the poorest areas of London to form links of friendship - which is what *MIRACLES* is all about!

The CD cover (right) was drawn by one of the young Chesswood School singers, 9-year-old Poppy Strachan.



The Chesswood Middle School's Christmas Concerts, held at St. George's Church, Worthing, had the CD music as their main theme with generous retiring collections for *Miracles'* work. Performances were also given at several of the large local supermarkets, again flying the *Miracles* flag.

In the top right hand corner of the CD cover is a new suggestion for the *Miracles'* logo which also appears on the back page. If you would like to tell us which logo you prefer we would be very interested to hear from you.



***Miracles'* past year started with a flourish at Hampton Court Palace with a 'surprise' visit from King Henry VIII himself! It ended with equal flourish at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre on Bankside.**

The UnderGlobe—where our Christmas Party was held on 1st December—proved to be a very special find. Everyone agreed that the event was the best ever in a stunningly beautiful venue with lots of new supporters joining with our stalwart friends to launch us into another year of making miracles happen.



Greeting the guests under the Globe's famous replica of the tree from which came the theatre's original timbers, was Marie-Antoinette Pereire with Fiona, Lady Savory (left) whose daughter, Victoria, modelled one of the exquisite dresses donated for the auction by red-carpet designer, Zaeem Jamal. (Right:) Victoria with Spain's top model, Teresa Vaca.

The 2012 Auction, conducted for us by Christies' International Auctioneer, Hugh Edmeades, also included holidays at two of the exclusive Beach Houses donated by www.luxurycountryrental.com



Once again our friends from The Broad Gallery joined forces with *Miracles* to boost the party's profits with a Silent Auction of some of their most sought-after lithographs, one of which—a work by Henri Matisse—was donated as a main auction prize, raising £3,000

The evening raised in excess of £48,000 thanks to the generosity of our guests, all of whom have pledged their ongoing support for *Miracles* and the promise of being at our next major event—our Goodwood Ball to be held on 15th June 2013, just prior to the famous Festival of Speed.



The *Miracles'* Goodwood Ball was again held at Goodwood House in March—eighteen years on—and just as good as ever.

One of this year's highlights was the announcement that our long-standing Friend and Star of *Miracles*, Christopher Biggins, had formally accepted our invitation to become a Patron of the charity, a fact that delighted everyone.

Turning the Auction into a Cabaret as only he can, Christopher once again brought his dynamic personality to the proceedings—despite the fact that he was leaving for India before dawn the following morning on yet another charity engagement.

We now look forward to him bringing that extra dimension of 'X' Factor to many more *Miracles'* events to the delight of his many fans amongst our event goers.



Above: 'King Henry' shares an intimate secret with *Miracles'* CEO, Robert Linley-Munro



Making *MIRACLES* Happen

Nothing deters our stalwart Marathon Runners from their task of fundraising to bring a smile to the face of youngsters who so badly deserve a little happiness in their lives. This past year we have had places in both the London and Brighton Marathons, the Hastings Half Marathon and many more less gruelling sponsored events around the country.



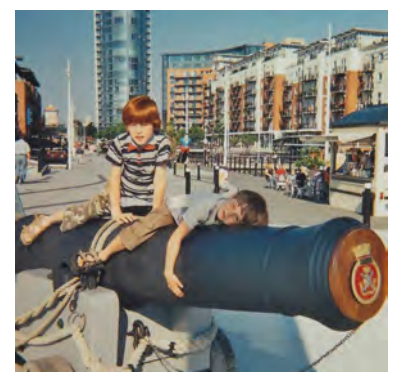
Pictured above left is Jose Lorente who joined Alvaro Baranda and Francisco Morena as the *Miracles* runners at this year's London Marathon; Centre is our Brighton Marathon Team: James Barclay, Neil Cox and Dale Harris, and Right is Mike Nandra, a marathon walker for many deserving causes who this year, through our new Trustee, Dominic Lynch, has signed up for the London Brighton Walk next May. If you fancy joining him he would welcome your company!

What spurs on these valiant fundraisers are the stories behind *Miracles* UK Casework.

Little Zoe, for example, hit the heartstrings of guests at last year's Goodwood Ball. Her greatest wish of all was to see a giraffe but because of her illness that hadn't been possible at the time. This Summer, however, her condition improved and here she is (*Right*) with her wish being granted.



During the Summer *Miracles* was given the use of a house in Southsea to which to send six of the families in most need of a respite break. These were cases referred to us by CLIC-Sargent Social Workers at Great Ormond Street Hospital and The Royal Marsden as well as two referred by Hackney Young Carers. The latter included a mum with mental problems following domestic violence who felt unable to allow her children to play in the streets outside their Hackney home. Another mum with mobility and health problems along with her carer-daughter benefitted greatly from their little Southsea holiday. For all our families these breaks meant that just for a while they could leave their problems and stresses behind and build up their strength to face what lies ahead. Their gratitude speaks volumes and our thanks go to Jane Wilson for allowing us to use her house for *Miracles'* families in such supreme need.



Amongst the cases referred to us by CLIC-Sargent was a recently widowed mother whose elder daughter had died of Cancer the previous December. To take their mind off their sadness, *Miracles* arranged an overnight stay for them in London, with tickets to see *The Wizard of Oz*, a trip on The London Eye and a glimpse at Number Ten.

Another was a little Indian boy with Leukaemia whose grandfather in India had suffered a stroke and whose single-parent mother wanted to get home to see him while there was still time. On her desperately low income she had managed to save enough for the fare but couldn't afford the travel insurance for her sick son. Again, *Miracles* came to the rescue and their miracle was realised.

There are so many more little miracles needed so if you would like to join our fundraisers your efforts would mean so much.

With sadness we report the death of our long-standing Patron, **The Lord Morris of Manchester**.

Introduced to *Miracles* by then Trustee, Sandra Roycroft-Davies, Lord Morris was a great support and encouragement for our work and we will always be deeply grateful to him and Lady Morris for their friendship.

James Whitaker and **Mary McElhone** were two other dear Friends of *Miracles* who died during the year. They were both highly valued supporters and will be sadly missed.

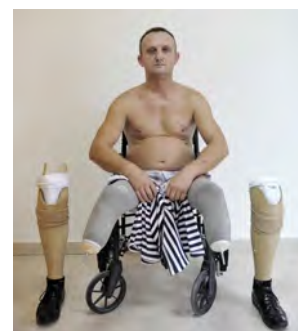


Miracles Mission in Bosnia

Miracles invaluable work in Bosnia-Herzegovina—under the dedicated eye of Head of Mission Matthew Procter MBE—goes from strength to strength. With the dedicated work of **La Fondation Miracles Suisse**, the funding for **The Miracles Centre** in Mostar is now securely underpinned and it is a proud fact that since its opening in 2009, over two hundred patients have been treated.

We are delighted to report that Marie-Antoinette Pereire, our Chair of Trustees and Président of the Swiss Foundation has now been joined as co-Président by her husband, Marc. His influence has always been a godsend to our work and now, with his help, the future of the Centre is assured as are the limbs we fit to an increasing number of patients.

In June Marc Pereire accompanied Marie-Antoinette for his first visit to the *Miracles* Centre where he met with Nino Pendic (*right*). In the Winter of 1992/3 at the age of 20 Nino was a soldier on the front line where his legs quite literally froze. His brother carried him for miles to find medical help but it was too late and he lost both legs.



Marc Pereire writes: *I finally made it to visit the centre in Mostar and wanted to share my impressions. Above all, it was a feeling of complete dedication and professionalism. Even more importantly, and with the entire team, it is clear there is a profound respect for every penny and every piece of equipment available, coming from a deep realization that it all comes from donations and doesn't come easy.*

Something beautiful happened: A gentleman who had been given 2 legs below the knee found out we were in town and wanted to come and say thank-you. When I walked into the waiting room, he got up without a word, took me in his arms, and made me dance. It lasted a few minutes but I cannot express how much it demonstrated for me the validity of what we are all doing there. Lets hope we can make many more people dance !

Miracles is making a difference, too, for our Roma families in Zenica. Maria Romerosa, an English teacher who visited them in October, was deeply impressed with the project.



Maria writes:...

Chickens wandering freely, dogs lazing about, grazing animals, earth upturned in preparation for sowing ... I am amazed by what the project is doing in terms of helping and providing the families with stability and a real chance at improving their quality of life. It is inspiring! The children are so eager to learn—it was an absolute pleasure teaching them.



Project Green Shoots is our latest initiative for which funding is urgently sought. With the issues of employment, training and career aspirations in mind, Project Green Shoots aims to build greenhouses on unused land in which to grow high quality produce for local sale. With six years to run on our initial commitment to our families this Project is vital to their future welfare.

Above left: Maria Romerosa with some of her Roma students. Right: Miracles' Roma housing with the unused areas of land on which the greenhouses will stand.

Here at Home

.... our Crisis work continues apace with referrals being dealt with from many Citizens' Advice Bureaux—the National Chairman of which is now one of our close supporters. The main children's hospitals also continue to refer to us patients in need of respite breaks and often extremely sad cases of families living well under the bread-line, often with insufficient food or money to get them and their children in and out of hospital.

Our Case Criteria remains the same with grants being available for the following:

*Single Parent/Carer with one or more sick/disabled dependents;
Parents/Carers with two or more sick/disabled dependents.*

- Grants are made for hospital transport and accommodation (where no other is available)
 - For additional medical needs, equipment, special diets, special clothing
 - Towards respite breaks and 'treats after treatment'

Interim one-off grants may also be considered for Crisis Funding pending Benefits being sought or one-off payments to prevent disconnection of telephone/household services.

Project One-In-Three

This past year we have been developing 'Project One-In-Three' to help tackle the shocking incidence of child poverty in the UK currently standing at one in three children.



Tower Hamlets has the worst incidence of child poverty in the country running at over 52%. Poverty is defined as living with an average annual household income of £24,000. In Tower Hamlets—right on the doorstep of Canary Wharf—33% of families live on less than £20,000. For this reason *Miracles* is now working with Hackney Young Carers, London Youth and the local Citizens' Advice Bureaux to help with some of their most vulnerable cases.

One of these is a ten-year-old boy who, through most of his childhood had been carer to his mum and his disabled brother. His mum died not so long ago and his father struggled to keep going but then a fire completely destroyed their home and all their belongings. They were rehoused, of course, but they had no furniture whatsoever. Co-ordinated by Action for Children, various aid agencies came to their rescue and *Miracles* provided essentials such as a fridge/freezer, a cooker and bedding etc. A holiday for them will be arranged later in the year.

Many young carers miss out on the normal everyday fun things that most people take for granted. Jessica, for instance—whose mum had a stroke a few years ago leaving Jess as carer for her, as well as her two younger siblings. At sixteen Jessica dreamed of her school prom but she knew she wouldn't be going. She had nothing to wear, no money and no one to turn to for help. So *Miracles* acted as Fairy Godmother and Jessica did go to the ball! It was a very real miracle for Jessica - but that's what our charity is all about.

Funding is key to the development of this project and to this end our London-based Project Director, James Burton, is now working on various fundraising promotions based around the worst areas of poverty in an effort to raise not only money but also awareness of the need.



The latest of these promotions is entitled '50 Children 50 Artists' and aims to bring together 50 children living in supreme poverty in Tower Hamlets and 50 of the UK's most respected artists whose paintings will be commissioned over the year for an exhibition in December 2013. With corporate sponsorship of the paintings and donations from the general public, the target set for the project is £500,000 and already we have a number of top artists eager to participate along with several corporate partners in the pipeline.

On the Financial Front

As in 2011 the Recession has been hard for *Miracles* but thanks to our Friends and supporters we have still been able to make miracles happen. Here we would briefly mention our ongoing thanks to The John Armitage Charitable Trust for their regular contributions to the running of the *Miracles* Centre in Bosnia (*below left*), to Julia and James Ogilvy for continuing to fund our commitment to Los Rosales Kindergarten in Mostar; to Ampleforth College for their support of our Bosnia Mission and to St. Joseph and the Helpers Charity in the US who have provided the funding for children's limbs and are now considering the funding needs of our Roma Community in Zenica (*centre*) and refugee housing (*right*).



Above (*left*) some of the young patients at The *Miracles* Centre, and (*right*) growing up to a bright future: some of our Roma children. Our sincere thanks also go to The Sobell Foundation for their annual sponsorship of our dedicated UK Casework Co-ordinator, Debbie Aldridge, and to Eaton House School for supporting *Miracles'* UK work most generously from their annual Fundraiser in October. Our work also relied heavily on the generosity of the Friends of *Miracles'* monthly contributions as well as generous donations from Trusts, Foundations, businesses and individuals to whom our heartfelt thanks is offered. Long may their generosity continue.

Financial Summary taken from the Audited Accounts for the Year Ended 31st October 2012

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Incoming resources:

Voluntary income:	£274,695
Fundraising:	£117,972
Other:	£ 170
	£392,837

Expenditure:

Fundraising:	£ 28,666
Projects:	£370,496
Other:	£ 7,411
	£406,573

Net outgoings: (£13,736)

Copies of the full audited Statement of Accounts can be obtained on request.

MIRACLES

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e-mail: miracles@fastnet.co.uk

website: www.miraclesthecharity.org

Miracles Registered Charity Number: 1041449

Who's Who

.....

in Miracles

Miracles

Board of Trustees

Maria Abaroa
Robert and Anna Bean
Joseph Caruso
James Dench
Theo Ellert (Founder)
Silvia Gil-Alberdi
Charles Hornung
Dominic Lynch
Father Michael O'Malley
Marie-Antoinette Pereire (Chair)



Above left to right: New Trustees, James Dench and Dominic Lynch
Project Director, James Burton and Casework Co-ordinator,
Debbie Aldridge

Miracles

UK Executive

Robert Linley-Munro—Chief Executive Officer
James Burton—Project Director
Deborah Aldridge—Casework Co-ordinator

Miracles

Mission in Bosnia

Matthew Procter MBE—Head of Mission
Elvira Dugalic—Trustee Divita-Miracles
Nihad Subasic—Prosthetist

Miracles Patrons

Christopher Biggins
The Earl of Bradford



Left: Head of *Miracles* Bosnia Mission, Matthew Procter,
Prosthetist, Nihad Subasic with Elvira Dugalic;
La Fondation's Secretary, Ingrid Tissot and co-Président/UK
Chair, Marie-Antoinette Pereire

La Fondation *Miracles* Suisse

28, Avenue de la Praille, 1227 Geneva
Telephone: 0794 794 855
E.mail: tissotingrid2010@gmail.com

The Board of La Fondation:

Co-Présidents:
Marc and Marie-Antoinette Pereire
Secretary: Ingrid Tissot
Vice-Président: Pierre-Laurent Bel

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP

Make a **one-off** or **regular donation** to help those in *Miracles'* care
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**
Help organise a **Fundraising Event**
Set up a **Friends of *Miracles* Support Group** in your area.

**Whatever you do will be deeply appreciated, helping us to
create little miracles for those in Supreme Need.**

THE FACE OF *MIRACLES*

This little girl was called Marza. We met her in March 1993 on our first visit to Bosnia at the height of the war. She was in a queue for drinking water but when she drank it, she died—because that water was contaminated. Marza was the inspiration behind the establishment of *Miracles*, the spur to do something to help those tragic people to rebuild their lives and livelihoods and to give them a glimmer of hope for a future worth living.

Now, twenty years on from the start of the Bosnian war, the country is still in desperate need. But *Miracles* is still there to help them—in Zenica with its community of Roma Refugees—the poorest of the poor; and in Mostar with our state-of-the-art Centre for Prosthesis and Care in a country which still has one of the highest percentages of landmines in the world.



Please help us to make miracles happen

MIRACLES

P.O. Box 3003 * Littlehampton * West Sussex * BN16 1SY
Tel: 01903 775673 * Fax: 01903 785315
e.mail: miracles@fastnet.co.uk

Website: www.miraclesthecharity.org



Registered Charity Number: 1041449

DONATION FORM

Please accept this Donation with best wishes for the continued success of *Miracles*' work.

NAME:.....ADDRESS:.....

Post Code:.....Telephone:.....Email:.....
(please use block capitals)

I enclose a cheque payable to **MIRACLES** in the sum of £

or: please debit my Access/Visa Card

ACCOUNT NUMBER:

START DATE :

EXPIRY DATE:

CARDHOLDER'S NAME:.....

**I would like to join the Friends of *Miracles* Support Group
with a monthly donation direct from my bank.**

BANKERS ORDER FORM

(please send this completed form to **MIRACLES** at the address below - NOT to your bank)

Please pay the sum of £ monthly on the day of each month,
commencing on (date of first payment)

TO: BARCLAYS BANK, 1 Chapel Road, Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 1EX
Sort Code: 20-98-74 Account Number: 70635545 for the credit of **MIRACLES**

YOUR DETAILS:

Name of Your Bank:Address of Bank.....

.....Post Code:

Account Number:.....Account Name.....Sort Code:

Your Name:Your Address:

Post Code:..... Telephone:Email:.....

Your Signature: Date:

GIFT AID DECLARATION:

I want **Miracles** to treat all donations I make from this date until further notice as Gift Aid donations. (Please tick the box).

NB: for **Miracles** to claim the tax you must pay an amount of income and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the amount that the charity claims on your donations in any year.

Signature: Date:.....

You can cancel this declaration at any time by notifying **Miracles**.
Please let us know if you change your name or address.

Please complete and return this form together with your gift to:
MIRACLES, PO Box 3003, Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN16 1SY
Miracles is a registered charity number 1041449