



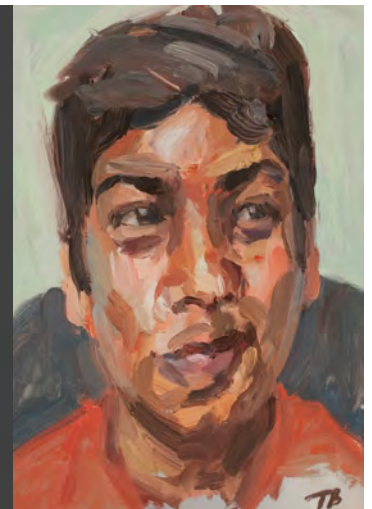
# ANNUAL REVIEW 2013

**Another year past and many more miracles to report**

During this past year the most significant happening for *Miracles* in the UK has been the launch of our 50 Children 50 Artists project to help tackle the unacceptable incidence of child poverty in the UK which currently stands at **one in three children**.



**50 Children 50 Artists** has brought together fifty eminent artists to paint 50 children in the Tower Hamlets area of London whom *Miracles* have taken under its wing. The Project aims to raise £300,000 in sponsorship from major Corporations, restaurants, schools and the general public.



Above are the first three portraits to be completed but many more are now on the dedicated website, built for us by the social innovations agency, Harkable, which is constantly being updated with details of the artists, sponsors, cases being helped and how YOU can get involved.

Take a look at [www.fiftychildrenfiftyartists.com](http://www.fiftychildrenfiftyartists.com)

Working in close partnership with social workers and Citizens Advice Bureaux in Tower Hamlets as well as other like minded organisations, *Miracles* is helping to alleviate the poverty of some truly appalling cases. During the first two months of the Project alone we had dealt with over thirty such cases including several involving child carers, domestic violence and abuse, children with terminal illness and disability and one family of four whose Case Worker referring them to *Miracles* said that their home was one of the most deprived she had seen in seven years of casework.

**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:

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Registered Charity Number 1041449

# SIMPLY THE BEST EVENTS ...



Above: The Spanish Dads with their children—in party mood. (below) Rafael Gil-Alberdi with Lord March and (left) The Zaeem Jamal outfit modelled by Gill Clarke.



‘Simply The Best Events’ was the name of the company which supplied the Casino and Scalectrix for our ‘**Chequered Flag Ball**’ at Goodwood House in June 2013, as a foretaste to Goodwood’s famous Festival of Speed, which was being built in the grounds when our Ball took place. And ‘Simply the Best’ was how our guests described it.

The evening began with a Cava Reception in the presence of The Earl of March when guests were also invited to view the Goodwood House art treasures and to see a film of 20 Years of The Festival of Speed. In Lord March’s welcoming speech he made reference to the fact that **Miracles** have been coming to Goodwood House for almost as long as The Festival of Speed has been in existence. He also praised the work of **Miracles** which was a welcome boost to us all.

With our lovely Spanish mothers being on a Retreat in Madrid, their husbands were proud and delighted to be accompanied by their children. And a great time was had by all—setting the seal for future events when some of our guests may be even younger!

Once again we owe huge thanks to The Haciendas Company for giving us all the wines, and to our wonderful Red Carpet Designer, Zaeem Jamal, for yet another stunning outfit for the Auction which also included two of Caroline Bond’s fabulous Beach House holidays. There was also a Fernand Leger Lithograph donated by The Broad Gallery - who ran their own silent auction of sought-after pieces on our behalf—and some treasured memorabilia donated Porche and by Goodwood itself.

The event raised just over £16,000 and the 2014 event is now being organised for 7<sup>th</sup> June.

**The *Miracles*’ Christmas Party** was an amazing fundraising event held at The Savoy Hotel, London, on 30<sup>th</sup> November.

This year, Trustee Silvia Gil-Alberdi, formed a committee of her International friends whose support and enthusiasm was inspiring, gathering together over 160 Guests.

For the first time we chose an electronic Silent Auction for which we had a good number of superb gifts, including a number of The Broad Gallery lithographs. The Live Auction, again conducted by our Patron, Christopher Biggins, raised more than ever before with gifts including holidays in South Africa, Mustique, Tenerife, Punta del Este and Caroline Bond’s latest Beach House in Sussex. And once again we had an exquisite gown donated by Zaeem Jamal and modelled for us by our beautiful Ana Miranda. The flowers and table decorations donated and displayed by Carolina Alvarez were a delight, the Savoy staff were courteous and attentive to all our needs, and the special Reception Canapés donated by the Savoy Management were both eye catching and mouth watering.

Our heartfelt thanks go to all who helped make this such a miraculous event, top of the list being Silvia and her wonderful Committee of Violeta Alvarez, Carolina Alvarez, Maria Bunge, Marta Carretero, Teresa De La Vega, Isabel Huete, Begona Laiseca, Sandra Looney, Ana Miranda, Cristina Perez-Hernandez, Mamen Lopes, Patricia Ulfater –and our most welcome new Trustee, Miraglos Verme.

The date and venue for our next pre-Christmas fundraiser will be announced shortly.

The Lancaster Ballroom at The SavoyHotel



Ana Miranda wearing the Zaeem Jamal dress (white) with a group of her friends



Marie-Antoinette Pereire; Marta Carretero and Silvia Gil-Alberdi



Miraglos and Alberto Verme with Elena Barthe



# MIRACLES' miraculous fundraisers ....

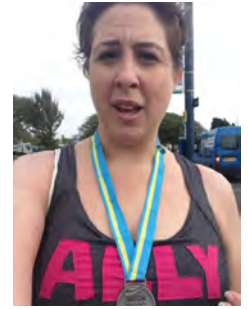
Aside from our major fundraising events during the year, we are once again deeply grateful to our Marathon Runners and Walkers not least of whom was CEO, Robert Linley-Munro's daughter, Alice, and daughter-in-law, Karen. Both girls faced up to the challenge of the Great South Run and, despite the agony, they were happy to finish in good time and raised over £1,400 for *Miracles*.

Karen (right) is a seasoned runner and is planning to run again in 2014 and Alice has challenged her brother, George, to do the same—That's quite an ask, so watch this space.

For Alice the run was a huge milestone in her life as over the last couple of years, since having a gastric band fitted, she has lost a massive twelve stone in weight with gym sessions and running as her daily routine. She says she couldn't have done it without all the help she got from the crowds lining the route but she made it.

Congratulations, Alice, and well, WELL done!

(Photos right: Alice and Karen at the Start of the run and Alice—having crossed the Finish Line.)



The London to Brighton Walk was a huge challenge, too, for Mike Nandra, but being the seasoned walker he is, he made it in 32 hours and 9 minutes albeit with huge problems to his feet and legs. Never daunted, good old Mike has now signed up for The Thames Path Challenge from Putney to Henley in September on which he will be joined by his walking partner, Kuldip Bansal. Between them they aim to beat Mike's last year's target of £1,100.

**Mike writes:** *Last year's Challenge was gruelling, to say the least but when it was over, even though I was in a lot of pain and sleep deprivation, once adrenalin kicked in coupled with a sense of accomplishment, I did feel proud of myself.*

*The London to Brighton Challenge, however, should come with a hazard warning as there are times when you fear for your well being and begin to self doubt. Then you realise that the reason you are taking part is to do your bit to raise money and awareness for a really worthy cause.*

*These days its quite easy for people to close their eyes to what's happening out there: the genuine suffering of those who are ill-treated and those who are in need of immediate help and get caught up with those who abuse the system.*

*Every person deserves a moment of happiness; every child deserves a normal start to life.*

*I just hope that my little contribution helps put a smile on the face of those who suffer.*

*This is what motivated me to sign up for yet another Challenge this year.*

*My 2014 Challenge is the 100K Thames Path Challenge which is on flatter ground and takes place in September which means the training can be done over the Summer—avoiding those dark Winter nights. And I am happy to say that I have been able (eventually) to sell the idea to my close friend and training partner, Kuldip—a great result.*

This will be Kuldip's first 100km walk so just completing it will be a feat for him.

**Kuldip writes:** *My wife and I have 3 children and we both know how hard it is to bring them up, and enjoy them too, but it's a constant juggling act - dealing with work, play and life when you have a family. That's why when I read about the work of the Miracles Charity, I saw straightaway what an excellent job they do. To me it is heartbreaking to read about the struggles single carers and parent carers have to go through in life. I hope my 2014 contribution will at least help a little.*

Very VERY Good Luck to you both!

Then there were the two brave and glamorous parachute jumpers, Ami and Toni Nappin-Smith from Norfolk. They wanted to do something really exciting and read about *Miracles* and sponsored jumping on the website. They raised in excess of £400 coupled with a tremendous buzz from the experience.

If **YOU** are looking for something fun and exciting to do, do what they did.

There are all sorts of sponsorship events just waiting for volunteers to compete for *Miracles* and we are truly grateful for all those who make the effort on our behalf.



# MIRACLES MISSION IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

The *Miracles*' Centre on the outskirts of Mostar is continuing the truly humanitarian work to which the charity pledged itself when it was established in 1994: alleviating suffering and bringing the hope of a future worth living to so many in need.

In 2013 a total of 44 new limbs were made and fitted along with 64 corrections, 24 orthopaedic insoles and 15 orthotic devices.

Help has been offered to amputees from all over Bosnia and of all ethnic groups—men, women and children from pensioners to prisoners.

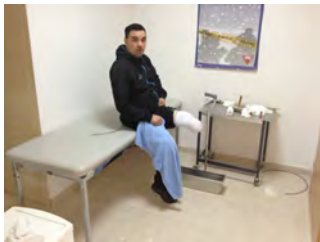


*Miracles*' work in this area is both successful and badly needed since it is the only prosthetic service provider in the region and the only provider of free limbs in the whole of Bosnia-Herzegovina where land mines are still a very real threat to life and limb.

Land mine victims numbered 6,327 from 1992 to 1996, and from 1996 to 2013 there have been 1,716 of which 600 victims have lost their lives.

In January 2014 there have already been three land mine incidents from which three victims have sadly died and three survived.

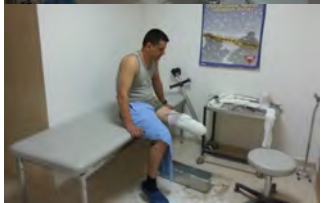
**Below are a few of the cases treated at The *Miracles*' Centre during the past year:**



**SENAD DJOGAZ:** Senad was born in 1981, in Srebrenica. He was injured by a land mine in 1993 and lost his leg. He is married with one child and is unemployed. Senad is very satisfied with *Miracles*' service and says now that he has a limb he feels alive again—able to help in the house, look after the child when his wife is at work, drive a car and be independent again.



**RIZVAN TUNOVIC:** Rizvan was born in 1952, in Mostar. He was injured in 1994 by a land mine and lost both his legs. He is married with two sons. Since getting his legs Rizvan is now back working for Bosnian Telecom, mainly dealing with cable installation which means that most of his time is spent up ladders! He is incredibly grateful to *Miracles* for enabling him to be mobile and working again.



**HAMDIIJA MUSTAFIC:** Hamdija was born 1986, in Mostar. He had an industrial accident on a building site in 2007 when he fell some 13 meters. He was bed bound for six years in Sarajevo Hospital and in great pain whilst orthopaedic surgeons performed 42 operations in attempts to save his leg. In 2013 his leg was amputated. Just two months after *Miracles* gave him his first limb and taught him to walk again he is mobile, driving, gardening and back working again. He is happily married with a young daughter.



**ALEN TIKVESA:** Alen was born in 1969, in Konjic. He was injured by a land mine in 1995 but his leg was only recently amputated. Alen is married with one son. He is unemployed but since his limb was fitted at The *Miracles* Centre he is able to walk, drive, lead a normal life and has now started looking for a job. Alen is overwhelmed with gratitude at being a happy and healthy man again.



**DJANI DROCE:** Djani was born in Mostar in 1982. When he was 14 he was injured by a land mine and lost his leg. In 2001 *Miracles* arranged for him to have a prosthetic limb fitted in the US pending the establishment of The *Miracles* Centre. Djani now has a new limb and works as a delivery driver. He is deeply grateful to *Miracles* and tells everyone that without our help he would never have been able to walk.

**La Fondation *MIRACLES* Suisse is dedicated to supporting The Miracles Centre. Its next fundraising event takes place at The Hotel Richemond in Geneva in November 2014.**

# The Roma Housing and Education Project in Zenica

In last year's Annual Review we introduced Project Green Shoots as an initiative to bring employment and self-funding to our Roma Community in Zenica. The idea was welcomed but sadly the money was not readily forthcoming at the time.

However, last Spring Trustee, Charles Hornung, took his family to visit the *Miracles* Mission in Bosnia—both the *Miracles* Centre in Mostar and the Roma Housing and Education Project in Zenica.

They were all deeply impressed by the work being done out there, especially Charles's son, George, who implemented the now annual Croquet Tournament at Ampleforth School in Yorkshire. At his suggestion the money raised by the Tournament will now be earmarked to fund Project Green Shoots and with this year's Tournament raising over £2,000, the initial down payment was made for the first of the greenhouses to be erected.



*Above Left to Right:* the first base is ready for the greenhouse to be installed then the concrete base is laid and filled with earth.

*Centre:* George Hornung with Matthew Procter.

Then the greenhouse is erected and excited volunteers prepare to plant the first roots of Project Green Shoots.

*Below Left:* Lourdes Gomero-Civico (Mrs. Charles Hornung) with Matthew and two of the Roma children on the allotments on the hillside.

*Right:* Charles with Aida Saric, the community manager and some of the children.



## A Report from Andrej Plavsic and Aida Saric, the *Miracles*' Team in Zenica:

2013 has been a quiet and successful year. All our children attended school regularly - 9 attend Elementary School, 3 attend High School and 4 have completed the First Grade of High School. All the adults respect our rules and regulations and their integration into society is most satisfactory. Their neighbours from the village are now friendly which is a great achievement considering the problems experienced in the early days.

The social and economic situation in our County is very difficult. Roma parents and older children are trying hard to survive and find jobs. Three of our families are really successful and dedicated to gardening, producing enough fruit and vegetables for the winter months and sharing advice and ideas with their neighbours. Generally the children are good at school and we keep in contact with their teachers and supervise their school work. Often they come to us for help with home work and on many different subjects to help them learn.

We are both very happy to be part of this project which is continuing in a good direction.

***Miracles*' heartfelt thanks go to The John Armitage Charitable Trust, St. Joseph and The Helpers Charity and The Jericho Foundation for their wonderfully generous and continuing support for our work in Bosnia.**

## Summarised Financial Report from the Audited Accounts for the Year Ended 31st October 2013

<u>INCOME AND EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>BALANCE SHEET</u>	
<b><u>Incoming resources:</u></b>	Voluntary income:	<b>Programme Related Assets</b>	£722,559
	Fundraising:	<b>Net current assets</b>	£ 57,827
	Other:		<b>£780,386</b>
		<b>Represented by the following funds</b>	
<b><u>Expenditure:</u></b>	Fundraising:	<b>Designated funds</b>	£722,559
	Projects:	<b>Other charitable funds</b>	£ 57,827
	Other:		<b>£780,386</b>
<b><u>Net outgoings:</u></b>			

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

# MIRACLES MISSION HERE AT HOME

Alongside the many cases being referred to us from the Tower Hamlets area, the *Miracles* net is constantly widening to take in new cases from many different areas of the country and to keep up to date with the families already in our care. Very much in our thoughts and prayers recently have been some of the children we have been helping over the years.



This is Summer - 3 years old and living with Leukaemia



This is Summer on a brief holiday break between chemotherapy sessions.



Remember Summer, the little girl featured in our 2011 Annual Review? Well happily she is doing very well after her long months of leukaemia treatment, but the same is not the case for her playmate and neighbour, little Ashbie. He has severe liver disease and is not very well at all. Summer's Nan – who has been a great helper for *Miracles* over the year, asked if we could afford a break for the two of them and their families at Canute Cottages which we were delighted to agree to.

Summer's 'thank you' note was adorable: *"Thank you Miracles. I loved our holiday. I had lots of fun. Love from Summer xxx"*. The photo, too, was lovely: four young friends feasting in the cottage's lovely big kitchen. All our families love Canute Cottages so we are very grateful to be able to use them whenever we can.



Christian Lunn, has for many years of his childhood been Child Carer for his mum, Berenice, who suffers from chronic leukaemia, and his dad, John, who had long term and serious health and mental problems.

We first met them in 2008 through The Sunday Times feature on Child Carers and were happily able to send them to Tenerife on holiday. It was, in fact, the last holiday they were to have together.

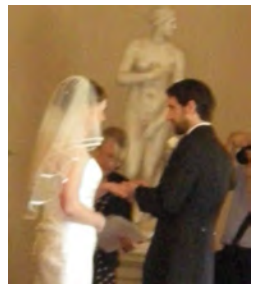
Christian has always been very keen on music and drama and *Miracles* has backed him all the way, sponsoring him in several major competitions in which he has excelled. He is now doing hugely well at University studying his favourite subject and will soon be launched into what is hoped to be a brilliant career. This lovely photo (left) was taken of him at the end of last term.

Since then John's health deteriorated and much to Berenice's sadness, he had to be taken into specialist care. Just before Christmas, he passed away and our sympathy goes out to mother and son in their sadness.

Berenice wrote this in her tribute to her husband: *"On 5<sup>th</sup> December 2013 God had two special places to fill: one for John Lunn and one for Nelson Mandela. They are now at rest and in peace."*



Life has been tough, too, for another of our Child Carers, Francesca Benson, but happily *Miracles* has been able to put a few bright sparks into her life this past year, firstly with a school ski trip in March. This—and her ski gear—was funded by Trustee, Dominic Lynch and his lovely fiancé, Katherine Granger. The couple were married at Goodwood House at the end of August. (See right as they exchanged rings.)



We also funded another 'away break' for Francesca with her beloved horses but when she got back her mum delivered the news they had all been dreading: her soldier brother in Afghanistan had been hit by a roadside bomb. He is now in an army hospital in the Midlands, very sick with both his injuries and with post traumatic stress.

Life has certainly dealt some hard blows on Francesca and her family—but *Miracles* is always 'there' for them.



## You may remember this lovely photograph of Kier and his playmate Nikita from Northampton...

Kier first came into our lives while we were helping his older brother, Liam, with respite breaks between his leukaemia treatment sessions. Kier was born with Chediak Higashi Syndrome, a light and touch sensitive disorder affecting his sight and causing increasing health problems. His mum, Sharon, became a *Miracles*' Case Worker, helping other parents faced with life-threatening disorders and helping to raise money to meet their special needs. Liam gradually recovered from his Leukaemia but doctors had warned Kier's parents that his problem may well return when he was around ten years old at which time a bone marrow transplant would be essential. Just after Kier's eleventh birthday that is exactly what happened. He was rushed into Great Ormond Street Hospital, a search was mounted for a suitable donor and eventually, after months of hospitalisation and painful chemotherapy, a match was found and the procedure took place. (Photo Right.)

2013 has been a nightmare year for Kier and his family but, brave little soldier that he is, he has pulled through. The doctors said it was a miracle and Kier and his family know it was *exactly* that.

Kier's football team, Chelsea, certainly came up trumps when we approached them for something to cheer him up. They immediately sent him a signed photo and personal note from Frank Lampard and have invited him to a Training Day when he is better. And that's not the only thing Kier is proud of ...



... *Miracles* also bought them a new car when their old one 'died' of old age and too many journeys to and from Great Ormond Street—see photo right behind the wheel—and left with his Frank Lampard treasured gift.

**NO WONDER KIER BELIEVES IN  
*MIRACLES!***



## WHO'S WHO IN THE *MIRACLES* CHARITY

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

***Miracles* UK Executive:** Robert Linley-Munro (Chief Executive)  
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 \* Father Michael O'Malley

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**The Board of La Fondation:** Co-Présidents: Marc and Marie-Antoinette Pereire  
( E.mail: [ma.pereire@lafondationmiracles.org](mailto:ma.pereire@lafondationmiracles.org))  
Secretary: Ingrid Tissot \* Vice-Président: Pierre-Laurent Bel  
**Website: [www.lafondationmiracles.org](http://www.lafondationmiracles.org)**

# THE FACE OF *MIRACLES*—2013



This is Raihanna, a little girl with Leukaemia from Tower Hamlets whose painting was *Miracles'* Founder, Theo Ellert's contribution to 50 Children 50 Artists .

Her case was referred to *Miracles* by Great Ormond Street Hospital where she was undergoing chemotherapy for Leukaemia. (See inset—without her veil).

She would have been allowed to go home between treatment sessions until her Social Worker discovered the appalling condition of her home. It was infested with a form of mould which would have been fatal for the little girl.

With the help of her local Council, the family was rapidly re-housed but as with so many re-housed cases in the area, they had very little furniture and the floors were bare and dangerous.

To her mother's great delight and relief, *Miracles* arranged for a new block flooring to be laid and Raihanna finally went home—another little miracle achieved.

In the background of Theo's painting is the Citibank Tower—one of the first of our sponsoring companies.

## Here's how YOU can help us to make more miracles happen ....

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**

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

Registered Charity Number 1041449