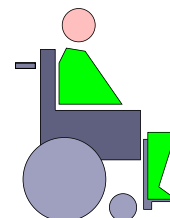




# Helsby Golf Club Powered Wheelchair Appeal



Issue 7

February 2017



Wheelchair No 10



Wheelchair No 152



Wheelchair No 232

## Letter from our Chairman

Dear Supporters

Since our last newsletter we have had an amazing year raising the highest amount ever in our 33 year history, **£57,611** and presenting our **350th** Powered Wheelchair at the Glitz and Glamour Ball.

- The highlight was undoubtedly 'The Wheelchair Classic' raising £16,570
- This was followed by my Captain's Challenge raising £9,600
- The Glitz and Glamour Ball raised £7,066
- Neville Wellings of Bromborough Paints donated £7,000
- Sue Kiberd raised £3,154 with a Charity Day at work
- Roddy Snedden and the members of META donated £3,000
- Gavin Conery took part in the Great North Run raising a further £2,972
- Judy Stewart's family & the Ellesmere Port Lions gave £1,000 in her memory

There are many many more of you who made donations and raised funds helping us to achieve this incredible total.

### **Thank you to all those concerned.**

On the 4th page, we have an update on Poppy. When you read it, you will remember why we all support this Appeal.

Together, we have donated 354 Powered Wheelchairs to Children with Special Needs helping them achieve independence.

Thank you!!

Steve Cuniffe

Chairman



Number 350

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### What have we achieved?

- 354 powered wheelchairs for deserving youngsters
- Fundraising for 33 years
- 13 wheelchairs presented in 2016
- £38,534 spent on wheelchairs in 2016

## 34th Wheelchair Classic



Last year's Classic was held on Thursday 9th June.

Powered wheelchairs were presented by President Jim Potter, Captain Steve Cuniffe and Lady Captain, Penny Ainsworth.

The youngsters who received chairs were Penny Griffin from Holmes Chapel & Lloyd Griffin from Cheadle Hulme, who both took time out from taking their GCSE's to attend the presentation.

Also, Kayla Sinnott, a delightful 6 year old from Chesnut Lodge School who brought the house down with her chatter.

160 players entered the tournament in great weather.

The winners of the men's trophy were Dave Fletcher (Helsby) & Chris Shaw (Sandiway) with a score of 45 points.

The ladies' trophy was won by Lesley McCluskey (Helsby) & Linda Malkin (Tytherington) with 44 points.



Gents' Trophy Winner

Dave Fletcher who was partnered by Chris Shaw

\*\*\*\*\* YOU RAISED £16,570 \*\*\*\*\*

Our thanks go to all of the following; without you we would not be able to raise the money to help so many youngsters with special needs

- Helsby Golf Club for the use of the course and the facilities

- Chris Lindley, Managing Director of Jigsaw Law, this year's event sponsor

- Ed Palmer for providing the top prizes, as he has done for many years

- All members of Helsby Golf Club

- All our supporters who played in the competition, brought bottles for the tombola and prizes for the auction & raffle

- All those who helped on the day, especially Dave Nagle and Keith Ainsworth, as well as the committee members

- And last but not least, all the following local and not so local businesses for the prizes for the competitions, the raffles and the auction



Ladies' Trophy Winners

Lesley McCluskey & Linda Malkin

FDL Group, Haydock	Tesco Stores, Helsby	Boodles, Chester
Jigsaw Law, Ellesmere Port	Serenity for Beauty, Helsby	Woodhouse Ltd, Frodsham
Palmers Jewellers, Widnes	Forresters, Kingsley	Grove Fisheries
John Fox Plant, Hawarden	The Golf House Club Elie	Rudding Park Hotel, Harrogate
Electrod UK Ltd, Runcorn	Old Thorns Hotel, Liphook	Land of Beds, Helsby
Forest Hills Hotel, Frodsham	Vauxhalls, Ellesmere Port	Room 44, Frodsham
Robert Gleave, Frodsham	DRB Jewellers, Frodsham	Old Hall Hotel, Frodsham
Charles John, Frodsham	HE Coward, Frodsham	Suzanne's, Frodsham
Lusso Hair, Frodsham	Cherry Bomb, Frodsham	Top Marks, Frodsham
A Design Kitchens, Frodsham	Manchester United Legends	Boots, Frodsham
Sainsbury's, Frodsham	Manchester City FC	Whitmore & White, Frodsham
Click Consult, Hooton	Sutton Frames & Gallery	Catton Hall, Frodsham
Post Office, Helsby	Widnes Vikings RLFC	St Helens RLFC
Chris Cousins Golf, HGC	Kieren Cochlan Catering,	PING
Motocaddy	Perfect Floors & Interiors, Frodsham	Burton Beavan, Northwich
Hot Golf, Cheshire Oaks	Louie Fashions, Acton Bridge	

**A date for your diaries - Thursday 8th June 2017.**

Join us at the **35th Wheelchair Classic** to play golf, have fun and watch the presentation of 5 more powered wheelchairs to local children with special needs.

## In Memory



It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Dave Nagle in February 2017. Dave was a great supporter of the Appeal, working hard and tirelessly for many years behind the scenes. His calm and efficient presence behind the desk at the Wheelchair Classic will be greatly missed. Our sincere condolences go to Viv and the family.

Judy Stewart was a long standing social member at Helsby. She was a great supporter of the Appeal and in the past helped on the committee. She started a local branch of the Lions which was amalgamated with the Ellesmere Port Branch and Judy continued to raise funds for Charity. Judy passed away in May and will be sadly missed.

Judy's son, John & his wife Lindsay joined us at the Classic with Margaret & Malcolm from the Lions to present a cheque for £1,000 to the Appeal in her memory.

We would like to thank them all for their generosity and continued support of the Appeal.



## Spring Dance

Last year's Spring Dance was held on Saturday 30th April.

The evening started with the presentation of our 342nd wheelchair to a delightful little girl called Evie Russell from Great Sankey in Warrington. She loved being outdoors and said her new wheelchair, which replaced a manual one, would enable her to get around school and play out with her friends independently.

The evening was very enjoyable with a hot buffet followed by dancing to Harry's Disco.



## Captain's Challenge

On a dark wet day in June, Captain Steve Cuniffe set off on his epic challenge to play 18 holes of golf at each of 6 golf courses in 6 different English Counties in one day.

At 3.25am on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June, he teed off in the dark with luminous balls at Garstang Country Hotel & Golf Club in **Lancashire**. He was accompanied by past Captain Martin Mann who had helped to organise the Challenge.

They proceeded to Bentham Golf Club in **Yorkshire** and then took on Kirkby Lonsdale Golf Club in **Cumbria**.

Roddy Snedden took over the driving and hastened Steve to Staffordshire, despite delays on the M6. Unfortunately, Steve was unable to play at the pre-arranged course at Newcastle under Lyme as the course had to be closed due to flooding. At the last minute, Barlaston Golf Club kindly allowed Steve to play in **Staffordshire**.



The First Drive

The Lady Captain, Penny Ainsworth, then joined Steve to play the course at Market Drayton Golf Club in **Shropshire**. Thankfully, the weather was a bit better and they were able to get back to Helsby in **Cheshire** to complete the challenge. Members took part in a nine hole competition while Steve and Penny sped round the final 18 holes. Players, members, family and friends then joined Steve in celebrating his amazing achievement with a few beers and a hog roast.



Market Drayton

He travelled 261 miles, spent 10 hours 58 minutes playing 108 holes of golf, scored 508 gross (net 448), lost 1 ball and raised **£9,600** for the Appeal. Incredible!!



The Final Putt

### **Congratulations Steve and many thanks.**

Thanks go to Martin Mann and his team, the Lady Captain Penny, drivers Roddy, Dennis Dean and Keith Ainsworth and all those who supported on the day, especially the golf clubs who allowed Steve the courtesy of their courses.

Thanks to everyone who made donations which has enabled three more children to have powered wheelchairs, giving them independence and a better quality of life. These were presented at the Glitz & Glamour Ball In November.



## MEGA Day



Our 15th Mega Day took place on Wednesday 3rd August.

The highlight of the day was the presentation of wheelchairs to Luke Burns, aged 11 from Liverpool & Avi Sanghera, aged 15 from the Wirral. They are pictured with their families and Captain, Steve Cuniffe, President, Jim Potter and Lady Captain, Penny Ainsworth.

We are very grateful to Neville Wellings of Bromborough Paints, who donated £7,000 to the Appeal and bought the wheelchairs for these 2 deserving youngsters.

In the competition, the winners of the trophy were Ian & Val Oliver, Lynn Stein and MEGA player, Mark Birch with 78 points.

We would like to thank David Syddall of Optimum Costs Consultants for donating the prizes.

On the day, Frank & Keith O'Neil, long standing supporters of the Appeal, donated a trophy in memory of Tony Brutus, who was one of the founding MEGA players, who has sadly passed

away. The trophy will be presented each year to the MEGA player who wins their singles competition at Helsby on MEGA Day. The first winner was Fred Whitfield, pictured receiving the trophy from MEGA Captain, John Davis.

A great night's entertainment, provided by the MEGA Stars, was enjoyed by members and supporters.

Thank you to everyone who helped raise £1,939 for the Appeal.



MEGA Trophy Winners



1st Tony Brutus  
Trophy Winner

## Update on Poppy

At the Black & White Evening in December 2015, Poppy Farrell was presented with her new Powered Wheelchair. During this last year, she has kept us up to date with her progress and how the chair has changed her life.

**To Helsby Golf Club,** A while ago Helsby Golf Club raised money so I could have a motorised wheelchair. I am very grateful for the opportunity you gave me. I would like to give you an update, my wheelchair has been used A LOT! It is so nice to be able to go outside more with friends and family. The dogs have definitely been on lots of walks lately. Once again, thank you so much for my wheelchair. Poppy Farrell

**Dear Helsby Golf Club,** Recently I have done my work experience at Barclays and the powered wheelchair that you provided me with helped me so much. It gave me so much more independence. This made it so I could have a real experience of the workplace by myself. I have attached a photograph of me in my wheelchair at work. Thank you so much for this great opportunity. Kind regards, Poppy Farrell

**Hi Helsby Golf Club,** Again I have been on another adventure using the powered wheelchair you so kindly gave me. I recently went to the Lake District with my family and we were able to go on walks around the different lakes this was amazing because we have never done this before. Also I could go outside shopping, the wheelchair made it so I could go around with independence and where I wanted to go as well. It made my holiday so much more enjoyable and I can't thank you enough!! Kind regards, Poppy Farrell



At Barclays



In the Lake District



Also at the Black & White Evening in 2015, we presented a chair to Gemma Conery. At the time, her dad Gavin said he would like to take part in a sporting event to raise funds for the Appeal as a thank you.

On 11th September, he completed the Great North Run as seen on the left. Gemma was there supporting her dad and they can be seen doing the "Mobot".

He said "Helsby Golf Club Powered Wheelchair Appeal provided a chair for my daughter Gemma and it has been a life changer giving her so much independence. I wanted to do this run to try and raise as much money as possible to help provide another chair for someone else's son or daughter."

Congratulations to Gavin and a big thank you for your support, especially as you had to be at work the following morning for the 5am shift start up!!!



Gavin achieved his wish and joined us at the Chinese Evening in January to present his cheque for £2,973.65 and to give Owen Rollason his new powered wheelchair. Gavin raised £1,973 from his supporters which was matched with £1,000 from his employers, Morrisons.

## Sue Kiberd

Sue Kiberd works for Lloyds Bank. At the end of October, she ran a Charity Day with her colleagues at their Chester & Speke Offices to raise money for the Powered Wheelchair Appeal.

They had a 'Dress down day', a Lucky Dip for a day's holiday, a putting competition and held a raffle. The prizes were donated by local businesses and staff and also included one of Sue's beautiful cakes with a Halloween theme.

They raised £1,577.12 which was matched by the Bank, bringing the total to £3,154.12.

Our thanks go to Sue and her colleagues for their generosity.

Sue joined us at the Chinese Evening to present a wheelchair to Chris Hardman from Ormskirk.



## Geoff Harris

In 2002, we presented our 150th wheelchair to James Harris. Since then, his father Geoff has supported the Appeal by raising funds to say thank you. In 2013, he persuaded the Aqueduct Marina in Church Minshall to have the PWA as their chosen charity at their Annual Fun Day in July raising over £1,000.

In 2016, Geoff had a significant birthday and asked for donations for the Appeal instead of birthday presents. His friends and relatives donated £707 to us.

Thank you Geoff for your continued support.



James in 2002



## Glitz and Glamour Ball



On Saturday 19th November, our first Glitz and Glamour Ball was held at Chester Racecourse.

The evening was a great success and started with a champagne reception.

We were very pleased to then welcome 3 celebrities to present the powered wheelchairs to 4 local children; Lucy Meacock the TV presenter who has been a great supporter of the Appeal for a number of years and who gave a moving speech on why she supports our cause, Emma Cuniffe, the actress who has also supported us for a very long time and Daniel Brocklebank, the actor who is probably best known for his role as the vicar in Coronation Street. We are very grateful to them for giving up their precious time to join us for the evening.

The children were Jacob Cannell aged 13 from Warrington, George Blakeley aged 11 from Frodsham, Hazel Simpson aged 12 from Newcastle under Lyme and Laura Hunt aged 20 from Northwich who received our 350th powered wheelchair.

The children and their families enjoyed the event immensely, taking 'selfies' with Emma, Daniel and Lucy and spending time meeting the supporters of the Appeal.

George's mum sent the following. "It was a real one off, unique night for us as a family and your generosity to do this for George is so, so appreciated. It will make such a difference to him and he is absolutely delighted with his new wheelchair"

From Laura Hunt's mum "It's such a great charity. And my daughter is overwhelmed you are such an amazing bunch that do such fantastic things for disabled wheelchair users. YOU ARE AWESOME ♥️ Dawn Hunt "

There followed a 3 course meal during which vocalist Jess Malone entertained us with a selection of her lovely music. The evening included splendid live musical entertainment provided by Groove Bandit, a magnificent fireworks display, casino tables, a photo booth, raffles and a grand auction.

Huge thanks go to Claudia Dickens, a professional events organiser who owns and runs KeeDays, and Keith O'Neil, a long term supporter and fundraiser for the Appeal, who between them organised the event. They did a tremendous job.

Thanks also go to our many supporters and the local businesses who sponsored the event and provided prizes for the raffles and the auction (see below).

We raised an incredible £7065.85.

After the Ball, we received so many great comments and requests for the date of the next one that we have decided to hold an Autumn Ball at Chester Racecourse on Saturday 9th September. Again, Claudia has kindly offered to organise the event. Final details will be available soon.

If you would like tickets, please contact Claudia on [keedays@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:keedays@hotmail.co.uk) or 07738 058656. You can also contact any member of the Powered Wheelchair Appeal committee.

Last year, the Ball replaced the Black & White Evening, which is usually held in December, as the dates would have been too close together. This year, there will also be a Black & White celebration at the Golf Club at our usual time on Saturday 2nd December 2017.

KeeDays	FDL Packaging Group	Electrod UK	FJ Plumbing Services
Nightworkx	RJ Signs & Graphics	Martin Ripley	Martin Pawlett Photography
Boodles, Chester	Jacqui O Fairytale Flowers	Jason Rigby Jewellers	Mercure Abbotswell Hotel
Wedding Day Details	Dave's Gym, Northwich	Willington Hall Hotel	Signature Kitchens & Bathrooms
Forest Hills Hotel	John Fox Plant Ltd	Forresters, Kingsley	Healthful Pets
Tesco, Helsby	Sutton Glass	Loule Boutique	

## Christmas Fayre

Claudia kindly supported the Appeal again at the end of November.

Each year, she organises a Christmas Fayre at Northwich Memorial Hall. All the stall holders and local businesses donate prizes for a raffle and tombola. The proceeds of these were donated to the Appeal.

This year, despite the atrocious weather, thick fog and freezing cold, £510 was raised for the Powered Wheelchair Appeal.

Our thanks to Claudia, her mum and Keith O'Neil who all helped the girls from Helsby sell tickets on the day .



Karen Fozard & Her Mum  
Manning the Tombola

## 'The Last Night of the Decs' Charity Night

Kay Houston joined Helsby Golf Club during 2016. She plays golf and has become a great supporter of the social functions. She and friends came to the Glitz and Glamour Ball in September and during the evening , she was so impressed by what we do for the children, she asked if she could hold a fund raising event for the PWA.

True to her word, on January 6th, the ladies gathered at Kay's house to celebrate the end of the Christmas season. As you can imagine, there was much hilarity as the drink flowed.

We played games, tried to beat the roulette wheel, exercised our brains with a quiz and had a raffle. The evening was rounded off with a rousing chorus of Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer. It is such hard work raising money!!

Our thanks go to Kay, her family and friends who raised £250 for the Appeal and a donation for St James Church in Ince.



## Chinese Banquet

This year, the Chinese Banquet was held on Sunday 15th January 2017 at the Fortune Palace Restaurant in Delamere.

The Lady Captain, Penny Ainsworth presented wheelchairs to 2 young men; Chris Hardman, aged 13 from Ormskirk who 'unusually' for a young lad, is a great fan of Tom Jones and was lucky enough to meet him at Aintree Racecourse. Chris was very excited by this. Owen Rollason, aged 15 from Stoke is the proud owner of an Assistance Dog who helps him with practical tasks. He runs the Environment Team at school ensuring that the 'naughty' children do litter picking. Their new chairs were going to make a massive difference to their lives.

Unfortunately, Jonathan Osborne from Moreton on the Wirral was unable to join us but his mum sent us a photo of him in his new chair with a heartfelt thank you card. Jonathan and his family all suffer from a number of health issues, physical and behavioural, which prevented them from attending.



Jonathan Osborne



We were very pleased that Gavin Conery and Sue Kiberd could join us to present the wheelchairs after their amazing fundraising activities.

The evening raised £881, including a donation from Pat at the restaurant. Many thanks to Pat and her staff for a very enjoyable evening. A great time was had by all with good food, a quiz and a raffle.

Appeal Secretary

Penny Ainsworth—01928 723817

Email; poweredwheelchairappeal@gmail.com

## Forthcoming Events

Spring Dance — Saturday 22nd April 2017

35th Wheelchair Classic — Thursday 8th June 2017

16th MEGA Day — Wednesday 2nd August 2017

Glitz & Glamour Autumn Ball - Saturday 9th September 2017

Black & White Evening – Saturday 2nd December 2017.

Chinese Banquet — January 2018 (date to be confirmed)

We are on the Helsby Golf Club  
Website—visit the PWA pages on  
[www.helsbygolfclub.org](http://www.helsbygolfclub.org)

Address

Powered Wheelchair Appeal  
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## Accounts: 1st February 2016 - 31st January 2017

Balance B/F	<b>£7,786</b>	Expenses	<b>£583</b>
Income from Events	£26,925	Wheelchairs	£38,534
Donations	£30,074	Donation to HGC	£500
Gift Aid	£612	Total Expenditure	<b>£39,617</b>
Total Income	<b>£65,397</b>	Balance C/F	<b>£25,780</b>

## Thank you to the following for their generosity in 2016

