

# Childcare



**Brentwood Catholic Children's Society**

Caring for children and families in Essex and East London



RCN 1000661

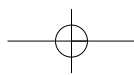
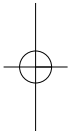
*Every child matters*

April, 2009

# They depend on us



# We depend on you



# 25TH ANNIVERSARY

## The Director Writes



On behalf of the Society I wish you all a blessed and joyous Easter.

During this time of spiritual preparation for the Easter celebration, I know that you will remember the children and families who are still in need emotionally, physically and materially

and I do sincerely thank you all for your continued support following our recent appeal.

I would now like to welcome back, Eileen Campling, Deputy Directory who replaces Barbara Harcourt who has now returned with her husband to their family home in Devon. On behalf of the Society I wish them every happiness. Many of you will know Eileen who worked for a year as Senior Social Worker with Tony Galcius in 1987 and from 2001 to 2007 she was Deputy Director to Frank Maguire.

Recently, during a Trustees meeting to discuss the economic impact the recession is having on us as a charity organisation, I received a message that the High Sheriff of Essex had just awarded us the Essex County Council Bowl, in recognition of the work we do supporting and helping children and families in selected schools in the Brentwood area.

It is inspiring, in these economically challenging times, that the Society be recognised for the excellent work our front line Social Workers provide in our Diocese. I would like to offer congratulations and thanks to Richard Hewitt, Pat James and although only recently joining this team, to Sr.Kay Trivett who will continue to offer guidance and support to children and families.

The quality of service provided by our Social Workers in respect of the Brentwood project is equally delivered by all our staff to schools throughout Essex and East London be they Catholic or non-Catholic schools. I believe the High Sheriff's Award, is proof of the excellent work that the Society continues to provide throughout our Diocese in working with and supporting children and families. In our 25th Anniversary year the timing could not have been better to receive this prestigious award.

Dick Madden



Eileen Campling



L - R Patricia James, Sarah Courage - High Sheriff of Essex, Stuart McNab, Elizabeth Hart - Chair of Council and Richard Hewitt.

I was thrilled to attend the High Sheriff's Awards ceremony at the Fennes Estate in Braintree and receive a cheque for £1,000 together with the Essex County Council Bowl. Being quite new to working in the voluntary sector, I was unprepared for the depth of providers and services being represented. I had the privilege to hear from many modest representatives and learn about the variety of work that often goes unnoticed and was struck by the determination and commitment of these organisations and the positive opportunities to develop services benefiting children, young people and their communities. I could imagine how the decision to select a winner would be difficult as all the services there were worthy for the same acknowledgment. It was rewarding to see the Society's name mentioned among previous services and projects listed on the Bowl. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Colleagues in the Schools for their support for our work with children and families. We look forward to continuing to work with them and other Colleagues in the Statutory Services.

Richard Hewitt, Social Worker



As President, it gives me great pleasure to invite all the supporters and friends of the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society to join me in celebrating the 25th Annual Mass on Saturday, 13th June, 4pm at the Cathedral Church of St. Mary and St. Helen, Brentwood. This is a truly special occasion, one of great joy, to mark the Silver Anniversary of our Society, which

has grown in strength over the past 25 years because of your support. In our broken society people recognise and value the importance of Childcare. I have seen this work flourish from a simple idea to a professional, well established organisation and feel privileged to be involved with a Charity which brings so much hope and focus to children and families in the Diocese. Please join me, together with the Trustees and Staff, in making this a day to remember.

+Thomas  
Bishop of Brentwood

# Case Studies

# 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

## **Daniel**

Daniel was referred to the Society because his mother had died of cancer and he was struggling to come to terms with his loss. He had been her carer since he was 10 as his father left the family unit.

Daniel has been self harming, cutting his arms and his legs. He has taken an overdose and was admitted to hospital and he has been diagnosed as suffering from depression.

Daniel lives with his aunt and uncle who are elderly and he has a difficult relationship with them. He has recently been reunited with his father who is an alcoholic and this relationship has been full of disappointment. Daniel has recently decided not to have anything more to do with his father as he feels this does not help his depression.

Daniel is now at college and despite all his difficulties he did very well in his examinations. He wants to be a teacher. The Society has supported this young person for four years, seeing him on a weekly basis in school and home visiting. The Society was also able to finance some books for his college and he continues to keep in touch with his Social Worker.

## **Alan**

Alan is in Year 3. His mum expressed concern to his class teacher that he was displaying angry behaviour at home. This had been happening since mum and dad separated. Alan's dad worked away from home for long periods and did not have his own accommodation so returned to the marital home when on holiday. This caused tension between his parents. Alan found the situation very confusing as although he enjoyed seeing his dad, he struggled with having mum and dad in the house together.

Alan used his sessions to explore how he could have a positive relationship with both his parents without feeling he was being disloyal to either. This became particularly pertinent as his parent's separation became increasingly acrimonious and therefore his dad's home leave became a source of pleasure and trepidation. Alan and I worked on enjoying separate time with mum and dad and not allowing the adults difficulties to spoil this for him.

Alan's dad eventually moved to another address and lived there when on holiday. His parent's relationship remained strained but Alan became more settled and his mum reported a marked improvement in his behaviour. Alan gradually accepted that he could enjoy a relationship with both his parents without feeling guilty. In school his work improved and it was noted that he appeared happier in his relationships with other children.

# Bullying

## **ADVICE FOR PARENTS OF THE VICTIM**

- ◆ Encourage your child to talk about the situation with you at home. Be patient if they are reluctant.
- ◆ Sympathise but do not over-react.
- ◆ Assure them that the bullying will stop.
- ◆ Ask if s/he can think of any way they can alter the situation.
- ◆ Try to prepare your child for taunting and teasing and find out why the name-calling is so hurtful.
- ◆ Encourage your child to keep a sense of humour and an ability to laugh at him/herself.
- ◆ Build up your child's confidence as much as possible by PRAISING EVERY EFFORT they make to cope with the situation.
- ◆ If your child has few friends encourage him/her to invite children home to play and suggest s/he joins a club of some kind.

## **ADVICE FOR PARENTS OF THE BULLY**

- ◆ Discuss the situation with your child at home. Explain how serious the situation could become.
- ◆ Try to impress upon your child the frightening effect his/her behaviour has upon others.
- ◆ Always criticise the behaviour NOT the child.
- ◆ Praise your child for acceptable behaviour and reward appropriately when any targets set by the school have been met.
- ◆ Explain clearly that you are working with the school to help him/her effect a change in behaviour.
- ◆ Express confidence in your child's ability to change.
- ◆ Try to spend more time listening to you child, it can be a powerful resource.
- ◆ Try to increase your child's circle of friends and improve his/her social skills by inviting children to play.

# 25TH ANNIVERSARY

PLEASE GET INVOLVED BECAUSE .....

# “TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE”

## CHARITY GOLF DAY FRIDAY 24TH JULY THORNDON PARK GOLF CLUB

A unique opportunity to play on one of the best golf courses in Essex:

REFRESHMENTS ON ARRIVAL  
18 HOLES  
2 COURSE LUNCH  
£65 PER HEAD



*We are limited to just 70 places - this event will sell out so please book early to avoid disappointment*

## HARLOW ABSEIL

Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd May  
12.30 to 4.30pm  
Water Tower, Harlow



## TIME 2 DINE / BIRTHDAY INVITATION

Our Time 2 Dine Birthday campaign is going really well and so far many people have hosted events for us raising over £1,500.

Former Trustee, Ann Davenport hosted a dinner at her house for ten friends, where her guests were treated to a three course dinner with wine.

Hilarious stories were told and laughter could be heard streets away in the quiet suburbs of Billericay. Generously donated prizes were raffled. Sue (Queen of the Microwave) won a beautiful Italian Cookery Book, Linda (just lost three stones) swapped a huge box of Thornton's chocolates for toiletries, but for some reason the pedometer kept being put back !!

Ann said "This is just a great idea, £380 was raised and a great time was had by all, but more importantly each of my guests have promised to host a 'Time to Dine' during the year to help raise funds for Childcare."



## ANNIVERSARY SPONSORED WALK - SATURDAY 23RD MAY

2009 sees the 25th Anniversary of the Society and we hope for a record number of walkers this year. With your help we can make the walk another resounding success. Try to encourage family members, friends and other parishioners to take part. Your personal sponsorships are vital to the work of the Society. Last year over £17,000 was raised and we would like to better that figure in this Anniversary year. There will be a dozen walks going to Brentwood Cathedral where everyone will be greeted with refreshing drinks and a ploughman's lunch, along with ten circular walks in various parishes.



## ANNIVERSARY SKYDIVE

Saturday 16th May  
Maidstone Kent  
Raise £400 and jump for FREE



**GO ON CHALLENGE YOURSELF.....**

## CWL - UPMINSTER CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT

The Catholic Women's League in Upminster got our Anniversary Year off to an amazing start. They hosted a quiz night which was attended by over 100 people and raised a staggering £710.00

We would like to say a huge "Thank You" to everybody who attended along with an extra special thanks to Pauline Cantwell & Maureen Anderson who worked tirelessly to make the event such a success.



*Event Organisers  
Pauline Cantwell & Maureen Anderson*

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THESE EVENTS OR HELP AND SUPPORT ON HOSTING YOUR OWN FUNDRAISING EVENT PLEASE CONTACT CLAIRE MATHEWS 01268 784544 [cmathews@childcareuk.org](mailto:cmathews@childcareuk.org)**

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