



Volunteers Newsletter — Spring 2016

New volunteers

Jimmy Quinn, Nick May and Norman Dale have all joined the TFSC team as new volunteers, welcome aboard! Please do try to say hello if you meet any of these new chaps at the hospitals or having a coffee.

Funding Contributions

Adele Litchfield from Lees in Oldham who is known to some of our volunteer drivers who take her and her son Oliver to appointments, has raised over £400 from collections and cake sales. Adele in addition to regularly donating money to TFSC is also planning a fund raising walk in Wales in July. Adele is always full of praise for TFSC volunteers and always expresses her gratitude when ever possible. **Many thanks to Adele.**

Beverley Hoyle made a presentation to **Eccles Rotary Club** (recommended by a TFSC volunteer Roger Harper), members of the Club have now helped with suggestions for funding options and are hoping to help with recruiting volunteers in the Wigan area. The Club also donated £25 to TFSC.



Saddleworth Women's Institute (SWI)

SWI held a fund raising fashion show event on behalf of TFSC on Saturday 7th May, the fashion show was held in the beautiful village of Dobcross, Saddleworth.

The fashion show was extremely well attended, everyone had a lot of fun and bought lots of fabulous new clothes.

Representing TFSC and pictured left were Irene Sagar (volunteer driver), Gaynor Kershaw (Trustee), and Beverley Hoyle (Stakeholder Co-ordinator).



Backless Booster Seats

Backless booster seats will be banned for younger children under new rules being introduced later this year. The backless seats will only be approved for use for children taller than 125cm and weighing more than 22kg.

While booster cushions are a belt positioning device, they are simply designed to lift a child up enough so that the adult seat belt restrains them correctly. They do not offer any additional protection.

Safety and training experts have stated that: "A high-back booster is far more preferable to a booster cushion, to provide children with adequate head, neck and torso protection from side impacts, which booster cushions do not offer."

TFSC volunteer drivers have been recommended to use the high backed safety seats. If any drivers have a low booster seat and wish to change to a high back one please contact Anna at the office.

This is currently a recommendation and not yet a legally enforced change.



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Volunteers—TFSC needs YOU!

A reminder that the Charity is actively recruiting for **new volunteers** – especially in the **Wigan and Leigh** areas – if you know of any drivers who would like to join our team please encourage them to contact the office, or Beverley.



New Contracts

New contracts are currently being agreed with Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) throughout Greater Manchester. Five have fully confirmed and five are still going through the process.

Office Move

The move to the new office, Suite 338 at the Stockport Business and Innovation Centre in Broadstone Mill has gone well and the back room staff have settled in nicely.

We look forward to showing our volunteers the new space.



Ella Chadwick

One of our TFSC service users, Ella Chadwick now just past her eight birthday, was born with congenital nephrotic syndrome and had to have both kidneys removed as an infant. Her condition led to Ella having to have regular gruelling dialysis at The Royal Manchester Children's Hospital until she received a new kidney from her grandmother. Ella and her family were taken and supported by TFSC volunteer drivers to receive care.

Ella is now not only thriving but is also helping her mum to fund raise for The Royal Manchester Children's Hospital! A fund raising event will be held on **Sunday May 22 from 12-4pm at Heywood Civic Centre**. The event will include entertainers, mascots, princess characters, a bouncy castle, animal display, face painting, a raffle, various stalls and other attractions—do go along and support if you can.

Through the Charity '*Rays of Sunshine*' Ella has been able to meet up with a whole host of X Factor and The Voice Celebrities including Simon Cowell, Cheryl Fernandes Versini, Rita Ora and Nick Grimshaw. Ella also got the opportunity to sing her favourite song from 'Frozen' on stage at the Manchester Arena.

Thanks - Received via TFSC Facebook Page

"Can I just say how fab this service is? Friendly, charming, and polite drivers."

"Always asking how the sick child is doing etc. These people give their free time to take our children to hospital. We personally would be lost without this service and **we would like to thank our lovely driver Stuart today!** Thank you for being there." **Amy Platt (Service User)**