

React

GIVING DEPTH TO SHORT LIVES

Please pass this newsletter on to a friend to help even more children

Newsletter Summer 2026 Issue 62

www.reactcharity.org



From Pain to Play

Two-year-old Hudayfa is a loving little boy whose laughter fills the room.

After sustaining a traumatic brain injury at ten months old, life changed overnight for Hudayfa's parents, Ridwan and Muna. As his full-time carers, Ridwan and Muna had to learn how to manage their son's complex needs, including his painful seizures and dystonia, whilst navigating his neurological movement disorder that causes involuntary muscle contractions. Ridwan and Muna sought to find ways to bring joy and the stimulation of play into their son's world.

Hudayfa's parents discovered that musical therapy and sensory toys bring out his lively side. They love to hear his precious bursts of laughter when he is engaged in musical play. But as Hudayfa outgrew his specialist seating, it became harder to keep him comfortable and properly supported, and they did not want this discomfort to negatively affect his enjoyment of music. Hudayfa's Occupational Therapist recommended a P-Pod chair to give him the specialist support and comfort he needs each day. React was delighted to help and the family were relieved and grateful for React's support.

For Hudayfa's family, the P-Pod is far more than a chair. It gives him comfort, safety and the chance to fully engage with the people and activities he loves. Now he can relax, play with his favorite musical toys and spend precious time with his younger sister, Hayfa.

Hudayfa

Defying the Odds

When Eira turned two years old, she was a fun loving little girl who enjoyed running around and playing with her seven month old sister.

One morning Eira developed a common cold but it was not long before this typical day turned into a nightmare. When Eira's cold developed with hallucinations, high temperature and vomiting, parents Phil and Rebecca rushed their little girl to the hospital where she was diagnosed with Acute Necrotising Encephalitis. In the span of a single afternoon, their healthy daughter had developed a rare and severe condition characterised by rapid neurological decline and significant brain damage.

Despite bracing the family for the worst possible scenario many times and being told there was nothing more the doctors could do, Eira defied the odds time again. During this immensely difficult period the family were introduced to React.

Two months after rushing to A&E, Eira and her family finally returned home. By this time, Eira could no longer sit upright independently. Eira's physiotherapist recommended a lycra suit to aid in her muscular rehabilitation and so the family turned to React for support.

React were delighted to assist and since receiving the Lycra suit Eira has been defying the odds once more, reaching milestones in her rehabilitation. She is now able to sit unaided for an incredible 30 seconds! With no limits on the number of applications any family can make, the React team were also happy to provide a sun hood and rain cover for Eira's specialist buggy to enable her and her family to get outside.



Eira

CAN WE HELP?

Do you know a child who could benefit from React's help? For rapid, effective assistance our application form is available to download www.reactcharity.org or call 0208 940 2575 for friendly advice and support.

RAPID EFFECTIVE ASSISTANCE FOR CHILDREN WITH POTENTIALLY TERMINAL ILLNESS

React Together

London Marathon 2026

This year's London Marathon saw four fabulous runners don our yellow React jersey: Beth, Elle, Kate and Tom. These generous joggers not only took on the iconic race but also managed to raise an impressive £12,000 between them!

React is so proud of the fab four and thanks them for all their hard work, collaboration and making such a huge difference to the families we support.

If you are a prospective marathon-runner and interested in representing React at next year's race, please get in touch today to register your interest in a Golden Bond place for 2027.



Beth



Elle



Kate



Tom

Diary of Events

9th -15th June -

We Care Cream Tea

Host a We Care Cream Tea at home or at work in support of React during Carers Week. This year's theme, Building Carer Friendly Communities, is a chance to bring friends, family, and colleagues together to raise awareness of the vital role carers play whilst helping to raise funds for React.

4th & 5th July (Midlands), 25th & 26th July (Yorkshire), 15th Aug (South West), 10th & 11th Oct (Manchester) - Tough Mudder

Get muddy for React as you take on 20+ challenging obstacles designed to test your strength, stamina and teamwork. Perfect for thrill seekers looking to push their limits for a great cause.

Minimum sponsorship per place: £250

12th & 13th September (South West London) - Richmond RUN-FEST

Join thousands of runners at Richmond RUN-FEST, a vibrant two-day running festival featuring a music stage, fitness expo, and three race distances to choose from.

Minimum sponsorship per place:

Marathon - £250
Half Marathon - £200
10K - £150

3rd October (Kempton Park Surrey) - Inflatable Obstacle Course 2.5K / 5K

Bounce, climb and slide your way through the world's biggest inflatable obstacle course in support of React. This fun, family-friendly event is open to all ages, with children aged 5-15 taking part alongside a participating adult.

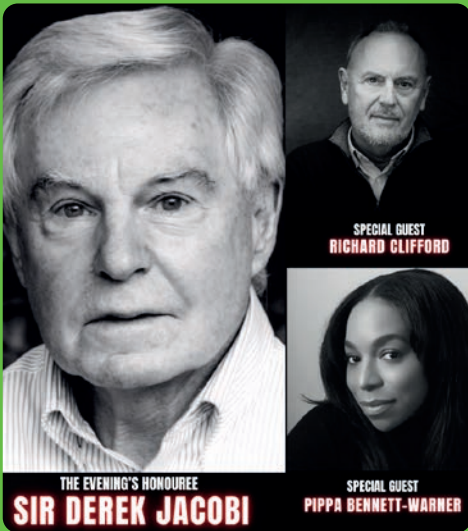
Minimum sponsorship per place: £100

West End Unscripted!

React was privileged to benefit from a glamorous evening of celebrity conversations at the *West End Unscripted!* event in London, with special thanks to our Patron, Sir Derek Jacobi, and Trustee, Richard Clifford, who selected React to receive donations totalling £6,500.

West End Unscripted! was an unforgettable evening of stories, anecdotes and behind-the-scenes insights into the lives and careers of the evening's guests - part of a unique series of events held by Tegan Summer Theatricals in theatres across London.

React sends its sincere thanks to Sir Derek and Richard for such incredible support, and to Tegan Summer for making this all possible.



Ferrovial Partnership

React was thrilled to commence a new two-year corporate partnership with Ferrovial's UK businesses at the end of 2025.

Ferrovial is a leading global infrastructure company transforming highways, airports and energy infrastructure around the world.

The partnership kicked off with a Christmas raffle that saw employees win incredible trips to far-flung locations like Tokyo and New York. Thanks to the generosity of Ferrovial team members, £4,044 was raised for React families, with a programme of further fundraising and engagement activities planned throughout the year to build momentum and maximise impact.

React thanks its friends at Ferrovial for their fantastic support and we look forward to a collaborative and impactful year ahead.



Kentown Wizard Foundation

React loves being able to offer families the chance to have fun and make precious memories at our respite holiday homes, located in seaside resorts across Britain. This would not be possible without the incredible support of The Kentown Wizard Foundation, who have purchased two brand new mobile holiday homes for our families to enjoy, expanding our overall fleet to nine.

We send our heartfelt thanks to all at Kentown for their truly impactful support. If you are interested in booking a React holiday at one of our mobile homes or would like more information, please get in touch with one of our friendly team today at react@reactcharity.org.

Improving Access to the Outdoors for Terminally Ill Children

For children, time outdoors is a daily joy. Exploring nature supports physical development, builds confidence, and strengthens bonds with siblings and friends.

However, for children with terminal conditions, getting outside can require complex planning, specialist equipment, and wheelchair-accessible spaces to ensure their safety and medical needs are met. Specialist equipment facilitating access to the outdoors is rarely covered by statutory funding. Although some items may be available for use in school or in hospice care, many families do not have access to this equipment at home. Families referred to React are facing significant financial hardship, therefore safe outdoor access can be completely out of reach.



Riley

Riley's Specialist Buggy: 13 year old Riley lives with Microcephaly and Epilepsy, and a specialist buggy provided by React has allowed him to enjoy family walks. Following React's support, Riley's father, James told us:

"I would like to thank you all for your help and support and for being so lovely to deal with. Me and Riley have had great fun with the buggy on dog walks and he is always happy and very comfortable. Thank you so much from myself, and of course, Riley".

Mary on Holiday: Mary, who is nine years old, is living with a rare genetic illness known as Miller-Dieker Syndrome and React's service allowed the family to spend precious time away together on the beautiful Scottish beaches in Eyemouth. Following their holiday, Mary's mother, Aja said:

"We would love to say thank you to React for giving us this holiday at Eyemouth. We had a wonderful time and enjoyed the beautiful scenery".



Mary

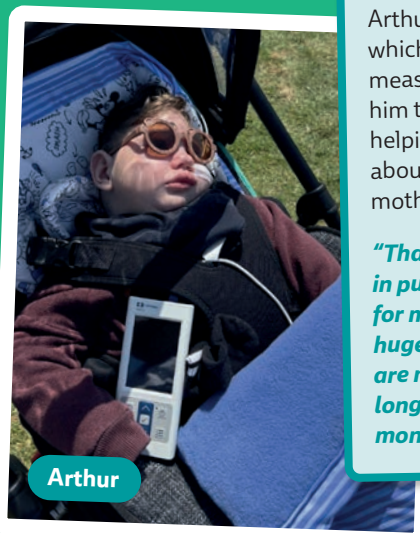
React believes every child deserves the chance to enjoy simple family moments, visits to the park, time in the garden, or exploring nature, regardless of their prognosis. By providing equipment and mobility aids and our own week-long holidays, we help gravely ill children from disadvantaged families across the UK access the outdoors, promoting inclusion, independence, and improved physical and emotional wellbeing. Here are just a few recent examples of support provided to React families, showing how the charity helps improve access to the outdoors and makes a real difference to a child's life.



Lana

Lana's Powerpack: Lana is 16 years old and lives with a severe neurological illness known as FGF12 gene mutation. React provided Lana with a specialist wheelchair powerpack which has given her and her family the priceless freedom to explore the outdoors. Lana's mother, Sue wrote of her experience:

"It was all handled so quickly. Such a help when specialist equipment is so expensive and we had no chance of buying the powerpack without React. It is easy to take mobility for granted, but when you are desperate to leave the house and get outdoors it means everything and being able to offer Lana what she loves doing most is priceless. We are now able to take her on as many new experiences as possible thanks to React".



Arthur

Arthur's Portable Oximeter Monitor:

Three year old Arthur lives with severe neonatal Encephalopathy, an illness associated with a critical lack of blood flow to the brain. React provided Arthur with a portable oximeter, which means his oxygen levels can be measured when on the go, enabling him to experience nature whilst helping to reduce his parent's anxiety about health risks on the go. Arthur's mother, Christina explained:

"Thank you so much for your support in purchasing the portable monitor for my son Arthur. It has made a huge difference to our lives as we are now able to go out and about for longer periods of time and be able to monitor him adequately".

Your Gift is Urgently Needed

React is a unique charity responding to the needs of children in the UK who are living with potentially terminal illness. React will provide basic, essential aid and equipment that is unavailable from any other source. Whatever you can give will help. **Thank you.**

Please complete your name and address details below to enable us to reclaim the tax on your donation and keep you in touch with our work.

YOUR DETAILS

Your title and full name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Email _____ Date _____

Please remove me from your database

YOUR GIFT TO REACT

Please accept my gift of

£500 £250 £100 £50 £25 Other £

I enclose a cheque made payable to REACT *OR* please debit my MasterCard / VISA / CAF Card / Debit Card (delete as appropriate)

Card number _____ (Security Number) _____

Start date ____/____/____ Expiry date ____/____/____

Signature _____ Date _____

If you would prefer to transfer directly to the charity bank account, please see React's bank details below.

MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE WITH A REGULAR GIFT!

By making a regular gift you will ensure more children live with comfort, dignity, and the opportunity to participate in life as fully as possible.

Please pay REACT £ _____ each month/year (delete as appropriate)

Starting on _____ until _____ further notice and debit my account number

Bank sort code

Name of account holder _____

Signature _____

To the Manager (bank name and address) _____

Postcode _____

Bank Details

Please pay REACT; Barclays Bank, George Street, Richmond, TW9 1JU; Account Number: 00886556; Sort Code: 20-72-33

MAKE YOUR DONATION TAX-FREE

REMEMBER TO GIFT AID YOUR DONATION!

I would like React to Gift Aid this donation and all donations I have made in the past four years. I am a UK tax payer and will tell you of any changes in my tax status or address.

HMRC has asked us to remind you if you pay less Income Tax/ or Capital Gains Tax than the amount Gift Aid claimed on all your donations in that tax year, it is your responsibility to pay any difference.

PLEASE SEND THIS FORM TO THE ADDRESS OPPOSITE.

Summer 2026

Latest News

BBC Lifeline Appeal

React is delighted to confirm the final total raised through its *BBC One Lifeline* appeal came to a fantastic £17,455.52. React thanks every person who kindly donated to our campaign for the difference you have made.

Kew Fete

The annual Kew Fete boasts over 120 stall-holders and attracts visitors from far and wide. React thanks the Charity Committee for choosing us to receive a generous £1,000 donation from the event's profits.

WM Cyclist Lodge

React is privileged to have received support from many Freemasons' lodges over the years and we send a special thanks to WM Cyclist Lodge, whose donations this year totaled a fantastic £1,380 for React families.

De Brye Charitable Trust

React thanks the De Brye Charitable Trust for their generous £1,000 award, which was put to rapid use helping our families in England and Wales.

Bird & Blend Tea

Bird & Blend is a renowned artisan tea company with stores all over the UK. Their recent donation of £455 provided a GoTo Seat for a React family and we send a huge thank you to all our generous tea-friends.

Brentford Dock Residents

The community-driven residents of Brentford Dock got together to raise a much-appreciated £250 donation following their group activities including a community soup scheme, quiz night and other fun events. Thank you!

Philanthropic Pupils

Thank you to all schools who have kindly supported React's work over the past academic year, including Harroddian School, Ffynone House School, Spring West Academy, Bolder Academy and Forest School.



Donate online today
www.reactcharity.org



Rapid Effective Assistance for Children with potentially Terminal illness

Registered charity no. 802440 (UK) SC038067 (Scotland)



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Email: react@reactcharity.org
Website: www.reactcharity.org

React provides urgent basic essential aid to families whose child has been diagnosed with a terminal or life-threatening illness. Donations will be used to maintain or improve a child's quality of life in the weeks, months or years left ahead. Thank you.