

Check out the new Web Site!

Welcome to the Spring 2014 news letter for Paul's Fund and Paul's Place!

Paul's Fund is a very personal charity borne out of our experience of caring for, and losing, our 19 year old son Paul to a brain tumour. We know first hand the physical and emotional toll of caring for a sick child, and the grief of their loss, and we set up Paul's Place because of the benefit we gained ourselves from short holiday breaks. But in fact under the original criteria as parents we would not have been eligible for a grant in our own right (only if we had come with Paul or his sister Rebekah). So, with the finances healthy, we have decided to set that right and CAF have agreed to a change in the eligibility criteria to include the parents of children who are young adults as explained opposite.

This change is partly due to the healthy state of the Fund's finances and we'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone who sponsored our trek up Mt Kenya last December which raised over £8,000—double our target which is absolutely brilliant. Thank you!

It's been a busy winter for us in other ways, not least with the construction of our new two-person self-catering cottage "The Garden Room" which will be ready for guests late May – see next page.

We hope you enjoy reading our news and that it will inspire you to continue your support for Paul's Fund. Just as important, we hope it will inspire you to refer people who would benefit from some respite and a free holiday break in beautiful North Devon! With our love and thanks, David and Pippa.

Extended Eligibility Criteria

Paul's Fund's focus continues to be on young adults but we have decided to extend the eligibility for a grant to the parents of young adults, and also adults of any age with a life threatening brain tumour. So the following can also now apply in their own right as the "main applicant":

- **Parents who are caring for a young adult son or daughter who has a life threatening or terminal illness, or who has died.**
- **Adults of any age with a life threatening brain tumour.**

Grants will continue to include spouses, partners, close family members and a friend accompanying the eligible main applicant in the normal way.

New Guidance Notes

We have up-dated the guidance notes to include the new criteria, plus information about The Garden Room self-catering accommodation, and the maximum value of grants which we have increased. We have also taken the opportunity to make them more user friendly and produced two versions – one for general enquiries ("Your Questions Answered"), and one for professionals thinking of making a referral with a bit more guidance on the criteria and application process. The notes and new application forms can be downloaded from the web site, or contact David and Pippa at Paul's Place.

Please remember that applications for a grant need to be made by a professional on behalf of those seeking to stay at Paul's Place.



Sponsored Ascent of Mt Kenya

The sponsored climb up Mt Kenya was a great success. Rachael and Jo (two of Paul's friends) along with David reached the summit of the trekking peak Pt Lenana at sunrise on 6th December to be greeted by the view above! It was stunning. It was not entirely straightforward as Rachael developed quite severe altitude sickness, but she soon recovered once we got down. Paul was in our thoughts and hearts so much—he would have loved to do this trek!

It looks as though we are set to raise more than £8,000 including Gift Aid, more than double our target, and we are hugely grateful for every donation large and small. Thank you!



Have you joined our facebook group yet? For more photos check out: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Friendsofpaulsplace/>

New Web Site

We are delighted with the new web site created by Jon Ireland of www.flyingkite.co.uk and hope you find it informative and easy to navigate.

The Garden Room Self-Catering Cottage

As you can see from the photo The Garden Room is fast nearing completion! This two person cottage, which is in the garden of Paul's Place, will provide a cozy alternative for guests who would like more privacy and independence than offered by the B&B. The layout is L shaped and open plan. The left hand end is a bedroom and living room where the beds can be arranged as either twins or a double so it is suitable for singles as well as couples. The right hand end is a kitchen diner with a full height south west facing window looking on to a patio that is a real suntrap.



It is not big enough for families but couples with a baby can stay if they bring their own cot. Please be aware that the access involves several steps so it may not be suitable for people in wheel chairs or with limited mobility.

We are taking bookings from late May – give us a call to check availability. *(don't rely on our on-line diary as we may be able to accept a Paul's Place booking even if it looks as though it is unavailable).*

Paul's Fund is a charitable trust administered by the Charities Aid Foundation (registered charity no. 268369).

Young adults who have been diagnosed with a terminal or life threatening illness, bereaved, or who are caring for a family member, can apply for a grant from Paul's Fund to pay for a holiday break staying at Paul's Place, offering both B&B and self-catering accommodation in Georgeham near Croyde on the North Devon coast.



Ilfracombe Harbour



Paul's Place Guest Book Entries

T with her partner, new baby and mum

What an amazing place. Thank you for helping us have a beautiful week away. Your hospitality is so lovely. God bless you as you minister to others - you have truly blessed us. Such a lovely place to come and stay, totally away from the busyness of life. Going home totally relaxed.

V with her mum

Thank you so much for making this amazing holiday possible. We've had an idyllic break and will treasure our memories of all the beautiful landscapes. It's been lovely having 2 friendly faces to greet us at the end of our fun filled days - and in the morning for lovely breakfasts. Everything has been perfect.

Matt with his partner Carrie and young daughter Gracie

To Dave and Pippa, Thank you so much for our stay at yours. We have had a great time, a great first holiday. We would love to see you again. We will always stay in contact with you both. Thank you, we felt so welcomed in your place. We loved tea last night. We loved everything we have done here, enjoyed spending time with you. We have been so happy. Thank you so much.

Dave and Pippa, you have been amazing to our little family. You made us feel comfortable from the moment we walked in. You have a very comfortable home and we enjoyed every moment. A very big thank you for everything you both have done for us. It will always be with me and I will never forget our stay here. It's been truly amazing. Thank you so much for listening to me and just thank you both for just being you. Xx Thank you. Xx

R with her children and mum

We had the most amazing time all thanks to Pippa and Dave at "Paul's Place". Cherished memories will stay with us. We have recharged our batteries to face the future hurdles. Xx

Kelly with her son and parents

Thank you Pipp and David for a lovely relaxing stay at Paul's Place. Great hospitality and very friendly. Just what we needed through this difficult time. Love from the Burns family xxx.

S with his parents

Thank you for having me again. It's a lovely place and David and Pippa are amazing. Hopefully see you again next year. We had a wonderful rest in a gorgeous house and would love to come again. Thank you so much David and Pippa - you have an amazing gift of hospitality.

G with her mum

"A much needed break in a beautiful setting. We loved our room Baggy Point - very homely and thoughtfully designed. David and Pippa were on hand and great at advising us on the best places to go and what beaches were a "must see" - we loved Woolacombe and Putsborough. The car park pass was really useful as was the Paul's Place Passport. Thanks very much for providing us with the space we needed to get away from our caring roles.