



# SUMMER 2014 NEWSLETTER

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

*As I write this we are about to get very busy! The first few months of the year saw few applications but all that changed in May with a rush and nearly half our guests over the next two months will be supported by Paul's Fund.*

*This newsletter is mostly about the people who benefit from staying at Paul's Place and in particular three families that have stayed in the last few weeks. Stephen Sutton, the teenager who raised millions for Teenage Cancer Trust, has received much well deserved publicity, but we continue to be humbled at the courage shown by our guests in the face of their personal challenges. Pippa and I always feel we do so little, providing just a brief holiday, but time and again we are encouraged to be told that it does make a difference—and it is you who support us and refer people to us that make that possible. Thank you. David and Pippa.*

*PS At the time of writing we are pretty booked up over the holidays but still have some availability late August. Do remember we are open year round and obviously have much more availability outside the main holiday periods.*

**Date for the Diary: 13th September, Gig in Croyde Village Hall sponsored jointly with Christian Surfers UK**



**Neil** is 21 and was diagnosed with a brain tumour in 2012. He has had extensive treatment and is having to cope with much reduced mobility these days. Neil came with his large family at the end of May and they

took full advantage of the guest kitchen facilities by self-catering in the evenings. He was an active and fit young man before his diagnosis and has worked incredibly hard towards rehabilitation. This includes doing a sponsored bike ride on a turbo trainer equivalent to cycling from Lands End to John O'Groats in aid of the Teenage Cancer Trust and he cycled his 200th mile whilst staying – hence all the balloons! (to read more and sponsor Neil go to [http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Neil\\_Vines](http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Neil_Vines))

Summing up their stay at Paul's Place Neil wrote in the visitors book: "Had an amazing time—saw some great new places. Thanks for the breakfasts. Thanks for making me welcome."



**Jess** (on the left) has been a young carer since the age of 12 and is facing many challenges in her home environment including a mum with various addiction issues, caring for her brother, her gran and grand dad who had dementia and died back in April. Jess came with her friend Emma along with Emma's mum Sue and brother Lee who have become an alternative family for Jess.

Jess wrote afterwards: "Thank you for an amazing few days away it was a well needed break for all of us! It was a very warm welcome straight away even though we were an hour early, in your garden playing with Bobby.

You both got great big hearts and a lot of love to give which makes it a real special place, I don't think any of us had such big breakfasts EVER! (we had to roll home they were that big but yummy!) we would like to stay again soon as our stay was very relaxing and peaceful THANKS AGAIN! "

xx





**Kirsty** was diagnosed with cancer last October whilst 7 months pregnant with her first child. Days later baby Olly was born by emergency caesarean section weighing less than 3lb, then Kirsty went on immediately to have major surgery. Since then Kirsty and her partner Dan have had to deal with on-going treatment for the cancer as well as looking after their new premature baby. The three of them stayed in the new self-catering Garden Room in June and during their stay were able to use the Paul's Place Passport to enjoy free entry to several local visitor attractions.

Kirsty wrote: *"We can't quite put in to words how perfect this place is! Such a relaxed, tranquil feeling. Truly beautiful....Thank you!!!"*

## The Garden Room Self-Catering Cottage

The Garden Room is complete and now in use with very positive feedback from our first few guests. This two person cottage in the garden of Paul's Place, provides a cosy 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 (like Kirsty, Dan and Olly) 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.

The Garden room is now almost fully booked to the end of September and being used by friends till Christmas (so it appears on-line not to have any availability), but we can accept some Paul's Place bookings during October, November and December.

### 2015 Calendars

David is producing one of his very popular calendars of scenes around North Devon. Proceeds go to Paul's Fund. Use the contact details below to order one.



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

Grants are available to young adults who have been diagnosed with a terminal or life threatening illness, been bereaved, or who are acting as a carer on a full or nearly full time basis for a close family member.

Grants are also now available to the parents of young adults with a life threatening illness or who have died, and to adults of any age with a life threatening brain tumour.

The grant will cover the accommodation costs of 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.

Contact Us: **T** 01271 891 076 **M** 0779 398 0760 **E** [paulsfund11@virginmedia.com](mailto:paulsfund11@virginmedia.com)

[www.pauls-fund.co.uk/](http://www.pauls-fund.co.uk/)



[www.facebook.com/groups/Friendsofpaulsplace/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/Friendsofpaulsplace/)

