



## Candlelit Dinner Raises More Than Smiles!

Oh what a night! The Candlelit Dinner on 8th March was just amazing, raising a staggering £32,500 for SeeSaw. Four wonderful volunteers namely; Jackie, Julia, Jane and Sue worked tirelessly to ensure that the evening went smoothly. They are most certainly Friends of SeeSaw!

Thank you, everyone who attended the dinner and contributed so generously — we look forward to seeing you again next year ...

### Heads or Tails?



## SeeSaw Summer Fair at Steventon



The sun shone brightly for this year's summer fair. Organised entirely by volunteers, the summer fair has become one of SeeSaw's key annual events attracting stallholders from all over the UK. As always, the fair was very popular with people looking for something special. We anticipate the final fundraising total will be in the region of £7000. Thank you and well done to Mary Thompson and her brilliant team.



Julie finishing in Oxford!

### SeeSaw's Runners

Marc Rowland ran the Berkhamstead Half Marathon; Julie Stribling ran the "Alternative London Marathon" around Oxford; Hans Sundin ran the Stockholm marathon on 31st May. Between them they have raised over £3000! Thank you and congratulations!

**HELP NEEDED:** SeeSaw have been chosen as one of the charities to benefit from the **Abingdon Marathon** on 19th October. We need volunteers to staff a water station for the runners. If you can help SeeSaw by donating a few hours please contact Jane.

### Summer's Here! (at last)

Hurrah! Get those BBQs out of the shed and Sizzle your Sausages for SeeSaw this summer. We would like to raise £2000 from lots of barbecues being held all over Oxfordshire.

This is how it works. You invite friends for a barbecue and instead of them bringing sausages or a bottle of bubbly ask them to make a donation to SeeSaw (we suggest about £5 per person).

We have suggestions for recipes and invitations that you could use. Please call Jane for your Great Sausage Sizzle pack.

## Calling sponsors from Lands End to John O'Groats!

Jeremy Banks, Deputy Head of Beachborough School in Westbury, Brackley and Graham Maxa, Group Financial Controller of Prodrive in Banbury have teamed up to cycle the gruelling 970 mile, 13 day challenge from John O'Groats to Lands End in July this year.

They hope to raise in excess of £10,000 which will be split between **SeeSaw** and the Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals **Cancer Campaign**.

Oxfordshire based business's, Silver Stone Search & Selection and STL Communications are major sponsors for the event, but if you would like your company

logo visible across the country then please get in touch!

Follow them at [www.jog2le.co.uk](http://www.jog2le.co.uk) or sponsor them at [www.Justgiving.com](http://www.Justgiving.com)



On 11th May a group of walkers clad in SeeSaw tee-shirts set off from Charlbury Train Station for an 8 mile sponsored walk around beautiful Cornbury Park. Led by Kathy and **Do Good** they enjoyed a lovely walk through some of Oxfordshire's most picturesque countryside. Thank you to everyone who took part.



## Why I am Trustee of SeeSaw



Now, the question that I am usually asked is “Why are you a Trustee of SeeSaw?”. This makes a change as, not so long ago, it was “What or who are SeeSaw – what do they do?” We have come a long way in a short time, and now people have heard of the name and most know what SeeSaw does and stands for.

But, I still get a rather quizzical look with the question, and there always seems to be a stress on the words *WHY* and *YOU* – this puzzled attitude does not do my self-confidence the greatest good, so while you do not know whether I look like the sort of charitable chap who

should belong to such an organization; I thought that I would try to put *WHY* into words.

More precisely, as this is the age of lists, here, in no particular order is my list:

- I was bereaved as a child, so I knew what that meant and felt like.
- In Oxfordshire (where I teach) there was no structured support for the bereaved children of Oxfordshire, run by people from Oxfordshire.
- I was asked (well passed a selection process).

A short and very practical list, but for me, however, the key word is *STILL* not *WHY* and *YOU*. The

question needs to be “Why are you *STILL* a Trustee of SeeSaw?” and there the answer has very little to do with me and everything to do with SeeSaw itself. It is a fantastic organisation: staffed and supported by the most professional group of people that I have ever met. Everyone involved with Seesaw from Patrons to the Staff to Trustees, fundraisers, volunteers, helpers and all those who have provided resources or time are extraordinarily dedicated.

Roger Higton — Trustee

*“It is a fantastic Organisation: staffed and supported by the most professional group of people that I have ever met”*

## Working with Groups

*“We had a lovely morning at Cothill—everyone was so kind and welcoming and although it was so sad to meet so many others going through the same thing it was reassuring”.*

This was just one of the comments from one of the parents attending last year’s family activity day.

Bereavement can often leave children and adults feeling very isolated. Children can feel they are the only one experiencing such sadness. Currently much of our work with families at SeeSaw is done one to one in the home, but many of our children and families have told us that they would like to meet other bereaved families. Therefore we’re very excited that from April we have been able to fund an extra day of staff time to expand our service. It’s very early days but we will keep you informed of the different ways we will be using to support even more bereaved children.

As a starter, In June we will be running the next of our family activity days, a fun morning of games and workshops for bereaved families to share in together. Workshops will include woodwork, clay and kite making. Once again we are grateful to Cothill Preparatory School for allowing us the use of the school and to some of the staff for helping to run the workshops.

### Kingston Bagpuize House

Open Day

**Sunday 20th July**

1.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Teas and Cakes

Plants and Stalls

Trinity College

Gardens Open

**Sunday 27th July**

2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m

Teas and Cakes



*On 26th April Bob and Samantha Munt (pictured left) tied the knot. Instead of presents they asked guests at their wedding to make donations to SeeSaw. Dianne and Rosie went along to the evening reception and collected just over £300.*

*Sam and Bob are most certainly Friends of SeeSaw. They have organised several ingenious fundraising activities in aid of SeeSaw and are always looking for new ways to support us.*

*I would like to take this opportunity to thank Bob and Sam, and to wish them much happiness for their future together. Cheers!*



**Regular donations enable us to plan our future with certainty. To make a regular donation please complete the standing order form below and return it to SeeSaw**

**STANDING ORDER FORM**

Mr  Mrs  Ms  Miss  Other

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Tel No: \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Bank details:**

Branch name: \_\_\_\_\_

Account No: \_\_\_\_\_

Sort code: \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

Here is my commitment to help **SeeSaw** by monthly standing order, starting on \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ and every month thereafter until further notice

Please pay **SeeSaw**

£10  £15  £25  Other

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Gift Aid it**

*To make your donation worth an extra 28% at no extra cost to you please tick the Gift Aid box. You must be a UK taxpayer paying an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax equal to the tax we reclaim.*

*Thank you very much!*

**SeeSaw Goes Green**

To reduce printing and postage costs we would like to distribute the newsletter and other correspondence wherever possible by email. If you have received this newsletter through the post and are happy to receive it by email then please let me know. We will not pass your details on to any one else. We will update our records so that you receive it electronically in future. Please email: [fundraiser@seesaw.org.uk](mailto:fundraiser@seesaw.org.uk)

Did you know that your old mobile phone can be turned into cash for SeeSaw? Each old mobile phone is worth £3.00. Enclosed is an envelope for this purpose — pop your old phone in it and post it **FREEPOST** to Greener Solutions. If you received the newsletter by email then please call me for an envelope and a car sticker!



**I And finally ... THANK YOU to EVERYONE who has supported us recently. We would love to be able to mention everyone, but there just isn't space.**

**We want to hear about your fundraising activities—please let us know what you've been up to and send photos—we will try to publish your stories in our next edition. Good luck with your Sausage Sizzles over the summer!**

**In March we were delighted to welcome 3 new volunteer support workers to the team.**

**Our 13 VSWs are an extraordinarily dedicated and highly skilled group who provide individually tailored one-to-one support for children. After a rigorous selection and screening process they receive an initial 40 hours of bespoke training followed by regular ongoing supervision, training and support.**

**This amazing team of individuals lie at the heart of SeeSaw's unrivalled and unique support service—we just couldn't do it without them!**

Rosie x