

Autumn | Winter 2023/24

# Round-up magazine

Your fundraising update



## Inside this issue:

Find your perfect challenge **P4**

Young fundraisers lead the way **P6**

Gabriella's journey with Newlife **P11**

OFFICIAL  
**CHARITY PARTNER**  
OF THE LONDON LANDMARKS  
HALF MARATHON

# Run London

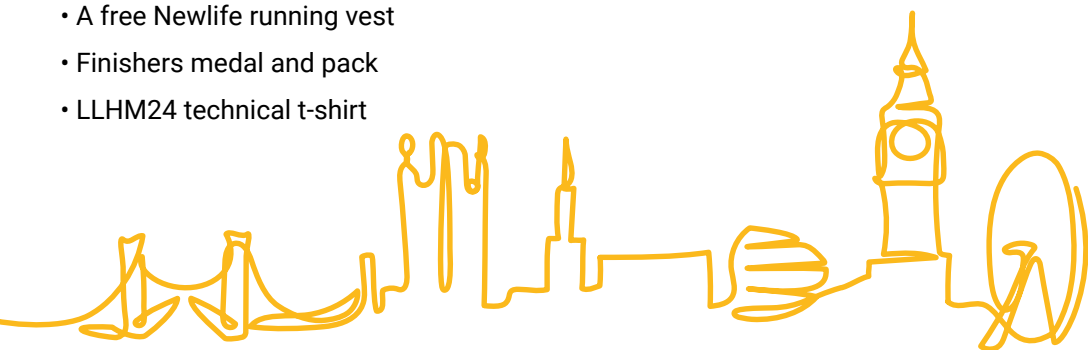


Join #TeamNewlife in the most vibrant running event of the year!

From cultural landmarks and heritage to the city's quirky and hidden secrets explore the capital on a route like no other.

As part of our biggest running team ever you will get:

- Support from Newlife every step of the way
- A free Newlife running vest
- Finishers medal and pack
- LLHM24 technical t-shirt



Sign up today and secure your place in this fantastic event to raise vital funds and help change a child's life.  
[newlifecharity.co.uk/london-landmarks](http://newlifecharity.co.uk/london-landmarks)

Scan here



## Welcome to the Autumn/Winter edition of Your Fundraising Update



I would like to begin this edition of Newlife Round-up by sharing a message from a family that we recently helped.

Lisa wrote: "My son Luca struggles to walk any distance and will often dart into the road unaware of any danger.

As he's got bigger, I don't feel safe going out on my own with him as I struggle to carry him, which means we often feel very isolated. This weekend, in his new wheels, we went to the park on our own. This might not sound much but, to us, was so liberating and exciting."

**"Receiving a specialist buggy from Newlife has changed our lives so much."**



The generosity of our donors and fundraisers is making these experiences possible. Your support really does make a genuine impact, especially in these financially uncertain times, so on behalf of the families that turn to us for support, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you.

In this edition, you will find lots of ideas on how you can get involved and help raise vital funds and awareness.

I hope you feel inspired by some of the fantastic activities and challenges that supporters have been getting up to in the last few months; it's great to see so many younger fundraisers leading the way!

Check out our website for more information and inspiration, we would love to hear from you if you have your own ideas. Or you could pop over to our socials where you will be able to find out more about children we have supported recently and the impact this specialist equipment can have on the whole family.

Don't forget to share and give us a like!

*Jo Duggan*

**Joanna Duggan**  
Director of Fundraising and Marketing

@newlifethecharity

@newlifecharity

@newlifethecharity

@newlifecharity

# Challenge yourself

We have a fantastic calendar of fundraising challenges and events coming up that you can get involved in – and lots more to choose from!

## Hadrian's Wall Challenge 12-13 July 2024

Hadrian's Wall runs across the north of the UK from coast to coast and remains one of the largest ancient monuments in Northern Europe.

This exciting and strenuous marathon distance challenge of 26 miles will have you trekking along this stunning world-famous historic landscape.



## Ben Nevis at Night 17-18 August 2024

Beginning in Glen Nevis, in the heart of the Scottish highlands, this spectacular challenge will see you and fellow fundraisers trekking to the top of Ben Nevis....at night!

You will be supported all the way by our experienced Mountain Leaders, and mark the finish line with a celebration brunch.



## Inflatable Fun Run Various dates and locations

The world's best fun run has got even bigger and bouncier – with less running and even more obstacles!

If you're looking for a family friendly event (age 5+) with plenty of bounce, look no further! We are offering FREE places when you commit to raising just £100!



## The impact of rising prices on disabled families

Through our Families Essentials Fund we are supporting disabled children and their families who are on low incomes and struggling to pay for essentials.

We are providing practical everyday items that families often must forego to cover basic living costs.

The fund was initially launched as a pilot during Covid-19 and, with more families needing this critical help during the cost-of-living crisis, we have now helped more than 400 children and families across the UK.

Newlife's nurses identify families struggling on low income that may benefit from the fund and arrange delivery of the items that they need.

In recent months we have seen a change in the types of items families need with a rise in demand for household items – including cooking appliances like microwaves, with families unable to afford using their ovens.

Families have even requested washing powder, coffee, and toothpaste. Tragically these are considered luxuries for many households when budgets simply can't stretch far enough.

The number of families that need to access the fund is continually growing so we need to find additional funds to be able to continue the project.



## Noah's story

Noah's monitoring equipment needs to be on all the time to keep track of any changes in his condition/ He also has an electric chair which needs to be charged, a medical fridge that always needs to be on, and a feeding pump.

His mum, Tracy, described the impact of the cost-of-living crisis:

**"The rise in the cost of living means that our bills have increased drastically recently, but we need this vital equipment to be charged.**

**We have had to cut back in other ways, such as not putting the lights on as much, not putting the heating on, and cutting back on our food shop. Noah needs 24-hour care and I am his full-time carer throughout the day and night so it is not an option for me to work."**

Find your perfect challenge: [newlifecharity.co.uk/newlife-events](https://newlifecharity.co.uk/newlife-events)

Could you help support families struggling to pay for essential items?  
[newlifecharity.co.uk/donate](https://newlifecharity.co.uk/donate)

# The young fundraisers leading the way this summer!

We know how we can make a huge difference to families, but we need your help as funders, partners, supporters, and advocates to enable us to make that difference and this year younger supporters really showed us how it's done!

## A Grand Walk for disabled children

In July, our cover star Elliot Sim walked from Birmingham to London along the Grand Union Canal, raising a fantastic £889.

Elliot explained his motivation for supporting Newlife. I grew up with chronic fatigue syndrome so I know first-hand what it's like to be a disabled child.



Even then, I have seen how much worse other people have it and thought raising funds for your charity would be a good way to help support them.



"I decided to do the walk as I wanted to do something to challenge myself and reflect on how far I had progressed in managing my own illness. I knew that intensive exercise such as running would be too much so decided to do a walk. I already live alongside the Grand Union Canal and thought it would make a decent walk so I decided I would walk the length of it."

Supported by friends who accompanied him for parts of the walk, Elliot completed the challenging 137 miles in just five days. Although he found the walk physically demanding, he was spurred on by being able to do something positive to raise funds to help disabled children.



## Tilly's Recycling Fundraiser!

For her school project, Tilly wanted to raise funds to support disabled children so as well as making cupcakes she also upcycled empty milk bottles into bird-feeders and then sold her wares to her neighbours.

We love the innovation and creativity!



Feeling inspired by our young fundraisers? Get in touch with our fundraising team on 01543 462777, email [fundraise@newlifecharity.co.uk](mailto:fundraise@newlifecharity.co.uk)

## Fearless Fundraising!

Chloe and Jess accomplished an awe-inspiring feat for Jessica's 16th birthday in a daring skydiving event, together raising an incredible £1,432.



Fearlessly plummeting 10,000 feet, they embraced the challenge wholeheartedly and relished every moment of the exhilarating adventure.

If you're looking for a thrilling experience, consider taking on a skydive too!

[newlifecharity.co.uk/events/skydive-for-newlife](http://newlifecharity.co.uk/events/skydive-for-newlife)

## Swimming Mia's Way!

Mia was the first person to complete Newlife's #SwimYourWay challenge.

Mia pledged to swim 100 lengths in May with her disability swimming group, raising a massive £686!



Mia told us:

"It has made me feel really happy to help children who are poorly."

You can still sign up for our inclusive swim challenge this year, open to all ages and abilities!

Visit [www.newlifecharity.co.uk/swim-for-newlife](http://www.newlifecharity.co.uk/swim-for-newlife) to find out more!

## Corporate partners

### Team in the Saddle raises over £10,000

Twenty Platform Housing Group colleagues, alongside riders from event sponsors, undertook a **223 mile charity bike ride**, raising over **£10,000** for Newlife.

Riders crossed Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Gloucestershire in the gruelling two-day event, enduring heat, traffic and even a cow or two!

Gerraint Oakley, Executive Director of Growth and Development at Platform, ride organiser said

**"Newlife do amazing work in the areas we operate in. They provide families with essential equipment which significantly improves quality of life for children and their families."**



### 'The Peaky Climbers' raise over £8,000



As Paragon's nominated charity 'The Peaky Climbers' took on the National Three Peaks Challenge in June, scaling the three highest peaks in Scotland, England and finishing in Wales, with **16 employees completing the 23-mile walk in 24 hours whilst raising £8,352** for Newlife.

Craig Stewart, Head of Corporate & Community Partnerships, Newlife commented:

**"We can't thank the Paragon team enough for undertaking the gruelling Three Peaks Challenge to help raise funds for Newlife. Not only has their dedicated training taken time, effort and commitment, but climbing these three peaks is not for the fainthearted, so we really appreciate them taking on this challenge and making a huge difference to the lives of many of the families we support."**



## Charitable trusts

### 2 years of funding secured from St James's Place Charitable Foundation

A huge thank you to St. James's Place Charitable Foundation who have awarded Newlife funding towards our Equipment Grant Service. We look forward to working with the Foundation over the next two years to change the lives of children across the UK.

St James's Place

Charitable Foundation

### The Curriers Company Support Disabled Children in London

We are delighted that **The Worshipful Company of Curriers have donated £1,000** towards Newlife's Equipment Grant Service in London which aims to improve quality of life for disabled children through provision of specialist items.



The Worshipful Company of Curriers, a historic livery company supporting the leather trade, are heavily involved in giving to charities who support the welfare of people living in London. This is the second year that The Curriers have generously supported Newlife's work and John Davies, the Chairman of Trustees at Curriers Company Charitable Fund, said:

**"We're delighted to be able to support disabled children and families across London. We know families really struggle without vital equipment and Newlife make a huge difference, giving families the help they need."**

## Grand Draw 2023

£1  
Per Ticket

Play today for your chance to win **£3,000**

Every ticket sold will make a difference to the lives of disabled children.

2nd Prize £1,000 3rd prize £500  
Plus two runner up prizes Amazon Echo 8

Closing date: Tuesday 31 October  
Draw Date: Tuesday 14 November

It's easy to enter online!



Your legacy,

a child's future

### Could you leave a gift in your Will to Newlife?

Every gift makes a difference, so even a small percentage of your estate could have a lasting impact on a disabled child or young person.

To find out more about our free will-making service visit [newlifecharity.co.uk/a-gift-in-your-will](http://newlifecharity.co.uk/a-gift-in-your-will)

Or speak to a member of the fundraising team on **01543 462777**



## Gabriella's journey with Newlife: How your support has helped her thrive

Two-year-old Gabriella was the star of Newlife's Christmas campaign last year and thanks to your amazing support is still enjoying different specialist sensory toys from the Play Therapy Pod service, as well as enjoying lots of new experiences.



Gabriella was born with achondroplasia, often known as dwarfism which has affected most aspects of her life. When she first began using the range of specialist toys from Newlife it helped Gabriella sit up properly by herself for the first time, and even play with her older brothers, Ben, Alex, and Samuel.

Mum, Laura, said: "Gabriella is thriving and confident despite being smaller than her peers. She is sassy, determined and her speech has improved massively. She loves the specialist sensory toys from the themed pods, they help her experience new textures and sensations. She's always excited when they arrive (as is her brother), and they are really helping her develop and learn to play.

### A new car seat from Newlife is also helping Gabriella and her family have new experiences too.



Laura added:

"The car seat is great for Gabriella, it faces front and rear, and it also tilts, so we don't have to worry about her airways becoming compromised if she slumps and her head falls forward. We're really looking forward to being able to go to different places now – including a caravan holiday this summer".

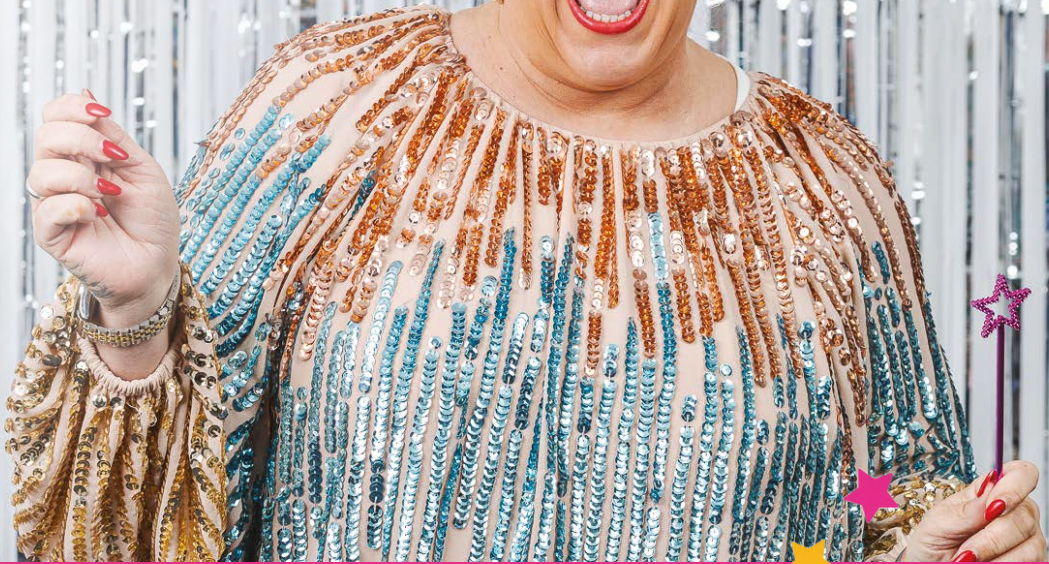
This year, Gabriella's dad, Ian, also pledged to help other children receive the vital equipment they need too and **took part in the Wolverhampton 10k – raising a massive £805** – well above his initial target of £250!

Could you help to provide essential equipment for a child like Gabriella?  
[newlifecharity.co.uk/donate](http://newlifecharity.co.uk/donate)

# Sparkle Day



Friday 1 March 2024



Whether you bake, dress up or walk,  
whatever you do, make it sparkle.



By fundraising with us this Sparkle Day, you will be helping to brighten the lives of disabled children. Help us ensure no child goes without the specialist equipment they need.

Sign up today: [newlifecharity.co.uk/sparkleday](https://newlifecharity.co.uk/sparkleday)



Hemlock Way, Cannock WS11 7GF  
Registered Charity Number 1170125 in England & Wales.



The Charity for Disabled Children