Giddo's Gift

Registered Charity No. 1177285

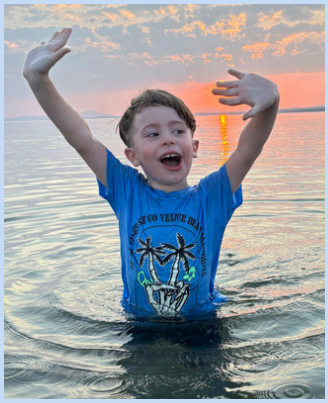
hello@giddosgift.com
giddosgift.com
@Giddo's Gift
@giddosgift

Improving the lives of teenagers and young adults suffering from cancer by providing gifts, financial support and bereavement grants.

Also raising vital funds for research into childhood cancer whilst raising awareness.

Looking back over the last year, Feb 24-Feb 25

GIDDO'S GIFT NEWSLETTER NO.6 – MARCH 2025



7 YEARS ON, GIDDO'S GIFT CONTINUES TO SHINE JORD'S LIGHT FOR THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST. FROM KILIMANJARO TO BUCKINGHAM PALACE, CHRISTMAS CRAFTS TO NEW STAFF, GLITZY BALLS TO WEEKLY DRAWS AND EVEN A GUNDOG SHOW - IT'S BEEN A YEAR! HERE'S WHAT WE'VE ACHIEVED...

As I look back on this past year, I'm truly amazed by what we've achieved together. Thank you doesn't cover it! 2024 started with an amazing piece of news for our charity: that I had been nominated to receive a British Empire Medal Award (BEM) for voluntary and charitable services to young people with cancer. I was invited to the Buckingham Palace Garden Party, then later honoured to receive my medal by Henry George Fetherstonhaugh, the Lord Lieutenant of Clwyd, a few weeks later (pic.)

It's been our busiest year yet with a record-breaking number of grants, wishes, and gifts – from concert tickets to guitars, scooters, Lego, new clothes, trips, to creating tributes to young loved ones, to our Cost of Living grants supporting families facing tough times during treatment, and our Bereavement Grants. Our Giddo's Gaff charity caravan in Greenacres Porthmadog has also seen plenty of deserving visitors this year. The photos and stories from these families are heartwarming, and we're excited to welcome more families affected by cancer this season.

As part of our mission, we've also donated thousands toward vital research: to find less aggressive treatments for children and young adults facing cancer. Let's not forget why we go gold every September for Childhood Cancer Month – Jord's memory drives us to keep making a difference.

Every year, we will raise awareness and advocate for a cure until eventually, no child suffers.

We've also welcomed a new Community Development Officer to our growing team and made big strides in marketing and our website to ensure the charity runs smoothly. We've also welcomed three new ambassadors who we know will be vital in spreading awareness, honouring Jord's legacy, and most importantly, raising funds to help us continue helping others.

Looking ahead, and with demand higher than ever, your continued support is paramount. 2024 was significant in our journey, but we continue to dream big and have some exciting new projects in the pipeline to help improve more lives in different ways. Find out how you can get involved on page 4.

Lastly, a massive thank you to our amazing volunteers, ambassadors, and supporters – your fundraising efforts have been incredible, and we couldn't do this without you. Let's keep striving, always in Jord's memory.

Mandy Giddins

WHAT WE'VE DONE IN 2024

80 GIFTS, GRANTS AND WISHES
Worth £25,751

8 BEREAVEMENT GRANTS
Worth £6,500

8 COST OF LIVING GRANTS
Worth £1,650

£10,250
Donated to 4 medical research groups

36 FAMILIES AT GIDDO'S GAFF

101 CHRISTMAS GIFT BAGS

1,400 EASTER EGGS

EVENTS

OUR EVENTS

GIDDO'S GOLF DAY
A huge thank you to Alex Goundrey, Brady McGilloway and Pete Martin for arranging another fantastic fundraiser at Northop Golf Club during the May bank holiday, raising a total of £2,447.54.

FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT
We celebrated Jord's 26th birthday by hosting a football tournament in Deeside. Thanks to our ambassadors, especially Ieuan Rowe, for organising the event, we raised £678.40.

ROCK FOR GIDDO 2024
The Broad Oak in Connah's Quay was packed with supporters who enjoyed some fab live acts. Thanks Tom Collins, Jake Lindop and all the musicians for helping raise £1,300.

WREATHMAKING
Our first ever wreathmaking event held at Highfield Hall was a success, with lots of holly, ivy, bubbles, laughter and a raffle! We look forward to hosting another session this year at the same venue - details tbc!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

GO BLUE FOR JORD
With the help of our community and local schools, we raised substantial funds on Jord's birthday.

GUNDOG TRAINING DAY KENDAL
Big thanks to Andrew Williams who helped raise £800 via a gundog day held in Cumbria.

COFFEE & CAKE MORNING
What a lovely fundraiser held at St Mary's Catholic Church in Flint. Thank you to all our bakers and supporters, and of course the Poppy Ladies.

HOLYWELL CHRISTMAS FAIR
Thank you to our trustees and ambassadors who hosted a stall and tombola at the Christmas light switch on. Holywell Town Council, thank you for your continued support.

EVAN'S END OF TREATMENT PARTY
We were thrilled to hear that Evan Gaine, from Connah's Quay, rang the bell in Spring 2024 - amazing news! A total of £834 was raised during his celebration party, thank you so much Evan and mum Ria for your support.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2025

4 MAY — NORTHOP HALL GOLF CLUB	23 MAY — THE BLOSSOMS, BAGILLT	29 JUNE — DEESIDE LEISURE CENTRE
Giddo's Golf Day	Tom Collins Live	Giddo's Football Tournament
9 AUGUST — BROAD OAK, CONNAH'S QUAY	29 NOVEMBER — TBC	TBC DECEMBER — TBC
Rock For Giddo	Wreath-making	Craft Fayre

HSBC CHARITY WINTER BALL

A huge thank you to HSBC for hosting their incredible Winter Ball in support of Giddo's Gift! The auction had lots of lovely prizes including a free stay at Giddo's Gaff, a signed Tony Bellew boxing glove and Manchester City tickets, and the raffle put together by the team was great. A heartfelt thank you to Helen and Cat for putting on such a wonderful event, and to HSBC for match funding the £3,500 raised on the night.

£7,000
RAISED IN TOTAL!

HSBC

CHRISTMAS DO!

We are truly grateful to all the team at Hays Travel in Flint for their dedication and support this year. A special thanks goes to Lindsay, Rhian and Macy, who organised a fantastic Christmas party at the Royal British Legion in December. With a raffle, ticket sales, auction and buckets, the evening raised a total of £1,450, which was match funded in February this year.

£2,900

Hays Travel

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO ATTENDED OUR EVENTS LAST YEAR, HELPED ORGANISE OR VOLUNTEER, OR ORGANISED THEIR OWN!

Get in touch today if you have an idea for an event and would like to chat: **hello@giddosgift.com**

OUR SUPPORTERS

Community Support

A special thank you to those who have our charity pots on their premises throughout the local area and regularly donate. Thank you also to: Toyota - £2,000 donation towards Giddo's Gaff, and our Christmas Gift Bap appeal; Newsquest - £1,000 from the Leader Readers nomination: Overleigh Ortho-dontics - £50; Arnold Clark - £1,000 towards our Cost of Living Grants; Deeside Ice Skating Club - raised £1,015 from their gala; Flint Guitar School - £100; Croes Atti Masonic Lodge - £1,000; Mark Beck - regular donations to our appeals; The Poppy Ladies at Flint Church for their hands-on help!

Corporate Support

Thank you to all our supporters, from individuals, to business, schools & organisations. A big thank you to: St John's Flint with Bagillt United Reformed Church; Kelly & Adam Gleeson: Mayor of Flint and Flint Town Council: Grosvenor Insurance: Reid & Roberts: Candid Cards: Werburgh's Chester: Northop Post Office: Tony Doyle Butchers: Welsh Harp Flint: Sports Direct Flint: The Blossoms Bagillt: Asda Flint: The Mill Tavern: The Stag Bagillt: Holywell Football Club: Sun Inn, Old Colwyn: Coleg Cambria; and volunteers from M&S Bank who came to support with sorting out our Christmas Gift bags.

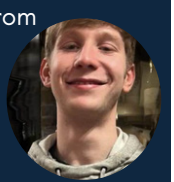
Heartfelt Support

It's so touching to hear that money is raised in Giddo's name at end of life celebrations. Thank you to each and every one of you who has donated funds to our charity in memory of another loved one.

Sports Support

- Peter Fenney & Bernie Morris ran the London Marathon in April
- Andre Schonoveld ran the Chester Marathon solo in October, as did Jack Heppleston with two friends
- Bethany Morris ran the Alton Towers 5k in November
- Beth Hughes ran the Amsterdam Half Marathon in October
- Tyler Williams participated in a cage fighting event in November
- Chris Evans along with 3 friends from Openreach climbed the National Three Peaks in June

A special thanks to the family of Will Carmichael. He was taken too soon in 2024 by HLH (Jordan's primary disease) and we supported his family with a bereavement grant and memory box after his passing. In Will's loving memory, his friends and family have raised over £6,000 for Giddo's Gift, so we can continue helping those who need it most. This includes Louise Nicholls running the Manchester half marathon, his sister, Freya running the Great North Run, a remembrance fund from Will's funeral and donations from his parents' workplaces. Thank you for your generosity during this difficult time.



TAKE ON YOUR OWN CHALLENGE!

The world is your oyster - what are you dreaming of doing?

Kilimanjaro

A special shoutout and well done to Shaun England, Joanna & Jamie Turner, and Katie Kelly who climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in July 2024. Over six days, the fab Flint four took on the 4th highest peak in the world to raise funds for Giddo's Gift and spread awareness. Incredible effort!

£3,300 RAISED IN TOTAL!

One of our longest-standing volunteers, Ann Claire Jones, took on another impressive challenge to celebrate her birthday last year. In July, she competed in the Beautifully Brutal Pen Llyn Ultra 50+ Mile Race raising funds and awareness for our charity. Thank you for all you've done in Giddo's name over the years, A.C!

£4,400 RAISED IN TOTAL!

IN OTHER NEWS...

Charity challenges

Fancy raising vital funds for Giddo's Gift while challenging yourself? Thanks to our partnership with Run For Charity, we have a wealth of popular events that you can sign up for, at lower cost to you!
Or if you've got your eye on another event, race, or challenge, get in touch and we'll see what we can do.

giddosgift.com/shop/events/

Community Development Officer

Giddo's Gift reached new heights this year as we welcomed our first employee. Thanks to funding from the Postcode Community Trust, and a donation in memory of Tasha Pickard, we welcomed Beth Hughes on board in April 2024. Beth loves to create reels, graphics, press releases - and drink lots of tea - and think of new ways to get Giddo's Gift's name out to the world and engage new volunteers.

VOLUNTEERS & AMBASSADORS

We were delighted to welcome two new ambassadors on board in 2024 - there's always room for more! Alex Goundrey and Brady McGilloway were close friends with Jord and have supported our charity greatly over the years. Welcome aboard!

WE NEED YOU!

Thinking of ways you can give back to the community, and help change the lives of people who need it most? We are looking for new ambassadors and volunteers to join our team, to help drive our charity forward as we grow. There's perks, rewards, and a lovely team waiting for you. Enquire today!

hello@giddosgift.com

Help fundraise without a fuss

EASY FUNDRAISING

Love to shop online? Donate to Giddo's Gift every time you make an online purchase by installing the 'Easyfundraising' app or browser extension.
Head to their website for instructions - it takes two mins, but makes a big difference to the young people we support!

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/donation-reminder/

WEEKLY DRAW

Numbers still available for Giddo's Gift's Weekly Draw where you could win £70 with our Bonus Ball Lottery scheme! Every single week, one of our Weekly Draw members has walked away with £70 since the draw began. For just £10 per month (£2.50 per week) - which is less than the cost of a coffee - you could sign up and support our charity so we can continue helping others in need.

Winners are notified every Sunday (following results of the Saturday Night National Lottery Bonus Ball) and the funds are transferred ASAP to the winner. There are only 7 numbers left so don't miss your chance - contact us today to get the ball rolling!

HELLO@GIDDOSGIFT.COM

This is all for you, Jord

We can't thank you enough for supporting our charity. It not only helps young people who are facing unthinkable battles, but it keeps the memory of our Blue Hero, Jordan, alive. He would be so proud of everything we have achieved, and would be so grateful to you all for helping us do what we do. We ask you to join us on Friday 27th June this year, as we once again "Go Blue For Jord' to celebrate his 27th birthday. Wear anything blue, post a pic on social and tag us, and pop a pound into our charity pot either online or in the community.

WWW.PAYPAL.COM/PAYPALME/GIDDOSGIFT