



# HCPT NEWS

Spring  
2024

Read  
HCPT's latest news  
as we prepare for the  
Easter children's pilgrimage

Thanks to you Luke enjoyed  
a life changing week in Lourdes



# You helped Luke have an amazing week in Lourdes last Easter

**Luke is an awesome, outgoing, 11 year old boy living with an ultra rare medical condition. He was given the opportunity to make the pilgrimage to Lourdes last Easter with HCPT - thanks to the support of people like you.**

HCPT has been organizing children's pilgrimages to Lourdes at Easter since 1956. This Easter, 1,000 disabled and disadvantaged children and young people will enjoy a life changing week away in a special place and at a special time.

Luke has episodes of paralysis and often stops breathing. He is fed through a tube, is nonverbal and is unable to walk.

It was through school and his friends that Luke was originally introduced to HCPT. This was a once in a lifetime opportunity for Luke to experience a residential trip - something which he would otherwise have had to miss out on



Luke gets a high five from his group chaplain

in year 6 at his school due to his needs. His trip to Lourdes was meant to happen in 2020 but was postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Luke was very disappointed.

Regular meetings with the volunteer leader of his local HCPT pilgrimage group, and helpers, meant Luke's parents were able to share any worries they had prior to him travelling. This put their minds at ease. They knew that Luke was in safe hands due to the reassurance and routines that would be in place to support him.

Luke had never been on a trip like this before but, with the help of his HCPT group, he enjoyed an unforgettable experience!

Luke is a cheerful young man who had his group laughing throughout their time in Lourdes. He loves people, transport, music and animals and,

with these interests, it's no surprise that Luke had a fun filled week!

He played along to the music with his tambourine at the big HCPT Mass of the week, by thousands of others taking part. Luke played games on the grassy "prairie" within the shrine, and also took in the scenic views of Saint Savin - a small village that overlooks the Pyrenees mountains. With a great love for animals, Luke visited the pop-up zoo at HCPT's Hosanna House nearby - where he was able to pet some of the baby rabbits and guinea pigs, and play ball games out on the terrace!

Luke's parents have expressed their gratitude to HCPT for giving their son an incredible experience, saying that they would wholeheartedly recommend the trip to other parents in similar situations. Luke returned more independent, expressive and feeling great!



**It's become more expensive to get people to Lourdes. Would you please give HCPT a donation of £25, or whatever you can afford, so someone like Luke can get to Lourdes this Easter?**



# Lourdes and Hosanna House changed Paul's life – thanks to you

**Since the age of eight, Lourdes has been part of Paul's life. Now 57 years old, Paul has a zest for life and has learning difficulties. He lives in assisted housing in South Wales.**

At home he enjoys socialising and spends his spare time tenpin bowling, gardening and crafting. His weekends are filled with the thrill of Wales Rugby and football, as well as singing along to his favourite singer Daniel O'Donnell.

Paul's been on the Summer pilgrimage to Lourdes with HCPT several times. The pilgrimage has become a cherished tradition - a sanctuary - for him. The anticipation for his week there starts months in advance, and the countdown signifies not just a trip but a life-changing experience.



Paul loves Hosanna House and enjoys waking up each morning to the picturesque view of the Pyrenees mountains. For Paul, the house is a place where he can relax and spend time getting to know new people whilst having a coffee and a chat. And when not relaxing there you'll find him playing table tennis, football and even boccia! It's a home away from home for him.

As well as enjoying time at Hosanna House, Paul eagerly looks forward to his annual trip with HCPT to Garvarnie. Garvarnie is a small village in the snow-topped mountains that border Spain. It boasts a magnificent landscape with a fresh water stream that runs from the mountains. It's a time for him to unwind with a cappuccino and some cake, savouring the beauty of the surroundings.

Lourdes itself holds a special place in Paul's heart. The underground basilica in the shrine, where Holy Mass takes place, is a highlight of his week. Singing at Mass, and assisting the priest, brings Paul immense joy. Lourdes, for him, isn't just a spiritual journey but also a time to bond with friends and revel in the joy of shared experiences.

Over the years, thanks to his trips to Hosanna House, Paul's grown in confidence and feels like a part of something special—a sentiment he describes as part of one big family. It really has been a life-changing experience for Paul and is a place where he feels he is part of something special.

**Please give a donation so we can continue to take people like Paul to Lourdes and Hosanna House. Ways to donate are listed on the last page of this newsletter.**

# Win £10,000

with HCPT's new  
Bernadette Club  
lottery!

**Taking part in HCPT's new weekly Bernadette Club lottery is a fun and exciting way to help our pilgrimages for disabled and disadvantaged children and adults.**

The club has been benefiting HCPT since the 1970s and relaunched in October last year. Since then we've had over 100 winners! Maybe you've been one of them?

For every £1 entry you play, we'll allocate you a unique 6-digit number. Match three or more numbers in the right order and win one of our great cash prizes between £5 and £1,000. If you match all six numbers, you'll win an incredible £10,000!

**You can play £1, £2 or £3 per week for more chances of winning.**

By joining the HCPT Bernadette Club lottery you'll make a difference with every £1 you play. There's no need to claim as we'll write to you if you win and pay any winnings directly to your bank account - easy!

**Thank you  
for your  
support -  
and good luck**

To join the  
Bernadette Club  
lottery, and ensure  
you never miss a draw,  
please go to  
[lottery.hcpt.org.uk](https://lottery.hcpt.org.uk)  
or phone  
01628 201377

**John Donovan, who founded the Bernadette Club during his decades as an HCPT volunteer leader, passed away on 1st December 2023.**

**We extend our deepest sympathies to his family. HCPT will forever remember John as Honorary Founder of the club.**



**Bernadette  
Club**



**hcpt**

**Great prizes**

to be won every week

**WIN  
£10,000**

by matching 6 numbers

**WIN  
£1,000**

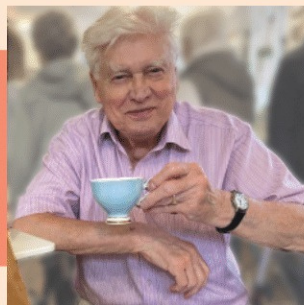
by matching 5 numbers

**WIN  
£25**

by matching 4 numbers

**WIN  
£5**

by matching 3 numbers





# A gift in your Will to HCPT

As well as including friends and family in your Will, by leaving a gift in your Will to HCPT you can ensure our pilgrims aren't forgotten.

We're so grateful to those who've told us why they left a gift in their Will to HCPT.

## What next?

- Call us on 01788 564646 or email [fundraising@hcpt.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@hcpt.org.uk) to find out more about leaving a gift to HCPT in your Will. We can even cover the cost of writing your Will with our trusted partners.
- Do feel free to let us know if you've already left a gift in your Will to HCPT so we don't bother you about it again.



*I want to ease the financial pressure in whatever way I can, which will, hopefully, make it a little bit easier to take more children to Lourdes.*

*I'm leaving a gift in my Will to HCPT so that disabled children in the future continue to get the wonderful pilgrimage opportunities provided by HCPT. It's a legacy of love, friendship and joy. What could be better?*

## Grand Draw winners

Thanks to everyone who took part in HCPT's Grand Draw. All winners were drawn on 15 January and are listed on our website. The winners of the three major prizes were:

**£4,000 Mrs Murray, Prescott**  
**£1,000 Mrs Bennett, Clitheroe    £750 Mrs Muston, Reading**



# 2024 dates for your diary

- **31 March (Easter Sunday)** – Easter pilgrimage begins
- **21 April** – HCPT runners take part in the London Marathon
- **22 May** – Summer pilgrimages begin
- **2 November (All Souls Day)** – HCPT Benefactors Mass, St Augustine's Church, Coatbridge (& livestreamed)
- **3 December** – Big Give week begins – during which your donation to HCPT will be doubled!
- **27 December** – 5th anniversary of the death of HCPT founder Br Michael Strode (pictured) & the beginning of his Cause for Canonisation  
[www.brothermichaelstrode.org](http://www.brothermichaelstrode.org)



## In memory

**With sadness we say goodbye to those who have travelled with us, or supported us, including those named below. Please remember them and their loved ones in your prayers.**

Sonia Antoniazzi.....Groups 100, 510  
Frank Billington.....Group 515  
Joshua Bilton.....Group 106  
Dympna Bowes.....Group 183  
Michael Campbell.....Hosanna House  
Barbara Carroll.....Groups 530, 536  
Peter Carroll.....Group 81

Lou Conte.....Groups 99, 549  
William Cousins.....Group 537  
Charles Digney.....IPT  
Delia Daly.....Group 121  
John Donovan.....Groups 352, 537  
Rose Edwards.....Group 155  
Peter Fanning.....Groups 143, 524  
Joan Fawson.....Group 512  
Sheila Gardner.....Group 141  
John Gaut.....Group 507  
Judith Howland.....Group 87  
John Kiely .....Group 587  
Barbara Leadbeater.....Groups 39, 530  
Vince McCartney.....Group 16  
Hugh McFarlane.....Group 139  
Tricia McNicholas.....Groups 131, 171  
515, 528, 530, 536, 579

Ann Millward.....Group 522  
Fr Pat O'Connell.....Group 38  
Teresa O'Malley.....ASCPG  
Michael Parker.....Groups 301, 537  
Dolla Patricio.....Group 503  
Anthony Price.....Group 87  
Henry Smith.....Group 566  
Steven Somerville.....Groups 515, 528  
Antoinette Tana.....Group 567  
Alistair Thomas.....Group 205  
Katie Walsh.....Group 690

# Give a gift for the Easter Pilgrimage

Easter is coming! Please support HCPT's forthcoming children's pilgrimage to Lourdes. 1,000 disabled and disadvantaged children and young people will enjoy a life changing week away in a special place and at a special time.

☐ **I want to make a single donation of £.....**

(a full week's fare for a disabled child at Easter is £1,075)

I enclose a cheque / postal order made payable to 'HCPT'

Please debit my account: Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐

Name on account:.....

Card No:

Valid from:  Expiry date:

Signature:..... Date (DD/MM/YY):.....

*giftaid it*

Gift aid is reclaimed by HCPT from the tax you pay for the current tax year. In order to gift aid please tick the box below.

☐ I want to gift aid my donation above and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past four years to HCPT. I am a UK tax payer and understand that if I pay less income tax and/or capital gains tax that the amount of gift aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Please notify HCPT if you want to cancel this declaration or no longer pay sufficient tax.

☐ I am not a UK taxpayer.

Phone 01788 564646  
during office hours to  
donate. Or donate  
online - scan QR code  
or go to  
[www.hcpt.org.uk](http://www.hcpt.org.uk)



Name:.....

Address:.....

Postcode:..... Phone No:.....

Email:.....

- ☐ **Let me know how to join an HCPT pilgrimage to Lourdes**
- ☐ **Let me know how I can donate regularly by direct debit**
- ☐ **Send me information about the Bernadette Club weekly lottery**
- ☐ **Send me details of how I can leave a gift to HCPT in my Will**

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HCPT (Hosanna House and Children's Pilgrimage Trust) is a registered charity in England and Wales (281074) and Scotland (SC043743).  
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