

THE GRAND APPEAL PRESSCALL - DRAFT

Date: Wednesday 20 August 2008
Time: 11am
Place: Bristol Children's Hospital
Upper Maudlin Street
Bristol
Meet in ground-floor main reception

Event: YOUNG PATIENTS GET CREATIVE FOR KITE FESTIVAL

Press opp: Young patients at Bristol Children's Hospital enjoy some art therapy by taking part in a special kite-making workshop as part of the build up to this year's Bristol International Festival of Kites & Air Creations, which takes place at Ashton Court on 30th and 31st August.

Hospital play therapists together with Avril Baker, Kite Festival organiser, and renowned kite maker Nick James, will be on hand to provide inspiration by bringing along a selection of colourful and vibrantly designed kites to show the children and providing kite-making materials for them to build their very own creations.

Nick James, designer of the famous angel kites, has also made a special large hexagon kite for the young patients to decorate during the workshop which will then be flown at the festival to promote the Grand Appeal.

Participating children will also receive a special goody bag donated by headwear company Buffera, who will be trading at the festival. Each will include an item of Buff[®] multifunctional headwear - a fun yet practical tubular garment that can be worn as a bandana, sun-guard, thermal scarf or

beanie which is ideal for cancer patients as it's soft, seam-free and wicks moisture.

**Contacts on day: Avril Baker, organiser, Bristol International Festival of Kites & Air Creations on 0780 395 4120
Laura Densem, fundraising manager at the Grand Appeal on 07825 261381**

As the Kite Festival celebrates its 22nd year, the Grand Appeal, spearheaded by the Oscar-winning animated characters Wallace and Gromit, has been chosen for the second year running as the event's official charity partner.

During the festival weekend Wallace & Gromit will have a go at flying kites and meet some of the kite experts who have flown in from all over the world especially for the event.

Wallace & Gromit will make a special appearance during the arena performance 'Heavens Above'. This mass fly in of spiritual and heavenly kites will feature Bristol kite maker Nick James' angel kites, Tasmanian Robert Brassington's cathedral inspired giant cellular kites and Martin Lester's latest spirit design.

As the Kite Festival's official charity partner, the Grand Appeal will be fundraising during the weekend including running a tombola at their stand where a host of exclusive Wallace & Gromit and Aardman prizes can be won.

Money raised at the popular annual event will benefit young patients being treated from across the region at Bristol Children's Hospital and will help to fund a new 'datascope' heart monitor for the oncology and adolescent wards.

Festival-goers can look forward to an action-packed two days of colourful flying displays, spectacular kite-fighting battles, synchronized routines, ground-based

inflatable sculptures and an array of amazing shapes including sea-themed giant mermaid and manta ray kites.

Laura Densem, fundraising manager at the Grand Appeal said: “We are delighted to be the Kite Festival’s official charity partner for the second year running and are looking forward to another high-flying weekend, which is also free to everyone! We hope that lots of people will come along and support the charity by visiting the Grand Appeal stand and taking part in our fundraising tombola and other activities.”

Avril Baker, Kite Festival organizer, added: “ I’m looking forward to taking in some different kites to show the patients in the Children’s Hospital and giving their creativity a lift. With Nick James’ expert help this is a great chance for some of the children who can’t make it to the festival to join in the fun and make some lovely designs of their own.”

To find out more about the Kite Festival visit www.kite-festival.org.uk or contact Bristol Kitestore on 0117 974 5010.

For further information about the Grand Appeal and its fundraising activities, visit www.grandappeal.org.uk or call 0117 927 3888.

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For further information, please contact Caroline Harris or Dani Marlborough at Spirit Public Relations on 0117 944 1415

For Bristol Kite Festival press & media enquiries or images please contact:
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