**PLAY2GIVE’S Match Of The Day!**

**Football tournament 2012 nets thousands – with special appearances from two U’s players**

Sunday 15th July 2012 saw the return of Play2Give’s football tournament - a fun day which proved a huge success that it has netted a fantastic result for the first junior style event - ‘kids helping kids’

Around 180 boys in 16 teams from around Oxfordshire teamed up to help children like them - but in hospital - to get better by playing some great fun energetic football whilst raising money in the process for the Oxford Children’s Hospital.

Teams such as those from Oxford City, Summertown Stars, Didcot Town and Berinsfield with around 188 boys took to the new 3G arena pitches at Oxford City Football Club to raise a knockout amount. One squad fielded in the 7 a side contest included under 9 youngsters from AFC Brightwell. They pledged to raise £280 in sponsorship due as a result of the team’s manager’s son having been treated as a baby in the hospital and so far through an online sponsorship page and the power of Justgiving, have pitched in close to £500 in donations!! The final total could hit close to £5K!!

The day was a huge success, and has already seen more than £4,500 collected from the fun and amusements of such a brilliant day... (and there’s still more to come!), it wasn’t all about the football though. There were plenty of other entertainment and activities to keep the little ones to the much older generations having fun all day long... with the Oxford Mail bouncy castle, to our main sponsors Breckon & Breckon running and raising money with a coconut shy, mouth watering taste-buds with doughnuts all day, refreshments, face painting, raffle and silent auctions, 2012 was the most biggest and best Play2Give football fun day to date... and the grand total is looking smashing too!! It is hoped the final grand total will be handed over to the Oxford hospital in the next few weeks.

The great news is that this years kids football tournament and family fun day has smashed the totals raised by the previous years Play2Give tournaments - and it is planned to repeat the success of this years event next year, date to be confirmed - but likely to be July 2013!! Play2Give football tournaments are ones not to be missed, as past participating teams have labeled Play2Give ones as the ‘best tournament for charity in Oxfordshire’.

With huge thanks to our main sponsors, Breckon & Breckon, who generously funded the whole event, Newbury Building Society, JACK FM for providing music and entertaining all day long, Oxford United and players Ryan Clarke and Max Crocombe, Kelly Beer, the Oxford Mail, the brilliant teams, and everyone involved who made 2012 an amazing result!
Fun-raising for amazing Alex

Alex Lewis was an inspiration to everyone who knew him. Alex from Wallingford and a former St Birinus School pupil had an amazing zest for life. He was diagnosed with bone cancer at 17. Sadly, Alex lost his brave fight against the illness aged just 22 in February, 2011, just a few days after marrying the love of his life, which was documented in a special BBC3 programme, ‘Alex: A Life Fast Forward’ last summer. Play2Give is honouring the memory of Alex by raising funds for Cancer Research UK specifically for Bone Cancer Research funds, but all those people whose lives, like Alex, have been affected by cancer in some way. The night will also raise money for the inspirational patients at the Oxford Children’s Hospital and your money will help purchase state of the art equipment and toys for the hospital, and Footsteps, which funds innovative physiotherapy for children with neurological disabilities, to help them regain the ability to walk, all of which the NHS cannot fund.

Sept 22nd - put it in your diaries!!

Celebrate 5 years of Play2Give

Donate...

Want to support the work of Play2Give?

There are 2 easy ways to donate at any time...

To donate by cheque, payable to Play2Give and send in to:

c/o Play2Give, 3 King Walk, Didcot, Oxfordshire, OX11 7PE

Or you can now donate online with an easy, simple bank transfer, using these details:

Account No: 16270851     Sort Code: 62-28-74
Reference: 2863301710

Play2Give inspires Marathon-Man Luke

On a hot beautiful sunny Sunday in April 2011, Oxford man Luke Cuff (and supporter of Play2Give) pounded 26 miles in the soaring heat to complete the London Marathon for the Children’s Hospital. Luke was inspired by Play2Give to run for the hospital and raised nearly £900. His team, All Stars, have taken part in two previous Play2Give tournaments.

WELL DONE – AND THANKS LUKE!! Up for a run? Been inspired? If Luke can do it... why not follow his footsteps? If you want to run a marathon or whatever takes your fancy, for Play2Give, email Andrew: play2give@hotmail.com

Uri and Football Stars Back Play2Give

Celebrity Uri Gellar, most famous for his spoon-bending, showed his support by donating the last of his ‘Limited Edition’ Crystal Glass Vase Box Sets, to be auctioned off at this year’s Football Tournament. Uri invited Andrew, along with Claire Hughes (Fellow Play2Give Member) to his Sonning Common home one Sunday in May. Andrew is pictured receiving the donation from Mr Gellar himself.

Chelsea FC and Man Utd also donated amazing support... with the donation of signed team footballs, all which proved popular and helped raise money this year!

Check out the brand new Play2Give website, www.play2give.org.uk, keep up to date with all the latest news and events and what we’re tweeting about!

With thanks to Ash Phillips of Weave Multimedia for donating a great new site!