



highlights

Hilton in the Community Foundation

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In the boxing ring to raise funds

Our very own brave Chairman, Simon Vincent, joined Fred Sirieix, the charismatic General Manager of **Galvin at Windows**, in a 10-round boxing match against Clinton McKenzie, former light welterweight boxer who represented Great Britain in the 1976 Olympics. There were some solid punches thrown by all competitors, at Clinton's boxing gym in Tulse Hill, south London. Cheered on by Chef Patron Chris Galvin, Chairman of The Ability Group Andreas Panayiotou and his son Costas and team members

from across London, the boxers proved themselves agile and worthy of praise for their magnificent efforts.

The outright winner was – **Galvin's Chance**. Thanks to the generous support of their colleagues, friends and families, Simon and Fred raised £4,500 for our into-work programme. This money will be used to support disadvantaged young Londoners, particularly those who are deemed 'at risk' or who have come through the youth justice system, to find a steady job and have the opportunity to study

for an NVQ Level II in Food and Drink. Opportunities for work that many of us may take for granted are simply not known about or not considered a realistic option by many young people, who have perhaps left school with few if any qualifications and who have low self esteem.

The hospitality industry offers an array of practical and rewarding job

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Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee:
L-R Simon Vincent, Galvin's Chance graduate Kamal Manhas, Clinton McKenzie, Fred Sirieix and Chris Galvin.



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opportunities. Galvin's Chance is particularly focused on 'Front of House' and supporting the service side of operations in fine dining establishments. With over a million young unemployed in the UK alone at present, work programmes like Galvin's Chance are increasingly vital.

In the current phase there are 14 young people who have found work through the Galvin's Chance programme and 8 of these are now studying at college to increase their learning and further improve their prospects. As a next stage in the growth of the programme, consultancy firm **Transcend** has kindly offered its services to coordinate a mentoring programme. With so many issues impeding on the young people such as housing or family breakdowns, the aim is to enhance the emotional support system for the young people and reduce the risk of drop out.

To see Simon, Fred and Clinton in action, you can see the boxing fight video highlights by going to this link: www.galvinschance.co.uk/Fundraising.html and donating just £5, which goes in full to Galvin's Chance.



Upcoming events for your diary...

13 Feb	Annual Dinner Dance	Hilton Warsaw
27 Feb	Foundation Champion Workshop: 'In Your Shoes'	Hilton London Kensington
2 Mar	Race Night	Hilton London Heathrow Airport
12 Mar	Schools Festival	Hilton Blackpool
23 Mar	Mad Hatter's Ball	Hilton Midlands Cluster
24 Mar	Dinner Dance	Hilton Bath City
27 Mar	Cluster Bike Ride	Hilton Bracknell
30 Mar	Foundation Ball	Hilton Southampton
30 Mar	A Burlesque Evening	Hilton Swindon
30 Mar	Funding Workshop	Hilton Reading

If you have other events not listed above - do tell us! Thanks and best of luck with all your Foundation events.

From top: Europe Area President Simon Vincent swaps the boardroom for the boxing ring;

Fred Sirieix, Clinton McKenzie and Simon Vincent play-fighting;

Simon and Fred sport their boxing robes kindly sponsored by Coca Cola and Roantree Promotional Marketing;

Andreas Panayiotou, hotel owner and boxing enthusiast, gives Simon some last minute top tips.



Training for success

Team members at **Hilton Nuremberg** organized a Kick-Off Party in support of **KG Hilaritas**, a sports club for local children. The evening, which featured an auction of leftover wine and champagne, raised €1.300,00 for the club. The funds went towards much needed tracksuits which proudly feature the HCF logo.

As well as helping with fundraising, the hotel trainees embarked on a mission to improve their local environment. Equipped with gloves, bin bags and sporting their HCF t-shirts, they went to a nearby park to clean up litter. Thanks to their efforts, the park is now a more enjoyable place for hotel guests and the wider community. Foundation Champion and Housekeeping Supervisor Stephanie Teuber said: "Many of our guests are attracted to stay at Hilton Nuremberg because it is situated in a quiet area and has ideal woods and parks around for nice walks. Our trainees wanted to make sure our guests will return to this place because of its beautiful nature".



27 Feb 2012: The Foundation Champion Workshop will take place on Monday 27 February at Hilton London Kensington. The Workshops brings together our key volunteers from across Europe to network and share best practice, meet some of our charity partners and take part in our annual Awards, celebrating everybody's hard work for the charity.

Finding a new home

The famous saying goes that one man's rubbish is another man's treasure... nothing could be truer than in the case of furnishings and equipment which become available as a result of hotel refurbishment.

Kathryn Welch of the **Venture Trust**, which recently benefited from a donation of in kind goods, said:

"A massive thank you to the fantastic teams at **Hilton Glasgow Grosvenor** and **Hilton Dunkeld House**, who have generously donated some of their old furniture and equipment to Venture Trust. We'll shortly be collecting their donations of a whole range of bedroom furniture, which will be a real boost to our residential centre

in Applecross, on the northwest coast of Scotland.

This centre is a base for Venture Trust's wilderness-based personal development programmes, and is at the heart of many of our programmes, which support young people to overcome disadvantaged, complicated or chaotic situations that they face, and to make positive changes in their lives.

Recycling Hilton's furniture in this way is completely invaluable in helping us keep the centre a warm and welcoming base for our participants, and to ensure we can continue to run safe and effective programmes for young people in need. Thank you!"



Heart monitors for children

"On behalf of the Children's Heart Federation and the children we help, I would like to thank Hilton in the Community Foundation for the extremely generous donation of £19,950 towards medical equipment for children with heart conditions.

Your gift will make such a huge difference to the lives of 50 children, their brothers and sisters and whole families making it possible for them to live more independently with an improved quality of life."

Kate Soars, The Children's Heart Federation

A Forest of Festive Trees!

Hilton hotels across Europe were delighted to be home to beautiful Christmas trees, to be enjoyed by guests and team members and with an extra special connection for local disadvantaged children.

In January's Highlights we featured **Hilton Budapest West End** and **Athénée Palace Hilton Bucharest**. The holiday season also saw an extraordinary Christmas tree standing in the lobby of **Hilton Nuremberg**. The tree supports the children from the foster homes **Wilhelm-Löhe-Haus Altdorf**, and has helped to grant them some unforgettable moments. In addition to bulbs, stars and lights, the tree was adorned with "wish cards" made by the children themselves. These cards reveal their most desired Christmas present. Guests and team members, who wanted to fulfil a child's wish, could take the corresponding card off the tree and buy the present. Thanks to this support, the children of Wilhelm – Löhe-Haus were able to have a more joyful Christmas.

Meanwhile, 30 children from the local youth welfare organisation **Adelgundenheim** decorated the tree of the **Hilton Munich City** with their personal wish for Christmas. These "heart's desire" items were fulfilled by team members, guests and local companies. The gifts were given out, together with soft punch and cookies on December 21st. Lore Steiner, the Foundation Champion said: *"it was wonderful to see all these happy children unwrapping their presents!"*



Star Power in Istanbul

As part of its major ongoing commitment to charity, Hilton Istanbul was the site of a gala celebration commemorating the 60th anniversary UNICEF's activities in Turkey. The hotel was the main sponsor of the event, providing food and beverage services as well as organising the music band, sound equipment and decorations. With the hotel's support, the ball raised a fantastic 170,000 Turkish Lira (€71,000) towards the health, education and protection of children in Turkey.

The evening included an auction featuring the Stars of UNICEF, huge decorative pieces painted by some of the Turkey's top artists. Ten Stars were auctioned, along with two watches provided by Turkish actor and model Kivanc Tatlitug. American singer Amii Stewart entertained the crowd at the star-studded event.

Main picture left to right: Zulfu Livaneli (Turkish composer, novelist and journalist) Talat Halman-president of UNICEF Turkey, Turkan Soray (Turkish actress and UNICEF goodwill ambassador), Kivanc Tatlitug(Turkish model and actor and UNICEF goodwill ambassador), Ayse Kulin (Turkish Novelist and UNICEF goodwill ambassador) and Mujdat Gezen-Turkish (actor and UNICEF goodwill ambassador).

Elvis in the building: one of the decorated stars on show at Hilton Istanbul; and Amii Stewart performs at the event.





Christoph and Bart roll their sleeves up for charity

Colleagues at **Hilton Munich Park** and **Hilton Munich City** had the opportunity to collect and donate money for the Foundation in order to “Rent-a-Manager”. The volunteers were Christoph Glaser, Director of Operations (pictured above) from **Hilton Munich Park**, and Bart Felix, Hotel Manager of **Hilton Munich City**. The department that secretly donated the most would be able to put Christoph and Bart on their schedule for one day. In both properties the Food and Beverage departments bid the most and won!

The secret donations totalled an impressive €362 which was donated to **Arche Noah**, a local charity partner which supports seriously ill children and their families during hospital stays. In the last issue of ‘highlights’ we reported about the work of this charity and the help they gave Jakob and his family (inset).

Christoph reported: “The Tivoli breakfast restaurant had no compassion and put me on the

schedule to report for breakfast service at 7am (not really my best time...). It was a busy Saturday morning and after a brief introduction how to do what, I was assigned a number of tables and guests started to arrive for breakfast. I had actually learned this job, but this was many years ago and I must have lost some of my sleight of hand and work pace over time... I can tell you it is a tough job, serving coffee, clearing tables, running for more cups and coffee spoons (why are all hotels in the world short of spoons?) and whilst doing that chat with guests to answer questions on the weather and what to do in town! I can honestly say that all of my team that are doing that everyday with a smile deserve to be complimented!

After four hours of breakfast service I had a lunch break and then moved on to the next F&B department, banquet service: 500 people for lunch. When the doors of the conference room opened it felt more like 500,000! Guests attacked the

buffet and it was my job to clear the seemingly endless number of plates from the tables. This is better than any gym workout – after a while my biceps started hurting from the heavy trays and I was sore for the next three days. Cleaning up, re-setting for the next group or the next day and then all over again.

One day of hard work for me but the everyday job of my team and I congratulate and thank every one of them for being so passionate, helpful and hard working everyday to make the stay of our guests a memorable one. It was a lot of fun (even with the sore muscles) and helped me better understand the needs and requirements and also problems in the F&B department. I will definitely do the same in 2012 again, especially since it is for a good cause and helps disadvantaged children!”

Well done to Christoph and Bart and thank you for raising funds in such an inventive way.



Puppy power fuels T5 presentation event

Hilton in the Community Foundation is delighted to have supported Dogs for the Disabled as the principal beneficiary from last year's Foundation Ball at **London Hilton on Park Lane**. The black-tie event, celebrated its 11th year on 12th November 2011, and raised a net total of £302,134. This magnificent sum was made possible thanks to the generous support we received from many departments, suppliers and volunteers and especially the support of headline sponsor Shiva Hotels.

During the Ball, guests were invited to make a 'Puppy Pledge', donating £500 to sponsor a puppy to be trained as a future assistance dog for

a young person with disabilities. 73 guests generously made a pledge, helping add to the total raised and helping ensure future generations of assistance dog partnerships. In total £162,074.80 was given to the charity with the rest to be awarded to other charities helping young people.

A special handover took place on 30 January at **Hilton London Heathrow Airport Terminal 5**. HCF, Dogs for the Disabled and our ball sponsor, Shiva Hotels, were represented. Guest of honour was Sam with his assistance dog Josie, Mum Sara, Dad Brian and sister Eloise.



Pictured left to right: Rishi Sachdev and Ramesh Sachdev of ball sponsor Shiva Hotels, Ian Carter, Simon Vincent, Dame Maureen Thomas, Peter Gorb from Dogs for the Disabled; Front and below: Sam with his assistance dog, Josie.



Care packs for families in need

In Turkey, the hotels have been running a local version of 'Small Change, Big Difference' since June 2011. This invites guests to contribute to the work of the Turkish Red Crescent when they stay at a participating hotel. Thanks to the generosity of guests, over six months the campaign has already achieved a wonderful TRL 28,029 (£9,799) for the relief agency.

The money has been used to purchase donation packs for babies and their mothers in stricken areas. 120 packs were recently bought and distributed to local hospitals, thanks to the campaign and the generous support of guests.

Case Study: The World According to Charlotte

Charlotte has shared her story of living as a young person with hemiplegia from birth to her current age of 20. This is a form of cerebral palsy, which affects one side of the body and in addition to hampering movement can cause discomfort, fatigue and requires regular medical reviews. HCF charity partner Hemihelp offers practical support to young people like Charlotte, for example compiling health records for school teachers, seeking employment opportunities and providing emotional support.



Birth to five years: Whose problem is it anyway?

My disability was not really my problem at this stage. I sometimes get annoyed at some of the articles that I see as they focus more on the parent's experiences and grief than the needs of the child.

However, I now accept that this is a natural process as during these years I was completely dependent and my hemiplegia was my mother's problem.

5-11 years: The Happy Years

I admit I was a very positive child. I remember the endless physio appointments to get splints

measured, waiting until I was eight to learn to ride a bike and the personal helper my primary school gave me. These extra obstacles did not bother me at the time and they were just an extra hurdle to get over, just like learning to add up or tell the time.

Honestly at this age, I did not see myself as having any issues or problems worse than anyone else.

12-16 Years: Don't talk to me about secondary school...

Ok, I know that it seems to be a compulsory part of growing up to hate secondary school and I admit I was at least lucky in that I could do the work.

Secondary school is perhaps the most difficult environment to be in if you have any difficulties that mark you out as different. I was never picked on because of my disability and, in a sense, much of why I hated it was not down to my disability. But at the time I felt it was. I hated myself for having hemiplegia and resented the fact that it had to be me.

In the end, the only way I got through secondary school was focusing on just working hard to get my grades.

16-20 Years: Help, I'm disabled

Over the last few years I have written about my gap year (which was wonderful), learning how to drive and the anxiety I felt when I first went to university.

This section is the most difficult to write because I am currently in it and not able to look back with the benefit of hindsight and evaluate it. The truth is that there are issues I still face on a daily basis.

Perhaps the most difficult task I have had to face is accepting myself and the fact that I am somebody with a disability and that is not going to go away.

The trouble is deep down, up until now, I have never thought of myself as a 'disabled' person. That was a term I associated with the wheelchair signs you get on the back of doors and in parking places. When living at home I never noticed the things that people around me filled in automatically. It was only when I was forced out of that environment that I noticed many problems. I admit that I am of an age that my disability is no one else's problem but my own. I have overcome many barriers in my life so far but I still face perhaps one of the biggest challenges of all; that of becoming fully independent.

On 21st January, **Hilton London Kensington** hosted the first Hemihelp employment workshop for young people who like Charlotte are wondering what might be next after studies. Supported by HCF which granted £5,250 for transport, materials and project staffing, the hotel provided the venue. Karen Mount from the charity said:

"We had some great feedback from the young people and I wanted to thank you for making it possible for us – including using such a wonderful, inspiring venue".

Three young people from Hemihelp have recently completed successful work placements at Hilton London Kensington and at the Foundation office in London.

Thank you to all our supporters who make this possible.