

FRIENDSHIP

Celebrating
25 years

Starship
Foundation

Summer 2017

GIVING IS THE BEST MEDICINE



Mending tiny
hearts...

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A note to you, from Brad...



Dear friend,

Another year has come and gone, and once again, it's summer time! A season all children love. I hope your family has enjoyed a wonderful Christmas and New Year break, and that you're now getting a chance to enjoy the summer too.

This year marks a genuinely historic milestone for Starship and child health in New Zealand, it's our 25th birthday! Yes, throughout 2017 we will be celebrating our silver anniversary, 25 years since the national children's hospital was officially opened in November 1991.

We're hoping to give everyone who has been touched by Starship over the last quarter century a special chance to celebrate this milestone. In the meantime, I want to celebrate with you the achievements you've helped make possible over the last few months. And that's what your January issue of "Friendship" is all about.

Inside you can read about how little heart patient Cameron, and kidney patient Alexis are doing since you helped raise over \$479,000 to support our care for sick and injured children. Plus, we have the first in a series of articles about how you can help Starship by including a small gift in your Will.

Thank you so much for everything you do to support our work and to provide the children of New Zealand with the best possible medical care.

With my warmest regards,

Pictured: Brad with his son Bailey.



It wouldn't be a celebration without you!

Starship is celebrating its silver anniversary, marking 25 years since the national children's hospital was officially opened in November 1991.

The Starship Foundation urges all New Zealanders who have been touched by Starship to help us celebrate the milestone too. Visit our 25th birthday website, starshipbirthday.co.nz for your guide to Starship's year-long celebrations including information, photos, stories, competitions, fun social media activities and events.

starshipbirthday.co.nz showcases interesting Starship stories from across the past 25 years. It transports you back to the beginning of our national children's hospital and steps through the years bringing you inside stories about Starship's courageous patients, hard-working staff, stellar

supporters, unsung volunteers, extraordinary healthcare advancements and so much more.

"It is hard to find someone in New Zealand whose life hasn't been touched by Starship in some way – whether through family, friends, colleagues or even just hearing heartfelt stories in the community of children in Starship's care," says Brad.

"We want everyone to get involved with our 25th birthday in whatever way they can – if you can give a gift of any size to Starship it would be truly appreciated and help us to plan the next 25 years of caring for children at Starship."

Visit the website to find out how to get involved and help make the year even more meaningful and magical.

We love hearing from you. Please phone us on 0800 STARSHIP (0800 782 774) to make a donation.

To find out more about our 25th birthday, please visit www.starshipbirthday.co.nz



Mending tiny hearts

THANK YOU ALL FOR SUPPORTING OUR "LITTLE HEARTS" CHRISTMAS APPEAL!

Can you imagine getting a glimpse of just your new born baby's foot before he's whisked away from you? Just one tiny foot poking out from his swaddling blankets. That's all, then he's gone.

Mum Rachael Bartle can still remember every detail of the day her son Cameron was born with half of his tiny heart missing. Every subsequent surgery — and there were nine of them — to reconstruct and

assist his heart, every emergency, every scare, they are all etched in her memory.

It must have been a state of almost permanent near-panic for her and her husband Nick over the last three years, but through it all, one thing has kept on pulling them through, and that has been the expert treatment provided by the medical teams and other staff here at Starship.



If you responded to our Christmas Appeal, I'm sure you'll remember little Cameron's story, and his mum's wonderful words describing the support that you make possible.

"Starship goes to the end of the earth for you," Rachael said. "Cameron had the most amazing surgeon you could ever imagine. Without her and the cardiac team, he wouldn't be here. All the nurses, doctors, play therapists and physios — all of them have contributed to getting Cameron where he is today."

She also had a word of thanks for all the amazing Starship supporters — good people like you — who make this world-class care possible.

"Without people's donations Starship wouldn't have some of the specialist equipment they have now," said Rachael. "They just wouldn't be able to do it. Every little bit helps."

You'll be delighted to hear that thanks to all the wonderful Starship supporters who did their bit and

made donations in response to our Christmas Appeal, we raised over \$326,000. Those funds are already being invested to ensure that the sick and injured children of New Zealand continue to benefit from the best equipment and the best trained medical teams in the country, all in a hospital environment designed to help children heal.

If you supported this campaign, we all want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Because it's people like you who make Starship the wonderful place it is.

We also want to send out a special thank you to all of the kind and caring supporters who took the time to fill in and send back their Christmas cards for sick children. Some of you wrote beautiful messages of support which put huge smiles on the faces of the little ones who spent Christmas here with us in hospital. Thank you so much.



Cameron (top), has had a total of 9 surgeries at Starship. But thanks to amazing supporters like you, he's now going strong and (above) the Bartle family got to spend Christmas together.

THANK YOU FOR THE CHRISTMAS MAIL!

We love receiving mail from you. Thank you to everyone who sent in a Christmas message to the children and staff at Starship. Not only did the messages bring joy, the beautiful cards also made lovely decorations on the wards. Below are a few examples of what was sent in.



*A little
Christmas
Cheer*



To all the families,
children, doctors, nurses
and everyone at Starship
sending best Christmas
wishes.
All who are ill - get
well soon!

Thinking of you.

Love
Nana Jo
and Fluffy
(my cat)



A small selection of the many wonderful cards and messages you sent in at Christmas

May all the sick children
either in hospital or at home
have a wonderful Christmas
and Santa Claus brings you
some lovely presents
Get well soon
from Maureen & Lane Culver



To the Children and all
the Mums and Dads,
Nanas and Pops of Starship
we are

*Thinking
of you at
Christmas
time*

Your wonderful Doctors &
Nurses too must have
a big mention. As an old
(very old!) ex nurse,
your great work amazes
us all.

My family wish you
all a wonderful Christmas
and happy futures.

All the Starship children
and Whanau are so
strong. Hope you all
have a great
fun-filled day with
Santa and lots more
fun days to come.
Loads of love
xoxoxo



Dear Alexis ♥

When I first saw you, I thought you
are a lovely young girl.

I have raised \$25.00 for you.

Hope you feel better soon!

Stay healthy and be nice to mum
and dad!

Love from Meg ♥ x x o o ♥

Hope you

feel bet

ter soon

Alexis



Meg Short - 9 years old.

Remember

to be nice

to mum

and dad

To Alexis,
from Meg...

TO ALEXIS



FROM MEG ♥



I wanted to share this heart-
warming letter with you that
nine-year-old Meg wrote to
Alexis after hearing her story.
A letter from one beautiful
young lady to another.



Being ready for the worst

IN AN UNCERTAIN WORLD, MUMS AND DADS KNOW
THEY CAN COUNT ON STARSHIP. AND WE KNOW WE CAN COUNT ON YOU.

Nobody thinks the worst will happen to them. No one sees it coming. It could be an accident, an infection, or the onset of a serious illness. One minute you're an ordinary family, the next your precious child is being rushed into hospital and your life is turned upside down.

And as you may remember from the letter Brad sent you in August, that's exactly what Leigh and John went through when their beautiful little four-year-old daughter Alexis was struck down by an extremely rare E. coli O157 infection.

"Alexis was so sick," Leigh recalls. "At one stage, we didn't even think we were going to take her home again. My only relief was that she was at Starship."

So many parents feel the same way. That's because, while no parent can ever prepare for an accident or an illness, we can. In fact, we MUST.

Here at Starship, we are always ready. But only because of the kindness and generosity of wonderful supporters like you. Because your donations help us to be prepared, ready to swing into action whenever the worst happens.

You proved this again in the incredible way you responded to our Autumn appeal after reading about Alexis, helping to raise a total of \$152,257. Thank you so much!

As Leigh told us: "You honestly don't realise what a great hospital Starship is until you depend on it. I want them to continue doing absolute wonders in that hospital."

We couldn't agree more. And we are deeply grateful to you and everyone else who gives to Starship, because your gifts make sure all our medical teams have the expertise, training and equipment they need to save children's lives, treat their illnesses, and heal their injuries.

Thank you so much for being one of the amazing people who keeps us prepared.



Alexis was rushed to Starship when an extremely rare bacterial infection attacked her kidneys and threatened her life.



We want to say a HUGE thank you for your little petunias!



Xanthe White's new Petunia Garden has brightened Starship's Koromiko Garden thanks to the generosity and kindness of New World shoppers.



Sometimes in life, it really is the little things that count. Like buying a \$1 Little Garden Petunia plant at the checkout in New World. That's because New World's "Little Garden Petunia for Starship" was the only plant in their Little Garden collectible series that could also raise funds for Starship.

Thanks to generous New World customers like you, the Little Petunias sold out in two days flat, and raised a whopping \$50,000 for Starship! The money is being used to improve Starship's environment, and as part of this process we were able to commission top New Zealand landscape gardener, Xanthe White

to create a gorgeous, vibrant, petunia installation in the hospital's Koromiko Garden.

"The space is designed to be a simple yet enduring garden," says Xanthe. "The idea is to turn an uninteresting area into a welcoming and vibrant space for patients and their families."

And 10-year old patient Ivy Keith, who was involved in the planting and creation of the garden reckons it's a winner. "Now other kids and families will be able look out as they walk through the tunnel and see the brightly coloured petunias and the lights shining around the star – that's just really cool," says Ivy.

Magic of reading

THE NEW STARSHIP STORYBOOK
IS OUT NOW!

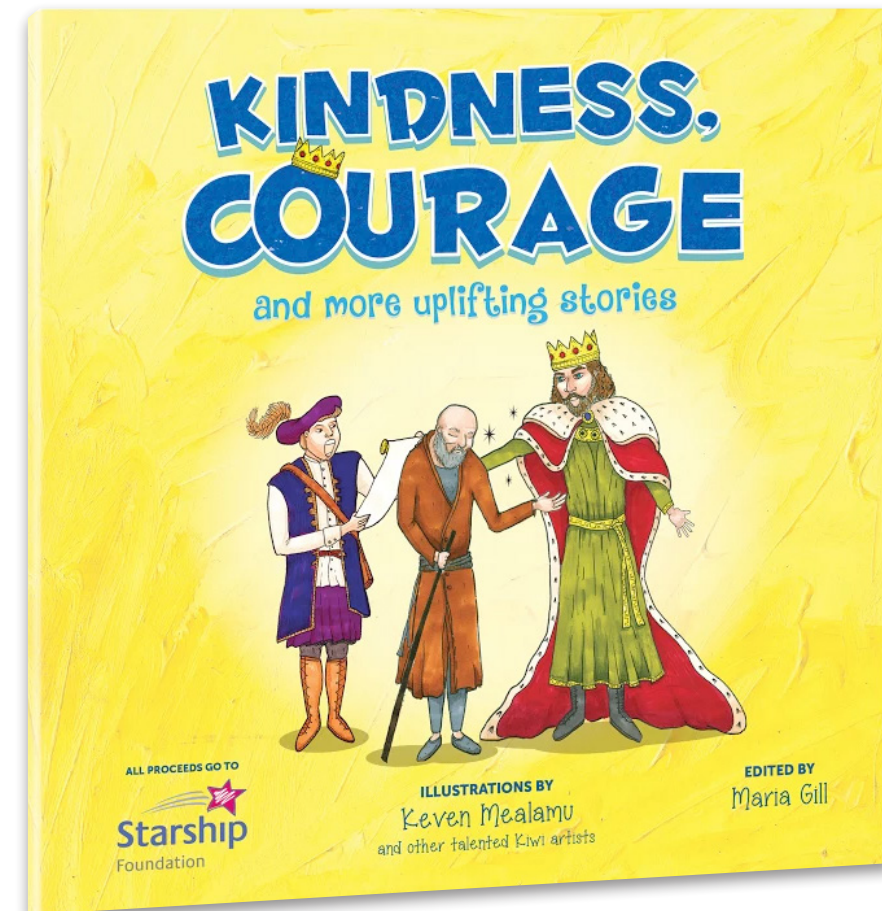
Have you ever wondered how a blind beggar and a lame man could get to a king's birthday party on time? How a gorilla can swim? Or what it might be like to ride on a magical flying library?

Well, whether you have or you haven't, you'll find the answers in our new 2016 Storybook, a delightful collection of short stories, written by the nine winners of the Barfoot & Thompson Young Authors Challenge.

And if you buy a storybook, funds raised help purchase a new, age appropriate book, for every child who spends a night in Starship, to take home. This "Buy-One, Give-One" scheme is a wonderful way for you to share the magic of reading with your own little ones, and with a sick child too. What an amazing thing to be able to do.

This year's edition, which is called "Kindness, courage and more uplifting stories", has been beautifully brought to life by a star-studded line-up of illustrators including Keven Mealamu, Hannah Jensen and Otis Frizzell. As always, all proceeds will go into our "Magic of Reading" programme at Starship.

To purchase your own Storybook and support this wonderful programme, visit starship.org.nz/storybook



'Kindness, Courage and More Uplifting Stories', is the ninth Barfoot & Thompson Storybook for Starship.

Leaving the world a little better than you found it...

IT'S REALLY EASY TO LEAVE A BEQUEST TO YOUR FAVOURITE CHARITY AND EVERYGIFT COUNTS, NO MATTER HOW LARGE OR SMALL. YET ONLY 40% OF KIWIS HAVE PREPARED A WILL.

As a generous Starship supporter, we already know how much you care about helping others. But did you know that by leaving a gift to one or more of your favourite charities in your Will, you can carry on making the world a better place even after you're gone?

And the good news is that anyone can leave a legacy in this way. Not just the very wealthy. You can leave a gift of any size. And every gift counts. After taking care of your family and loved ones, you can specify just how much you'd like to leave to your favourite charities. Using a percentage system makes doing this even easier.

Of course, we hope very much that you might include Starship. Every bequest left to us is a treasure that goes on making a real lasting difference in the lives of sick and injured children for years to come, almost as though you're still there by their bedsides.

It's a beautiful thing to do, and incredibly easy too.

If you are interested in helping future generations of Kiwi kids in this wonderful and fulfilling way, here are three simple steps you can follow to get things going:

1. Call our bequest officer Karen Blake, to let her know and to arrange a 'no-obligations' chat about the amazing impact your bequest can have on our work.
2. Speak to a solicitor about making or amending your will.
3. Tell your family and friends, so there are no surprises, and so they have the chance to support you in your act of kindness and compassion.

We'll tell you more about the importance of bequests to our future plans and work in your next issue of Friendship.

In the meantime, if you'd like to find out more, please call Karen Blake on 0800 782 774 or email her at kblake@adhb.govt.nz. Thank you!

Baby birthday bonanza!

STARSHIP'S LITTLEST FUNDRAISER.

Violet and Zhi Kuo were so grateful for the medical treatment their little angel Mikayla received at Starship that they decided to do something very special for her first birthday.

They asked friends and family not to buy birthday presents for her, but instead, to donate the money they might have spent to the Starship Foundation. Zhi and Violet saw it as a way of celebrating the birthday milestone of their healthy, thriving daughter, and a special way to give back to the hospital that took such good care of her.

As Zhi and Violet told us: "Little Mikayla had visited Starship on a number of occasions, and in every single instance we received tremendous support and exceptional care from everyone we interacted with at the hospital. To show our appreciation and to assist Starship care for the children of New Zealand, we decided to set up a fundraising page and we asked that anyone who wished give Mikayla a birthday present make a donation to Starship Foundation instead."

Their idea was so well received amongst their friends and family that when Mikayla's 2nd birthday came around Zhi and Violet did the same thing again.

And this is something you can do too! If you have a special birthday or other occasion coming up, you could hold a party and ask your friends to make a donation to Starship in lieu of buying presents.

You can even set up your own Everydayhero fundraising page to receive direct donations from your friends and family, instead of collecting money. It's really easy to do, and we can help you if you have any questions. Just call Krissy on (09) 307 8949 or email her at kgarnham@adhb.govt.nz. Thank you!



Little Mikayla has been in Starship four times.



Cool Pops for a cause

Do you remember our 'Watermelon Ice Pops for Starship' recipe tea towels and aprons designed by the amazing Ruby Seeto? We featured them in the last Friendship.

Well, Ruby's recipe has inspired New Zealand's nicest ice block maker, Nice Blocks, to create a brand new watermelon & lime flavour Nice Block to keep you cool and refreshed this summer. And every one you buy will also raise funds for Starship.

In fact, the money raised from both the special

edition Nice Blocks, and from Ruby's 2016 tea towel, will go towards a unique new Ovarian tissue cryopreservation project which aims to protect the fertility of young female cancer patients who are at high risk of infertility related to their cancer treatment.

The new special edition Nice Blocks will be available at selected New World supermarkets and other independent retailers for a limited time this summer, and Ruby Seeto's tea towel and apron is still available to purchase in-store and online from Wallace Cotton.

Pictured above: Starship patients enjoying the delicious watermelon and lime Nice Blocks.

Purple pals!

ZEUS PACKAGING BRIGHTENS UP NEW ZEALAND'S COUNTRYSIDE WITH A PLAYFUL PARADE OF PURPLE PACKAGING

If you're driving around the country and pass a chirpy looking crew like this one on the roadside, you'll know it's all for a good cause. Because while children will find them delightful to spot on long boring car journeys, each and every one is also raising money for ill and injured Kiwi kids at Starship, New Zealand's national children's hospital.

The "Purple Project" is the brainchild of Zeus Packaging NZ, a company that has launched what it believes is New Zealand's best silage bale wrap, called Epicrop. Every time a customer buys one of their special purple wraps or nets, Zeus Packaging will make a donation to support the patients, families and staff of Starship.

As Zeus Packaging NZ's CEO, Andre Syben, told us: "It's a privilege to support the community. We believe that investing in this joint venture means we are investing in our society and in the health of the community by supporting seriously ill children and their families from all over New Zealand". Thank you Zeus Packaging and all your customers!

To find out more or order purple bales for your farm, please visit www.purplebales.co.nz



Who wouldn't smile at these chirpy bale wraps? And each one is raising money for kids at Starship too!

You're a star!

STAR CLUB MEMBERS HELP STARSHIP FLY INTO THE FUTURE...

Star Club members like you are so special to us. That's because your regular monthly donations are helping Starship fly into the future. Regular donations help provide children from all over New Zealand access to:

- The Starship National Air Ambulance
- Life-saving equipment
- Refurbished clinical spaces and child-friendly spaces
- Highly trained staff

You save children's lives, and that's why you're among our most treasured supporters.

If you are not yet a Star Club Member and want to join or find out more, please call Jodie Queenin on 09 375 3445 or email jodieq@adhb.govt.nz

HERE ARE SOME OF THE LITTLE ONES YOU'VE HELPED...



To make a secure donation online, please visit www.starship.org.nz/donation

To find out more about donating every month, please call Jodie Queenin on 0800 782 774 or 09 375 3445.

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Thank you so much for being
one of the amazing people
who keeps us prepared to
care for children like Alexis.

