

# FRIENDSHIP

Celebrating  
25 years

Starship  
Foundation

Autumn 2017

GIVING IS THE BEST MEDICINE



A big thank  
you



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## A note to you, from Brad...



Brad's children Kaitlin (6) and Bailey (3.5)

Dear friend,

As you can probably imagine, life here at Starship is never boring!

The corridors ring with the mingled sounds of laughter, tears, machinery, patients, staff and so much more. We witness a thousand small miracles every day, there are ups and downs, huge leaps forward in development and infrastructure, and many unforeseen obstacles along the way.

But through it all, we can always rely on amazing people like you to help us through. Your generous and continuing support is a constant beacon of hope for all of us who work here, for our brave young patients, and for the mums and dads who rely on us.

You help keep us at the cutting edge of medical care for children, providing Kiwi kids with the best equipment, the best environment and the finest medical expertise there is. I can never thank you enough, but one thing I can do is share the good news with you through the latest issue of Friendship, your supporter newsletter

I really hope you enjoy catching up on all the latest news. You are at the heart of every story, every achievement, and everything we do here for the sick and injured children of New Zealand. Thank you so much for supporting our work with such commitment and generosity.

With my warmest regards,

*Brad*



## Rooster booster!

Everyone in Parnell knows how lucky they are to have Starship Children's Hospital just across the Domain. And this good fortune was the inspiration behind the Parnell Business Association's decision to raise funds for the Starship National Air Ambulance this year, so that they could bring children from all over New Zealand to receive expert medical care.

With 2017 being the Chinese Year of the Rooster, the Parnell Business Association created a unique exhibition honouring the Chinese New Year by inviting 38 local artists and celebrities to create life sized Rooster sculptures. After several weeks on display throughout Parnell, the artworks were auctioned off at Mossgreen Webb's auction house.

Thanks to the efforts of everyone involved, an amazing \$19,500 was raised, all of which goes directly to the Starship National Air Ambulance.

Starship wants to say a huge thank you to everyone involved, from sponsors Barfoot & Thompson Parnell and Mossgreen Webb, to the amazing artists and celebrities – like TV presenter Erin Simpson, artist Erika Pearce, ex-All Black Tony Woodcock, and actress and opera singer Leila Alexander – who created so many beautiful artworks. And of course, to the amazing people of Parnell who made the fundraiser such a wonderful success.

Thank you all!



Artist Erika Pearce putting the finishing touches to her rooster sculpture, named 'Mikey' after her father.



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

If you would like to hold your own fundraising event for Starship, big or small, contact Charlotte on [charlotteben@adhb.govt.nz](mailto:charlotteben@adhb.govt.nz)





# Mum says “Thank You!”

"WITHOUT STARSHIP, MUMS AND DADS LIKE US WOULDN'T HAVE OUR LITTLE ONES WITH US TODAY."

for \$44,250 to buy a new piece of brain monitoring equipment in March. And we were also appealing for funds to buy other essential new equipment in February. Both appeals were for equipment just like that which helped save Natalie's life.

At just three months old little Natalie was diagnosed with a rare tumour the size of a tennis ball in her brain. Immediate surgery to remove it was the only option. And even after that, she was still not out of the woods. Four brain seizures followed in the difficult weeks afterwards.

Without the incredible support we receive from amazing Starship donors like you, our PICU would not have all of the cutting-edge diagnostic equipment needed to save little ones like Natalie.

The simple truth is, your support helps to save lives like Natalie's.

Once again, you responded to our call for funding by donating generously to our last appeal for equipment. As you may recall, we were looking

And we are delighted to tell you that in total, wonderful supporters like you helped us to raise \$307,340! So we want to say a really HUGE thank you to you all.

Natalie's mum and dad, Shelly and Paul know only too well just how important your gifts are, which is why they asked us to pass on this message of thanks to you...

"Starship saved our daughter's life and we want to say a huge thank you to people for their support of this incredible hospital. Without your amazing donations, Starship may become limited in their ability to diagnose and treat our young ones! I just encourage people that every donation, big or small WILL make a huge difference. Thank you so much"



Natalie, now 2, loves music, and dancing.



Natalie enjoying a Nice Block after watching her Dad, Paul, run the Barfoot & Thompson Half Marathon for Starship in 2016.



Baby Natalie recovering at Starship Hospital.

The equipment you helped us to buy was essential in so many ways, but most of all in helping us to diagnose conditions that are very difficult to detect.

Children struggle to describe different kinds of pain and discomfort. Hurt is hurt. And of course, babies can't even tell us where it hurts. The only way we can find out is by using specialist paediatric equipment designed for tiny little bodies. And having the latest and the best equipment ensures that Starship remains one of the world's leading children's hospitals. Nothing else is good enough for New Zealand's little treasures!

It was vital equipment like this that helped us to diagnose Natalie's condition, pinpoint her tumour

with precision, and operate successfully. So again, thank you so much for helping us to continue providing little ones like her with the best medical care in New Zealand.

You'll also be pleased to hear that Natalie is doing really well. She's two and a half now, and a confident and independent little girl who is full of life.

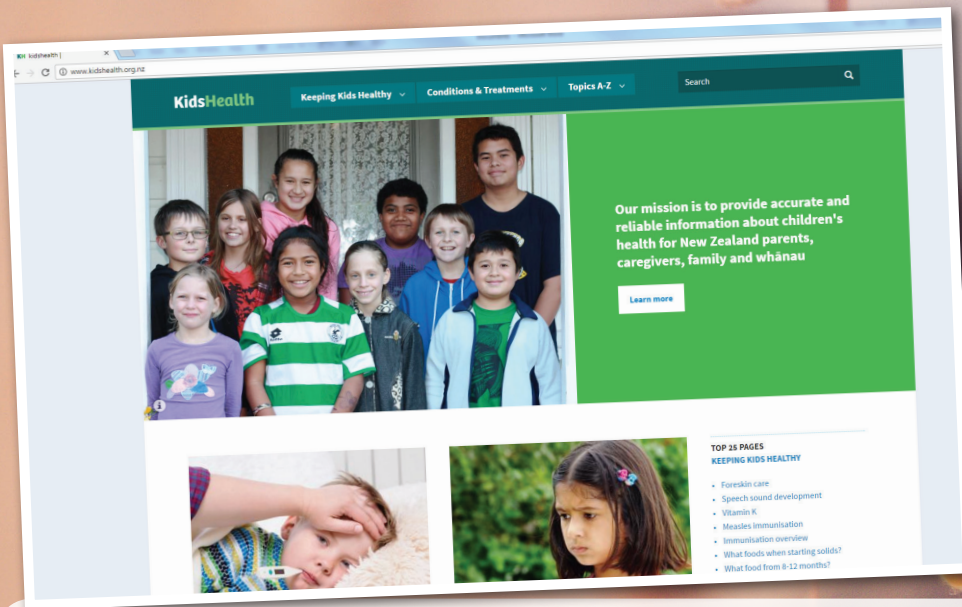
"To look at her today, you'd never know she'd been through anything close to what she has," says Shelly. "She loves music and dancing, and she's getting into dance classes. We can't get her to stand still because she's always twirling and doing the splits. We wouldn't be having these moments had it not been for Starship."

Thank you so much for your awesome support!

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

To make a secure donation online, please visit [www.starship.org.nz/donation](http://www.starship.org.nz/donation)





# www.kidshealth.org.nz

NOW YOU CAN GET EXCELLENT, RELIABLE CHILDREN'S MEDICAL ADVICE ANYWHERE, ANYTIME!

You're concerned about your child and you're not sure what's wrong.

Chances are you do what every parent or grandparent is tempted to do in this situation... consult Dr. Google. But which website is best? Do any of them have information relevant for Kiwi families? Can you even trust the internet at all?

Fortunately, you can if you visit **kidshealth.org.nz**.

That's because all of the content on **kidshealth.org.nz** was written by Kiwi paediatricians for Kiwi children and families. It's a joint initiative of the Starship Foundation and the Paediatric Society of New Zealand, supported by the Ministry of Health. So you know you're getting accurate, reliable, and

most New Zealand-focused medical information on the internet.

Everything is laid out clearly in an easy-to-use website that tells you when you should see a doctor immediately, when it's okay to wait a while, and when you're good to manage things at home yourself. It covers heaps of conditions and there is lots of information about keeping kids healthy as well.

**So the next time someone you know is surfing for children's medical information, make sure to tell them about kidshealth.org.nz.**

**Thank you for helping to support this great resource!**

We'd love you to be a Facebook fan.  
Like us at [facebook.com/starshipfoundation](https://facebook.com/starshipfoundation).



## Your voices...



"WHY I DECIDED TO MAKE A LONG TERM COMMITMENT TO STARSHIP 16 YEARS AGO."

Starship supporter Elizabeth Young talks about how she became a regular monthly supporter of Starship long before she became a mum, or even knew anyone with children.

Friendship: You started supporting Starship when the hospital was only in its 9th year, what inspired you to do that?

*Elizabeth: I loved the idea of an environment so focussed on healing children. So many children have been looked after by Starship, the impact they've had on so many lives is remarkable. My contribution is only small, but I look back and it's one of the most rewarding things I've done in life.*

Friendship: And why did you choose to donate through a regular monthly gift?

*Elizabeth: I wanted to do something meaningful and lasting, and to me that meant making a long-term commitment. The amount has never been huge, but it's been regular. Looking back, I am really pleased to have taken this approach.*

Friendship: When you began donating to Starship, you were still in your early twenties and didn't have children of your own, has having a child changed your perspective at all?

*Elizabeth: Yes definitely, my relationship with Starship has taken on more meaning. It's only in the last year that I've personally known anyone to have been cared for by Starship. So while I feel very lucky that my son*

*has been blessed with good health, I have a deep appreciation of what is available if I ever need it.*

Regular supporters like Elizabeth make a huge contribution to our work.

And it's not just the amount they give, it's their constant commitment that really counts. So if you're a regular supporter too, thank you so, so much for everything you do. You're a star. And you're changing children's lives for the better every single day.



Elizabeth and her son. "I wanted to do something meaningful and lasting," says Elizabeth.

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



# Bank on it!

ASB, YOU'VE BEEN DOING US PROUD FOR 25 YEARS!

Over the years Starship has had so much support from individuals, communities and businesses, but the support we've received from ASB is the kind you can really bank on.

In fact, ASB has been with us since the very beginning, and is currently celebrating 25 years of life-changing support for the sick and injured children of New Zealand.

Thank you ASB! An entire generation owes you a huge debt of gratitude. And the same goes for all of your Starship supporting customers too!

To celebrate this milestone, ASB recently launched a campaign to fund the refurbishment of Starship's Emergency Department waiting room. You might have seen the ads on your TV screens recently, asking people to make a \$3 text-to-give donation.

ASB has also been running two in-bank campaigns over the last 6 months, where the bank has donated \$25 to Starship for every term deposit account opened.

The net result is likely to be an amazing \$200,000 to help fund the new Children's Emergency Department waiting room. Something that's really needed right now. The upgrade will provide better distraction aids to relieve stress for parents and young patients, better patient flow, more comfortable seating, and a reconfigured space to accommodate growing patient admissions.

**And we want to thank everyone helping ASB to raise the funds needed to make it happen. Thank you!**

# Hoodies save lives!

THANK YOU SKY TV FOR KEEPING KIDS COSY ON RESCUE FLIGHTS TO STARSHIP!

SKY has been an amazing Five Star Partner of the Starship Foundation since 2015, generously helping us to contribute \$1.5 million a year to the Starship National Air Ambulance Service.

The team at SKY always go the extra mile for New Zealand's sick and injured children. Not long ago, after they heard from the Air Ambulance flight nurses that retrievals can often take up to 12 hours, with no opportunity for staff to eat, they decided to begin providing regular "Snack Packs" for flights.

Then more recently, they stepped up once again when they heard about the clothing dilemma many families face.

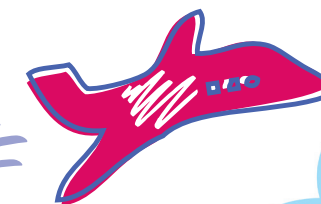
You see, many parents step aboard with nothing but the clothes on their backs when their child was injured. Pyjamas, shorts and T-shirts, or even just swimming togs, are often all they have. And then there's the fact that many children have to have their clothes cut away for emergency medical procedures while they're on board.

The result, after a long, traumatic flight, is cold kids and cold mums and dads too. So once again, SKY swooped in with some fantastic warm clothing. Sweatshirts and warm socks for mums and dads and gorgeous hoodies for children.

**So on behalf of everyone who needs the Starship National Air Ambulance... thank you SKY, and thank you to all SKY viewers too!**



Thank you SKY for caring





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

## EVERY CHILD AT STARSHIP NEEDS A GUARDIAN ANGEL. COULD YOU BE ONE?

As our Guardian Angels will tell you, committing to leave a gift to a favourite charity in your Will is one of the most satisfying and uplifting things you can do.

By leaving a gift in your Will, you will join our treasured Guardian Angels in helping to heal and care for future generations of New Zealand children.

Bequests are a beautiful way to help, and they change peoples lives. Bequests to Starship allow us to invest in the surgeons, specialists and nurses who care for ill and injured children. Bequests can also invest in state-of-the-art equipment and ground-breaking research to ensure Starship Children's Hospital can continue to provide world-class care.

We believe that every child being treated at Starship needs a Guardian Angel watching over them. And so our Guardian Angels truly are some of our most treasured supporters. By joining this

special family of friends, you can help us to plan for the future so that tomorrow's Starship will be just as good, if not better, than it is today.

As one of our Guardian Angels, Margie, told us: "Becoming a Starship Guardian Angel after making my bequest was a lovely way to be acknowledged. And having seen how things have improved in my lifetime, I know I will never regret leaving a gift to benefit children at Starship in the future."

**If you are interested in becoming a Starship Guardian Angel, or would like to find out more, you can speak to Karen Blake by calling her on 0800 782 774 or email her at [kblake@adhb.govt.nz](mailto:kblake@adhb.govt.nz).**

In our next issue of Friendship we'll go into more detail on the nuts and bolts of becoming a Guardian Angel, and the different types of bequest you can choose.

Thank you for your incredible support!

## Celebrating Starship's 25th Birthday



1991 - 1996



VAUGHAN  
SOMERVILLE  
EARLY STARSHIP  
PATIENT

"You may just see me for me. But I'm different.

My exterior hides my flawed interior. You see, I have cystic fibrosis.

The way the doctors talk to you like you're a person. The way the nurses always put a smile on your face. The way the physios always push you harder.

The care itself doesn't just deal with the physical – it deals with your whole hauora. Your physical, your emotional, your social and your spiritual well-being.

The care Starship provided me was all this and more. It's not only allowed me to be here today, but also be the person I am today."

1997 - 2001

KARYN BYCROFT  
PALLIATIVE CARE NURSE  
PRACTITIONER AT STARSHIP

"On balance, I would say the rewards that come with my role outweigh the really tough times, believe it or not," comments Karyn who joined Starship in 1999.

"We have really sad days, but I think one of the things about children is that even though they may or may not survive their illness... children are incredibly positive."



2002 - 2006

BEVERLEY  
GRAHAM  
STARSHIP  
VOLUNTEER



Beverley held the role of Volunteer Coordinator from 1988 until 2005, responsible for the training and rostering of volunteers across services including Hospital Grandparents, the Toy Library and Starship's Information Desk.

Beverley maintains that the most lasting memory for her is the amazing dedication and caring of the wide range of volunteers.

"I really enjoyed meeting all these people who willingly gave some of their precious time to brighten up the lives of others."

When Beverley retired from her position in 2005, she transitioned straight into becoming a Starship volunteer herself and has enjoyed giving back to the community of Starship children and their parents.

To find out more about becoming a Starship Guardian Angel, please phone Karen Blake on 0800 782 774 or 09 375 3466.

To read more stories like this please visit [www.starshipbirthday.co.nz](http://www.starshipbirthday.co.nz)



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*"Without Starship, mums and  
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