

# changing Lives



For our supporters

The growing need  
for bibic's help  
in schools

Why every legacy,  
big or small,  
is needed

Meet Martha  
and Emilia

You've changed their lives

James aged 3

A lifetime  
of giving

bibic patron Tony Brett tells  
us why he is passionate about  
making life a better place to  
be for kids with disabilities

ISSUE 3  
2017



**bibic**  
changing children's lives

[www.bibic.org.uk](http://www.bibic.org.uk)

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## Lynda Williams writes...

Hello and welcome to the third issue of **Changing Lives** which will once again highlight the impact of your support. Over the past year you've helped 192 children, improving theirs lives!

Since joining bibic a year ago, I have focused on developing and increasing our amazing dedicated team. We have taken on three new therapists who are currently being trained so that we can help more families.

Juliet Hall has joined the team as Operations and Development Manager. She'll be working to increase our reach and services for families. In fact, this coming year bibic will be taking therapy to families, delivering an outreach clinic in London and the North.

With less funding being provided by local authorities to support children with additional needs in schools, there is an ever-growing need for bibic's expertise. So, we've been working with school professionals, equipping them with the skills to recognise developmental difficulties early on, thereby enabling children to access support sooner.

Yet again the demand for bibic services has increased and it's thanks to YOU our supporters that we can continue to change the lives of children with disabilities. This year we need to raise £600,000 just to break even. We really need your help.

Please donate today, become a regular giver by Sponsoring a UK child, or take up a challenge and raise vital funds to help desperate children.

bibic receives no funding from the government to provide its life changing service and has relied on public donations and gifts in Wills for over 45 years. In fact, gifts in Wills currently support 1 in 5 children at bibic. More details about why we need legacies can be found on page 7.

Every donation, no matter how big or small, matters. It means another child can face a future with a brighter outlook.

Together, we are making a difference to children and families and that's **THANKS TO YOU** for your continued and loyal support. Without you and your donations there would be no bibic.

You are amazing.

**Lynda Williams**  
Chief Executive

## On the cover

**"Before we came to bibic, James could not hold eye contact, or even sit up on his own, he was mute and screamed as if in pain most of the time. He couldn't bear to be touched.**

James now looks into my eyes and smiles as I cuddle him, he can talk like other children his age and he no longer screams, but laughs. He can not only sit, but can run around with the energy only seen in little boys. I'm exhausted! James is now loving life and it's because we received the help we needed from bibic. We are forever grateful. Thanks bibic!" - **Anna, James' mum.**



Martha aged 2

# Martha

It is easy to make an online donation just visit [www.bibic.org.uk](http://www.bibic.org.uk)

**One of the most difficult things about caring for a child with a complex condition, like our youngest daughter Martha, is the number of different specialists and therapists involved. It seems as though every week you're dealing with a different 'ology'.**

Even when she was safely inside my womb Martha gave us a taste of what was to come. My mother-in-law has a heart condition that might be genetic, so, at twenty weeks pregnant, I was given an extra scan to look at her heart. She didn't have the condition but they did notice that one side of the heart was bigger than it should be, some of the veins were in the wrong place, and they thought they could see a hole. Suddenly 'cardiology' became a word often used in our house. But at that stage we didn't really believe that anything could be that wrong.

Then they found a dilated kidney. Then at 32 weeks it was short long bones. Then the dilated kidney became a duplex

kidney. Several scans later, culminating in an uncomfortable two-hour long anomaly scan at 37 weeks, I found myself being offered an amnio by a slightly panicked looking consultant.

I was numb and confused. I could feel Martha moving around inside me. As was frequently the case, she had hiccups. I refused the test.

Martha was born two weeks later by elective C-section with a small army of 'ologists' on standby. **Straight away it was clear that something was very wrong.** She couldn't breathe properly on her own, her blood wasn't clotting and she was covered in bruising and a rash of broken blood vessels.

The first time my husband wheeled me to the incubator to see her and I reached in and curled my finger around her tiny hand, she grasped it - and then started hiccupping. I cried with relief to have the baby that had been inside me in the world and for the first time I realised how scared I had been that she wouldn't make it.

We stayed in hospital for a month of platelet transfusions, x-rays, ultrasounds, blood tests, heel pricks, urine samples, hearing tests and lights shone in her lovely silvery eyes. A month of urologists, nephrologists, haematologists and

cardiologists and more needles than I ever want to see near my child again.

She grew gradually stronger and I grew gradually crazier. When I looked at her elfin features while I was battling to feed her, or she was sleeping in my arms, I felt sick with love and fear. **She was utterly beautiful to me, but also almost otherworldly. And I could see the signs – the low set ears, the folds in the corners of her eyes, her slightly shortened limbs. I knew.**

When the genetic results came through at the end of that first month with what the paediatrician delicately termed ‘something interesting’, we weren’t that surprised. But we weren’t prepared for how rare it was. **Jacobsen’s Syndrome, only two hundred people in the world have been diagnosed.**

The only information they could give us was a leaflet downloaded from the internet. We took our leaflet, our list of new friends - the ‘ologists’, and our especially unique little girl home. Then the journey really began.

Nearly three years later and Martha is a very tiny, very delayed, but very adventurous little girl. She has substituted hiccupping for burping like a grown man (often followed by a knowing grin).

**Currently she’s engaged in an attempt to wear through the knees of a record-breaking number of trousers through the means of super speedy crawling. She can’t walk, she can’t talk and she’s not bothered. Neither are we, she is happy and so are we... most of the time. But it hasn’t always been like this and bibic played a huge part in helping us to reach a positive place with her.**

From the early days it was clear she wasn’t developing. When she was tiny she was frighteningly passive. She hardly did anything. Feeding was a nightmare. I was at my wits end. I was desperate for help, but referrals to therapists were slow to materialise. Meanwhile I drove myself mad on Google trying to work out what I was supposed to be doing. How was I supposed to help her?

When the NHS therapists did come, it was a relief for a while, but I soon began to feel that none of them quite addressed the issues Martha was facing. I had another list of new friends now – physio, speech and language, portage and occupational therapy. The ‘ology’ list had reached epic proportions with the addition of two different types of haematologist, an immunologist, a neurologist, an audiologist, an ophthalmologist and an endocrinologist.

We were drowning in appointments, medical letters, care plans and more medical jargon than a feature length episode of Casualty. But somehow it didn’t seem to come together.

And then, one day, thanks to my late father-in-law’s terrible daytime TV habit, it did. He rang us, excited after a particularly gripping episode of ‘Saints and Scroungers’. It had featured a small charity working with children with brain injuries and disability. We Googled it, and there was bibic.

**Our first visit to bibic, just before Christmas 2015, was like having a curtain pulled back.** What really struck us about the approach of the therapists was how holistic it was. They dealt with the whole of Martha, a complete revelation after the approach of the NHS medical professionals, which was divided into all those different specialisms. For the first time, all the blanks that I had felt were there started to be filled in.

We learned all about the way her brain was working and how she probably perceived the world, about all the things that could be getting in the way of her development. We learned a structured programme of exercises that we could do with her everyday. **We learned that she could kneel, something we’d never even tried with her. Seeing her upright and supporting herself on a little table with her hands was the most exciting thing that had happened the whole year, we suddenly had a glimpse of a little girl with a measure of independence, an impossible dream before that moment.**

Back at home we followed the bibic programme and started to see improvements. As a bonus, we also now had a much better understanding of the programmes our NHS therapists had given us, and were able to incorporate them as well. Progress was still slow (it always will be with Martha), but much steadier and much more visible. **Eventually she learned to crawl - proper, cross-pattern crawling. I wouldn’t have believed it six months before.**

Once she gained the independence of crawling, it was like a key had been turned. Suddenly her fledgling personality blossomed, **her giggles became fits of gurgling laughter and her snuggles full-blown hugs.** Her sister transformed from someone to be just watched from the floor, to someone to be manically chased around the room and, slightly less adorably, have her hair pulled. An incurably nosey and affectionate little girl was revealed.

**At our second visit to bibic at the end of last year, the therapist managed to get her to hold her bottle herself while she lay on her back and drank. Another impossible dream realised in about five minutes flat.** The bibic therapists are supportive, but they pushed us. They pushed us to see what Martha might realistically be capable of and how she might get there. They helped us to see when our protective instincts were actually preventing development, and they helped us to see the difference we could make. **We felt empowered, and relieved, and excited for the future, all at once. All emotions that, frankly, had been denied to us since Martha’s birth.**

**There is no cure for Martha’s condition. She is missing over 14 million pieces of genetic material on her eleventh chromosome and there’s no way of getting that back. She will never be independent. But bibic has helped us to find a cure for the helplessness you feel in the face of such genetic finality. I can’t describe what a gift that is to families like us. If you can support bibic please do, you too will be making a difference.**

Written with the gentle memory of Geoffrey Toop in my heart. Deeply missed avid daytime TV watcher, father, grandfather, bibic-finder.

**Laura (Martha’s Mum)**

**It's easy to help kids like Martha. Please donate today by making a secure online donation at [www.bibic.org.uk](http://www.bibic.org.uk) or by using our donation form and freepost envelope enclosed with this issue of Changing Lives.**

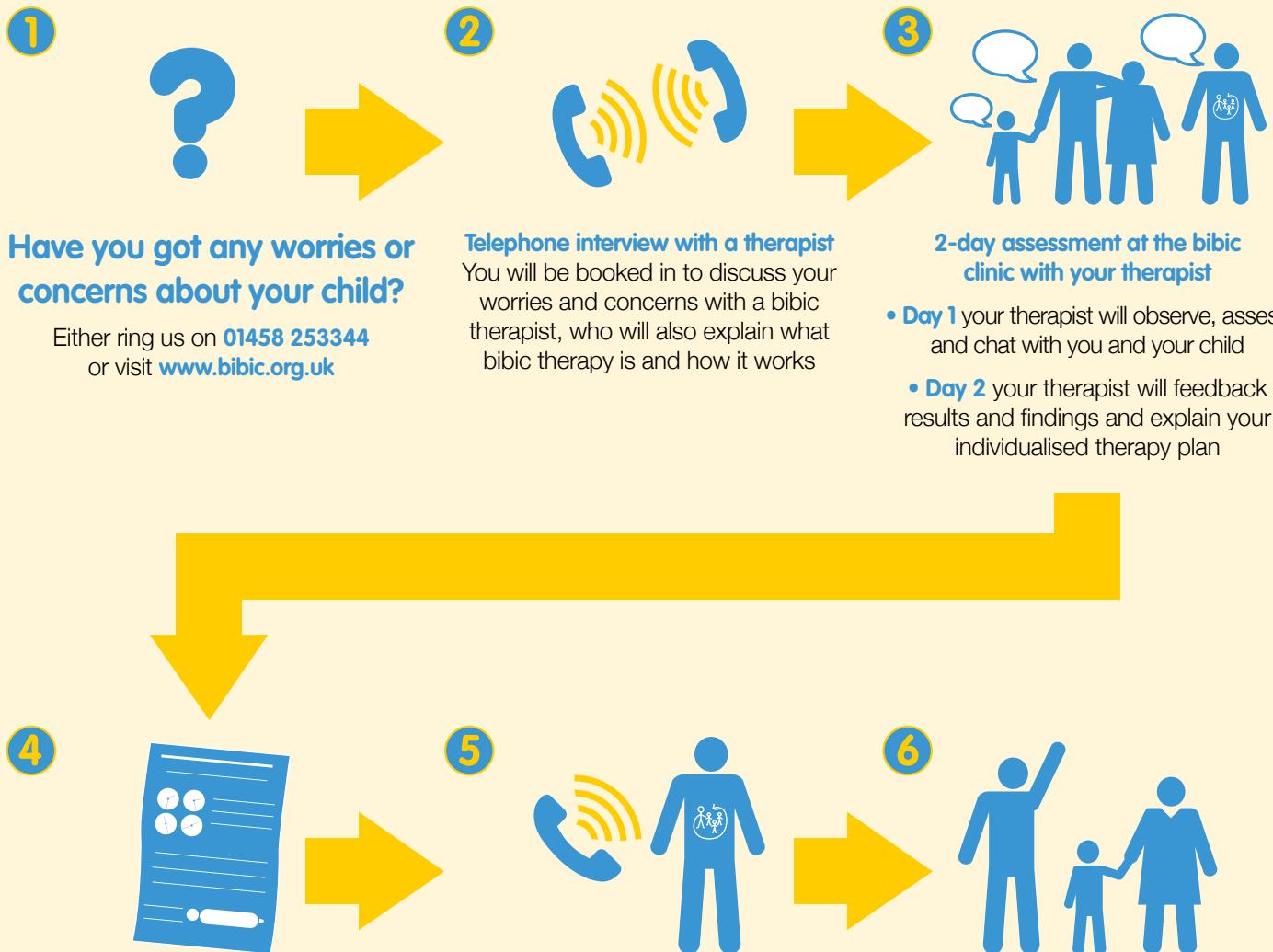
# bibic services

## Our assessment service explained...

It is estimated that by 2031 there will be 450,000 children living in the UK with a Learning Disability\*. Children struggling with developmental or learning difficulties deserve to receive the help and support they need to live a life without fear or frustration. bibic offers that help to children either with, or without, a diagnosis.

\*Papworth Trust 2016

Learning difficulties can last a lifetime but, with the right therapy, bibic can support children and families to make things easier for children and young people at home and at school. Helping them to achieve things that were once thought impossible.



### After your assessment you will receive your child's report

Written by the therapist you saw. You can share this with family members, schools and social workers to make sure your child gets consistent support

### For 6 months you will have contact with your therapist

Whether it's calling to have a chat or emailing, your therapist is there to guide and assist with your therapy plan

### After this 6 months you can come back for a re-assessment

You might want to wait a little while before you visit us again or you may feel that you've received all the help you ever needed and not need to re-visit bibic

# What families said...

Parents returning for reassessment have commented that they have noticed the following changes in their child because of completing the bibic therapy programme:

**"Freddy is so much more confident"**

**"bibic is the best place for understanding, helping and supporting me and my family. My son has thrived since coming to bibic"**

Elizabeth, Tom's mum.

**"Grace is a lot calmer"**

**"Harry has less meltdowns"**

Josh's dad Adam said

**"bibic has helped me to realise that I am not a failure as a parent – I just need to be taught and guided to use different methods to help my little boy manage the world around him"**

**"Chloe is doing much more for herself"**

**"bibic has given us an understanding of our daughter that has helped us so much. With the little simple life changes and understanding bibic has made our lives worth living and fun again"**

Jo, Abbey's mum



**"I am so proud to be working for bibic.** As a charity, bibic provides a much needed, unique service, so important to families of children with any type of additional need, recognised or not. bibic helped my family at a time when we didn't really have any idea where to turn. They have helped us to overcome many obstacles unique to families struggling with behaviour issues, difficulties in school and a lack of understanding about your own child.

The bibic therapists provide support and it is essential we help bibic to grow so that this support can be available to many more."

**Juliet Hall | Operations and Development Manager**

**Can we help a child you know?**

Just call our Family Services team on **01458 253344** or visit **www.bibic.org.uk**

**We'd love to hear from you.**

# Gifts in Wills

## support 1 in 5 children at bibic!

Dorothy, a lifetime supporter of bibic, wanted to leave a lasting legacy behind. Emilia's mum Sam tells us about the impact Dorothy's selfless gift has had to her special girl.

### Emilia

The shock hit me like a fist under the ribs, my stomach wrenched, I felt sick. **"Mum, Emilia was sitting alone in the playground with her anorak hood covering her head".**

**I'd watched Emilia struggle to be accepted by other kids**, I'd watched as she played alongside other girls, her physical difficulties hindering her ability to join in. **I'd seen her little face hoping to be accepted.**

She'd try to say hello to other kids but all that came out was a mumble. Her behaviour was repetitive and some children teased her. **She was unable to cope in a world she didn't understand.**

She knew she was different, she hated herself and told me "I feel like giving up". That was the worst thing. But, in the security of our home, I could see what lay beneath. A caring, loving child who longed to be happy.

The following day I trawled the internet, desperate to find something that might help us. **I found bibic's website and picked up the phone. That day changed our lives.**

I can remember our drive home from bibic. The feeling of hope. We knew what we could do to make life better for Emilia. We were strong and Emilia smiled the whole way home. We'd spent two whole days with a therapist who not only assessed every aspect of Emilia's development but helped us to understand what was going on inside Emilia's mind and body. We were taught how to become Emilia's therapist and had a comprehensive list of exercises and strategies to aid her. **I could finally do something to help my lovely daughter.**

Within a week we'd received a report from bibic, it specified in developmental terms every issue Emilia had. I took the report to our local authority. They couldn't ignore us anymore. It was all there in black and white.



Emilia aged 11

**Just 1% of your estate will change a child's life.**

Emilia was now coming to her final few weeks of primary education and in the final hour our local authority granted a full educational health plan so she could attend a much smaller SEN secondary school. She'd be safe. Then came the diagnosis of autism and it all became clear.

Although we have a long way to go with Emilia, she has started to show signs of improved confidence. Her anxiety has improved, she smiles more these days and she hardly ever mumbles. She's also able to express how she feels now and this means I can make her feel better.

**She is beginning to be able to cope with daily life and is able to sit and read with me, which is our special time together.**

We are forever grateful to the kind people who support bibic and leave gifts in their Wills, the work they do is truly remarkable. **My little girl will never sit alone in the playground again.**

Thank you, Dorothy, for giving my daughter the best gift she'll ever receive. You've changed our lives.

**Sam xxx**

**Leaving a gift in your Will that will cost you nothing now, is a way you can help children like Emilia.**

# Why we need gifts in Wills

**Sadly, disability is poorly funded in the UK. In fact, less than 8% of disabled children receive a regular support service of any kind from their local authority\*.**

With 100% of families saying that bibic provided the help, support and guidance they needed for their child, you can be confident that bibic uses your donations to make the biggest impact\*\*.

bibic receives no funding from the government to provide its life changing service and has relied on public donations and gifts in Wills for over 45 years.

Your gift will give children like **John** (pictured) and **Emilia** (page 7) a better life.



## How to leave a gift in your Will

**Whether you have a Will already, or you're planning to write your first Will, it really isn't hard to do. It's best to visit a solicitor, and this is the wording they need to use.**

**If you'd like to leave a percentage of your estate...**

Subject to the payment of my debts, funeral and testamentary expenses, I give the whole % of my estate (indicated in the box below) not otherwise disposed of by this my Will to bibic Registered Charity No. 1057635 of Old Kelways, Somerton Road, Langport, TA10 9SJ for the general purposes of bibic and I declare that the receipt of its Treasurer or other proper officer shall be a full and sufficient discharge.

%

**If you'd like to leave a specific amount of money...**

I give free of tax to bibic, Registered Charity No. 1057635 of Old Kelways, Somerton Road, Langport, TA10 9SJ, the sum of £ for the general purposes of bibic and I declare that the receipt of its Treasurer or other proper officer shall be a full and sufficient discharge.

If you'd like to add bibic to your existing Will, you can do this easily and cheaply with a codicil. Just speak to your solicitor about this.



**A gift in your Will, large or small, will give a child a better life.**

## Our Legacy Promise

**When you include a gift in your Will to bibic:**

- We will use your gift wisely and effectively to bring happiness and fulfilment to children with disabilities
- Your loved ones come first – we respect that and won't try to change it
- We will answer questions honestly and quickly
- We won't put you under pressure – this is a big decision so please decide in your own time
- You don't have to tell us your decision – we respect your right to privacy
- We welcome you to visit us to see our services first hand – just get in touch

**Our vision** is to be able to help **EVERY** child that needs us. We would like to achieve this in the next 20 years. Every gift, no matter how big or small, will make it happen. If now is the time for you to make that change, leaving a gift to bibic in your Will is the way to do it.

If you've decided to remember bibic in your Will, we'd love to thank you. Just tick the relevant box on the 'gifts in Wills' section of the enclosed donation form and return to us in the freepost envelope provided.

If you'd like to discuss anything relating to leaving a gift in your Will, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact Carla Bloomfield on **01458 253344**, or email **carla.bloomfield@bibic.org.uk**.

If you'd prefer to write, **Carla Bloomfield, bibic, Old Kelways, Somerton Road, Langport TA10 9SJ**.

**He gets his eyes  
from his mum,  
his personality  
from his dad...**

John aged 8

**...his happiness  
from a gift in a Will**



## In loving memory

**A lovely way to say goodbye...**

'My dad, a proud, kind and loving man, asked for The White Cliffs of Dover to be played at his funeral. He was adamant that he didn't want flowers, saying he'd rather people donated money to help the children at his favourite charity, bibic.'

The funeral director took care of the collection and sent bibic the cheque. Within a few days, we were delighted to receive a lovely thank you letter from bibic along with a drawing that one of the children had recently done. It really did brighten my day. The letter also

came with an invite for us to visit their therapy centre, so that we could see first-hand the difference the donations in memory of my dad had made.

I took my sister along and not only did we receive a very warm welcome, we also got to look around and spoke to a therapist who works with the children every day. He told us about the daily struggles that the children endure and how the therapy works and transforms lives. We were very moved that our dad had thought to help these children.



At the end of our visit we were asked if we wanted to remember our dad by writing in bibic's Remembrance Book, which we did. I cannot tell you the feeling I had inside knowing that dad, now gone, had made a difference to children in real need. It was a lovely way to remember dad and the thought of it still makes me smile today.'

**Irene, loving daughter of Ted.**

There are many ways to help bibic's children in memory of a loved one. If you'd like to have a chat about your options we'd love to hear from you. Please call Carla Bloomfield on **01458 253344** or email **carla.bloomfield@bibic.org.uk**

# Our challenge champions!

**There is no challenge too big or too small when it comes to raising money to make lives better for kids with disabilities.**

We love it when that call comes in, or that email pops up, and someone is telling us they're abseiling here, running there, climbing this or jumping off that.

## Paul Chard

**Running 26 miles on a Sunday isn't for everyone but Paul Chard did just this, taking part in the London Marathon 2017!**

Slightly anxious on arrival Paul said he had a great day. His favourite moment was crossing the finish line to meet his wife, Cornish pasty in hand to help him 'start the recovery process'.

Paul faced some challenging moments, wondering whether he would be able to complete the race, but then he thought of all the support he'd received from friends and family and of all the children at bibic he was helping, so with emotions running high he really pushed himself and reached the finish line.

When asked why he chose to support bibic Paul said "they are a great charity that offer help to those who need it most. As a teacher, this was an obvious charity for me to support".



**Paul**



**Helen Rudd**

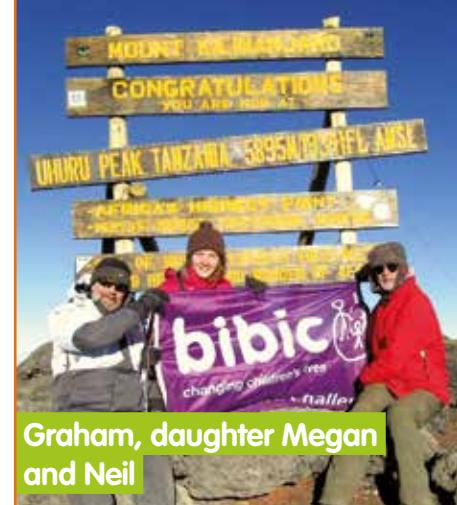
**Helen has been supporting bibic through our Sponsor a UK Child scheme since 2014. This year she decided to go the extra mile, or 3 miles to be exact, raising £1,084.00 for the children that need our help.**

The Rudd family have all supported bibic in their own individual ways. Helen's parents also donate via Sponsor a UK Child and her brother, Simon, has run marathons to raise money for bibic.

After being knocked down in the street 11 years ago Helen suffered a severe brain injury causing her difficulties when carrying out day to day tasks. Choosing to walk the promenade in Hastings unaided was a big deal for Helen, but she did it!

Helen told us there were a couple of moments her legs wouldn't do what they were told, but that thinking of the children she was helping really spurred her on saying "Learning about what the bibic children go through has helped me come to terms with my own injury".

After 1 hour 20 mins Helen reached the finish line, and whilst polishing off her well-earned fish and chips a lovely thought was running through her mind; "I have just done that for the children at bibic".



**Graham, daughter Megan and Neil**

## Graham Valentine

**"Like living above the clouds". This is how bibic therapist Graham described his journey to the peak of Mount Kilimanjaro.**

Graham has been a bibic therapist for 16 years and over this time has taken part in many fundraising activities, but climbing almost 4,500 meters up Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa with his eldest daughter Megan and bibic supporter Neil Blackley, was a once in a lifetime experience.

Altitude sickness was a major worry of Graham's, as it can hit anyone no matter your age, health or fitness. Luckily this did not get him, and he was able to enjoy the trek with his fellow walkers and the brilliant guides, who spent one evening entertaining them with tribal singing and dancing!

Graham's toughest moment was the final push to the peak. With no sleep, walking through the night. After a quick photo on reaching the peak the decent began, rushing down to 4,500 meters within 3 hours to avoid altitude problems.

"I work with children who have to climb mountains every day, so I decided to climb a mountain for them." Graham Valentine, Children's Therapist at bibic.

## Fancy a Challenge?

bobic's fundraising team are here to help you choose your challenge if you haven't already, and support you in your fundraising.

If you're thinking of taking on a challenge to raise money to help disadvantaged kids please call Molly on **01458 253344** or email **molly.johnston@bibic.org.uk**



# "I did it for bibic!"

Molly, Marketing & Fundraising Officer - bibic

**Challenge yourself and  
change a child's life**

Abseil, run, walk, climb and jump!

We've got a challenge for everyone

**Interested? Let's have a chat!**

Call me, **Molly**,  
on **01458 253344** or  
email **molly.johnston@bibic.org.uk**

[www.bibic.org.uk/support-us/events/](http://www.bibic.org.uk/support-us/events/)

# Ray's journey...

It's time to celebrate our relationship with Ray, who is the 'face' of bibic's regular giving scheme, Sponsor a UK Child. So, we've put together this feature about Ray's development over the years. He is a truly remarkable boy.

Ray has been visiting bibic since he was a baby. All smiles and gums. He's now 6 years old and still wears his smile like a 'ray' of sunshine, as his name suggests.

Each time Ray visits bibic, he is assessed and a new therapy programme is put in place to further aid his development. (The assessment process is explained on page 5).

We'd like to show you that, despite the odds, many things are possible.

## IN THE BEGINNING

"Ray was just 6 months old when we discovered that he had suffered a stroke at birth. The damage to his tiny brain was horrendous. Doctors could not say what the future held. Would he talk, would he walk, would he ever live an independent life?"

**Neill** (Ray's daddy)

## Ray's Development Timeline

**2011**

**1st visit to bibic**      **7 months old**

Ray did not use his right hand at all. He was restricted in the range of sounds he could make and was generally quiet.

He was unable to sit unsupported and had restricted mobility.

**2011**

**2nd visit to bibic**      **1 year old**

Ray could sit independently, bottom shuffle and could pull himself up onto furniture, his understanding was above what was expected of his age. He could say 'mama'. He could finger feed and make marks on paper.

**2012**

**3rd visit to bibic**      **1 year 6 months old**

Eleven months into the bibic programme and Ray had started to walk! He was beginning to overcome his reluctance to use his right leg. Balance had improved. Ray was almost age appropriate in some areas such as expressive language and comprehension.

"The uncertainty of how things would unfold put a lot of pressure and strain on everyday life. So, I think it was with the release of that pressure and just sheer parental relief that I cried the day he took his first steps". Neill (Ray's daddy) September 2012



**Ray Aged 2 with mum, dad and therapist Graham**



## Sponsor a UK Child

**2013**

**4th visit to bibic**      **2 years' 7 months old**

Ray ran into bibic! (There were lumps in throats all round). He could kick a ball without falling over and could put a few words together. His comprehension was now age appropriate. He managed to stand on one foot on his weak side! His right hand still had restricted use and he was reluctant to use it.

**2014**

**5th visit to bibic**      **3 years' 1 month old**

Ray had started nursery, which he thoroughly enjoyed. He had made a big leap forward with toileting and was now dry day and night. His language skills had really improved – he was a little chatterbox!

**2015**

**6th visit to bibic**      **4 years' 1 month old**

Ray greeted his therapist with a 'high five'. He'd started to form friendships at nursery and even managed to play chase and join in with more able-bodied children. He was proving to be quite popular, especially with the girls! He started to adapt his well working limbs to overcome physical problems caused by his brain injury. Some abnormalities were observed indicating issues with visual perception. It was also noted that there were issues when processing information. He was very dependent on adults to support his needs.

**2015**

**7th visit to bibic**      **4 years' 10 months old**

His social development continued to improve. Ray was also more confident physically, managing physical challenges which were specifically difficult for him. Now attending Primary School for 3 hours a day, with the school implementing the bibic therapy programme to further aid his confidence and development.



**Ray Aged 6 and his dad Neill**

**2016**

**8th visit to bibic    5 years' 8 months old**

Bouncing up the stairs, face beaming, Ray couldn't wait to show his therapist that he could write!

Despite this huge achievement, Ray was struggling to express himself and found it hard to keep up at school. This led to frustration and some subsequent behaviour problems. Sadly, forming friendships was hard for Ray because he found it difficult to keep up with conversation in the playground. He was often left out.

**2017**

**9th visit to bibic    6 years' 2 months old**

Ray was becoming more self-aware of his disabilities. Still struggling at school, not understanding, getting nervous, anxious and angry. He was struggling academically and socially. Positively, he continued to amaze us with his physical ability, beating able bodied children in races at school.

Sponsor a UK Child 

**"We are so grateful to those who support bibic's work and we are comforted to know that people care enough to help our special boy. Thanks, you will never know how much it means to our family to have your support."**

**Tara (Ray's mum)**

## Why not join our Sponsor a UK Child scheme today?

You'll ensure that bibic can be there to help Ray beat his frustrations and succeed in areas restricted by his brain injury.

It's easy to join up either on-line at [www.bibic.org.uk/support-us/sponsor-uk-child/](http://www.bibic.org.uk/support-us/sponsor-uk-child/) or by filling in the enclosed Sponsor a UK Child form. Just £5 a month will make a difference. You'll receive a welcome pack and regular updates on Ray's progress.



## JUST £5 A MONTH

**Sign up today and receive a limited-edition keyring.**

How will my regular donations to Sponsor a UK Child be spent?

The demand for bibic's service is huge. Although you'll receive updates on Ray, the money you donate will be used to help fund the service for every child that needs bibic.

**A massive thanks to those who are already supporting Sponsor a UK Child!**

# Supporting children in schools...

Department for Education (DfE) statistics published last year showed there were more than 1.3 million children in England - 15% of pupils - identified as having special educational needs or disabilities.

Of these, 1.1 million are in mainstream schools rather than special schools.

A study by The Key 2016, which provides leadership and management support to schools, has suggested that:



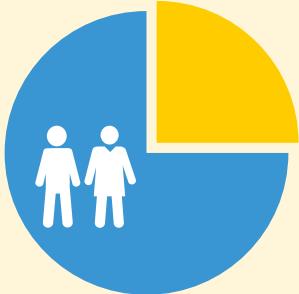
**82%**

of mainstream schools in England **do not have sufficient funding** and budget to adequately provide for pupils with Special Educational Needs & Disability



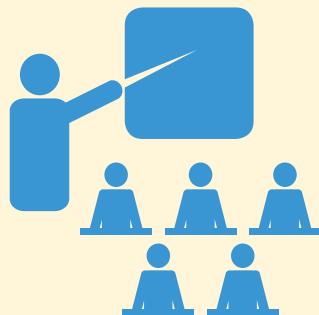
**89%**

of school leaders believe cuts to local authority services have had a **detrimental impact on the support** their school receives for pupils with Special Needs



**Three-quarters**

of schools have pupils who have been **waiting longer than expected** for assessment of special educational needs, or an education, health and care plan



**88%**

of school leaders think initial **teacher training does not adequately prepare teachers** to support pupils with Special Needs

## How we support schools

With less funding being provided by local authorities to support children with additional needs, there is an ever-growing need for bibic's school service.

bibic therapists are providing teachers with the knowledge and skills they need to help children with problems such as challenging behaviour, lack of concentration and communication difficulties.



bibic therapists not only train teachers, but observe individual children who demonstrate challenging behaviour in a learning environment. The behavioural responses that are seen are frequently associated with difficulties with the brain's ability to process sensory information, and the children may often be, incorrectly and sadly, labelled as 'naughty.'

Therapists often observe the children in lessons, PE, Forest School, during playtime and lunch breaks, so that a full picture of a child can be seen and understood.

The struggles of a child can take the form of day-dreaming, or zoning out, appearing clumsy, uncoordinated or



**Tom aged 7**

Please donate today  
visit [www.bibic.org.uk](http://www.bibic.org.uk)

doing a lot of crashing and banging into or on objects and people. Some children become upset when stopping one activity and starting another, others are very sad because they don't have the ability to interact and relate to their peers.

Other common issues are children that are unable to adjust to and meet challenges that arise, for example asking for help or problem solving. Many children have problems maintaining an optimal alertness level for learning, for example energy levels that are too high or too low.

When things become overwhelming children become frustrated and may lash out, or run off and frequently find themselves being removed from the classroom and often from school.

**bibic can help:** we feed back our observations to parents and staff, explaining what might be the cause of these responses. We supply strategies, ideas and types of resources that can help support the child to focus, improve concentration and, importantly, learn more effectively.

Looking to the future, supporting children in the home and school

environments enables continuity of interventions to be tailored across both settings. Maximising positive outcomes for the child, the family, teachers and other pupils.

Schools benefit from the knowledge shared, communication is improved between parents and the school, so they can have a clearer idea of strategies that they can utilise whenever they see a child struggling.



### Providing training for **98** professionals

bibic provided sensory processing, managing challenging behaviour and early indicators in development delay training to 98 professionals and carers in the past year!

# bibic needs more **TRUSTEES**

## Role of the Trustee

As a trustee of bibic, you will be responsible for developing and guiding the strategic direction of the organisation as well as ensuring the long-term stability of the charity. You will need to persuade, influence and communicate effectively with the rest of the board as well as to speak for the organisation in a variety of settings.

We are specifically looking for trustees with skills in Fundraising and Finance.

### Fundraising

We are looking for someone who has a broad knowledge of fundraising and will be able to offer advice to the Trustee board, ideally you will hold a senior position within the charity sector.

### Finance

We are looking for a trustee who has a good understanding of accounts in the charity sector who will be able to work with the CEO and the Trustee board to advance the charity.

### Governance

We currently have eight trustees who meet as a full board six times a year and a finance and audit committee who also meet six times a year, although this is generally a conference call.

In addition, there is an expectation that Trustees will become actively involved in the charity which will require attendance at fundraising and key operational events.

### Interested?

Please contact Lynda Williams CEO on **01458 253344** or email [lynda.williams@bibic.org.uk](mailto:lynda.williams@bibic.org.uk)

# Our caring community

The generosity of our caring community always amazes us. Passionate individuals, considerate community groups, helpful local businesses and hardworking volunteers. You're always there to help the children that visit bibic and ensure they get the support they desperately need.

Here are just some of the amazing people that have shown just how much they care.



## Martock Charity Shop

Martock charity shop has been supporting bibic for over 10 years now and during that time has donated over £23,500!

The independent charity shop is run by lovely volunteers who all work incredibly hard to raise money for children's charities in the South West. Their support has enabled 22 children and their families to receive the help they so desperately need from the therapists at bibic. **Great work ladies!**



Langport & Somerton  
Rotary Club

## Langport & Somerton Rotary Club

Langport and Somerton Rotary Club raised a fantastic £1,000 this year after choosing bibic as their Charity of the Year. They raised these funds through collections at their regular meetings and special events such as their barn dance. It has been a wonderful year getting to know the members of the club, and we'd like to say a huge thank you!

Please follow us on  
Twitter and Facebook



@bibic\_charity



bibic



## Paul & Nicky Robins

After receiving a massive £5,000 donation from The Masonic Charitable Foundation, bibic's Lynda Williams visited the Somerset Freemasons to talk about how that donation would make an impact to children with disabilities.

Paul and Nicky Robins, members of the Corinthian Pillar Lodge, were really touched at finding out about the work that bibic does. In fact, they were so inspired that they decided to organise some events and raised a fantastic £730.00! There were bingo nights and a Ladies Festival as well as collections. These much-needed funds will help a desperate child live a better life. How wonderful!

## Volunteers

A special thank you is always needed for bibic's volunteers. A small, but very hardworking and dependable group, they can be counted on to help in any way they can, going above and beyond to make a difference to children with disabilities.

The support of our community is vital. If you would like to offer your help, or donate to bibic please contact Molly Johnston on **01458 253344** or email [molly.johnston@bibic.org.uk](mailto:molly.johnston@bibic.org.uk)

## Individuals

Caring and generous. Responding to our appeals for help and signing up to regularly donate via the Sponsor a UK Child scheme. bibic's local community can always be counted on to help in their own special ways. Thank you all so much for your dedicated support.

# Join our £1 lottery

## Weekly £25,000 jackpot!

Every Saturday bibic's Unity Lottery players are in with a chance of winning £25,000. Could you be this week's winner? Sign up to our Lottery via Direct Debit by downloading an application form from our website and posting it back to us for free.

### Here's how it works...

- The cost per weekly entry is only £1 (payable as £4.34 per month by Direct Debit) and you can buy as many entries as you like – the more you buy, the more likely you are to scoop one of our top prizes!
- When you sign up you will receive a unique number(s) and details of the first prize draw you enter. Your number(s) will then remain yours and be entered into our weekly draw for as long as you continue to play.
- Every Saturday, the lucky winners are selected at random and prize cheques issued and posted directly to you, so there is no need for you to claim. You must be 16 or over to enter. Winners have to match 3, 4, 5 or all 6 digits of the winning number in the correct place in the sequence

**6 digits in the correct place wins £25,000**

**5 digits in the correct place wins £1,000**

**4 digits in the correct place wins £25**

**3 digits in the correct place wins £5**

If you're the lucky winner of any of our prizes then congratulations! There is no need to claim – prize cheques will be sent out to you automatically.

Winning numbers can be checked:

- On the bibic Facebook page
- Or by visiting the Unity Lottery Result page

You can play for as little as £1 per week. 50p of every £1 is guaranteed to go straight to helping bibic change children's lives. The remaining 50p will be used to provide prizes and cover administration costs.



# Trust in us

## Thank you to trusts and foundations!

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the trusts and foundations who have supported bibic over the last year. Your support has helped us to employ bibic therapists and deliver life changing work to 192 children and their families.

The support of trusts is so very important to bibic, we simply wouldn't be able to deliver our vital work without their help. This year we are appealing to trusts and foundations for their support towards a number of projects, including:

### Gold appeal

This year we need to raise £80,000 towards the core costs of bibic. Receiving no government funding, bibic is reliant upon the generosity of trusts and foundations and local communities to support us in the funding of our general running costs.

It costs bibic £1,500 to support a child and their family with assessment and therapy programmes. We ask for a contribution of just 30% from families towards this overall cost. It is only through support of grants and donations that we can continue our work. We also offer a fee waiver to families who are

unable to contribute to assessment costs – no family is turned away due to their financial situation.

### bibic Stars

Directly support our wonderful therapists as we strive to reduce our waiting list this year, enabling us to reach families and children desperately seeking our help. Our target for this project is £75,000 per year.

### bibic near you

Help us to deliver mobile clinics where families need us the most, helping to make bibic services more accessible to families and reduce isolation. It costs us around £9,750 (depending on location) to deliver a 5-day mobile clinic.

### Precious Times

Support our project to help raise awareness about the importance of early intervention, support families and provide assessment and therapy plans to pre-

school children. Our target for this project is £86,000 per year.

As part of our commitment to your support and in appreciation of donations you give, we ensure to keep in regular contact with your trust, acknowledge your support, keep you updated on bibic news, complete evaluations when requested, provide 6 monthly newsletters and invite you to visit our assessment centre in Langport.

bibic has developed a new trusts strategy this year to deliver a comprehensive package of communication and update service to all the trusts and foundation contacts we work with.

### How your trust or foundation can support bibic

As a trust or foundation, you can support our work in many ways, including a one-off donation to a specific project, annual payments towards our core costs or even setting up a regular payment direct to our bank.

If you would like to find out more about our trust funding needs, or how your charitable trust could help bibic with its vital work, please email [fundraising@bibic.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@bibic.org.uk) or call 01458 253344.

**Please get in touch and be a part of bibic's life changing future today!**

# A lifetime of giving

Tony Brett and his family have been supporting bibic's work with children for over three decades. They've not only donated money but raised hundreds of thousands of pounds at a number of bibic fundraising balls to help children with disabilities.

We interviewed Tony about his passion for making life a better place to be for kids with disabilities.

## Q When did you first get involved with bibic?

Almost thirty-three years ago, the new-born baby of a very good friend of mine was diagnosed with Down's syndrome. The family were told that their first son would never live a normal life and they weren't sure he would live to be an adult. It was obviously a huge shock for the family at what should have been one of the happiest times of their lives.

I was actually with them in the hospital when they were told and I just wanted to do something to help. We started looking for a charity that could give them some support and we found bibic. That was the start of what has been a huge part of my life.

From the first visit to bibic in Knowle Hall all those years ago, my wife Jane and I could see it was a very special charity that was supporting children and families in some of the most challenging situations.

## Q What has kept you motivated to support bibic for all these years?

Over the years, we have seen the difference bibic makes with our own eyes. The help and support they provide to families is truly life changing. Jane and myself feel privileged to be part of that and we get a huge amount of pleasure and pride in being involved.

## Q A key part of your support has been organising bibic fundraising balls – how did that come about?

I started fundraising for bibic by having charity raffles in my office in the 1980s where I got all my clients and contacts to get involved. These grew in size to the point where they were raising around £25k a raffle. So, I thought we could take that to the next step, make more of an event around it and hopefully raise even more money for bibic. We organised the first bibic ball around fifteen years ago and it's still going strong.

When I retired a few years ago, my son Paul offered to take over the lead and he is supported by my other children,



Tony and Jane

the wider family and all our friends. It's become a real cross-generational event that is a very special night in the year for everyone who attends.

## Q What do you think the future holds for bibic?

The need for bibic's services has never been greater. When I heard about the first bibic child who had graduated from university a few years ago, it was a real milestone. That child would never have achieved that without the support of the charity. We will continue to support the amazing work that bibic is doing so that every child that walks through their doors can have the hope of a better life.

## Thank you Tony!

Your commitment and loyalty to bibic's work has bought happiness to hundreds of struggling children and their families.

You are invited to a

## Charity Christmas Ball

In aid of bibic, helping to change children's lives

Saturday 25th November 2017  
Grange St Paul's Hotel, London EC4V 5AJ

Champagne reception, 4-course dinner, live & silent auction, live music & dancing!

Black tie  
Tables of 10 at £200 per person  
Includes 6 bottles of wine per table

R.S.V.P.  
Emily Brett [emilybrett@hotmail.com](mailto:emilybrett@hotmail.com)  
Paul Brett [pbbrett@inlandplc.com](mailto:pbbrett@inlandplc.com)

**bibic**  
changing children's lives  
Registered Charity No. 1057635



Please follow us on Twitter and Facebook



@bibic\_charity



bibic

# Could your company help us to change children's lives?

If you are reading this article, you will already know about the amazing difference that bibic makes to children's lives every year.

We often get asked how people can help us to do more... If you work for a company you can help us in a number of ways!

bibic is looking for companies to support our fundraising and raise money to change the lives of children and their families every year.

By supporting bibic your company will see a positive impact on everyone involved! Customers and the wider community will view your company as more socially responsible and supporting a charity can help to increase sales.

There are lots of different ways to support bibic from organising team and personal challenges, to recycling unwanted clothes, buying a ticket to take part in bibic's new lottery or volunteering your time to help us in our office or at one of our many fun events.

Our team will be here to support your company's fundraising. Amongst other benefits we will send regular updates about how the money raised is making a difference and promote your fundraising efforts to help gain positive coverage in the media.



## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Nominate bibic as your Charity of the Year – many companies ask staff to put forward a charity close to their heart
  - Talk to us about approaching your company
  - Pass us the details of your relevant colleague and we will do the rest
- To find out more call Molly on **01458 253344** or email [molly.johnston@bibic.org.uk](mailto:molly.johnston@bibic.org.uk)

## Payroll Giving

You can Sponsor a UK Child through your employer's Payroll Giving Scheme!

If your workplace offers Payroll Giving you can Sponsor a UK Child now by asking your HR department to set up your monthly donation to bibic charity registration no 1057635

A £5 a month donation will cost you just £4! The taxman pays the rest. Don't delay, Sponsor a UK Child today!

Are you an employer or an employee and want to know more about Payroll Giving? Just call Carla who will be happy to give you advice and information - **01458 253344** or email [carla.bloomfield@bibic.org.uk](mailto:carla.bloomfield@bibic.org.uk)



Sponsor a UK Child

# Workplace wardrobe clear out!

**Why not organise a clothes throw in your workplace for our 'Bags of Help' project?**



Charlie

- 1 Ask your colleagues to 'Gok Wan' their wardrobes – we'll supply the recycling bags
- 2 You arrange a collection day
- 3 Your bags will be recycled

We'll let you know how much you've raised to help kids with disabilities

**Yes, it really is that easy!**



**In addition to clothes, you can also donate...**

- Paired shoes
- Bags
- Soft toys
- Bric-a-brac
- Mobile phones
- Unused cosmetics

To arrange your workplace wardrobe clear out just call Sarah on **01278 453132** or email [info@bagsofhelp.org.uk](mailto:info@bagsofhelp.org.uk)

Bags of Help company registration no. 08123932

## Bartercard



Since 2003, bibic has been working with Bartercard, a business to business trade exchange that has a network of members across the UK.

bibic's valuable work with disabled children is regularly talked about within the network and donations and corporate partners are created with the exchange of trade pounds.

bibic uses the donated trade pounds to purchase raffle prizes, corporate days and even sponsorship packages to raise much needed funds to help the children.

In addition, bibic uses its Bartercard account to offset regular everyday business expenses like printing costs, bouncy castle hire for events, car signage and a new telephone system.

bibic has a close working relationship with Bartercard Account Manager, Laura Jones, who promotes the good work of bibic, raising thousands of Bartercard pounds each year for the cause. Laura even took part in a terrifying abseil last year to raise vital funds. Screaming herself from the top to the bottom of a cliff face, Laura was petrified but she 'eventually' made it down in one piece. Laura's dedication to changing the lives of children with disabilities is phenomenal.

**Thank you, Laura!**

## fontology<sup>∞</sup>

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Coming soon...



Changing children's lives with every cake!

Keep an eye on our website [www.bibic.org.uk](http://www.bibic.org.uk)  
and follow us on social media...



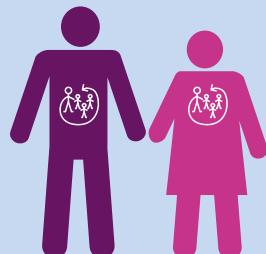
@bibic

@bibic\_charity



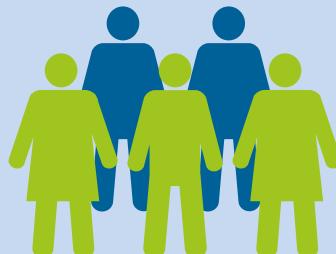
# Let's celebrate!

## Snap shot of achievements in the last year



**3**

new children's therapists



**192**

children helped



**301**

We worked with 301 parents and carers

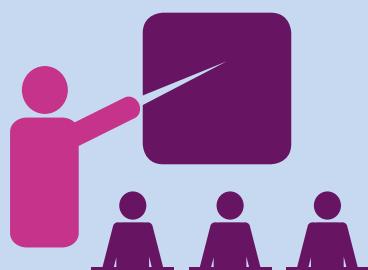


**£212,877**

donations including gifts in Wills

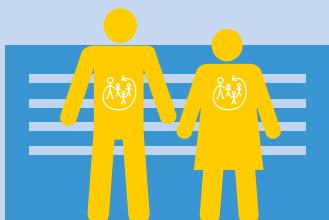


We helped children from all over the UK



**98**

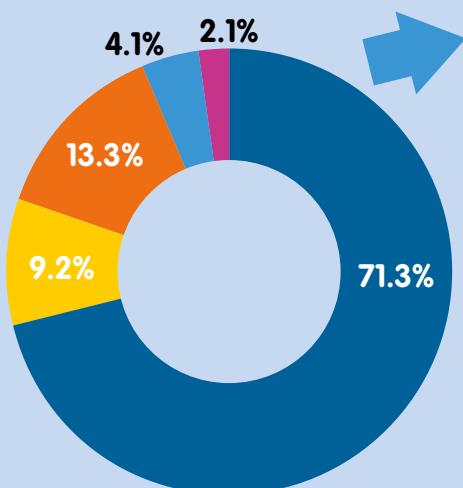
professionals and carers received bibic training



**2**

new relationships with schools

### Services provided



**2 day Assessments**

**1 day Assessments**

**School Assessments**

**Johansen IAS Sound Therapy**

**Training**



**5,479**  
followers



**1,861**  
followers

You can change a life today. You can make a donation using the form enclosed, or make a secure online donation at [www.bibic.org.uk](http://www.bibic.org.uk)

# Thanks for making it happen!

Behind bibic's team of dedicated therapists, you stand.  
**THE PERSON THAT WANTS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**

You stand with bibic to make a change to children who deserve a better life. *Because together WE CAN make a difference.* WE CAN change lives.

**You get out your cheque books.** You make the effort to go online and make a donation. You give a little every month, you Sponsor a UK Child! You round people up, you organise fundraising events. You climb, walk, run and jump! You push yourselves to the limit. You sell cakes at work, you ask your boss for a donation. **You donate your unwanted clothes, stick your loose change in a collection pot.** You like us on Facebook. You respond to our appeals for help. *You remember bibic's children in your Will when you've gone.*

You believe in our work. You are loyal friends.

**You change children's lives, forever.**

**We need you to help. Please donate today.**

Freepost RTHG-BBGL-KCZZ, bibic, Old Kelways,  
Somerton Road, Langport TA10 9SJ    01458 253344

Reg. Charity No. 1057635

