

## Charity hosts Christmas carol service to raise £10,000 for families in need

Monday 23 November, 2015

A charity that supports the families of sick children by providing them with 'Home from Home' accommodation so they can be by their child's side is hosting a Christmas Carol Service in the hope of raising over £10,000 so it can continue to support families across the UK with children in hospital.

The Sick Children's Trust is inviting you to come along to its 5th Christmas Carol Service on Thursday 3 December at St Marylebone Parish Church, London. The evening will include celebrity readings by acclaimed actress Vanessa Redgrave, *Downton Abbey's* Penelope Wilton, *Our Girl's* Ben Aldridge and the charity's Vice President Anita Dobson. Guests will also enjoy musical performances from renowned Irish Soprano Margaret Keys and the Boutcher Primary School Choir. Wine and mince pies will follow the service to continue the Christmas merriment. **Special Events Manager, Hannah Ellis, says:**

"The Christmas Carol Service goes a long way towards helping us support families across the nation throughout the year, not just at Christmas. While the event is brilliant, bringing our valued supporters together with families who have stayed in our 'Homes from Homes' – it also reminds us that this Christmas many families will be staying with us while their children are seriously ill in hospital."

Last year, the Christmas Carol Concert saw 670 guests attend, raising a record £11,280. Last year, over the Christmas period, the charity supported 331 families with critically ill children in hospital.

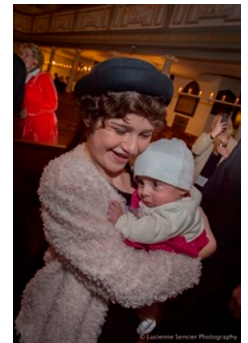
Hannah adds: "This is a much-loved event and we expect this year's service will be extremely popular. Tickets are £15 and are available from the website. We hope to see you there!"

All the proceeds from the Christmas Carol Service will go towards running the 10 'Homes from Home' The Sick Children's Trust provides across the country, including three in London and two in Cambridge which support specialist children's hospitals.

For further information on how to get your tickets, please visit:

[http://www.sickchildrenstrust.org/Get\\_involved/Special\\_Events/ChristmasCarolService2015/index.html](http://www.sickchildrenstrust.org/Get_involved/Special_Events/ChristmasCarolService2015/index.html)

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