

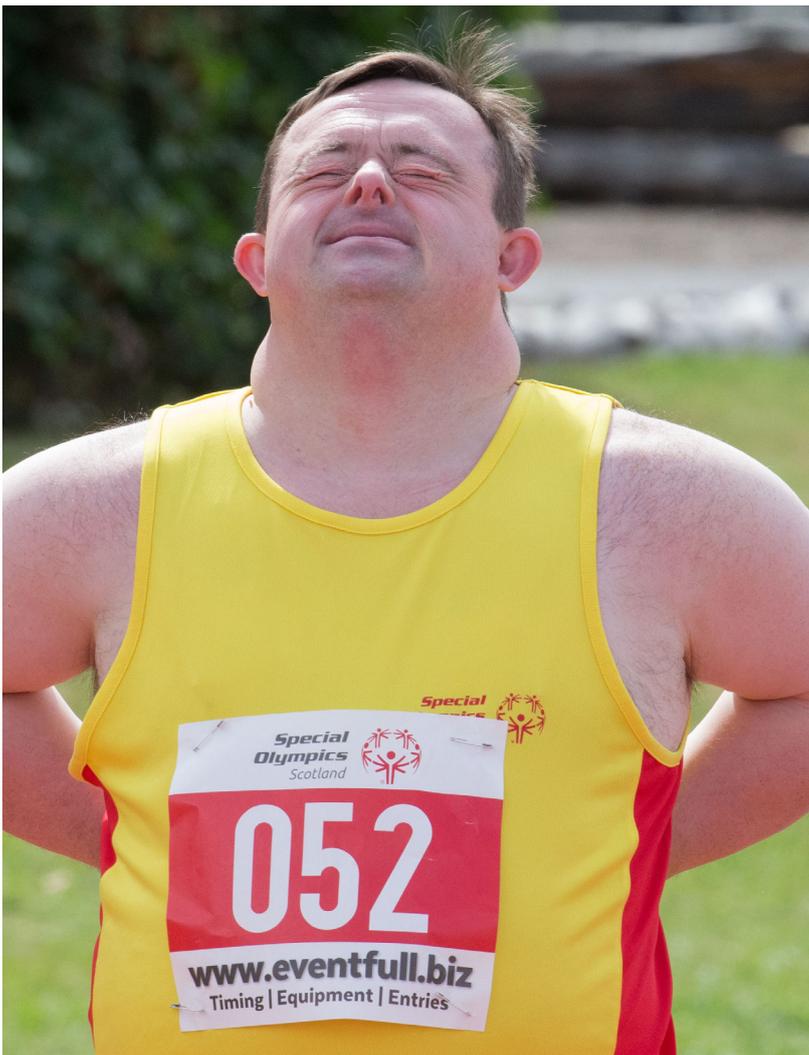
SOS

COPY PRINT SCAN

A FANTASTIC YEAR OF COMMUNITY ACTIVITY | WHERE QUALITY MATTERS ON AND OFF THE PAGE SINCE 2002

AN EXTREMELY SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY

AS AN OFFICIAL SUPPORTER, SOS GROUP WAS PROUD TO BE INVOLVED WITH THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS GB 40TH ANNIVERSARY GAMES



In August, the Special Olympics GB 40th Anniversary Games, in Stirling, celebrated 40 years of competition and training for athletes with intellectual (learning) disabilities in England, Scotland and Wales.

SOS Group was proud to provide service and support in the Digital Office Equipment Areas and helped ensure the event's success.

Athletes competed in ten sports including boccia, badminton, indoor bowls, cycling, football, golf, table tennis, swimming, MATP and athletics.

Andrew Skelton, Director of SOS Group Ltd, said: "As a company, we're adept at providing copy and print services at major events like this. "We were very proud to be involved in last year's Special Olympics National Games in Sheffield and we're always keen to support this wonderful organisation."

Laura Smith, Special Olympics GB board member and leader of The Anniversary Games, said: "We were delighted to have the support of SOS Group Ltd once again to support another major Special Olympics GB event."

The Special Olympics GB 40th Anniversary Games was hosted by Special Olympics Scotland in Stirling and supported by EventScotland, part of VisitScotland's Events Directorate.



PHOTOCOPIERS
NEW & USED | COLOUR & MONO



DESKTOP PRINTERS
COLOUR & MONO



DIGITAL SERVICES
SCANNING & ARCHIVAL SOFTWARE



TALENTED ASHINGTON DANCER'S NATIONAL SUCCESS

Three years ago, SOS Group recognised the potential of Caitlin Nelson, a talented dancer from Ashington in Northumberland, and offered vital sponsorship to help her compete.

Now 16-years-old, Caitlin gained national success and only narrowly missed out on winning the British Freestyle Disco Championships in Blackpool in October.

The Newcastle College student has been freestyle disco dancing for four years and realised her best results to date at the national competition, which was held at the Winter Gardens.

It marked a huge step up from last year's 4th and 6th positions and next year Caitlin is aiming for the top spot.

The British Freestyle Disco Championships are divided into two sections, the acrobatic 'freestyle solo' and the slower 'slow dance', and Caitlin achieved second place in both.

Freestyle disco judges mark on technique, presentation, speed and technical difficulty.

The acrobatic and high-energy dance style is physically demanding and requires a high degree of fitness, flexibility and skill.

Gayle Nelson, Caitlin's Mam, is hugely proud of her achievements and says: "Caitlin began freestyle disco dancing much later than most of her competitors but that's never held her back.

"She works so hard and we're over-the-moon with her results in Blackpool. Especially because she had a fall that lead to an ankle injury and trip to A&E just days before hand.

"Luckily the swelling went down and Caitlin just got on with things. In fact, her teacher, Natasha, said it was the best she's ever danced. We couldn't be prouder of her."

SOS Group continues to offer Caitlin vital financial support, which ensures she can travel to competitions across the country.

Andrew Skelton said: "Caitlin is so passionate about dancing and puts every ounce of her energy into it.

"As a company, we've had a very busy year working at sporting events including the World Athletics Championships in London. It's important to us to recognise and support the dedication of individuals locally who have ambitions to compete at that level."

Caitlin trains at the Xplode School of Dance in Ashington, where she also assists dance school principal, Natasha Greig, teaching the beginners' classes.

In addition to supporting Caitlin's personal ambitions, SOS also supports Xplode and made a donation recently for new equipment, which will benefit the whole dance school.



PRINTER PRIDE FOR OPTIONS GROUP

A LOCAL CHARITY SUPPORTING ADULTS WITH LEARNING AND PHYSICAL DISABILITIES CELEBRATED AFTER WINNING A STATE-OF-THE-ART PRINTER FROM SOS GROUP.

Around 50 people from across County Durham regularly attend Options, which is based at the Pioneering Care Centre in Newton Aycliffe.

The group won the Lexmark colour laser printer at the first North East Fundraising Conference, where SOS had offered it as a competition prize.

Carol Gaskarth, chief executive at the Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP), was the lucky winner selected at random from a huge number of delegates.

Carol says: "PCP delivers a wide range of projects across County Durham and I instantly knew which project would benefit the most from the new printer.

"Options is our user-led service supporting adults with learning and physical disabilities and aims to encourage independence whilst improving the health and wellbeing of members.

"The printer will have positive impact on how the project runs, not only making it more efficient, but also enhancing the members' ability to be even more creative.

"Options members are very much in control of choosing what they want to do and really enjoy crafts and organising celebration and fundraising events. For instance, they're currently organising a Christmas awards ceremony and now they'll be able to write letters to local businesses, print invitations and create their own fliers.

"They're also in the process of designing and writing their own superhero comic so a high quality colour printer will be invaluable for this."

Andrew Skelton said: "We've had the pleasure of visiting the Options project a couple of times now and we've learned a lot about their work to improve health, wellbeing and learning for all.

"As a company, we love supporting charities in our region and we're very proud to have been able to help.

"We can see the instant positive impact the addition of a new printer has had on the group and they were genuinely very pleased to receive it. It was up and running in no time!"

SOS SUPPORT FOR THE CHILDREN'S DISABILITY TRIATHLON

YOUNG TRIATHLETES PROVE DISABILITY'S NO OBSTACLE TO SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT.



With the support of SOS Group, a former Great Britain triathlete is helping give children with disabilities the opportunity to take part in the event she loves.

Jo Shallcross, from Ponteland, was inspired to organise a triathlon tailored to the individual needs of North East children after seeing a disabled child enjoying the event in Hawaii.

With the help of her friend, Tracey Sample from Amble, The Children's Disability Triathlon in Newcastle, sponsored by SOS Group, is now in its fifth year and growing in popularity.

It is designed especially for children with disabilities who would normally be challenged by the thought of doing the event and gives them the chance to take part in a

traditional triathlon - swimming, cycling and running - by adapting distances according to ability and with all the support they need.

Jo says: "It's really special seeing the children come back year after year and you get the biggest hugs when they come in. They're just so happy to be back again. It's like a highlight of their year and I know it is for me and Tracey. We just love it and it's so, so worth doing.

"Every year the children push themselves to the max. Even if their health is deteriorating a little bit they still come and do whatever they can do on the day. It's great to see how much taking part means to them."

SOS Group was thrilled to provide medals and t-shirts for all participants, as well as a video of the day to treasure.



This year, there were 35 participants and the youngest was aged just six. There was also a small group of young adults involved, who were trying the triathlon for the first time.

Santiago Candal (age 12 from Gosforth) successfully completed all three events and was supported by his enthusiastic family.

Dad, Jaime Candal, says: "It's the second time Santiago has taken part. He loved it last year but found the bike ride very difficult. This year he rode really well so we're all very proud of him and pleased about that.

"He managed the swimming very well and did four lengths. And once around the park on the bike and we know his strong point is running, so he was looking forward to that. It's a fantastic event."

Newcastle swimmer and European gold medal winner, Nick Pyle, and former Newcastle United goalkeeper, Steve Harper, helped present the medals at the end of the triathlon.

Steve says: "This is such great day. I came a couple of years ago and it's brilliant to give these kids the opportunity to swim, ride and run no matter what their ability.

"It's amazing to see the smiles on their faces and the sense of achievement they obviously get. And it's great to see them all get a medal at the end and go home very, very happy."



Do
stal Fo

KYOCERA

ECO



SOS GROUP PROVIDES ESSENTIAL ADDITION TO BLUEBELL BUS

SOS GROUP IS PROUDLY SUPPORTING A NORTH EAST CHARITY'S EPIC CHALLENGE TO PROMOTE FREE CANCER PATIENT TRANSPORT AROUND GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

Brian Burnie, founder of Daft as a Brush Cancer Patient Care, is undertaking a 7,000 mile walk to raise awareness of the charity, which provides a free transport service to and from the Freeman Hospital and Royal Victoria Infirmary for outpatients undergoing chemotherapy and radiotherapy treatment in Newcastle.

Brian's aim is to fundraise for and encourage the creation of 'HUBS' that can be managed and run locally across the country, allowing Daft as a Brush services to be accessed nationally.

To do this, Brian and his team of volunteer walkers and supporters, are walking around the coastal paths of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales. A challenge that will take just over two years to complete.

They will be accompanied by the Bluebell Bus, a converted 'double decker', which will provide their accommodation and a base throughout the walk – as well as a point of interest for media and potential supporters around the country.

A key piece of equipment on the Bluebell Bus is the multi function Kyocera (colour copy print scan) device that SOS Group have provided for the duration of the challenge.

It will be essential for producing information for media and school visits, maps for walkers and more. It also offers walkers the capability to print directly from their mobile phones.

Andrew Skelton, director at SOS Group, plans to join the walkers on some of the more accessible sections of coastline and said: "We're very proud to support Brian and the Daft as a Brush volunteers undertaking this challenge.

"The work the charity funds is absolutely invaluable and takes a financial and practical burden off the shoulders of cancer patients when they most need support. It would be a truly great thing to see the work of Daft as a Brush replicated around the country."

Brian Burnie, who is funding the day-to-day running of Bluebell and the journey costs himself, says: "We're very grateful to have the support of SOS Group who have provided this vital addition to our micro-office on Bluebell Bus. It will be used every single day on what will be a difficult challenge.

"Taking Daft as a Brush Cancer Patient Care nationwide has always been our dream and this is our opportunity to make it a reality."



COPY PRINT SCAN

SOS Group are proud to be supporters of the following Charities.



Special Olympics GB
Anniversary Games 2018
Stirling, Scotland

... to name just a few!

We are also the proud winners of the 2016 North East Charity Award for **OUTSTANDING CHARITY SUPPORT - SMALL TO MEDIUM COMPANIES**



Want to chat? You can get in touch...

356a Dukesway Court, Team Valley Trading Est. Gateshead, Tyne & Wear NE11 0BH

0345 230 8080

www.sosgroup-ltd.co.uk

@SOSGroupLtd

info@sosgroup-ltd.co.uk

SOS Group Ltd

SOS Group Ltd