

For further information contact

Chris Corker (Secretary)

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The Aim of Smilie's People

The Smilie's People Network offers support to children suffering from Crohn's Disease or Ulcerative Colitis (Inflammatory Bowel Disease) and their families and gives them the opportunity to develop informal mutual support.

Children who have IBD are relatively few in number. Often they do not have chance to meet others who are in the same situation as themselves unless they are in a specialist IBD unit at hospital.



Smilie's People Network

Email: brendaroy@surefish.co.uk

Smilie's People Website:

www.smiliespeople.org.uk

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NACC Website:

www.nacc.org.uk

NACC Information Service

Telephone: 0845 130 2233

The National Association for Colitis and Crohn's Disease (NACC) is a Registered Charity No. 282732 in the U.K.

A group within NACC



How Smilie's People developed

In 1995, *Smilie's People* began as a local support group in the South Yorkshire area for children suffering with IBD and their families.

Meetings were held in the Sheffield Children's Hospital which focused on the difficulties experienced by children and their parents. The children did craft activities that were arranged alongside the parents' information and discussion sessions.

Lisa Flinders, who had become well-known through appearing on the TV series filmed at Sheffield's Children's Hospital, worked with her friends to create a friendly character as a badge and logo for the Group. This character became known as 'Smilie' and a local journalist headlined an article about the children naming them *Smilie's People*.

Since then *Smilie's People* has grown with families throughout the UK, including some from abroad, seeking information and support.

What Smilie's People do

A number of 'Fun Days' are held each year where families can meet and the children take part in activities such as ten pin bowling, dry slope skiing, and ice skating.

Volunteers drawn from among the families organise the children's activities, education/support meetings, publicity and fundraising activities and also act as points of contact.

Invitations to Smilie's Fun Days are sent to families on the *Smilie's People* mailing list prior to each event.

How to become Members

Families with a child suffering from IBD automatically become members of *Smilie's People* when they join NACC providing they give their permission.

Membership applications can be made by post or by printing and posting a form from the NACC website (see overleaf).

Fundraising

Smilie's People is financed mainly by donations and fundraising activities such as sponsored walks, musical events, coffee mornings, etc.

Funds are also raised from the sale of used postage stamps. These are collected from many sources including schools, offices and churches. Further details can be obtained on the *Smilie's*

People website or from the Secretary.

Cheques made payable to "**NACC - Smilie's People**" should be sent to the *Smilie's People* Treasurer.

Please support

Smilie's People

