



# St George's Police Children Trust

*"Providing a helping hand if the unimaginable happens"*

The St George's Police Children Trust is a registered charity which provides support of a financial nature to children and young people whose police officer parent has either lost their life or had an injury/illness, whilst on or off duty, preventing them from being able to work.

Supporting the children of police officer's goes back many years, to when the Northern Police Orphanage first opened in 1898. Between 1898, when the orphanage opened, through to 1954 more than 600 children spent all or part of their childhood there. Running costs were funded by many hundreds of serving police officers who made a weekly donation from their pay. The orphanage closed in the mid-1950's due to falling demand, possibly because of changes to the welfare state and an increase in adoption and fostering. It was after the closure of the orphanage that the grant giving process commenced.



Police officers are very often the first responders to serious accidents and dangerous incidents, which can sometimes result in the unthinkable happening. While no amount of money can replace a parent, support from the Charity can provide a degree of financial certainty in difficult times.



Financial support is provided by the Trust throughout the child/young person's school years and in many cases, into further education. More than **300 children** are supported every year and more than **half a million pounds** is distributed to these families.

The support provided may range from a weekly allowance for each child in the family, seasonal gifts, support through further and higher education, and ex-gratia grants for necessary

activities or items.

The Trust now also provides a one week's respite stay at their holiday home in Harrogate on an annual basis to all its beneficiaries, and subsequent visits at a discounted rate. The holiday home aims to provide an opportunity for families to come together and escape the recent stresses they might be experiencing at home.



Officers from forces in the North of England, North Wales and Scotland who donate to the Trust are eligible to support and receive benefit for their children should the need arise, **for as little as just 20p per week. By making this minimal donation, you will be supporting the families of your colleagues.**

## Hear from some of the families the Trust supports



*“The support we received from St George’s meant Rhianna and I could move forward and start a life together, it really felt like a gift from Mike, as if he was watching over us.*”

*Knowing the money was coming was hugely helpful, it helped me be able to plan ahead and give me the confidence to move forward. It really was a turning point in our lives, giving me the boost to be independent.*

*The support we still receive to this day from the Trust provides a constant link to Mike, and helps keep his memory alive.”*

*“The money we have received from St George’s has made such a difference to the boys lives, it has paid for all the extras; extra tuition, sports lessons, music lessons, not to mention just helping to cover the costs of bringing up a family of five.*

*The trust has enabled our children to not miss out on all those extra things and has made life enjoyable.*

*I can’t begin to imagine how different our lives would have been without the support we have received. Can’t begin to explain how grateful we are and so thankful for what they have done.”*



### **How you can help ...**

St George’s Police Children Trust is an independent charity who relies on the support from people like you. Almost half a million pounds is spent each year in supporting families that have experienced unimaginably difficult life changing circumstances.

In these difficult financial times and as police officer numbers continue to decline we need your help more than ever to ensure our police officers families continue to receive some much needed financial assistance and support which they so very much deserve.

For serving officers wishing to sign up to the monthly 87 pence donation, simply contact your Police Federation Office/Representative or payroll department who can arrange for your donations to begin straight away.

Out of over 60,000 officers, more than 37,000 Police Officers contribute to the St George’s Police Children Trust, and therefore, their children would be eligible to receive financial support from the Trust if ever needed. Make sure you don’t miss out.

**Sign up now and support the charity, and together we can help safeguard the future of our police officer’s children.**

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