

PiMS Gives the Gift of Independence this Christmas

PiMS Workspace has embraced the joy of giving this festive season, with a very special gift for a child whose only Christmas wish was to move unaided.

After hearing a radio promotion for children's mobility charity Whizz-Kidz, PiMS Managing Director Martin Atkinson was moved to immediately donate funds to help 13-year-old Waterlooville resident Shelbi Grist enjoy her life to the full.

With a condition that makes her bones fragile and prone to breaking, Shelbi has six pins in each hip and has to use a wheelchair to move around. The equipment provided for her by the NHS is slow and unreliable, making independent trips out virtually impossible.

The £7,200 given by PiMS will pay for a state-of-the-art, tailor-made wheelchair built especially for Shelbi. Her Dad explains:

“At the moment Shelbi hardly goes out other than to school, or basketball practice. With a new powered wheelchair she will be a lot more independent. She will be able to get the bus into town to meet her friends.”

Shelbi is now looking forward to a future without having to depend on anyone to help her get around. She's also hoping to make the county wheelchair basketball team in 2008.

“It's such a great pleasure to be in the position to really help a local teenager,” says Martin. “At PiMS we take our corporate social responsibilities very seriously. I hope we've set an example to any other companies in the region who might not have made a charitable donation recently.”

Every day the Whizz-Kidz team works to raise money for young people who deserve the chance to fulfill their potential. The customised mobility equipment, training, advice and life skills provided by the charity can make an immediate positive effect on their lives and their families.

Shelbi's story has a happy ending, but Whizz-Kidz is still desperately trying to help a long waiting list of other disabled children. Any donation, however small, will make a difference. For further details of how to support the work done by Whizz-Kidz, log on to www.whizz-kidz.org.uk or call 0207 798 6118.