



# Thank you, a thousand

## Dear Santa provides gifts for more than 1,000 child victims



Peterborough Telegraph

**T**oday we want to say a massive thank you to all our readers and the Peterborough businesses who gave so generously to make Christmas magical for child victims of crime.

The Peterborough Telegraph teamed up with Peterborough-based charity Embrace Child Victims of Crime (Embrace CVOC) to support its Dear Santa 2020 campaign to provide gifts of choice for children who have suffered through serious crime.

And we can reveal that over the past six weeks, people in Peterborough and across the UK have really got into the spirit of Christmas and dug deep in their pockets to purchase over £12,000 worth of presents for vulnerable children.

Local businesses and corporate sponsors have also

contributed almost £8,000 to the appeal meaning the charity reached its £20,000 target and has been able to provide presents for 1,102 children so far this year.

All of those gifts were available to buy through Embrace CVOC's website and then the charity arranged for them to be wrapped and sent to the children who wished for them ready for Christmas Day.

Anne Campbell, chief executive of Embrace CVOC, said: "The response has been incredible. This year has been our most successful Dear Santa campaign ever. I would like to thank the Peterborough Telegraph who kindly responded to our call for help, agreeing to partner with us on Dear Santa this year.

"Thank you especially to all your readers and all of our supporters who have so kindly

and generously given to help vulnerable children in this city and across Cambridge-shire. I'd also like to thank the local organisations and businesses who supported us like Amazon, Accent and British Sugar.

"The appeal has been a phenomenal success and we have also hopefully forged some ongoing relationships with Peterborough organisations to work with us in the future.

"Everyone at Embrace is delighted that, thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we have managed to create so many Christmas smiles.

"Your kindness means so much to the children and their families who have suffered through serious crime."

Embrace CVOC is unique because it's the only charity in the UK that solely supports



Picture posed by models

# times, for appeal help

## of crime 'You remind us that good exists in the world'

child victims of crime.

Some of the children supported by Embrace CVOC have lost a parent or sibling through serious crime.

Some have experienced sexual, physical or emotional abuse or years of neglect.

Others have been living in homes torn apart by domestic violence.

These children have dealt with unimaginable trauma in their young lives and police officers, teachers or others working in safeguarding roles refer them to Embrace CVOC for counselling, practical and emotional support.

Embrace CVOC's headquarters is in Cope Court, Thorpe Wood, Peterborough.

To find out more visit [www.embracecvoc.org.uk](http://www.embracecvoc.org.uk)

To donate visit <https://embracecvoc.org.uk/make-donation/>

Families in Peterborough and across the UK have been receiving their Dear Santa gifts ready to give to their little ones on Christmas Day. And Embrace CVOC has already received some lovely thank-yous from some of those families.

One family wrote: "Me and my husband just wanted to send you a thank you note for your hugely generous Christmas gifts you have organised for the four children in our care.

"Your kindness and love being demonstrated by this gesture has blown us away.

"We are in the middle of a hugely hard scenario given the serious crimes that have been committed against the



children and the arduous road ahead with court etc can sometimes being overwhelming

and scary. "So these surprise Christmas gifts have given us a huge lift and reminded us of the good that exists in the world. Thank you again and we can't wait to give these gifts to the four children. Have a Merry Christmas."

Another family wrote: "Just received gifts for our grandchildren after losing their mummy through domestic abuse. Thank you so, so much. They are going to love them."

Another family told us on Twitter that Embrace CVOC supported her and her children 12 years ago and now she, and her grown-up children, always support Dear Santa.



## Delight at Santa video call

Francesca (8) and Sebastian (6) were full of smiles on Friday after winning our Call with Santa competition

The two children were so excited when he also told them they are on his nice list this year. Mum Lucy said: "Thank you so much - it was simply the

best experience. The children are on cloud nine!

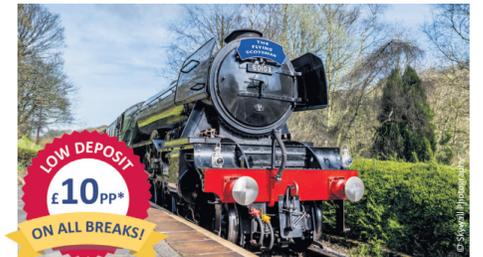
"They have been so good this year - having to go to school throughout lockdown because both of us parents are key workers. What a lovely treat for them. Thank you Embrace!"

### Just Go! UK EVENTS

By Coach from March, Peterborough, Peterborough Services & Wisbech

#### THE FLYING SCOTSMAN

Steam Train & Liverpool



Departing Fri 2 Apr '21

If you are yet to experience the charm of the Flying Scotsman, then now is your chance! Travel behind this magnificent, 1923-built locomotive as we take an unforgettable trip back to the heyday of the golden age of steam through the picturesque Irwell Valley.

- Your break includes**
- Return coach travel from March, Peterborough, Peterborough Services & Wisbech
  - 2 nights at a selected 3 or 4-star hotel in the North West area with dinner & breakfast
  - Train journey behind the Flying Scotsman on the heritage East Lancashire Railway
  - Free time in Bury
  - En-route visit to Liverpool

3 Days by Coach only £229  
Single Supplement £70

#### ANDRÉ RIEU

Live in Liverpool



Departing Wed 21 Apr '21

Violin master André Rieu is back with a new springtime UK 2021 tour, including a date at the M&S Bank Arena in Liverpool. Don't miss the chance to see the 'Modern King of Waltz' perform with his 60-piece Johann Strauss Orchestra - a show to remember!

- Your break includes**
- Return coach travel from March, Peterborough, Peterborough Services & Wisbech
  - Overnight stay at a selected 3 or 4-star hotel in the North West area with breakfast
  - Ticket to André Rieu concert at the M&S Bank Arena, Liverpool (upper tier)
  - Return coach transfers from the hotel to the M&S Bank Arena
  - En-route visit to Manchester

2 Days by Coach only £199  
Single Supplement £35

#### ROYAL INTERNATIONAL

Air Tattoo, Fairford



Departing Fri 16 Jul '21

2021 sees the Royal International Air Tattoo return for its 50th anniversary! Celebrate the world's greatest air show and experience the intensity, drama and spectacle at RAF Fairford, with special flypasts and remarkable performances by the world's leading aerobatic teams.

- Your break includes**
- Return coach travel from March, Peterborough, Peterborough Services & Wisbech
  - 2 nights at a selected 3 or 4-star hotel with dinner & breakfast
  - Admission to the Royal International Air Tattoo on Saturday, with coach transfer

3 Days by Coach only £219  
Single Supplement £70

For more information, or to book, please call **03332 342 519** Quote JPM  
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