



Working to Protect Children

5 April, 2017

74 year old from Hertford jumps from 10,000 feet for child protection charity Tandem skydive raises over £800



Hi-res images are available on request

A 74 year old man from Hertford has raised over £800 for a child protection charity after jumping out of a plane at 10,000 feet on Sunday.

Semi-retired electronic design engineer, Bruce Piggot, decided to leap into the unknown to raise money for The Lucy Faithfull Foundation, the only UK-wide charity focused solely on preventing child sexual abuse. Bruce chose the charity because he has witnessed first-hand the terrible impact of child sexual abuse on the lives of people close to him.

Bruce was joined for the tandem sky-dive by his daughter, Meisha. The 29 year old from Hemel Hempstead is no stranger to extreme sports. As well as working as a fitness trainer, Meisha spends some of her spare time working as a stunt double in action films.

Skydiving from 10,000 feet for the first time would be a daunting challenge for anyone, including people far younger than Bruce. But the 74 year old found the whole day, and the jump itself, an exhilarating experience:

“The jump was incredible, one of the most exciting things I’ve ever done. We had to wait a long time before boarding the plane. But the adrenalin was pumping as the time approached to jump. Nothing quite prepares you for doing anything so counter-intuitive as shuffling towards the open door of an aeroplane at 10,000 feet. And then suddenly you’re out there, freefalling for 30 seconds at 130 mph. The noise as you fall is deafening, and then the ‘chute opens and everything goes quiet. It was fantastic to look out over the landscape on a clear, beautiful afternoon as we descended for five minutes back to terra firma. It’s something I’ll never forget. In fact, I can remember every second of it, vividly – whereas I couldn’t tell you what I had for breakfast this morning!”

You can find out what it's like to skydive from 10,000 feet by watching a video of Bruce's jump here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wWOC2BVAN_c&feature=youtu.be

Bruce's incredible commitment to helping raise awareness of the work of The Lucy Faithfull Foundation has so far raised over £800, including offline donations. And if you're feeling inspired by Bruce's fearless fundraising, it's not too late to support him and the work of The Lucy Faithfull Foundation to prevent child sexual abuse. You can make a donation via Bruce's online fundraising page: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/pijot>

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For further information, and to discuss interview opportunities, please contact:

Matt Whitticase (Media and Communications Manager): t: 01372 847169 mwhitticase@lucyfaithfull.org.uk

Notes to Editor:

About The Lucy Faithfull Foundation

Named after its founder, Baroness Lucy Faithfull of Wolvercote, The Lucy Faithfull Foundation is the only UK-wide child protection charity dedicated solely to preventing child sexual abuse. It works with entire families affected by or concerned about abuse including: adult male and female sexual abusers; young people with inappropriate sexual behaviours; victims of abuse and other family members. Drawing on expert knowledge about child sexual abuse the charity offers a broad range of services for professionals and members of the public. These include: assessments, intervention and treatment of known offenders, case specific advice and support, training and development courses and workshops, educational programmes for internet offenders and their families, circles of support and accountability, internet safety seminars for schools (teachers, parents and children) and Parents Protect! training for professionals, parents, carers and other adults. It also runs the Stop it Now! Campaign and Helpline (0808 1000 900). www.lucyfaithfull.org.uk, www.stopitnow.org.uk and www.parentsprotect.co.uk

About Stop it Now!

Stop it Now! UK and Ireland is a national campaign, Freephone confidential Helpline and website run by child protection charity, The Lucy Faithfull Foundation. It aims to prevent child sexual abuse by increasing public awareness and empowering people to act responsibly to protect children. Stop it Now! believes that it is the responsibility of all adults to take positive action to prevent the sexual abuse of children. Stop it Now! works with the government and child protection agencies, to promote public education and prevent child sexual abuse. The Stop it Now! helpline has been operating since 2002 and aims to prevent child abuse by encouraging abusers and potential abusers to seek help and by giving adults the information they need to protect children safely. Since 2002 the Helpline has provided advice and support to 31,500 callers and emailers, who together, made 60,000 contacts. 55% of contacts were from people concerned about their own behaviour. www.stopitnow.org.uk and www.get-help.stopitnow.org.uk

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