

Gifted Originals

Toy Stories

Millionaire's toy gifts for Oxford hospital

Tuesday | June 1st, 2010

A New York businessman who has been shipping teddy bears to children on an Oxford hospital ward for two years has visited the city for the first time. Millionaire Joseph Sprung launched the Bears 4 Kids foundation, which became **Bear Givers**, for children across the United States in 2002.

Sprung made Oxford Children's Hospital, at the John Radcliffe site in Headington, the first in the UK to be on the receiving end of his generosity. Last Tuesday, the business tycoon visited children on wards at the hospital to hand out more than 150 teddy bears.

Children's Hospital fundraiser Penny Hambridge said the children were overjoyed at their special transatlantic gift, saying they "loved it".

"I think it really gives them something positive to associate being in hospital with and to remember the experience in a more positive light. Having something cuddly and fluffy to hold on to can really make a difference. They were over the moon with the gifts."

She added, "It was the first time Mr Sprung had visited the hospital. We are very grateful to him for giving the children a really positive experience."

The financial mogul believes offering children who are ill, disabled or have learning disabilities a soft teddy can be therapeutic, and who are we at **Gifted Originals** to disagree?

Mr Sprung, who was on a flying visit from New York, also handed out bears at The London Children's Hospital, and a school for children with autism spectrum disorders, also in London, with Bear Givers president Diane Lempert saying the volcanic ash cloud had threatened his visit.

She added: "But we made it, thank God, and managed to hand out every single one of the bears, even leaving some in outpatients for children who are coming in for the day to enjoy. We had a wonderful experience last time we visited the John Radcliffe in 2008 and received some very heartfelt thank-you letters from some of the parents."

"Most of the comments we were getting were about how lovely and soft the bears were. We were made very, very welcome at the hospital and were glad to have made the trip."

No matter the circumstances, toys really are the way to every child's heart, and here at Gifted HQ, we heart Mr Sprung.



RECENT POSTS

[5 ways to get kids to eat their 5 a day](#)

[Whats in a name?](#)

[Toys to Protest!](#)

[Toy Story scoops another accolade](#)

[Nightmare at the toy shop](#)

[A bit of Smurf action](#)

[We love traditional toys!](#)

[Hot new toys for adults](#)

[A certain dilemma](#)

[Pope gives toys away](#)

CATEGORIES

[Uncategorized](#)

ARCHIVES

[February 2013](#)

[February 2012](#)

[January 2011](#)

[December 2010](#)

[November 2010](#)

[October 2010](#)

[September 2010](#)

[August 2010](#)

[July 2010](#)



Posted by admin Filed in [Uncategorized](#)
[No Comments »](#)

Leave a Comment

Name (required)

Mail (will not be published) (required)

Website

[June 2010](#)

[May 2010](#)

[April 2010](#)

[March 2010](#)

[February 2010](#)

[November 2009](#)

[October 2009](#)

SEARCH

META:

[RSS](#)

[Comments RSS](#)

[Valid XHTML](#)

[XFN](#)