



Patron Graham Taylor OBE

Annual Review

Season 2015/16



More than 325,000 items
of kit sent around the world
since 1998.

***The more we receive,
the more we can give!***

www.kitaid.net

Reg Charity No. 1113968

Supported by

AffinityWater 



Remember the joy of pulling on your very first football shirt?

Remember the thrill of lacing up your childhood football boots?

Thanks to KitAid, thousands of underprivileged youngsters worldwide can experience the exhilaration of wearing their very own kit for the first time in their lives. It has truly made a difference.

Study their smiles. Read their stories. Share their emotion and please keep on supporting KitAid.

We've sent more than 325,000 items of kit around the globe since 1998.

It's a glorious gift. It really is more than just a shirt!

"Football is an opportunity for children to have fun and dream which every child has the right to do."

KitAid Founder Derrick Williams MBE

Location Donation!

In the Southern hemisphere, thousands of miles from our shores, our KitAid model – Kit Aid Australia (KAA) is now in operation. What a location to make a kit donation!



The Down Under launch followed an unexpected email approach from a KitAid enthusiast in Canberra. Following an exchange of information and advice, KAA have launched, designed their own logo, had an appearance on ABC television and taken some positive strides forward, gaining support through their Facebook page.

KitAid Australia have been operating for almost one year and have our thumbs up for future success.



Five go on an OLYMPIC Adventure!

A fabulous team of five Affinity Water staff, swapped their office surroundings for the Olympic Stadium to take part in the July 2015 Diamond Relay Run.

Wearing KitAid branded t-shirts, they followed in the footsteps of Olympic and Paralympic superstars, and joined 1000 runners for this historic event.

Earning a respectable 178th position out of 230 teams, their energetic efforts certainly put KitAid under the Olympic spotlight and gained the team much admiration amongst friends, staff and our charity supporters.

BRILLIANT BALLYSILLAN!

If you can't get a ticket for Euro 2016, get yourself to Ballysillan for the Annual football camp!

This inspirational footie project in Belfast, overseen by Peter Thompson, the centre manager, truly gives the local kids a footie focussed time to remember. Team building, tournaments, and togetherness builds bridges and benefits the eager youngsters who attend.

KitAid has supported Ballysillan YFC for six years. It sits in our hearts and we will celebrate the opening of the Ballysillan Drop-In Centre later this year and continue to support the astounding work that changes young lives.

Cheers to Bean, who ran the Footie Camp for the first time in 2015 and cheers to all of the committed modest team. They truly are great motivators, mentors and guiding lights in a socially challenged community.



Footie museum launches Kit Drop

Packed tight with more than 140,000 football related items, and attracting more than one million visitors since opening in 2012, the National Football Museum in Manchester, squeezed in an extra 600 items of kit following their launch of a Kit Amnesty for KitAid.

Appealing to the community, the Museum launched the amnesty in July 2015, raising the profile of KitAid and encouraging visitors to pass on their kit to benefit the passion of football loving individuals worldwide.

Their successful appeal resulted in more than 600 items of kit donation and publicity for KitAid on the BBC Sport website.



"We thank the National Football Museum for organising this event and for all the individuals who donated their kit" said Trustee Janet Neville.

Annual run boosts KitAid funds

The ever popular Ricky Road Run selected KitAid as one of their beneficiary charities in their annual October challenge.

Co-founded by Derrick Williams in 1984, this fun ten mile dash in Rickmansworth and beyond attracts hundreds of keen runners to compete and some great hands on help from volunteers including Affinity Water graduates. KitAid were delighted to receive £1,451 from the event.

Thanks for making all those miles count and giving KitAid a beneficial boost!



We are the Champions!

We've reached the end of our KitAid season and it's been an incredible few months and an astounding history of achievement.

This year, we can proudly announce that we have received, sorted, packaged, boxed, loaded and proudly pushed out 46,000 items of kit worldwide. In addition, we have funded and supported projects in Northern Ireland and more recently in Zambia and gained incredible support along the way. We've forged new friendships, discovered the great work of new charity partners and been warmed by our loyal supporters that go that extra mile for KitAid.

It's an astounding win, a great achievement. Result!

WATFORD FC kit lights up the world!

A huge thanks to Watford FC for inviting KitAid to their annual pre-season Open Day, plus an extra thank you to all the fans who donated their unwanted shirts.

We continue sending the donated kit to youngsters in Africa and beyond. In return countless kids across the globe are pulling on their donated kit giving their teams a gloriously golden WFC glow.

WFC may not have quite made it into Europe this season but fans shirts have gone worldwide!

It's a beautiful sight to see the young kit recipients lighting up our KitAid photo gallery with their appreciative smiles!



Boosting our Boxing up

Remember remember the 28th of November! That was the date of our very first successful North West Boxing up gathering.

The long term goal to launch a North West Boxing Up option has now been achieved and will continue in the future.

"It has been our aim to start a Boxing up North West branch," said Derrick Williams. "This means kit donated in the North and surrounding areas can stay in the North and not have to be transported all the way to Hatfield for sorting. This is economically and environmentally beneficial as it saves on courier costs and unnecessary transportation. It will also help us distribute even more kit to communities worldwide."

Thanks to FC United of Manchester for offering a large room in their new stadium at Broadhurst Park, thanks to Regional Coordinator Peter Moulds and to all the regional helpers and volunteers who gave their time and energy to make it possible.



In memory of Guy

A 24 hour stadium challenge in memory of lifelong Hornets fan Guy Judge netted £2,600 for KitAid projects in the Zambia.

Rob Dowler, Ian Horncastle and Guy's nephew Ashley, visited all 20 of the current Premier League grounds in a single day. Their amazing mission gained coverage on BBC 3 Counties Radio, local newspaper publicity and the fundraising trio were invited to enter the Vicarage Road stadium for a final welcome back celebration.



Ashley Judge explained: "My Uncle Guy and my dad inspired me to follow the Hornets. I'm a season ticket holder and we used to meet up at the games."

Guy, who was born in Watford, was a lifelong fan who watched the Hornets play more than 1,000 times after being hooked when he watched his first game in 1958.

'Guy wanted KitAid to be supported in his memory,' added Ashley.

The whistle-stop stadium race against the clock will be used to support the Malalo Sports Foundation in Zambia who appealed to KitAid for a grant.

Their approved application for funding will be used in the Zambia to help clear land for sports use, purchase sports equipment and fund Health Education and Football Coaching courses to support the re-integration school drop outs via scholarships.



Eniola has heart for KitAid

Female footie celebrity Eniola Aluko - who plays number 9 for Chelsea Ladies, has been showing huge heart for KitAid.

- Following her TV appearance on the popular BBC quiz show 'Pointless.' Eni not only donated her winnings to the KitAid coffers but gave the charity a positive plug on air. A surge of social media activity followed the magnificent mention, proving the power of national TV coverage and that a generous gesture goes a long way.
- Thanks to Eni, the online footie magazine - 'The Daisy Cutter' has struck up a partnership with KitAid.
- Eni also sent her footie boots our way. They were sent on to a Ugandan girls team. A photo of the delighted young boot recipient was tweeted out to thousands of Eni's followers.

Eniola, we thank you and we feel sure the well-travelled boots have been working wonders in Uganda!



ON A MISSION FOR



Some fans stop off for a pint, others park up for a pie. But for many Everton fans, their pre-match routine includes a trip to church!

For several months, the magnificent historic St Luke's Church - located just a stone's throw from Goodison Park, has been the drop off point for a KitAid kit collection.

Organised by the Everton Heritage Society and supported by KitAid Trustee Janet Neville, the church kit drop has proved to be a popular pre-match pastime for home supporters and the occasional former player!

Please keep the kit coming!

Your blue shirt donations will benefit numerous youngsters worldwide.



A coach load from the coaches!

FA coaches from all corners of the UK showed their support for KitAid at a recent annual conference.

During their two day seminar at St George's Park, KitAid collected a huge load of kit from the FA county coaches. It is the second year in succession they have supported KitAid with their contribution of kit. It has since been sent on to various corners of Africa.

'It is great kit, in very good condition,' said Derrick Williams. 'Since the collection it has proved very interesting to see all the various County FA logo's appearing in photos from various African countries. We thank the FA for their continuing support.'

Going for goal in the Gobi Desert

Two teams, five goals and a passion for football proved to be the perfect combination to mark a historic unforgettable moment in time.

Thanks to an initiative from Adventure Kicks, (who bring teams together from all corners of the globe), the Airdrieonians Trust team, became the first to play a match on a newly built pitch in the Gobi Desert.

Their spirited Mongolian opponents – Mandalgovi claimed a 3-2 win on home turf but for the Airdrieonian Trust team members, there was much to win from the occasion.

Prior to their trip with Adventure Kicks, the Airdrieonian Trust have been committed to supporting KitAid.



For several seasons they have encouraged fans to give up their kit for KitAid.

Their passionate pleas have resulted in around 2,500 shirts and other items being donated. Thanks to the Airdrieonians Trust, many of the items have been given a new life in Mongolia.

'I would like to thank Dougy Allsop and all of his great team from the Airdrieonians Trust, as well as the club, for their fantastic support,' said Derrick Williams.

John's Blue Teams

John Mulcahy, an avid Everton supporter and a member of the Everton Heritage Society sadly passed away in 2014. Last year we sent John's much cherished Everton shirts to Malawi through our charity partner FOMO and a team was re-named in his memory 'Mulcahy's Young Soccer FC'. The team proved so popular that lots more players wanted to join.

We are pleased to report that this year another team has now been formed 'Mulcahy's Super Strikers'. We keep in touch with John's family, they love seeing the photos of the team and appreciate us keeping John's name alive.



Net Interest

Every year KitAid creates new records for the amount of kit delivered and we do this on a shoestring budget. The majority of our expenses are used to meet courier costs to collect the donated kit from all across the UK. However, we couldn't operate without some financial support to meet these running costs. We would like to acknowledge all of the following:

Ricky Road Run 2015	£1,451
Affinity Water Dress Down Days	£1,944
Premier League	£500
Charlie's Gift Charity	£355
Gift Aid (HMRC)	£256
Lions Club of Watford	£250
Pointless Celebrities	£250
Bishop Walsh Catholic School (Sutton Coldfield)	£150
Andersen Family	£100

Thank you to all of the above for bringing smiles to 46,000 people in Africa, South America, Asia and Eastern Europe.

Thank you!

KitAid could not operate without the help and support of so many people. It is difficult to mention everyone, as we would literally fill pages, but to everyone who has either donated kit, sorted kit or helped KitAid, we would like to say a very big and heartfelt THANK YOU.

Here are just a few of them:

PARTNERS:

Hertfordshire FA, The FA, PUMA, Affinity Water, Great Branding, 5 Speed Couriers/KP Group, Shanahan Contractors, The Everton Heritage Society, North West Counties League.

CLUBS:

Liverpool FC, Manchester Utd FC, West Ham Utd FC, Watford FC, Everton FC, Cardiff City FC, Reading FC, Crawley Town FC, Tranmere Rovers FC, Airdrieonians FC, Stenhousemuir FC, FC United of Manchester, Marine FC, Chesham Utd FC.

Our final thanks must go to our dedicated team of helpers who regularly turn up to our monthly boxing up sessions, all of our Trustees (Derrick Williams MBE, Sean McGuigan, Thomas Enright, Claire Whalley, Julia Childs, Janet Neville and Nick Perchard), and lastly, but by no means least our inspirational Patron, GRAHAM TAYLOR OBE.

Team KitAid

We are very fortunate to have a committed team of regional supporters who work to support KitAid in many different ways. With kit donations from all across the country the team help by collecting and storing kit, supporting events and publicising our work. Every member of KitAid is a volunteer and they do not claim expenses, which is how we manage to operate on a shoestring budget and still donate 325,000 items of kit across the world.

If you would like to volunteer for KitAid please email us and we can help you to join the amazing team that is Team KitAid.

Here is a list of the current squad and the cities/towns they cover:

Helen Carver	Birmingham/West Midlands
Kevin Hurst	Burton on Trent
Grayham Bailey	Crawley
Caroline & Ian Heswell	Halifax
Vickie Kirkwood	Hatfield
Peter Dommet	Hatfield
Mark Davison	Hemel Hempstead
David Ingham	Lancaster
Lee Seacombe	Leicestershire
Vin O'Brien	Liverpool
Peter Moulds	Manchester
Wendy Pike	Ongar
Lesley Giddens	Preston/Lancs
John Maxwell	Swindon
Niel Johnstone	Watford
Ben Van Nes	West Sussex
Natalie Hodgson	Wigan
Vannessa Jonnes	Wirral
Janet Neville	Wirral/Merseyside

Hello Kitty!

With so much donated kit arriving every week, we have become masters of logistic juggling!

No sooner is our storage area clear then it is full up again in days.



Following an offer of 7,000 items of kit, the team were forced into action in March 2016 with no space available and a 10 day deadline to receive the new kit from Turkey. Thanks to Shanahan Contractors who came to our rescue by donating 'Kitty' the container. This is now stored at a secure sight thanks to support received from Affinity Water.

We are always in need of a secure storage site, even outside for our other container or inside as a back-up. As long as the site is secure and accessible we would love to hear from any companies in Essex/Hertfordshire who may be to help us.



Social media



Want to get in touch, put your old kit to good use, donate your time to help others, or simply find out more about the remarkable story and work of KitAid?

Simply visit www.kitaid.net

- Tweet us at follow us on @kitaid
- Facebook us at KitAid Charity
- See the latest pictures on our Instagram and Tumblr sites
- Or email us at kitaid@affinitywater.co.uk

Each week we get over 4,000 hits to our twitter page so please follow us to keep in touch.

