

# help the community

By PHILIP WILKINSON-JONES

A HEREFORDSHIRE man is hoping to prevent thousands of trips to hospital when his invention gets off the ground.

William Dallow, of Credenhill, has invented a device which fits on to the frame of a door and stops young children having their fingers crushed – but helps them climb over doorsteps.

In 1993 William experienced first hand the damage children do to themselves in doorways – his niece had the ends of her fingers severed and a neighbour's daughter had hers crushed – and decided to act.

Looking at his own front door, William noticed the problem babies and small children have.

“If you have a six to eight-inch step and a two-inch door sill, that could be 10 inches, maybe a third of a child's height, that they have to climb,” he said.

“Imagine having to climb a two-foot step to get into your house – you would probably have to hold on to something, which is why children are always putting their fingers in the jamb.

“I went into my workshop and came out with a telescopic handrail which fit into the jamb and gave the child something to hold to pull themselves up and also stopped the door from slamming shut.

“I applied for a patent for it but unfortunately there was no standard for that type of product and I didn't have the money to produce them.

“Then last year I was surfing the internet I noticed a university had been researching accidents and found in excess of 40,000 children were taken to A&E from hurting their fingers in doors.”

William went back into the workshop and produced a rigid rail, for which he has a patent pending.

He is now ready to sell the 1,300 he has produced himself. It is priced at £15.99 at [www.childsafetyzone.co.uk](http://www.childsafetyzone.co.uk)



► William Dallow with grandson Caleb Dallow and the handrail. 080711-2. Picture by James Maggs.

## Round Britain cruise inspires HT readers

A COUNTY estate agent has praised the generosity of Herefordshire people after appealing for help with a charity fundraiser.

Nick Craddock asked readers of the *Hereford Times* new year edition to join him on a round Britain boat trip to raise £10,000 for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

Mr Craddock, who has four offices in the county, said: “It's been great, we're past the £3,000 mark but there is still a lot of money to come in.”

Spots for two guests paying £100 each on one of 23

overnight legs circumnavigating the country were up for grabs – and all but five of them have been occupied by readers keen to join in.

The cause has been furthered by the arrival of a brand new, and bigger, boat than the model owned by Mr Craddock when he announced the trip, allowing him to take four guests instead of two on some stretches.

“The new boat is a six berth Fairline Phantom 43 also called *Reel Estate* like the previous one – limited places are still available so if anyone's

interested I'd advise them to act quickly,” he said.

With company sponsors also endorsing various legs and the Round Britain website, and sea charts and berthing in each port also donated, support for the trip is now nationwide.

Mr Craddock and his wife Jo will spend six weeks, starting between May 10 and 12, cruising from Brixham in Devon around Britain and back again.

inquiries about places can be made by visiting [www.round-britain.co.uk](http://www.round-britain.co.uk) or one-off dona-



▲ Nick Craddock.

tions can be made at [www.justgiving.co.uk/round-britain](http://www.justgiving.co.uk/round-britain).

Mr Craddock said: “People can give whatever they want, every little helps.”

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To celebrate the life of Alan Horne  
24th December 1940-23rd February 2008

During his last hours of life, well-known businessman and pilot Alan Horne decided that his love for flying and assisting less fortunate people to fly should continue. He has donated himself a substantial amount of money and entrusted it to his life-long pilot friends to decide who it helps at his beloved second home, Shobdon Airfield, Leominster.

Alan, who came to Hereford with his wife Doreen in 1962, was in partnership with the Midlands Electricity Board until 1998 when he hung up his van keys!

As well as the MEB he enjoyed the hustle and bustle of business life running Hobbins House hotel on Roman Road with his Doreen. Alan enjoyed his family immensely and was very proud of their achievements but would more often than not be found indulging in his many passions, one of which was riding one of his super bikes to his aeroplane where he would take to the skies. Alan often volunteered his time and aircraft to fundraise for charities, because he loved to help and make people happy.

Alan's wish was that his enthusiasm for flying and helping others with difficulties would continue, with his spirit flying alongside as they gain the benefit of the money he has

donated. It was Alan's wish that donations to assist in this dream should be made at his funeral in place of flowers, to enable the help he'd given others all his life to continue.

Alan's funeral will be held at the parish church of St Bartholomew, Holmer, Hereford at 11.30am on Saturday, March 1, with all his loved family and friends attending afterwards at Munstone House, Munstone, Hereford that is owned and run by his special daughter Yvonne.

As Alan's spirit will be overseeing the day, his fellow pilots from Herefordshire Aero Club have arranged that there be a fly-past, at 12.30pm over Munstone House, in Alan's honour, he will be with them.

Alan, a devoted husband and dearly beloved father and grandfather, is survived by his wife Doreen, daughter Yvonne, sons Mike and Steve and his grandchildren.

Anyone wishing to make a donation to Alan's fund should make cheques payable to Herefordshire Aero Club Ltd and send to Hobbins House, Roman Road, Hereford, HR1 1LE. For any further information please call Steve on 07971686333 or Mike on 07773283323.

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