ROOM FOR MIM

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I'm going to be running up and down some hills and trying to raise money to provide much needed facilities for a young family.
Category: Observations

Today's blog post will be a bit different to the normal stuff that I dish up. I'd like to tell you about Miriam Langley; or Mim as she is known to friends and family.

Mim is a lovely little girl with a very rare genetic condition (a GRIN1 gene mutation) that causes her global developmental delay, cortical visual impairment and very low muscle tone. At 3 years old she cannot sit or walk on her own, and she is getting too long and heavy for her parents to safely carry her upstairs. So theyâ€™re working to create a downstairs bedroom and wetroom for her, but this is a big challenge for them.

Mim really needs these adaptations to create the space to meet all her needs and make our home more accessible for her. The plan is to rip out the kitchen to turn it into Mimâ€™s bedroom, and turn the utility room into a special wetroom for her, with a ceiling hoist running between the two rooms. They are also building a single-storey extension to fit a new wheelchair-accessible kitchen-diner, with a large back door and ramp for easily getting Mim into & out of the house. There are got great plans for installing sensory equipment and appropriate storage for all her physiotherapy equipment & medical supplies, and you can read more about the plans on her parents, blog ,http://www.perfectinweakness.co.uk/more-room-for-mim/.

The Council will help with the cost of these adaptations, but their grant covers less than half the total needed, and they simply cannot afford the difference.

This is where you come in. On October 14, I'm running a thing called the four passes race in the Lake District. This is a 22 mile run on rough terrain over (you guessed it) four mountain passes.

Regular readers will know that this isn't the first time I've entered an event like this. It's something I enjoy doing and normally I run just for the fun of it. However, this time I'm using the race to raise money for Mim's new room. If you would like to sponsor me to slog over Sty Head, Black Sail, Scarth Gap and Honister, please click on this link and get your credit card out.

You might find yourself wondering, how could a loving God allow a lovely kid like Mim to suffer like this. It's a reasonable question and one that isn't easy to answer. My friend David Couchman of Focus (who is also Mim's grandfather, not coincidently) has produced an excellent series of videos addressingÂ this very question. The videos do not shy away from the realities of pain in peoples' lives and they do not offer easy glib answers, but they are ultimately hopeful and gospel centred. If you've not looked at them, you should.