

'Year to live' teen's bucket list of dreams coming true

A FORMER Central Sussex College student who was given the devastating news she may only have a year to live has been offered the chance to make two of her dreams come true.

Hollie Owen has put together a "bucket-list" of things she would like to experience.

She is due to fly to Orlando with family members and her boyfriend, Matthew Phyll, later this week, which was one of her dreams.

After the Crawley News told Hollie's heartbreaking story last week, a member of the public has come forward to offer the 19-year-old free accommodation at a safari experience in South Africa and a ride on an elephant – two of the items on her list.

In addition to that, an incredible £6,492 had been raised as of yesterday (Tuesday) lunchtime to help her achieve her other dreams.

They include visiting The Maldives, flying first class, getting married, going to Las

Vegas and buying her first house.

Hollie, who lives in East Grinstead, suffers from scleroderma, an incurable condition which attacks joints, the skin, limbs and internal organs.

Her heart has been so badly scared that doctors have estimated she may only have a year to live.

Hollie had to give up a hairdressing course at Central Sussex College's Crawley campus because blisters on her fingertips caused by the condition made it too painful to use scissors.

The experiences in South Africa have been offered by a woman representing Camp Jabulani, a privately-owned luxury safari lodge in a game reserve where visitors can interact with and ride elephants as well as go on safari.

■ To donate to Hollie's cause go to www.gofundme.com/hopeforhollieowen



DREAMS: Hollie Owen, pictured with boyfriend, Matthew Phyll, has been offered a safari experience and elephant ride in South Africa. Photo

by Grant Melton