

# head2head

The newsletter for Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust



SAMANTHA DICKSON  
BRAIN TUMOUR TRUST

Head to head with brain tumours

SPRING 2010



Samantha Dickson  
Brain Tumour Trust  
**Raise a cuppa,  
Raise awareness!**

Tea parties in full swing! PAGE 7



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## A word from our Chairman

I am delighted to say that 2010 looks set to be another productive year for us all at Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust; and of course this is largely down to you, our Umbrella Groups, donors, fundraisers and supporters for tirelessly fundraising for our work. Thanks to your efforts, we are able to fund more groundbreaking research projects than ever before. Inevitably, there are more projects than there are funds to support them so we will need to keep up the momentum to raise even more money this year. We are also seeing demand for our patient support service growing; another sign that there is ever more need for our work. Once again, thank you so much for supporting us; for all your time, effort and commitment.

**Neil Dickson, Chairman**



## A message from our CEO

This year, we have set ourselves a number of important goals, including: to improve the quality of life and survival rates of people with brain cancer by funding world class research; to increase the number of specialists working in the brain cancer field; to fund and campaign for an increase in clinical trials; and to expand our patient support services so that we can reach out to even more brain tumour patients and their carers. All this will ensure that we continue to make an enormous impact in the world of brain tumour research and support. We are proud to be leading the way in brain tumour research and incredibly grateful to you for making this possible.

**Paul Carbury, Chief Executive**



## Welcome to our new trustees

**Shirley Barnfield:** Shirley and her husband established an Umbrella Group in 2006 in memory of their son, Henry and have since raised over £30,000. Shirley is a qualified solicitor with over 20 years' experience.

**Ann Gales:** Ann is a Partner with Heidrick and Struggles, leaders in the executive search industry. She has an extensive network of relationships in the international medical community and has previously worked with CR-UK.

**Aidan Lisser:** Aidan has substantial experience in marketing and brand management following a 25-year career with Unilever, Standard Chartered Bank and Allianz. Aidan is marketing advisor to the British Museum.

**Andy Silver:** Andy works for BlueCrest Capital Management LLP, and previously held senior positions with Merrill Lynch and JP Morgan Chase Bank. Andy's wife has been diagnosed with a glioblastoma and is doing well.

**Gavin St Pier:** Gavin has held senior positions in organisations such as KPMG, Deloitte, Kleinwort Benson and Barclays Wealth. Most recently, Gavin led a management buyout for his last business, Walbrook. Gavin also serves as Deputy Chairman of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP).

**Peter Unsworth:** Peter is Chief Executive of Tetley Tea. He has been with the company since 1996 and was appointed CEO in 2008. Tetley HQ is located in Greenford, Middlesex.

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## We remember...

All those who have lost their lives to a brain tumour, and those who have lost loved ones and friends. And we thank all of you who have sent us a donation in memory of a loved one. With your help we pledge to do all we can to improve the life chances of brain tumour patients in the future.



## About us

**SDBTT is the leading adult and childhood brain tumour charity dedicated to research in the UK. Our aim is to raise awareness, support and funds for brain tumour research to help fight this devastating disease and give hope to brain tumour patients in the future.**

**Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust  
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**[www.braintumourtrust.co.uk](http://www.braintumourtrust.co.uk)**



**[enquiries@sdbtt.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@sdbtt.co.uk) [patientinfo@sdbtt.co.uk](mailto:patientinfo@sdbtt.co.uk)**

**0845 130 9733/01252 749990**

**Patrons:** Dawn French, Earl Spencer, Jonny Wilkinson OBE, Fiona Fullerton, Alastair Stewart, Chris de Burgh, Michael Crawford, Delia Smith, Stephen Hendry, Hayley Mills, Christopher Bailey, Ciara Janson, Twiggy Lawson, Martin Amis, Sandy Lyle, Leslie Thomas, Julia Somerville, Dame Helen Mirren, Sir Thomas Lighton, Gayle McDermott, Tom Daley, Seamus Cullen

# Research funding reaches £5million milestone

Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust is the leading charity in the UK for funding research into brain tumours. To date, we have spent £5m on innovative, world class research projects led by top UK and international scientists. This research translates into real, tangible outcomes that are improving our understanding of what causes brain tumours in adults and children, and how they can best be treated. Our goal is to greatly improve the quality of life and survival rates of people with brain tumours, and thanks to your support, this is becoming achievable. The following pages provide a snapshot of the many successful projects that we have funded.

## UCL Centre of Excellence update

Professor Paolo Salomoni heads the Samantha Dickson Brain Cancer Unit at the UCL Cancer Institute, which opened in 2009. Here he explains his role, and his vision for the laboratory.



**What research are you carrying out at the centre?** Our programme aims to shed light on the origins and development of brain tumours, and to reveal why some cancer cells are resistant to therapy and identify new ways of overcoming this

**What attracted you to the position in the lab?** The centre is at the forefront of cancer research, both in the UK and internationally. SDBTT has a well-defined vision for the future of brain cancer research in the UK and an impressive record in promoting fundraising to make it happen. As a result, its research has led to extremely exciting discoveries and bears great potential for the future of UK brain cancer research.

**What is your vision for the Centre of Excellence?** Firstly, the centre will expand our understanding of tumour biology, making an international impact on research in this field. Importantly, the centre aims to make laboratory discoveries which can contribute to

clinical care. To do this, it will work closely with the applied cancer research initiatives in the UCL Cancer Institute and with other Institutes and Departments at UCL and UCL Hospitals. Finally, training and fostering a new generation of scientists will constitute key objectives of the centre.

**What sort of progress in brain tumour research can be made in the next 10 years?** To make progress and generate new ideas for therapeutic interventions, we must improve our understanding of brain tumours and their causes; and discover new diagnostic tools. To achieve this, it will be crucial to establish a two-way exchange between the research and clinical sides.



## Newcastle University strides ahead

With research funding from SDBTT, Professor Steven Clifford and his team at Newcastle University have become some of the leading scientific experts on medulloblastomas in the world. Medulloblastoma is one of the most common childhood brain tumours.

Over the past 10 years the team has made major breakthroughs, including the identification of a biological marker which can be used to help predict disease behaviour. Around a quarter of patients have a particular protein in the tumour which is not present in the other patients. The survival rate of this subset of patients is dramatically higher – around 95%, compared to around 65% for the other patients. Following this discovery, a new clinical trial will be launched for children diagnosed with medulloblastoma throughout Europe this year. In this trial, all tumours will be tested for the protein as well as other biological markers. In the low risk group, reduced intensity treatment will be given, to see if treatment side effects can be reduced.

## £380,000 Health Foundation grant to promote early diagnosis of childhood tumours

A recent SDBTT-funded study by scientists at The University of Nottingham's Children's Brain Tumour Research Centre showed that it can take up to three times longer to diagnose a child with a brain tumour in the UK than in some other countries. On the back of this, SDBTT has forged a partnership with the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health and the University of Nottingham with a £380,000 grant from the Health Foundation, to promote early diagnosis among GPs and to improve outcomes for children with brain tumours.

Prolonged and slow diagnosis can make long-term survivors of childhood brain tumours up to 10 times more likely to suffer disability. Earlier diagnosis of

tumours would mean children can be treated sooner and may experience less side-effects from the tumour and treatments, resulting in improved quality of life and survival.

David Walker, Professor of Paediatric Oncology at the Children's Brain Tumour Research Centre, University of Nottingham, said: "We are delighted that the Health Foundation has realised the importance of early diagnosis with this significant grant. Over the next 5 years we have the opportunity to make real progress in this area and reduce the time it takes for childhood brain tumours to be diagnosed through an educational campaign with health professionals and the public."



## New tests for patients with high grade tumours

SDBTT has teamed up with the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery in London to routinely offer a new test on all brain tumour patients diagnosed with high grade tumours.

This test, known as the MGMT Methylation test, is able to identify a genetic change which is present in 25% of high grade gliomas (most common in adults). It has been shown that the presence of this change indicates that chemotherapy, in particular Temozolomide, is likely to be more effective. Therefore, by offering this test, patients can receive a better prediction of their prognosis.

## Award recognises best practice in research funding

We are delighted to have been awarded a Certificate of Best Practice in Peer Review for our research grants. This award, from the Association of Medical Research Charities (AMRC), is in recognition of the high standards of scrutiny with which the charity operates, and provides assurances to our donors and supporters that their money is spent wisely.

Simon Denegri, Chief Executive of AMRC, commented, "We are delighted to award our Certificate of Best Practice to Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust following a successful audit. The award of this Certificate shows that SDBTT is working to the highest standards in its research grant awards processes and is following our principles of best practice."

Julia Trusler, SDBTT Research Grants Manager, was invited to speak at the AMRC's Annual General Meeting in 2009, following the award.



## Other projects we have recently funded include:

### Professor V. P. Collins at the University of Cambridge:

This research aimed to record losses and gains of genetic information on two chromosomes (7 and 10) in adult astrocytic tumours. One abnormality identified was an extra copy of part of one chromosome (10p), which was found almost exclusively in the less malignant forms of these tumours. Professor Collins discovered differences in survival rates of patients with this extra copy of 10p, meaning this may represent an important factor for further investigation to improve survival outcomes.

### Dr Violaine See at the University of Liverpool:

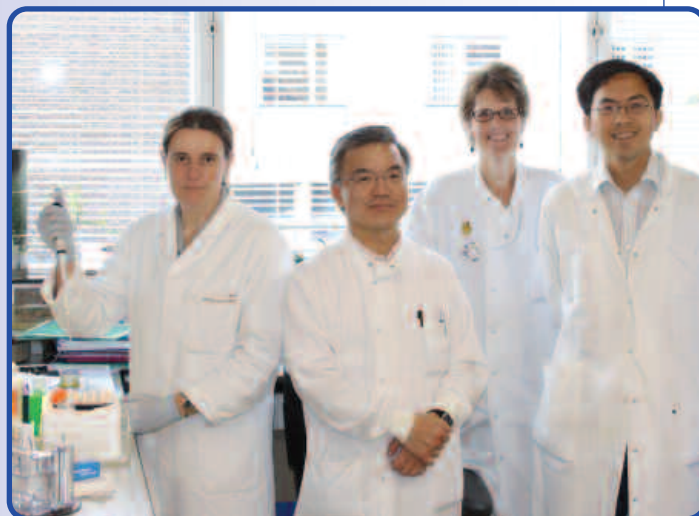
The research team led by Dr See looked at how cells react to chemotherapy treatment, in order to identify new ways of treating medulloblastomas in children. Their results strongly support the relationship between the genetic profile of the tumour and its responsiveness to chemotherapy. This discovery may lead to individually tailored therapy, in which each patient's molecular 'fingerprint' is taken into account. Resistance to chemotherapy is a major problem in brain tumours, so research that tackles this is vital.

### Professor Colin Kennedy at the University of Southampton:

In this study Professor Kennedy is examining the effect of child and parent factors on the quality of life of children treated for a brain tumour. He has looked at how behaviour at school differs among children with brain tumours, as reported by their teachers. The team aims to use their results to make specific recommendations on how to avoid or reduce the difficulties that these children experience both at home and at school and to improve their overall quality of life. Children treated for a brain tumour can suffer a significantly reduced quality of life, so improving outcomes for these children is an important goal for SDBTT.

### Investigating causes of brain tumours in children, teenagers and young adults at the Universities of Leeds and Manchester:

Professors Patricia McKinney and Jillian Birch have piloted a study to collect information from parents and young people diagnosed with brain tumours, to compare against the same information gathered from a group of healthy young people. The study incorporated questions on factors including maternal experiences during pregnancy, birth details, mobile phone use and family history of disease and cancer. Professor McKinney said, "This research will provide us with key information for future research into the causes of brain tumours in young people. We are very grateful to Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust and all their donors for supporting this important study."



### Adult brain tumour research at the University of Cambridge

Dr Ichimura and his team (pictured above) have been investigating the role of a particular gene, *IDH1*, in the development of brain tumours of different types. They found that mutations of the *IDH1* gene occur in the majority of astrocytomas, oligodendrogliomas, mixed gliomas and secondary glioblastomas, but rarely in primary (non progressive) glioblastomas and never in any other types of brain tumours. Their findings suggest that the *IDH1* plays an important role in the early formation of astrocytomas, oligodendrogliomas and mixed gliomas. It is hoped that this research into the *IDH1* gene will have implications for both the diagnosis and the treatment of brain tumours.



## 2010 grant round underway

We have received a record number of 47 applications for our research funding. The projects requesting funding from SDBTT cover all areas of brain tumour research, including laboratory, clinical and quality of life research. Unfortunately, we do not have sufficient funds to fund all research requests; therefore, we are extremely selective as to the projects that we do support: each application is scrutinised by our grant review panel and three international peer reviewers, who assess it on factors such as originality, feasibility and value for money. This process, which ensures that our money goes where it will have the greatest impact, has won us a Certificate of Best Practice in Peer Review from the Association of Medical Research Charities. You can read more about what this means on page 4.



### Research given Royal approval

In September, we were delighted to welcome Her Royal Highness The Countess of Wessex to our head office in Yateley, Hampshire. HRH Sophie Wessex was given a guided tour of the office and met staff and trustees, including the charity's founders, Neil and Angela Dickson, as well as distinguished guests, including Dame Mary Fagan DCVO JP, Chairman of Hart District Council, Councillor Sharyn Wheale and Gerald Howarth, MP for Aldershot. Also present to meet the Countess were fundraisers, volunteers and patients; she praised the hard work of everyone involved and, as a mother, was clearly moved by the experiences of those whose lives have been affected by brain tumours.



## New grant review panel established

We have recently established a Grant Review and Monitoring Committee (GRAM), which will have responsibility for reviewing both grant applications and monitoring reports from research that we are currently funding. The committee is made up of scientific and medical specialists from the brain tumour field as well as other, related areas of expertise and had its first meeting on 10 December 2009 to consider the latest research applications.

## Exciting partnerships with Cancer Research UK

Our recent partnership with the UK's largest cancer charity, Cancer Research UK (CR-UK), to run clinical trials for primary brain tumours is well underway. Applications are currently being reviewed by CR-UK's Clinical Trials Awards and Advisory Committee and will be subjected to international competitive peer review.

In a separate partnership with CR-UK, we are co-funding a Clinical Trials Project Officer to work within the National Cancer Research Institute. Their role is to promote and facilitate the establishment of clinical trials in the UK. Kate Law, Director of Clinical Research at CR-UK, said: "We are delighted to be working in partnership with SDBTT in the important area of encouraging more brain tumour clinical trials. We hope that our partnership will lead to improvements in outcomes for both adults and children with brain tumours." Funding decisions for the trials will be made soon and we will bring you an update in the next newsletter.

### SDBTT CEO joins the board of National Cancer Research Institute



We are delighted that our CEO, Paul Carbury, has been appointed to the board of the National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI). The NCRI is a UK-wide partnership between the government, charity and private sectors which promotes co-operation in cancer research among the 21 member organisations for the benefit of patients, the public and the scientific community.

## Words of thanks and support



*"To be told that you have a brain tumour, or to see your child, relative or, as in my case, a dear friend, suffer from the effects of a tumour, is devastating. It is charities like SDBTT that work to find a cure, and provide vital support, that are so crucial in these circumstances. I am proud to be a supporter and wish the charity every success during Brain Tumour Awareness month and beyond."*

Alastair Stewart, Newsreader and SDBTT Patron

*"Thanks to you I can continue my positive outlook on life without being frightened or lost... you are invaluable and I appreciate what you have done for me and others alike..."*

Letter from brain tumour patient, Oct 09

## Here to help

Many people feel overwhelmed when they or are told that they have a brain tumour. If you would like someone to talk to about your or your loved one's diagnosis, or want more information about tumour types and treatments, just give us a call. Our friendly, confidential support and information helpline provides support and a listening ear from people who understand your situation. Finding out more about the illness and talking things through can help you to feel more in control of your situation.

Call Roz Osborne or Jenny Gumbrell on 0845 130 9733 or email [patientinfo@sdbtt.co.uk](mailto:patientinfo@sdbtt.co.uk)

## 2010 Patient Support roadshows

This year will see our Patient Support team out and about once again, providing information for everyone affected by brain tumours. Last year's roadshows were a huge success, with over 350 people attending at five venues throughout the UK. For more information and dates, venues and times of these events, please see our website, [www.sdbtt.co.uk/helping-you/patient-support](http://www.sdbtt.co.uk/helping-you/patient-support) or call Roz or Jenny on 0845 130 9733; or you can email [patientinfo@sdbtt.co.uk](mailto:patientinfo@sdbtt.co.uk)

## March is Brain Tumour Awareness Month...

### What is it?

Brain Tumour Awareness Month runs throughout March in the UK and is an opportunity to highlight the disease among the general public and the medical community and to raise vital funds for brain tumour research.

### What are we doing?

#### Patient survey and awareness raising

We have invited thousands of you to complete our patient survey, to find out how aware you or your loved ones were when it came to spotting the symptoms of a brain tumour and whether these symptoms were spotted by your GP.

We are really grateful for all of you who have taken the time to complete the survey; we will be using the results as the basis of a PR campaign in the media during Brain Tumour Awareness Month and to raise awareness of the importance of early diagnosis.



### Tea parties in full swing... but it's not too late to get involved!

Why not get some friends together and raise some money for brain tumour research? Organising a 'Raise a cuppa, raise awareness' tea party is easy, fun and can be done any time of year; all you need is a group of friends or colleagues, a pot of tea and some biscuits. It doesn't take much organising, but every penny really makes a difference to our work. We can help you put your tea party together; just give us a call on 0845 130 9733 or go to our website, [www.braintumourtrust.co.uk](http://www.braintumourtrust.co.uk) where you can find plenty of fun tea party downloads, including tea party posters, tea party invitations and a tea-rific tea party quiz... **Thank you.**

## Umbrella Groups

### Groups explained...

Regular supporters who are raising money either in memory of a loved one or for someone living with a brain tumour can decide to form an SDBTT Umbrella Group or a Friends of SDBTT Group. Our aim is for each Umbrella Group to raise £10,000 - £20,000 and the Friends of SDBTT Groups to raise around £2,000 - £10,000 each year on an ongoing basis. For more information, please email the team at [umbrella@sdbtt.co.uk](mailto:umbrella@sdbtt.co.uk)

### Welcome to our new Umbrella Groups:

SDBTT Clare Kemlo Fund • SDBTT Jake Lucas David Kershaw Fund • Friends of SDBTT - Aimee Kaszas Group • Friends of SDBTT - Phil Garner Group • Friends of SDBTT - Robert Sweet Group • Friends of SDBTT - Ryan Piggott Group • Friends of SDBTT - Edward Dyson Group



### Umbrella Groups get together at UCL

Umbrella Groups turned out in force on 29 January to visit the new Samantha Dickson Brain Cancer Unit at the UCL Cancer Institute in London.

The groups had a chance to get together and meet the head of the Unit, Prof. Paolo Salomoni (pictured above), as well as hear about the charity's latest plans from CEO Paul Carbury and the Chairman, Neil Dickson. They also had the opportunity to see the Chain of Hope, comprising messages of hope sent in by hundreds of our supporters, which are helping inspire all those who work at the Unit.

### Messages of Hope

A huge thank you to the hundreds of you who sent in your messages of hope over the Christmas period. We were delighted to have such a positive response; all the messages which make up our Chain of Hope are displayed at the SDBTT-funded UCL Centre of Excellence for cancer research, and are helping inspire the teams of hard working researchers at the lab.

Below: Our Chain of Hope gives inspiration to Prof. Salomoni and his team at the UCL Centre of Excellence



## Story of hope



Three years ago, Ben Sambrook was just another happy, carefree seven-year-old boy, who loved playing with his friends and having fun. He and his family were looking forward to the trip of a lifetime to Disneyworld, Florida, when out of the blue came the news that turned their world upside down: Ben was diagnosed with a high grade glioma; an aggressive, malignant type of brain tumour. He underwent brain surgery and was then given months of gruelling treatment, including radiotherapy and chemotherapy.

Determined to do something positive, Ben's mother, Sharon, set up the SDBTT Ben Sambrook Fund and started raising funds for research into Ben's condition. She was shocked to hear that despite the vast amounts of money that are raised for cancer research each year, less than 2% of this money actually goes towards researching brain tumours. This is despite the fact that brain tumours kill more children and young people each year than any other cancer.

The SDBTT Ben Sambrook Fund has gone on to raise over £70,000 with the help of family and friends who have taken part in fun runs, charity concerts and marathons. One event alone, the Las Vegas Ball, raised a staggering £10,000. The fund is now helping to finance molecular brain tumour tests to improve the diagnosis and treatment of this life threatening disease.

As a testament to Ben's courage and determination he was named the Express and Star Local Hero in November 2009. He was presented with the award at his school and attended an award-winners' meal at local Wolverhampton Wanderers football ground, Molineux, in December with his parents and younger sister, Emily.

Today, Ben is a picture of health; but he continues to be scanned every three months. As Sharon says, "Ben has been incredibly brave against all the odds and he lights up the lives of everyone around him. We just take three months at a time and consider ourselves extremely lucky for each new day."

Above: Ben Sambrook with Marcus Hahnemann, Wolves goalkeeper

## Our partnerships and corporate supporters

Thank you to all our supporters from the corporate world, as well as the many other organisations who are backing SDBTT. Your generosity is greatly valued and appreciated.

If your company would like to become a corporate supporter, please call Paul Carbury on 0845 130 9733 or email him at paul@sdbtt.co.uk

### Spotlight on: Boehringer Ingelheim

Boehringer Ingelheim is a research driven group of companies dedicated to researching, developing, manufacturing and marketing pharmaceuticals that improve health and quality of life. They achieve this by focussing on the production of innovative drugs and treatments that represent the major therapeutic advances. Staff at the company have chosen Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust as their charity of the year and we are extremely grateful for all their hard work in raising over £14,000 towards our work. They held a number of really successful events including a bingo night, golf day, and a lakeside walk. "We have had some great times fundraising and events have included a sponsored walk, Morris dancing and a Christmas bingo night. It has been a real pleasure working with Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust. Angela and Neil Dickson (pictured top right, receiving a cheque) work tirelessly with the rest of their team to raise awareness of this devastating illness and our employees have been moved by their dedication; they are truly inspirational."

**Our thanks go to Boehringer Ingelheim for their support.**

### Exclusive support for SDBTT

Our sincere thanks to Mr Giuseppe Pecorelli, Chairman of the Exclusive Hotels Group, whose team of golfers gathered at the beautiful Mannings Heath Golf Club, West Sussex, last summer, to raise over £8,000 for SDBTT.



### WOMAC backs SDBTT

Women on the Move Against Cancer is made up of over 65 female volunteers working in the motor and associated industries. The organisation was set up in 1979 to raise money for cancer charities and since then, has raised more than £500,000. SDBTT is thrilled to be one of their chosen charities for 2010; we look forward to a fruitful and positive partnership and extend a warm thanks to everyone at WOMAC for their support.



### Cricket Day raises funds

We are very grateful to Hampshire County Cricket Club and Hartley Wintney Cricket Club for choosing to donate the proceeds of their summer Cricket Day event to SDBTT; an incredible £6,500 was raised from the event.



### SDBTT chosen as Barts Choir's charity of the year

We extend a very big thank you to Barts Choir, who have chosen SDBTT as their Charity of the Year 2009/10. We do hope you will be able to attend some of the fantastic concerts that are lined up for the coming year with all money raised going towards our work. The next concert will be held on 30 June at Cadogan Hall, Chelsea (Tel: 020 7730 4500). For tickets, please contact the venue.

Above: **Barts choir concert at the Royal Albert Hall**

## Past events round up



### Sevenoaks to Stockholm... in a sauna!

It sounds bizarre but it's true: Thomas Sharrad and Christopher Wilkinson travelled in their incredible mobile sauna over 14,000 miles and through 12 countries, all in the name of brain tumour research. The daring duo and their saunamobile featured in newspapers all over the world,

from Prague to Korea, and raised over £5,000. Thank you so much, Thomas and Christopher!

### Hannah Jones wins BBC Switch Award

16-year-old Hannah Jones won 'Teen Hero' at the BBC Switch Awards in November. Hannah, who was diagnosed with a brain tumour in 2008, has raised over £56,000 for us and has also done a huge amount to raise awareness of the disease. Hannah has also produced a range of gorgeous hoodies for the charity. You can buy the hoodies securely online at [www.hannahbananahoodies.co.uk](http://www.hannahbananahoodies.co.uk). To read more about Hannah, see [www.hannahbananabraintumour.co.uk](http://www.hannahbananabraintumour.co.uk). A huge thank you for all your hard work, Hannah.

### An evening with Rick Wakeman

A great evening was had by all at The Alban Arena on 6 December when musician, storyteller and 'Yes' band member Rick Wakeman, played an exclusive UK show with friends, including Bobby Davro, in aid of SDBTT. A huge thank you to Ivan Morgan and everyone else involved in organising the event.

### Choir raises the roof for charity

Over four hundred people enjoyed the uplifting sound of the Rushmoor Oddfellows Male Voice Choir at their Christmas concert, held in aid of SDBTT. The charity's founders, Neil and Angela Dickson, were delighted to accept a cheque for over £2,500 from the members of the choir.

### Walk around the world: mission accomplished!

A massive thank you to all you keen walkers and supporters, who put your best feet forward to walk around the world for brain tumour research. One particularly inspirational supporter, Kevin Taylor, organised a truly global challenge by involving family and friends in Canada, Malta and the UK to take part in walks on the same day. In total, the five groups walked 449 miles and raised over £1,800. Thank you Kevin and all our walkers! Kevin is organising another walk from Chesil Beach, Portland to West Bay, on 6 June. To join Kevin or donate, please email [keta125@btinternet.com](mailto:keta125@btinternet.com). Walk around the World is a project of the International Brain Tumour Alliance. The walks will begin again in June/July this year, so do join us then!



### Pedal power

A team of six SDBTT supporters braved soaring temperatures and pot holes for the Cycle Cuba challenge. Each team member pedalled 220 miles over five days, raising over £11,000 for the charity. A big thank you to Team Cuba: Alistair Barnfield, Ian Barnfield, Carole Dear, Paul Frost, Ruth Sangale and Dan Suttle.

### Golfers united

A golf day at one of the world's most famous golfing venues, The Belfry, has raised just under £2,000 for Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust. More than 120 people from the independent builders merchant sector attended the event, organised by h&b Group, to raise much needed funds. A big thank you to everyone involved and particularly to Andy Bygate for all his hard work.

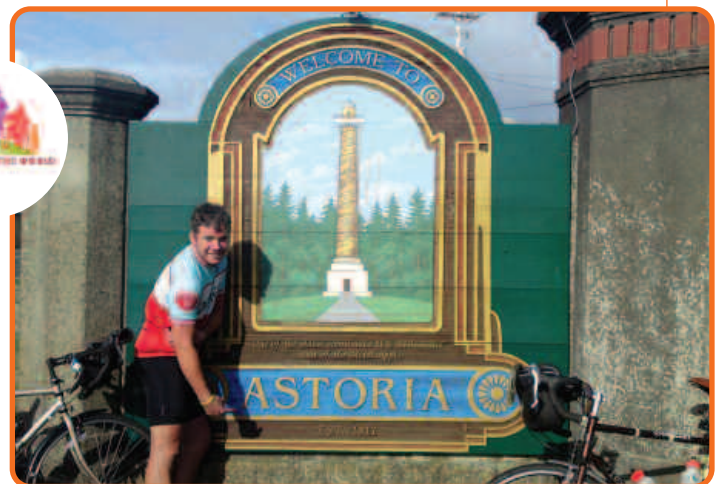
### In memory of Jake

We are extremely grateful to David Kershaw and Carly Rogers, who organised a fun run from the City of Manchester football stadium to Old Trafford football ground in August, in memory of their son, Jake. Jake was just two years old when he died from a brain tumour. Thank you also to everyone who made the time and effort to run and for all your generosity in supporting the event

### Matt Brady completes epic American cycle ride

Matt Brady clocked up an incredible 4,400 miles, cycling from Yorktown, Virginia on the east coast of the USA to Astoria, Oregon on the west coast. This epic journey which took place between July and September last year, was organised in memory of Matt and Lysa's daughter, Ruby, who died of a brain tumour in 2007, shortly before her fourth birthday. Matt's fundraising is approaching the £10,000 mark, which is fantastic a achievement in itself. Our sincere thanks go to Matt and all his supporters.

**Below: Matt Brady has raised nearly £10,000 from his epic cycle ride. Matt and his trusty bike clocked up 4,400 miles.**



## Fancy a challenge?

For fundraising with a difference, just select one of our fabulous challenge events – and enjoy the experience of a lifetime! For more information including event costs, please contact Nick Jones, on 0845 130 9733 or email [enquiries@sdbtt.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@sdbtt.co.uk)



### London Night Rider 19 June 2010

Experience the thrill of London at night as you whizz (or meander!) along on your bike. Join us for this unique cycling journey which will cover 100km starting from Crystal Palace. The route will be fully signposted so you can travel at your own pace and will take in some of London's most famous landmarks. We finish back at Crystal Palace for a well earned fry up!



### India Himalaya trek 21-31 May 2011

If you fancy more than just a holiday, why not join us in trekking through the breathtaking Himalayas? You'll experience stunning mountain views, lakes and forests, friendly people and delicious traditional food. Before your trek you will visit Delhi and work on a local community project. And of course, the money you raise for the trip will benefit people with brain tumours here in the UK!

### Cycle the Nile 19-27 November 2011

Egypt captures the imagination of all who go there and the Nile is the lifeblood of this ancient civilisation. What better way to follow this magnificent river than on a five day, 400km cycle ride along its banks. We will cycle through undulating fields as well as stunning desert towards Aswan, Egypt's southern-most city which is surrounded by palm-studded islands. Then back along the east bank to finish in Luxor, a fascinating place with the greatest concentration of monuments in the world.



## Spotlight events

### No limits for Naomi

Courageous Naomi Dixon will be jumping out of an aeroplane on 16 June 2010 in memory of her dad, Mark, who died six years ago from a brain tumour. The date of the skydive will fall on what would have been Mark's 41st birthday and Naomi is hoping to raise as much money as possible in aid of Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust. A big thank you to Naomi from us all at SDBTT. To support Naomi in her daring challenge please visit her on-line sponsorship page at [www.justgiving.com/naomi-dixon](http://www.justgiving.com/naomi-dixon)



### Row, row, row (and row) your boat

A team of six brave men are to attempt to row more than 1,000 miles from John O'Groats to Land's End to raise an incredible £150,000 for charities, including the Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust. The crew, made up of businessmen and a former Leicester Tigers player, will set off on their gruelling journey on Sunday 4 July and aim to reach Lands End on Saturday 24 July. We wish them well and look forward to following their progress. To read more about their story and to sponsor the rowers, visit [www.celebrityrow.co.uk](http://www.celebrityrow.co.uk)

### Dorchester Ball date announced

The eagerly awaited bi-annual SDBTT Dorchester Ball is to take place on Saturday 13 November at the exclusive Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, London. This is always a hugely popular event with guests being treated to gourmet food and wonderful music, all in sumptuous, 5-star surroundings. All money raised from the ball will go towards brain tumour research. For further details, please call us on 0845 130 9733 or email [enquiries@sdbtt.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@sdbtt.co.uk)

### Join us for the British 10km run

A less gruelling alternative to the London Marathon is the British 10km, which takes place on 11 July, in London. We already have 17 willing and (nearly) ready runners as part of Team SDBTT, but there is plenty of room for more! We will be providing a goody bag, and plenty of moral support en route. If you'd like to take part please do get in touch; or, if you already have a place and would like to join team SDBTT and run on behalf of SDBTT, your support would be greatly appreciated. Our heartfelt thanks go to our team of 53 runners last year, who raised a fantastic £25,000. Please call Nick for more information on 0845 130 9733 or email [enquiries@sdbtt.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@sdbtt.co.uk)



