A decade of:
Collaboration

Building research capacity

&
Campaigning successes

Read more inspirational stories inside
A GIFT IN YOUR WILL CAN HELP TRANSFORM THE FUTURE

Brain tumours kill more children and adults under the age of 40 than any other cancer.

Just 1% of the national spend on cancer research has been allocated to this devastating disease.

Together we will find a cure.

www.braintumourresearch.org/legacy
legacy@braintumourresearch.org | 01908 867200
Contents

4 A Decade of Achievement
An update from our Chief Executive

6 Supporter Stories
Gemma Edgar and Ryleigh Godfrey

8 Wear A Hat Day 2019

10 Partnerships
Arconic and Lions Clubs

12 Our 10th Anniversary
A decade of awareness raising and fundraising togetherness

16 Fighting Force Heroes
On Yer Bike, Virgin Money London Marathon, Regional Walks of Hope and Challenges 2019/20

20 Our 10th Anniversary
A decade of building research capacity

22 Research Update
Professor Geoff Pilkington’s legacy

24 Fundraising Challenges
Jenny Renju’s trek and Scottish fundraising successes

26 Our 10th Anniversary
A decade of campaigning successes

28 Supporter Stories
Carl Piddington RIP and James Farnsworth/Sami Dee

30 Our 10th Anniversary
A decade of collaboration

33 Do Lunch!

34 Fundraising Groups
Brainstorm, Carol’s Fund and Debbie Coulson Foundation

36 Member Charity Updates
The Danny Green Fund and Astro Brain Tumour Fund

38 Gifts of Hope

39 Forever in Our Hearts

Cover story

22 Professor Geoff Pilkington’s legacy

COVER HIGHLIGHTS

11 Launch of partnership with Lions Clubs

20 A decade of building research capacity

26 10 years of campaigning successes

Edited by: David Dean, Crispin Zeeman and Sue Fanning-Smith at Brain Tumour Research,
Suite 3, Stanley Pavilions, Chalkdell Drive, Shenley Wood, Milton Keynes MK5 6LB.
Printed by: BCQ, 1 Osier Way, Swan Business Park, Buckingham, Buckinghamshire MK18 1TB www.bcqgroup.com
Designed by: Cleartinking Creative, 51 Church Street, Hungerford, West Berkshire RG17 0JH www.cleartinkingcreative.co.uk
Brain Tumour Research makes all reasonable efforts to ensure that the information in this magazine is correct at the time of printing.

www.braintumourresearch.org Summer 2019
On 28th April 2009, 14 brain tumour charities put their ‘heads together’ to launch umbrella charity Brain Tumour Research with a mission to raise awareness and increase funding for vital research.

The charities highlighted that, despite brain tumours being the leading cause of cancer deaths in children, brain tumour research was ‘woefully underfunded’ and a ‘poor relation to other cancers’ receiving less than 1% of the national spend on cancer research in the UK.

I was personally shocked by the statistics and found it tragic that research had not moved forward since my own niece, Alison Phelan, had been taken from us in June 2001, three weeks before her eighth birthday.

Having formed Ali’s Dream with family and friends, we knew we couldn’t do it alone and were delighted to unite with other brain tumour charities to do something about it.

Move forward 10 years and we have much to be proud of and a decade of achievements to celebrate:

- Through collaboration with our Members and other charities, the patient voice is being heard, more patients and their families have access to support and information, and funding for research is increasing
- Our campaigning successes have shone a spotlight on the historic underfunding and have led to increased national investment in research into brain tumours
- Awareness is at an all-time high in the media, on social media and amongst parliamentarians and, with thanks to this and all of our supporters and celebrity ambassadors, our own fundraising has reached over £3.5 million a year
- We are transforming research into brain tumours in the UK through our dedicated Research Centre strategy, and building capacity in pioneering research having established four Brain Tumour Research Centres enabling them to attract other funding as a result of our own investment
We have also met so many astonishing, powerful, helpful, angry, devastated yet determined people. Determined to make a difference. Determined to join us in helping to fund the fight and find a cure for this devastating disease.

Thank you to each and every one of you, and all of those we are yet to meet who will help us further. We are inspired by all of you. We wouldn’t be here without you. AND WE ARE HERE FOR YOU.

The next decade is set to see huge advances in our quest to improve outcomes for patients and their families — please stay with us as we seek to grow capacity, build infrastructure, accelerate treatments and increase national investment in brain tumour research to £35 million a year by 2025.

Thank you for your continued support.

TOGETHER we will find a cure.

Sue Farrington Smith MBE
Chief Executive

Please join us to celebrate our successes over the past decade at our
10th Anniversary Ball
at the prestigious Landmark Hotel on Saturday 25th April 2020

Places are limited so reserve your place
Contact me on sue@braintumourresearch.org

Sue Farrington Smith MBE
Chief Executive
Gemma Edgar died from an aggressive glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) brain tumour just before Christmas last year.

A devoted mum to her two young boys and wife of Rob, her loss devastated everyone in her community. Since then, many of her friends have been moved to take on challenges and fundraisers in her memory.

More than 100 people took part in a charity boot camp organised by Gemma’s friend, Kirstie Enefer, which raised more than £2,000.

Gemma was a member of Running Colchester and the club held a charity quiz, raising more than £350. The funds were split between the club, Brain Tumour Research and St Helena’s Hospice where Gemma was cared for in her last months.

Two of Gemma’s close friends even took on the London Marathon! Sarah Langford was delighted to complete her first ever marathon and raise more than £3,000.

She said: “Gemma’s diagnosis came as an awful shock to us all. I hang on to her fight, courage and strength and they drove me to carry on through the toughest moments of the marathon.”

Mat Stuart, an advanced paediatric nurse and a former work colleague of Gemma’s completed this year’s marathon in her memory in the impressive time of 03:54:47, raising almost £3,000.

In the month before Gemma passed away, hundreds of runners came together to Run for Gem organised by Cara Greenley, who was exactly the same age as Gemma and also has two young boys. The run raised almost £2,500.

Also in November 2018, Glenn Eldridge and Jack Coop took on a daring 48km lighthouse to lighthouse challenge on a surf ski, adding to the nearly £13,000 previously raised by Gemma’s dad, Andy, and her brother, Lee, from their surf ski challenge in 2016.

Sarah Langford and Gemma

FANTASTIC FUNDRAISERS INSPIRED BY GEMMA

Kirstie Enefer – Boot Camp:
Raised over £2,000

Sarah Langford – London Marathon:
Raised over £3,000

Mat Stuart – London Marathon:
Raised almost £3,000

Cara Greenley – Run for Gem:
Raised almost £2,500

Glenn Eldridge and Jack Coop – 48km Surf Ski Challenge:
Bringing the total surf ski amount raised to over £13,000

Running Colchester – Quiz:
Raised over £350

HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE
Please donate to help us fund the fight against the disease that took Gemma:
www.braintumourresearch.org/donate-now
Parents, Kay Parsons and Lee Godfrey, are celebrating the news that their daughter’s latest scan showed no sign of a brain tumour, after living on the edge while their three-year-old was being treated for a life-threatening grade 3 ependymoma.

Ryleigh Godfrey started suffering from head tilt and sickness in May 2018. After going to the GP over several weeks, she began to struggle walking.

An MRI scan revealed the devastating news and she was rushed to hospital to undergo a 20-hour operation.

The tumour had been growing in Ryleigh’s brain stem for some time.

She endured countless operations, radiotherapy and a very tough three-month course of chemotherapy.

Although the first operation removed most of the tumour, there were complications including hydrocephalus as fluid built up on her brain.

Kay spoke openly about her daughter’s diagnosis: “There are no words to describe how it feels to be told your little girl has a brain tumour.

“Ryleigh is such a sweet little thing and this seems so unfair. The tumour was both aggressive and in a hard-to-reach place. We faced a very worrying time; I lost count of how many times we said goodbye.”

Ryleigh’s family wanted to help raise funds for research so that children diagnosed in the future will have the chance of better outcomes.

They loved the idea of fundraising for us, finding comfort in taking part in our Big Little Walk of Hope with friends, family and neighbours.

Ryleigh joined the event in her pushchair, as she was unable to walk due to complications from her last operation.

Kay said: “I am so grateful that we are part of a loving community and I know this support is going to be really valuable whatever the future holds.”

By working with us to share Ryleigh’s story, her family has helped raise a huge amount of awareness about brain tumours, reaching millions of people after making headlines in local media — such as the Bridgwater Mercury, BBC Radio Somerset and Somerset Live — as well as through the Mirror Online, the Metro and The Sun.

FAMILY FINDS COMFORT IN FUNDRAISING FOR BRAIN TUMOUR RESEARCH

If you have a story you’d like to share to help raise vital awareness, please get in touch with our PR team on media@braintumourresearch.org or 01908 867200 to discuss how we can help you tell your story in the way you’d like to.
We think no childhood should be devastated by a brain tumour. No parent should have to lose a child and no child should have to lose a parent before time.

So, this year, we all did Wear A Hat Day for the kids. Thank you to everyone who joined in at your home, in your school or at your workplace.

We received fantastic support from our new partners, Venture Studios, who donated their time and expertise (at various studios across the UK) to photograph families who are passionate about fundraising for us, and produced some stunning promotional photos for our marketing and PR.

Cheeky-faced brother and sister, Daniel and Layla, appeared on posters across the London Underground and lots of train stations nationwide.

Sadly, their father passed away from a brain tumour in November 2016, aged 39. They were just four and two years old at the time.

The take-up for Wear A Hat Day 2019 was fantastic and there was an amazing hatty buzz in the air.

It was our best ever and, thanks to you, we’ve raised around £350,000 — a brilliant achievement! We really appreciate your energy, commitment and support in raising a record-breaking amount to help fund the fight against brain tumours.

Hobbycraft supported Wear A Hat Day again across all its 94 branches, selling our pin badges and wristbands, as well as running Easter bonnet decorating workshops in stores across the country.

We were pleased to receive an increased donation from Specsavers, and 86 stores took part across the UK in recognition of the front-line role of optometrists in detecting signs of brain tumours through eye tests — sometimes after other health checks have been inconclusive.

Other businesses joined in the fun in their hundreds: a group of care homes, a chain of bakeries, a ferry company, a racecourse, a distribution warehouse and various supermarkets, restaurants, garden centres and universities.

And of course, schoolchildren, parents and teachers love Wear A Hat Day: around 315 schools all over the UK went to town and had a hattastic time!
Thank you again. Funds raised from Wear A Hat Day are helping us raise vital awareness, campaign for increased investment and progress pioneering research at our dedicated UK Centres, giving hope to the tens of thousands of people living with a brain tumour, along with their families and friends.

Fairisle Junior School has supported Wear A Hat Day for six years. The children have a non-uniform day and make Easter hats for an end of term hat parade and competition. After a minute’s reflection, the music is turned up, the party begins and everyone joins in the celebrations!

Thanks to the pupils, staff and parents, more than £1,500 has been raised over the years.

We produced another four new Wear A Hat Day badge designs this year for all the collectors out there. The Viking and astronaut helmet badges were based on drawings sent to us by sisters, Sophia and Rebecca, aged 12 and six. The girls wanted to help in memory of their sister, Isabella, who died from a brain tumour when she was just five.

Children at Fairisle School doing their Wear A Hat Day reflection time
CHARITY OF THE YEAR

ARCONIC FUNDRAISES IN MEMORY OF COLLEAGUE

On 14th April 2017, Niki Whyley, a much-loved colleague at Arconic, aluminium producers for aerospace and automotive products, passed away with a brain tumour. Shortly afterwards, her colleagues got together to decide how best to celebrate Niki’s life and gave careful consideration to what she would have wanted.

Their answer was to fundraise to help find a cure for brain tumours and, in 2018, Arconic named Brain Tumour Research as its Charity of the Year.

In just over 12 months, Arconic staff and their families and friends took part in a packed schedule of fundraising events and raised a fantastic £7,004 – enough to help fund the equivalent of nearly three days of vital research at one of our four dedicated Brain Tumour Research Centres.

The events included an impressive cycle ride from Birmingham to London, and the valiant fundraisers also competed in the four seasons Wolf Runs, Tough Mudder and the Inflatable 5k run. Michele Gray, our Head of Corporate Fundraising, commented: “The passion and drive of those who fundraised in memory of Niki shone through during both my visits to Arconic.

“Well done to you all and thank you. “It’s always a pleasure to visit organisations that make such a pledge in memory of a friend or colleague, and the time I spent with the team will remain with me for years.”

If you work for, or know of, an organisation that might like to discuss making Brain Tumour Research its Charity Partner or Charity of the Year, please get in touch with Michele via email on partners@braintumourresearch.org or you can call her on 01908 867236.
LIONS ROARING TO FUNDRAISING SUCCESS

We’re delighted to announce a new, four-year partnership with Lions Clubs International British Isles that will be truly transformational for Brain Tumour Research.

Lions are ordinary people who do extraordinary things to help others and support good causes. Globally, they have more volunteers in more places than any other service club organisation, and there are 900 Lions clubs all over the British Isles.

Because of their work in so many local communities, the Lions will be able to use their network to reach entirely new audiences. This will be a fantastic opportunity to raise a significant amount of money and awareness for our vital work.

Hundreds of Lions clubs across the country have chosen to support Brain Tumour Research by raising funds in their local communities over the next four years.

The aim is to raise an amazing £1 million!

At the end of the partnership, the Lions will have a lab named after them in one of our dedicated Brain Tumour Research Centres, thereby creating a legacy recognising their contribution to improving the lives of brain tumour patients and their families.

Several Lions clubs around the UK have already helped Brain Tumour Research and we attended the national convention in Swansea in early May where we had a stand and took the opportunity to meet and speak with lots of Lions.

Also in May, senior Lions attended a lab tour at our Queen Mary University of London (QMUL) Research Centre to learn about the team’s pioneering work into glioblastoma multiforme (GBM), one of the most common and aggressive forms of primary brain tumour in adults.

The work at QMUL is aimed at identifying and developing new drugs that can ‘switch off’ brain cancer stem cells that control tumour growth.

Our Chief Executive, Sue Farrington Smith MBE, and our Director of Fundraising and Marketing, Robin Meltzer, are delighted to have signed up to become members of the International Centennial Lions Club.

To recognise our partnership, we also produced a special-edition lapel badge, which is being sold through Lions clubs all over the country.

We look forward to working with the Lions over the next four years and raising a game-changing amount of money to help fund the fight and help find a cure for brain tumours!
From a standing start of no income when we launched in 2009, we have seen a staggering rise to over £3.6 million a year by our 10th year and a total raised of over £18 million.

Head 1st was set up by the inspirational Nicole Phillips (then Nicole Witts), a long-term survivor who, despite setbacks, has continued to help raise awareness and funds for our cause ever since.

Looking amazing, she bravely posed in nothing but a pink hat to launch our 2011 Wear A Hat Day achieving fantastic coverage in national and regional media.
We set out to raise awareness through our campaigning and our amazing supporters came on board in their thousands, including our first Patrons the Rt Hon John Bercow MP and actor, Ian Reddington.

Ian was known to millions of TV viewers as Tricky Dicky, Albert Square’s lothario market manager in Eastenders and Vernon, the hapless drummer in Coronation Street.

Alongside our Member Charities, we had nationwide media coverage and were soon joined by Fundraising Groups dedicated to raising funds. Our first two were Head 1st and Taylan’s Project.

Taylan’s Project was established by Figen and Andy Rawlinson following the tragic loss of their seven-year-old son, Taylan, on 19th August 2009. They have loyally supported our campaigning ever since as well as contributing over £200,000 to research with the support of friends and family.

Our first amazing supporters to help us fund the fight included Henry Brydon who, in 2010, at the age of 25 set off with his friend, Jamie King (then 26) on a 25,000-mile cycle ride from our founding office in Padbury, north Buckinghamshire, to Sydney in Australia, raising over £25,000.

Henry had been inspired by his brother Jack who, in 2003, aged just 17, was diagnosed with a brain tumour. We are pleased to report that Jack continues to do well, is working in insurance in London, has got married and is about to become a dad.

Brave Josie Philips was 27 when she and her husband, Roger, sailed round Britain to raise awareness of this awful disease.

Their epic event raised over £15,000 for our work.

Having been first diagnosed in 2004, she then discovered in 2008 that her tumour had become malignant. Josie and Roger left Ipswich on 15th May 2010 and sailed over 2,000 miles before returning on 1st September having met up with representatives of seven of our Member Charities en route.

In March 2011, another of her dreams came true when she gave birth to Edie. Josie and Roger went on to have two more children, Harriet and Francesca.

We will always be grateful for the support of Daryl and Louise Wilkinson of Clearthinking Creative who designed our logo and early materials pro-bono, and have been helping develop our brand and marketing collateral ever since at very generous rates.
The launch of Brain Tumour Research could not have been as successful without the dedication and help of Vanessa Dury, who galvanised support from a number of MPs and Peers in Westminster for the launch and, three months later, drafted our first statistics report, which gained national coverage.

Her daughter, Maisie, received treatment for a brain tumour in June 2007 at the age of two and is now a delightful 14-year-old.

The family has continued to support us with awareness raising and fundraising ever since. Vanessa’s sister, Sally Gross, a teacher at Beachborough School near Brackley, Northamptonshire, has organised an annual Wear A Hat Day at the school every year.

We were the school’s Charity of the Year in 2010 and 2011, and it has contributed over £20,000 to our work over the years.
The launch of our first Research Centre at the University of Portsmouth saw our Ambassador Sheila Hancock CBE invite local businesses, organisations and Portsmouth residents to help raise £1 million to fund brain tumour research at the Centre.

She unveiled our first Wall of Hope, on which supporters place tiles for each £2,740 they raise, to recognise their fundraising contribution and commemorate loved ones.

We have been overwhelmed by the dedication of so many wonderful supporters over our first decade; too many to mention here. As each year goes by, our loyal band of supporters continues to grow and with it the number of researchers we fund.

Our Community PR Manager, Liz Fussey, has helped many of our Member Charities and early supporters to share their stories and raise awareness, having worked for us since our launch.

Her brother, Andrew, was diagnosed with a low-grade brain tumour in 2002 and sadly lives with life-changing consequences of surgery and radiotherapy.

Wear A Hat Day moved into a different league with the support of the millinery industry, with high-profile, couture milliner, Philip Treacy OBE. Philip became Patron in 2011 and designed our first Wear A Hat Day brooch.

**Wear A Hat Day is our most successful fundraising campaign and has raised over £1.5 million since it began in 2010.**
Earlier this year, former road race cycling champion and bike shop owner, Phil Corley, who lost his brother to a brain tumour, launched our ON YER BIKE nationwide fitness challenge to help us fund the fight against brain tumours.

Using our new, super-cool microsite, riders could upload their training and mileage data from their wearable technology, track their personal and team’s progress and keep an eye on a fundraising leader board.

One group of supporters who enthusiastically rose to the ON YER BIKE challenge was a team of six cyclists led by Richard Castle-Smith. Their aim was to complete 2,740 miles, both on indoor turbo trainers and out on the open road. Their fundraising target was at least £2,740, representing the cost of a day’s research at one of our Brain Tumour Research Centres.

The team pushed themselves beyond their comfort zone in the Mallorca 312, an event described as “one of the toughest endurance events in the sportive calendar”. It involved cycling 196 miles and rising 16,500 feet in less than 14 hours. The team smashed its £2,740 target by raising over £4,500!

Look out for our next ON YER BIKE challenge early next year. We’ll be using our special microsite again and announcing updates on our main website and social media channels.

Would you like to join our 2020 ON YER BIKE challenge?

We’re launching ON YER BIKE 2020 later this year. To be kept informed, please email us on onyerbike@braintumourresearch.org

FOR BRAIN TUMOUR RESEARCH
Lucky enough to receive a place in the ballot?
Please choose to run for us!
Let us know on 01908 867200 or fundraising@braintumourresearch.org

Carrie Holbrook and Donna Wright

LONDON MARATHON FUNDRAISING SUCCESS

Sunday 28th April. The weather was perfect for the jewel in the crown of the world’s running calendar and spirits were high.

Seventy-one legends pounded the capital’s streets in support of our cause. Of these, 18 were running for loved ones living with a brain tumour and 41 for loved ones lost to this devastating disease.

All of them had their own motivation for running for us and, although it was an emotional day, they all did amazingly!

They showed bravery, determination and perseverance. It was a great achievement and we were so proud of each and every one of them!

We really appreciate everything they put their minds and bodies through to get ready for the big day — all those early morning starts, long runs in the cold and strict diets.

Thank you to all those who crossed the finish line. You raised around an amazing £320,000!

Five children — Stuart, Ben, Anthony, Jenny and Suzie — took on the challenge together as Team Graham in memory of their father, Graham Addison, a stockbroker.

Graham died in September 2016, aged 66, after being diagnosed with a glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) brain tumour 13 months earlier.

The sibling team smashed their £20,000 target by raising a fantastic £24,000!

Team Graham

Anne-Marie Barrow

Ann-Marie Barrow was another of our runners. She ran in memory of her husband, the rugby league legend, Tony Barrow. She raised over £8,300, well over double her target.

Carrie Holbrook also took part in this year’s event, along with her sister Donna White. They ran in memory of Carrie’s husband, Steve, a marathon runner himself and a police officer for 15 years. Their target was £6,000 and they raised over £8,100.

www.braintumourresearch.org Summer 2019 17
WALKS OF HOPE 2019

For many years, we’ve organised an annual fundraising canal walk in Buckinghamshire. It’s been well-supported and is growing in popularity.

But one walk was just not enough. So, last year, we extended our call to get walking nationwide!

Hundreds of our fantastic supporters took up the challenge, joining our regional Walks of Hope around the country, raising vital funds and awareness.

A ‘pink army’ of over 200 people walked along the coast in the Portsmouth Seafront Walk of Hope.

In London’s Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, our Fundraising Group Power of David inspired dozens to join their Walk of Hope and raise funds.

In Scotland, over 50 people took on the challenge to walk our Loch Lomond Walk of Hope.

The beautifully named Rising Sun Walk of Hope in Newcastle saw families come together in a stunning setting to help our cause.

Our regional Walks of Hope will now be an annual event. This year, we’re planning six walks, all taking place on Saturday 28th September.

Visit our website to find out more and to join one of our regional Walks of Hope: www.braintumourresearch.org/walks-of-hope

No walk in your area? Do your own thing and be part of our national day of outdoor fundraising!

Organise your own Walk of Hope with your family, friends and work colleagues. We’d be very happy to help you plan your event and promote it on our website.

Please let us know by registering via our website: www.braintumourresearch.org/diy-walk-of-hope.

If you’d like any more information, please email us at: fundraising@braintumourresearch.org or call us on 01908 867200.

The money raised from our Walks of Hope is already helping us build our network of experts in sustainable research at our dedicated UK Brain Tumour Research Centres, as well as influence the Government and larger cancer charities to invest more nationally.

Take part this year and help us build on our first 10 years’ achievements
**LET’S CONQUER IT TOGETHER!**

Whether you’re into running, walking, cycling or abseiling, there are lots of opportunities to get moving during the rest of 2019 and into 2020 to support our cause.

**Get involved and join our fantastic Fighting Force**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun 18th Aug</td>
<td>Kiltwalk, Dundee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 30th Aug</td>
<td>South Coast Challenge, Eastbourne to Arundel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 7th Sep</td>
<td>Thames Path Challenge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 8th Sep</td>
<td>Simplyhealth Great North Run, Newcastle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 15th Sep</td>
<td>Kiltwalk, Edinburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 15th Sep</td>
<td>Simplyhealth Great Bristol Half Marathon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 15th Sep</td>
<td>London to Brighton Cycle Ride</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 21st Sep</td>
<td>Swim Serpentine, London</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 28th Sep</td>
<td>Bank of Scotland Great Scottish Run, Glasgow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 28th Sep</td>
<td>Regional Walks of Hope, nationwide. Further details:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.braintumourresearch.org/walks-of-hope">www.braintumourresearch.org/walks-of-hope</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 29th Sep</td>
<td>BMW Berlin Marathon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct – Any Day</td>
<td>Swim for Hope, nationwide. Further details:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.braintumourresearch.org/swim-for-hope">www.braintumourresearch.org/swim-for-hope</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 13th Oct</td>
<td>Royal Parks Half Marathon, London</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 13th Oct</td>
<td>Exeter’s Great West Run</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 20th Oct</td>
<td>Simplyhealth Great South Run, Portsmouth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 20th Oct</td>
<td>Plusnet Yorkshire Marathon, York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 8th Dec</td>
<td>Santa Run, London</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 1st Mar</td>
<td>The Vitality Big Half 2020, London</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 29th Mar</td>
<td>London Landmark’s Half Marathon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 19th Apr</td>
<td>Brighton Marathon 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 26th Apr</td>
<td>2020 Virgin Money London Marathon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We’re adding challenge events to our website on an ongoing basis. Please visit [www.braintumourresearch.org/calendar-of-events](http://www.braintumourresearch.org/calendar-of-events) for the most up-to-date events list and fundraise for us with the challenge of your lifetime!

**Need further information, advice or fundraising materials?**
Please get in touch on either fundraising@braintumourresearch.org or 01908 867200 for help to smash your target and make your event a brilliant achievement.
Our mission is to build a network of experts in sustainable research at dedicated UK Centres whilst influencing the Government and larger cancer charities to invest more nationally.

In turn, this facilitates increased research investment from other sources and grows the overall capacity for brain tumour research within the UK.

It is essential that we fund long-term research into this devastating disease. Despite advancements for many other types of cancer, treatment options for brain tumours are still very limited, largely due to the historic underfunding for research into neuro-oncology.

With your help, we will change this.

We have partnered with world-leading experts to establish game-changing partnerships at key universities in the UK.

HELP US to continue to fund long-term, life-saving research.
Queen Mary University of London

Led by Professor Silvia Marino, the first female President of the British Neuro-Oncology Society, researchers at our Queen Mary University of London Brain Tumour Research Centre have developed new ways of analysing brain tumours using artificial intelligence alongside neuropathology techniques, in which samples from the tumours and healthy brains of patients can be directly compared.

This highlights differences that are most important to target with new personalised drug treatments. Experiments to validate these findings at pre-clinical level are now required to then move the most promising targets into clinical trials for adult glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) brain tumours. The Centre is also expanding its research into paediatric medulloblastoma.

We were delighted to have the team’s research validated as outstanding in the quinquennial review that took place in May. Our influential peer review panel members were impressed.

University of Plymouth

Professor Oliver Hanemann’s team at the University of Plymouth has established one of Europe’s leading low-grade brain tumour research centres where it is identifying new ways to categorise meningioma, including using a blood test that could avoid the need for biopsies.

The new data is informing the testing of personalised drug treatments. Its work in schwannoma and glioma brain tumours is following similar paths, with an emphasis on targeting the role of the immune system and tumour microenvironment, whilst also looking at tumour initiation. The team has already completed early stage clinical trials, with more to follow.

Imperial College London

Pioneering Consultant Neurosurgeon, Mr Kevin O’Neill, alongside Senior Research Fellow, Dr Nelofer Syed, lead our Centre at Imperial College London. Their focus is on a metabolic approach to cancer treatment and they have moved research on arginine depletion out of the lab and into early stage clinical trials with encouraging results.

The teams continue to develop surgical techniques including Raman spectroscopy, whilst artificial intelligence is enabling them to study long-term survivors and identify patterns to inform future research.

University of Portsmouth

Established by world-renowned Professor Geoff Pilkington, the team at our Brain Tumour Research Centre at the University of Portsmouth has developed all-human 3D models of the blood-brain barrier and the vasculature of the brain that not only enhance research, but also reduce the need for animal models to be used.

Its work on drug repurposing has identified a number of potentially effective compounds, with clinical trials in children and adults already at the planning stages.

University of Southampton – BRAIN UK

Initiated by brainstrust in 2011, the University of Southampton houses BRAIN UK, a virtual tissue bank, which we are proud to fund with the support of our Member Charity, Charlie’s Challenge.

Its database catalogues a wealth of data about brain tumour samples held within the UK’s network of NHS and Academic Pathology Centres.

It now achieves almost 100% coverage of the national population and therefore represents a globally unique population-wide resource. BRAIN UK also offers a ‘fast track’ ethics approval service, enabling research to begin more quickly than would otherwise be possible.

Keep up-to-date with all the latest research news about brain tumours on our website: www.braintumourresearch.org/research-news
At the beginning of the 1990s, Government funding for research was reduced and researchers had to resort to other means in order to receive the funding that they needed to pursue their research passions and improve outcomes for patients and their families.

Professor Geoff Pilkington was one such eminent researcher with a particular passion to discover cures for brain tumours, having lost his mother to a brain tumour in 1979, eight years into his career.
Geoff spent his entire career in brain tumour research, starting at the Middlesex Hospital Medical School in the early 1970s, followed by 23 years at the Institute of Psychiatry, King’s College, London, where he was Professor of Experimental Neuro-Oncology.

During the 1990s, Geoff galvanised families to back the cause and some formed charities that are still in existence, including two of our founding Member Charities, Charlie’s Challenge and Brainwaves NI.

Our Chief Executive, Sue Farrington Smith, recalls: “Following the diagnosis of my seven-year-old niece, Alison Phelan, in August 2000, I contacted the UK Brain Tumour Society after seeing an article in the Reader’s Digest, about possible treatments in the US. They surprised me by giving me Geoff’s mobile phone number! We both remember that phone call (he was at a conference in Ashville, North Carolina).

“When we lost Ali in June 2001, Geoff advised my sister Julie and her husband Gary on the start-up of Ali’s Dream and went on to establish and chair the charity’s Scientific and Medical Advisory Board (SMAB).

“In 2003, along with other brain tumour charities, we supported Geoff’s candidature to the University of Portsmouth and Geoff moved to its School of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences as Professor of Cellular and Molecular Neuro-Oncology and Director of Research.

“In collaboration with Helen Bulbeck of brainstrust, Geoff founded the Big Wight Matter charity walks, which my family enjoyed over three years, along with Wendy Fulcher from BTRC and other Member Charities. It was at this event in 2009 when we had a fateful conversation and he inspired us with his centre strategy vision.

Over the years, Geoff’s research focused on aspects of both adult and paediatric brain tumours including: translational approaches, pathogenesis and origin, drug repurposing and reformulation, the brain tumour microenvironment, brain cancer metastasis, mitochondria and metabolism and the blood-brain barrier.

Geoff supervised over 30 PhD students and built a successful team, publishing numerous papers on the results of his research. He was neuro-oncology editor for Oncology News, served on editorial boards of five journals and was a referee for 60 journals and over 40 grant-awarding bodies across the world.

A Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology, the Royal College of Pathologists, the Institute of Science and Technology and the Royal Society of Medicine, Geoff is a Past-President of the British Neuro-Oncology Society and former Honorary Treasurer and Executive Board Member of the European Association of Neuro-Oncology. He has served as an advisor to many charities and continues with some of these activities.

An ardent campaigner, Geoff regularly attended and spoke at meetings of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Brain Tumours and served on expert advisory panels on drug repurposing and brain tumour research funding.

At the end of December 2018, Geoff retired, becoming a University of Portsmouth Emeritus Professor. His legacy includes his research work that continues, his centre strategy, which lives on in the work of Brain Tumour Research, and also the work of many brain tumour charities that were inspired by his passion and insight.
FUNDRAISING CHALLENGES

KILIMANJARO CHALLENGE
IN MEMORY OF DAD LOST TO BRAIN TUMOUR

Jenny lived in the foothills of Kilimanjaro for seven years and, after running her first ever half marathon around Africa’s tallest mountain, she completed her challenge by climbing to the top, raising a total of more than £5,500 for Brain Tumour Research.

Jenny had a very personal motivation to complete the challenge. Her dad, Donald Komrower, was diagnosed with a glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) — a highly aggressive type of tumour — after suffering from stroke-like symptoms, in February 2012. Despite enduring radiotherapy, Donald died just three months later aged 63.

In December, Dr Jenny Renju took on a challenge to run a half marathon and then climb Mount Kilimanjaro in memory of her dad.

Jenny, a public health researcher for the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, commented: “For each gruelling step of the climb, and of my half marathon, I was inspired by Dad who was an incredible man; kind, caring and supportive. He was driven by his principles and was passionate about things that mattered to him and to society at large.

“I was also spurred on by the strength of my wonderful aunty, Angela Knowles. She was diagnosed with a brain tumour 10 years ago and sadly died in January this year from leukaemia. She remained strong, determined, funny, kind and caring throughout her treatment and she is sorely missed.”

In May, Rachel Wassal, Jenny’s cousin and Angela’s daughter, also fundraised for Brain Tumour Research. She took on the gruelling Welsh 3000s Challenge, which involved summiting all 15 of the 3,000 ft peaks in Wales, using no transport. Her target was £1,500 and she raised nearly £1,600.

Photos courtesy of Joseph Renju, Milestone Safaris and Mountaineering www.milestonesafaris.com

GET INVOLVED, help us fund the fight. Together we will find a cure

Up for a fundraising challenge? See page 19 for upcoming events or go online: www.braintumourresearch.org/calendar-of-events
We’ll support you to achieve your goal. Call us on 01908 867200 for further information, advice or fundraising materials.
In April, over 50 of our supporters met at the Slanj pub in Tarbet, where they were warmly greeted by Jane and her amazing staff, before setting off from Arrochar on the 11-mile walk around the beautiful Glen Loin Loop.

Undeterred by the rain, the group followed the route under Ben Vane, Ben Vorlich, and Beinn Narnain, taking in stunning scenery and glorious views of Loch Long and Loch Sloy along the way.

Councillor Iain Shonny Paterson of the Mountain Rescue Service volunteered for the day and guided walkers round the route, before they ended up back at the Slanj.

The walk raised an amazing £17,400! Everyone had such a fantastic time and next year’s walk is already being planned. Why not take up the challenge? We’ll see you at the pub!

Alternatively, take on one of our other exciting fundraising challenges. Have a look at our website www.braintumourresearch.org/take-on-a-challenge for other events in Scotland and across the UK.

There are two more Kilwalks this year — Dundee (18th August) and Edinburgh (15th September) and there’s also the Great Scottish Run (28th September).

Or you could join our marvellous Scottish Walk of Hope (28th September) — or organise one of your own — please see our website for details www.braintumourresearch.org/take-on-a-challenge

All funds raised for the Kilwalk events will be 40% match-funded by the Hunter Foundation.

The incredible Dome Restaurant on George Street has nominated Brain Tumour Research as its August Charity of the Month and is supporting our cause by adding a discretionary 50p to each table bill.

www.thedomeedinburgh.com

On a sunny day in June in South Queensferry, 16 people overcame their fears in support and memory of sisters, fathers and grandfathers by abseiling 165 feet from one of Scotland’s best-known landmarks, the Forth Rail Bridge, to the beach below.

They raised over £10,200 and once again we’re already planning next year’s event!

If you’d like to get involved in fundraising, campaigning and raising awareness about brain tumours in Scotland, please get in touch with Joe Woollcott, our regional Fundraising and Development Manager on joe.woollcott@braintumourresearch.org

www.braintumourresearch.org Summer 2019 25
A DECADE OF CAMPAIGNING SUCCESSES

Brain Tumour Research has been fundamental in shining a spotlight on why more funding is needed for research into brain tumours and driving the overall push for change.

We first drew the public’s attention to how little was being spent on research into brain tumours at our launch with our 2009 Inequality of Funding report, highlighting how for decades brain tumours had been largely ignored by key decision-makers. This was followed by two further reports on National Research Funding in 2013 and 2014.

Working tirelessly to hold the Government and larger charities to account, we published our Invest In A Cure manifesto in 2015 and went on to lead the campaign behind the 2015 e-petition, launched by the Realf family calling for the Government to fund more research into brain tumours. Galvanising more than 120,000 signatures, the petition led to the Petitions Committee’s first ever report, a Westminster Hall debate and the formation of a Department of Health and Social Care Task and Finish Working Group on brain tumour research.

The publication of the Task and Finish Group’s report in February 2018 heralded a significant shift in focus and led to a £20 million Government funding announcement and a pledge of £25 million from Cancer Research UK (CRUK).

The tragic death of Dame Tessa Jowell from a brain tumour, following her moving personal testimonies and calls for change, proved a catalyst for the Tessa Jowell Brain Cancer Mission (TJBCM) to take forward the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group.

A further £20 million Government funding pledge followed, bringing the total to £65 million (including CRUK’s funding) over the next five years (£13 million per year) to facilitate a cure for brain tumours.

This is all moving in the right direction but there is still so much more to be done if we are to achieve parity with other cancers such as breast and leukaemia.
Through our role as Secretariat of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Brain Tumours and our position on the Steering Group of the TJBCM, Brain Tumour Research will continue to hold decision-makers to account and call for increased funding to address infrastructure inadequacies and the longstanding lack of treatments available for brain tumour patients.

In 2015, we called on the Government and larger cancer charities to **Invest in a Cure**. Progress has been made and it is now time for the Government, larger cancer charities and the brain tumour community to work together to **Find a Cure** and give hope to the thousands of people diagnosed with a brain tumour every year in the UK and their families.

We will continue to call on the Government to work with the brain tumour community to stimulate further increases in the national investment for research into brain tumours to £35 million per year by 2025 in order to grow research capacity, build research infrastructure, accelerate treatments and improve outcomes for patients and their families.

**Cancer site-specific research as a % of national cancer research spend**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Cancer total £</th>
<th>Brain tumours £</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Breast £</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Leukaemia £</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002/03</td>
<td>297,872,437</td>
<td>967,718</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>22,457,672</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>17,690,579</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008/09</td>
<td>502,573,570</td>
<td>4,149,415</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>43,584,446</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td>29,135,148</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013/14</td>
<td>540,459,570</td>
<td>5,970,298</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>42,790,424</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
<td>32,239,796</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016/17</td>
<td>589,869,718</td>
<td>8,615,902</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>46,087,203</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
<td>35,081,014</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Right Honourable John Bercow MP: “I was shocked at how little attention had been paid to brain tumours and in April 2004 led the first ever debate on brain tumours in the House of Commons.

“I highlighted in particular that the issue of children with brain tumours had been under-debated, under-reported and underfunded. It had attracted minimal – dare I say it, derisory – attention.

“There had been not one adjournment debate until that debate, not one oral parliamentary question, and only two written parliamentary questions.”

Helen Jones MP, Chair of the Petitions Committee: “This is a real chance to save lives, so I say to the Minister: read the report and champion its recommendations in Government.

“That way, we can have world-class scientists in this country and save the lives of many people, including young people, who will have the chance to make an enormous contribution to this country.

“It is as simple as that. This cancer has been neglected for far too long. That now has to change.”

Extract from the Petitions Committee’s Westminster Hall Debate, 16th April 2016
Carl Piddington RIP

Carl Piddington was the son of the late Bill Tarmey, who played Jack Duckworth in Coronation Street, and Bill became our Patron after Carl’s brain tumour diagnosis.

Carl was a Manchester pub landlord. He was a hard worker, a keen sports player and had been fit and healthy.

One day in 2009, he had difficulty controlling his hand. After a massive seizure and subsequent tests, Carl was told that he had an aggressive brain tumour and that it could end his life within a year without surgery, or maybe five years with surgery.

Carl had treatment, including surgery to remove most of his lemon-sized tumour.

He later developed a second tumour and experienced seizures, sometimes up to 12 a day, but lived for nearly 10 years after his diagnosis. Sadly, Carl passed away in March.

Like his father before him, Carl and his family campaigned tirelessly for Brain Tumour Research. They helped organise numerous events to raise funds and even appeared on the TV game show All Star Family Fortunes.

As Carl said: “The whole family, and many of our friends, have got behind us and helped raise thousands. It keeps us busy and motivated. I get angry about the lack of funding and, like my dad who was a Patron of Brain Tumour Research, I will always do everything I can to raise awareness.”

Our Head of Stakeholder Relations, Hugh Adams, became a close friend of Carl’s and paid tribute to him: “I knew Carl for nearly eight years. He faced his diagnosis with courage and the whole family raised vital funds and awareness.

“He was an inspiration to many. He made a difference and I am proud that I called him a friend.”

Carl’s wife, Sandra, and the family continue to be stalwart supporters. We salute them and continue our fight in Carl’s memory.

To help us keep funding our Research Centres and campaigning for increased national investment to find a cure for patients like Carl, please consider setting up a monthly Direct Debit via our website www.braintumourresearch.org/donate-now
BEREAVED FRIENDS RAISE OVER £50,000

A group of friends from East Yorkshire have reached a huge milestone in their fundraising for Brain Tumour Research, all motivated by love and loss.

Lucy Farnsworth died in May 2018, aged 52, just 14 months after being diagnosed with a grade 4 glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) brain tumour.

After Lucy’s death, her husband, James, and his Charity Chicks, Sami Dee, Simone Duggleby, Sharon Falkingham and Zoe Megginson fundraised tirelessly.

A New Year’s Eve ball included an auction involving lots of a Caribbean holiday and tickets to the US Open in New York. The ball raised an amazing £36,000!

Sami commented: “People have been so generous. It’s testament to the type of girl Lucy was; kind, cheeky and a little bit naughty! She lit up the room.

“We may not have been able to do anything to save Lucy but our plan was always to give more hope to people diagnosed with this devastating disease in the future.”

In May, James and a team of nine others conquered the Yorkshire Three Peaks in just over 10 hours. The 24-mile challenge, which involved an ascent of 1,585 metres, raised a further £10,000.

Driffield Rugby Union Football Club has been hugely supportive of the team’s efforts, nominating Brain Tumour Research as its Charity of the Year and hosting a fundraising auction and lunch at the club.

Poignantly, the efforts of James, Sami and the team tipped their fundraising over the £50,000 mark on 30th May, the first anniversary of Lucy’s death.

Sami and her fellow fundraisers plan to visit our Imperial College Brain Tumour Research Centre in London later this year and honour Lucy by placing commemorative tiles on the Wall of Hope at Charing Cross Hospital, representing sponsorship of over two weeks’ research.

If you’d like to help James, Sami and their friends raise even more in memory of Lucy, please donate via: www.justgiving.com/remember/634739/Lucy-Farnsworth
On 28th April 2009, 14 brain tumour charities put their ‘heads together’ to launch the umbrella charity Brain Tumour Research with a mission to raise awareness and increase funding for vital research.

Ali’s Dream was instrumental in establishing both the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Brain Tumours and our first Brain Tumour Research Centre at the University of Portsmouth in 2010.

Anna’s Hope funds a pioneering specialist paediatric neuro-oncology rehabilitation service, called Brainbow, at Addenbrookes Hospital. It provides rehabilitation therapy for children and its specialist nurse provides support throughout a child’s treatment.

Brain and Spine Foundation provides information and support for over 350 neurological disorders and a helpline run by nurses with a signposting service for health professionals. It also facilitates online support groups and produces information booklets and fact sheets.

Brain Tumour Action provides support and counselling for patients, their relatives and their friends. It also supplies hospitals throughout the UK with information booklets, makes grants to research, supports specialist nurse training in neuro-oncology and informs policy in the Scottish Parliament.
Brain Tumour Research and Support across Yorkshire established and supports the Leeds brain tumour research centre. It also provides grants and financial assistance to brain tumour patients and their carers, and provides equipment to hospitals, patients and research centres.

Brain Tumour Research Campaign founded the brain tumour research centre at Imperial College, which delivers a comprehensive research programme looking at every possibility to improve the outlook for brain tumour patients by producing research that translates into treatments as quickly as possible.

Brain Tumour Support is uniquely dedicated to providing individualised support for patients and families affected by any type of brain tumour for as long as it’s needed. Working in partnership with Macmillan, it has a team of regional brain tumour support workers. They offer ongoing one-to-one and group support, telephone and online help and information, and a specialist counselling service.

brainstrust provides a 24/7 helpline and accredited online information and support to over 30,000 people. With its knowledge of clinicians across the country, the Charity is able to offer treatment options to patients looking for second opinions. It co-founded the BRAIN UK national tissue bank registry at the University of Southampton in 2011, and has worked with Public Health England to make cancer records available to the public so that people can make more informed choices about their care.

Brainwaves NI supports over 350 patients and families and funds brain tumour research at the Queen’s Medical Centre, Belfast. The Charity has just celebrated its 25th anniversary.
Charlie’s Challenge supported the launch of our first Research Centre at the University of Portsmouth and the establishment of the BRAIN UK national tissue bank registry at the University of Southampton. It continues to provide funds for both.

Children’s Brain Tumour Research Centre brings together a multidisciplinary team of healthcare professionals and researchers who are working to improve the understanding, treatment and outcomes of children and young adults with brain tumours. The Centre initiated the HeadSmart campaign, which was launched in 2011 with funding from The Brain Tumour Charity.

Ellie Savage Memorial Trust, in partnership with Clic Sargent, has supported over 100 families living in East Anglia who have a child with cancer, including those with a brain tumour. The Trust provides financial support and information and, in its earlier days, it funded research into brain tumours.

Levi’s Star works across Yorkshire to provide a brain tumour educational outreach support service for children and young people living with the effects of brain tumours. It has an honorary contract with Leeds General Infirmary, attending the weekly brain tumour clinic. It is currently carrying out doctoral research at Leeds University, focusing on how children who have survived a brain tumour are supported within education. Levi’s Star also provides grants to children with brain tumours.

The Diana Ford Trust joined an informal partnership of UK brain tumour charities known as The United Brain Tumour Campaign in 2005. In 2008, it formalised this relationship and changed its name, to better demonstrate its objectives, to Brain Tumour Research. With the exception of our President, Sandy Saunders, the Trustees stepped down whilst representatives of founding charities put themselves forward to be Brain Tumour Research Trustees.

There are now 22 brain tumour charities working together under the umbrella of Brain Tumour Research and, between us, our income has grown from £1.5 million a year in 2009 to £7 million a year to fund research and/or support, according to each individual charity’s objectives.
Summer is a time for lazy get-togethers in the sun with your friends, family and colleagues.

Why not enjoy good company and good food, and DO LUNCH!? Grab a bite to eat and make the most of the good weather while, at the same time, ask everyone to donate to help find a cure for brain tumours.

Across the country, people have already been hosting great fundraising get-togethers for us. Some have been dusting off their barbecues and sizzling away with some alfresco dining and outdoor games. Others have been packing a picnic and enjoying a meal in the fresh air over at their local park.

Why not join them or why not do your own foodie-fundraising thing? Let your imagination run wild.

We’d love to see photos of you enjoying DO LUNCH! Please share them with us on social media using the hashtag #DoLunch and tag us on Twitter and Instagram at @braintumoursch

Thank you for your support. Any funds you raise will help feed vital, game-changing research at our dedicated UK-based Research Centres, as well as increasing awareness of brain tumours.

Sign up for Do Lunch! today www.braintumourresearch.org/do-lunch to get your free fundraising pack and start planning your foodie fundraising.

Set yourself a target of £50 and then aim to smash it!

You can also go online and order some great stuff to make your summer food and drink get-together extra special: www.braintumourresearch.org/shop
Take a look at our fantastic range of t-shirts, tea towels, aprons, baseball caps and much more!

Whatever you plan for DO LUNCH! we can offer help to maximise your fundraising. For more information or support, please email us on fundraising@braintumourresearch.org or call 01908 867200.
Katie Smith, from Stourbridge, was 31 when she started having debilitating headaches, just weeks after her honeymoon.

She assumed they were migraines and attributed them to a change in her hormones and the stress of her new job as a special needs teacher.

After self-medicating, numerous visits to the doctor and various hospital appointments, she was finally diagnosed with a grade 2 oligoastrocytoma brain tumour.

Katie underwent a four-hour operation in which 90% of her tumour was removed. However, it progressed to grade 3 and she was given the agonising prognosis that she might not live to see her 40th birthday.

Katie and her husband, Luke, decided to do something about the historic underfunding of research into brain tumours so they started a Fundraising Group.

They set up Brainstorm and planned a series of events with the ambitious aim of raising £90,000 — the equivalent of the cost of nearly 33 days of research at one of our dedicated UK Brain Tumour Research Centres.

In an honest and open comment, Katie said:

“I’m most likely going to die of a brain tumour sometime in the next 10 years. This research is not going to help me BUT it might help some young people in the future and I’ll feel proud on my death bed that I’ll have played a part in trying to help save someone else’s child from such a cruel disease.”

So far, Katie and Luke have raised over £18,000 and have thrown themselves into some fantastic fundraising, including: collecting hats signed by celebrities for an auction, a local Wear A Hat Day weekend and a hilarious household hats campaign.

They encouraged everyone to take a funny picture of themselves wearing an everyday object as a hat, share it on social media and donate to Brain Tumour Research.

Katie and Luke also joined us and many of our wonderful supporters to celebrate our decade of achievement at our 10th anniversary Speaker’s House event in April.

Find out more about Katie and Luke’s journey at www.facebook.com/brainstorminguk and @brainstorminguk

Please get behind Katie and Luke’s fabulous fundraising. Text STORM to 70085 to donate £2*

*Texts cost £2 plus network charge. Brain Tumour Research receives 100% of your donation. Full terms and conditions on our website: www.braintumourresearch.org/text-donate-terms-conditions
We welcome our two newest Groups to our fundraising family. Carol’s Fund and the Debbie Coulson Foundation join us in our determined effort to find a cure for brain tumours.

We’re very grateful for their help and commitment in championing our cause, and we very much look forward to working together.

Carol’s Fund
Carol Hayes is a very caring, warm person, with a great sense of humour. She’s 57 and used to work as a court clerk at the Old Bailey. She was diagnosed with a glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) brain tumour in February 2018, which came as a huge shock to someone who was previously fit and well.

Carol’s Fund was set up by her children, James and Gemma. They aim to raise an amazing £10,000 this year — and they’re already almost there!

So far, the Group has raised over £8,000 from a range of activities, including bake sales, a keep fit event and Gemma and James running the London Marathon this year — something they plan to do again next year.

In June, the Old Bailey ran its second quiz night, raising over £4,000 (with more to come) on top of the £3,500 from last year’s event.

What’s more, the employees at Kimble Applications, where Carol’s husband, Gary, works, are about to do a cycle ride from London to Boston in Lincolnshire. Good luck, folks!

Debbie Coulson Foundation
Young at heart, Debbie was diagnosed with a brain tumour shortly after getting together with her partner, Phil Holding, whom she met at work.

After her friends had concerns about her behaviour and two visits to the doctor, Debbie had two strokes and was given the devastating news that she had a glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) brain tumour.

She underwent surgery and survived for 13 months. She passed away, aged 58 and just seven weeks before her daughter Vicky’s wedding.

Phil and Debbie’s family set up the Foundation.

Swedish bank, Handelsbanken, is supporting their fundraising and Debbie’s family, friends and former work colleagues at Horizon Construction plan to take part in some of our life-enhancing corporate challenges, including the Snowdon Triple and the Great Wall of China Discovery.

All the best, everyone!

Find out more about setting up a Fundraising Group: www.braintumourresearch.org/become-a-fundraising-group
Danny came home from school one day after feeling dizzy while playing football. He later suffered headaches and started being sick. He was taken to A&E and his headaches became unbearable.

After the devastating diagnosis, Danny underwent surgery, which left him with posterior fossa syndrome. He was unable to communicate, move unaided, hold his head up or walk.

Although Danny eventually overcame most of these problems and was able to walk with the aid of a frame, the grade 4 medulloblastoma spread to his spine.

Danny would have been 18 this year and Lisa, Chris and their family and friends are going all out to make it a special year in his memory.

They have a fundraising target of over £28,000 and, so far, three special events have raised an amazing £22,600!

Danny’s Dress Green Day was held on 6th February; what would have been Danny’s 18th birthday. Everyone was asked to wear something green and donate £1.

Danny’s 18 Challenge was organised by Katie Frost, the mum of one of Danny’s friends. Challenges were based around sport and the number 18 — swim 18 lengths, run 18 miles, bike 18 kilometres — the list was endless.

Danny’s 18 miles/kilometres were sponsored walks between Southend and Canvey Island. Over 220 people took part in the 18-mile walk!

To help Lisa and Chris reach their fundraising target, please donate: www.justgiving.com/thedannygreenfund

Please Donate NOW
COLLABORATION LIGHTS THE WAY FOR PROGRESS

Astro Brain Tumour Fund has been thriving since 2001 and became a Member Charity of Brain Tumour Research in 2009.

It remains the only volunteer-led UK charity to focus on both paediatric and adult low-grade gliomas, offering online support as well as having raised almost £1 million for research.

As soon as our dedicated Brain Tumour Research Centre opened at the University of Plymouth in 2014, Astro Brain Tumour Fund began donating money and adding tiles to the new Wall of Hope. The Charity’s tiles now total 24 and represent donations of £65,760.

Mary Burton, Treasurer of Astro Brain Tumour Fund, explains: “We are happy to grant this money through Brain Tumour Research as they treat it as restricted funds, meaning that every penny goes to the vital research into low-grade tumours being carried out there by Professor Oliver Hanemann and his team.

“We had independently donated £35,800 to help establish research into low-grade gliomas at Plymouth before the Centre was sponsored by Brain Tumour Research.

“It’s an emotional but rewarding experience to place a tile on the Wall of Hope.

“It’s also important for our supporters — some of whom have raised or donated an incredible amount of money — to see their loved ones honoured or remembered in this way.”

Astro Brain Tumour Fund has also worked in collaboration with one of our newest Member Charities, Matthew’s Friends, since 2013. Together they co-funded a free support service for brain tumour patients of all grades and types, with the clinical care being supplied by the specialist dieticians at Matthew’s Friends clinics.

In turn, Matthew’s Friends works closely with Dr Nel Syed at our dedicated Brain Tumour Research Centre at Imperial College London, where the research includes how diet can potentially influence tumour growth.

Together, these Member Charities represent a wonderful example of how collaboration can bring us closer to a cure, whilst also delivering immediate benefit to patients.

We welcome new Member Charities. If you’re interested in joining us, either visit www.braintumourresearch.org/member-charities or call us on 01908 867200 for more information.
LEAVE A GIFT IN YOUR WILL TO HELP OUR VITAL WORK

The annual Remember A Charity in Your Will Week campaign takes place between 9th and 15th September this year and there’ll be a new video on how you can pass on something wonderful and make a lasting difference to our work.

A gift in your Will to Brain Tumour Research would provide hope to the tens of thousands diagnosed and living with this devastating disease, and also their families and friends.

If you have, or are considering leaving a gift in your Will to Brain Tumour Research, we’d love to hear from you. Please tell us your story: www.braintumourresearch.org/legacy-story

We’re currently planning some Gifts in Wills events at our dedicated Brain Tumour Research Centres.

Guests will learn how their support can help revolutionise our research by taking findings out of the lab and fast-tracking them into meaningful therapies to improve the outcomes for those diagnosed with a brain tumour.

PLEASE COME ALONG
Keep an eye on our website for details: www.braintumourresearch.org/gifts-in-wills You can also contact our Gifts in Wills Manager, Gary Kelly, on 01908 867234 or via legacy@braintumourresearch.org for more information.
Loved ones here include those lost to a brain tumour for whom we received funeral donations between the beginning of November 2018 and the end of April 2019.

From all of us at Brain Tumour Research, our love and thoughts are with all those who inspire us and with everyone who continues to support us in memory of their loved ones and colleagues, year after year.

Gemma Edgar
Jane Emerson
Roger Farndon
Atticus Feduchin-Pate
Neil Fraser
Shirley Fuller
David Gallagher
Daniel George
Jessica Gill
Gary Gooding
Joseph Gower
Carol Hardie
Gary Hardy
Jack Harrison
Sarah Harrison
Jeremy Hartstone
Leonard Hayworth
Oli Hillsdon
Jim Hodge
Dave Holden
Ian Alexander Holland
Simon Holland
Tom Hollick
Judith Hughes
John Hurkett
Margaret Emily Hutt
Ann Jackson
Tom Bruce Jones
Joyce
Bob Kaye
Ryan Keen
Raymond Alfred Ketch
Julie King
Howard Michael Lago
Barbara Lane
Tom Lang
David Ledger
Lillian Gladys Lewis
Tom Lewis
Elizabeth (Betty) Cochran Lihou
Nicola Lynch-Smith
Hugh Magill
Anne Males
James Manning
Sam Martin
Albert Mayes
Bernice McCabe
Natalie McCutcheon
Fergus McDermott
Dave McManus
Graeme McPherson
Barbara Mead
Jonathan Middleton
Keith Miller
Nanny Mo
Chris Moores
Jenny Murray
Valerie Nicholson
Mary Nobbs
Kieran O’Sullivan
John Owen
Rik P
Peter Paeglis
Premila Patel
Amanda Pay
Andy Perry
Mr Philpot
Frank Pickering
Carl Piddington
Michael Pinkney
Kerry R Powell
Rachi Pugh
Jim Punter
Mickey Radice
Winifred Rayner
Heather Richard
Maurice Roberts
Alan Robinson
Carl Wright Robinson
Brian Rockell
Edward Rogers
Ruth Rutter
Maciej Rzanny
Sally Silver
Robert Simpson
Nicolette Sims
Gloria Smart
Ryan Smith
Thomas Frederick Smith
Jackie Sparkling
Philip Leonard Spencer
John James Stephenson
Michael Robert Stevenson
Jean Strafford
Anthony Courtenay
John Terrel
Christine Thomas
Ebony Thurston
Simon Titley
Alan Tregowing
Heather Turner
Karen Tye
Kevin Walsh
Anne Warren
Alan Watt
Lesley Webster
Michael Weiner
Stephen James Wheatley
Christine Audrey Wheeler
Daniel Wise
Anthony Wright
Claire Yates
Paul Yates

Loved ones here include those lost to a brain tumour for whom we received funeral donations between the beginning of November 2018 and the end of April 2019.