



What a busy summer we've had!

In this edition of the newsletter you'll find out about what's been going on with some excellent fundraising activities! There's also an update on our support developments and a catch-up with BTRS fund Harry's Star.

Last time we introduced the two new members of our team: Sam Wilson and Sorrell Coulson. I'm pleased to let you know that both ladies have settled in really well and through their great work we're going to

be able to help even more people across Yorkshire and the Humber affected by a brain tumour.

We were lucky to be helped out over the holidays by a volunteer, local student Yusuf Rafique. Yusuf spent time assisting the team with day-to-day admin and also helped out at events such as the York 10k. He finished off his volunteer time with us by hosting the coconut shy at our annual



YUSUF RAFIQUE

support BBQ, where he very bravely monitored many youngsters wildly throwing balls in many directions in a bid to win the prize! Thank you, Yusuf, for all your help.

Would you like to volunteer for BTRS? As a small team we welcome the support that volunteers offer us. Please get in touch with Sorrell at sorrell@btrs.org.uk or call the office on 0113 247 3765.

Harry's Stars shine at Lightwater Valley



HARRY'S STARS AT LIGHTWATER VALLEY

A fun family day out was had by all who took part in the Harry's Star Visioning Day at Lightwater Valley in September, creating a team of Harry's Stars eager to help with the development of this BTRS paediatric project. The morning gave adult Harry's Stars the opportunity to talk to BTRS about their experience of when their child was

diagnosed with a brain tumour, whilst little Harry's Stars were entertained and looked after by Tinies Crèche. In the afternoon, all the families enjoyed Lightwater Valley.

The information gathered on the day will contribute to the development of the Harry's Star Project. Set up in memory of Harry Marsden-Mellin, Harry's Star has raised

£58,000 to help children and young people affected by a brain tumour in Yorkshire. Each year Harry's Star raises funds by launching a new animal to add to Harry's Farm; so far we've had a lamb, a sheepdog and a pig. It's still a secret what this year's animal will be, but keep an eye on our website this month to find out more: www.btrs.org.uk



OUR SUPER CYCLING YEAR

The Tour de Force Cycle Challenge



THE TOUR DE FORCE CYCLE TEAM

The Tour de Force team raised over £14,000 on its Cycle Challenge from Baildon to Bussiere-Badil in the Dordogne, France.

The five-strong team left Baildon on 24 May to start the 10-day challenge, which saw them cycle 1,200 kilometres through England, Belgium and France in memory of Neil Harvey's son, Sam. The team comprised

Neil (Met Consultancy Group), Allan Booth (Rance Booth Smith Architects, who selected BTRS as their Charity of the Year for 2014), Cat Binstead (Sam's sister, Switch Thinking), Simon Chappell (Met Geo Environmental Ltd) and Stuart Humphris (a college friend).

Neil said: "To each one of you that has donated: thank you very much. Sam would

have been so pleased with your support for the charity and a cause that we talked about many times, in the hope that improved treatments and even prevention or eradication of brain tumours may result from research carried out here in West Yorkshire."

Thank you to all the team and all the behind-the-scenes supporters who made this possible.

Bridlington to Scalm Park charity bike ride

As part of Mark Howard's continued fundraising, this year he took on the ambitious task of organising his own 60-mile bike ride from Bridlington to Scalm Park Golf Club, with all proceeds going to BTRS. The event took place on 10 May with 24 cyclists taking part. As you might expect in Yorkshire, the weather was a mix of wind, rain and sunshine, but this didn't deter the team who all completed the ride in between five to six hours.

After the ride there was a celebratory evening for the team: a knees-up with a singer, disco, raffle and auction.

The event raised over £10,300 for BTRS.

Special thanks must be given to Bishop's Move of Sherburn-in-Elmet who supplied transport to get all the bikes to Bridlington; Terry at Geldards Coaches who supplied a

coach to get the riders to Bridlington; Sid and Carol Lamb, owners of Scalm Park Golf Club, and all their staff for the use of the club and their continued support; Angela, Janet and Peter for their support on the day – making

sure the riders were fed, watered and kept safe; and last but not least all of those who rode on the day, helped organise and support the event, and donated!



THE BRIDLINGTON TO SCALM PARK CYCLE TEAM

Coast to Castle bike ride

In June, a team of 11 riders set off from Newcastle to ride to Edinburgh Castle in just three days.

Ian Robertshaw, who co-ordinated and organised the ride, said: "Someone I had worked with was diagnosed with a brain

tumour and given approximately 12 months to live. He was only just over 40 with a young family and was a very good cyclist, so that galvanised me to choose to support BTRS."

The team raised over £1,400.

A team of eight are currently planning their next

bike ride fundraiser in the Pyrenees in 2015.

If you would like to organise your own cycle challenge or would like to take part in the BTRS Big Bike Ride 2015, please contact the fundraising team on 0113 247 3765 or email Caroline on caroline@btrs.org.uk.

The Graves family had a heartbreaking year in 2013 when they lost their beloved son, husband and father Dr Alastair Graves to a brain tumour at the age of 52.

Following this tragedy, the Graves family, supported by friends and local groups, has worked extremely hard to create a lasting legacy for Alastair, through raising funds for BTRS.

Alastair was an active member of the local community, and the support in his memory has been phenomenal. The 67th Doncaster Scout Group and the Doncaster Round Table have made numerous donations as well as holding their own fundraising events, and the Sprotborough Cricket Club has created the Alastair Graves Memorial Trophy as a tribute to Alastair for his support of the club.

The Graves family has also devoted its time to fundraising. Alastair's son Chris recently completed a Kilimanjaro trek and Alastair's wife Janet organised and hosted a fabulous Summer Celebration Ball in September.

Janet said: "I wanted to hold a celebration event for BTRS in Alastair's memory, where friends, family and colleagues could join together and do something positive. All present recognised the particular legacy Alastair has left with us, because he was a

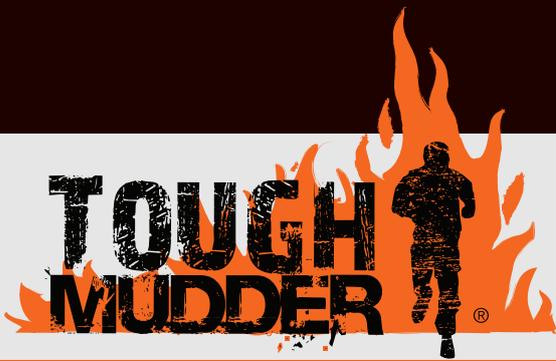


ALASTAIR'S DAUGHTER AND SON SARAH AND CHRIS, AND HIS WIFE JANET GRAVES

Alastair Graves: creating a lasting legacy

truly inspirational husband, son, father and friend. We want to thank everyone who helped make it such a memorable evening. We're planning another ball for BTRS on 4

September 2015 and hope to make this an annual event in support of the charity! The Graves family and all of their supporters have already raised a staggering £13,000 for BTRS.



YORKSHIRE 2015

DARE TO TAKE ON THE CHALLENGE?

CONTACT US ON 01132473766 FOR MORE DETAILS

Christmas is coming...

With Christmas just around the corner, we're all getting really excited at BTRS in preparation for our children's Christmas party. Invitations are on their way and we are planning a fun-filled and festive event (4-7pm) at Weetwood Hall on Thursday 11 December.

Back by popular demand Magic Mike will be entertaining both children and adults and, of

course, we mustn't forget our annual visit from Santa!

If your child has been affected by a brain tumour, we'd love them to come along for what promises to be a fantastic event.

Please email info@btrs.org.uk or call 0113 247 3766 to ensure that you are on Santa's list.



LAST YEAR'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

**Help fight Brain Tumours
in Yorkshire**

Text BTRS11 £2 / £5 / £10 to 70070 to donate now eg BTRS11 £5

JustTextGiving
by **vodafone**

SUPPORT NEWS

At BTRS our support service is going from strength to strength. Our Leeds-based support group has seen a number of guest speakers come along, providing information and advice on their area of expertise, such as epilepsy nurse specialist Liz Wright, Julia Featherstone from the Macmillan welfare team and Claire Bullymore (Aunty M) talking about her personal journey since being diagnosed with a brain tumour. Claire also nominated BTRS as her 'charity of the month' in September. This enabled the BTRS team and regular support group member Karl Martin to discuss and raise awareness of this disease and the support and funding that BTRS can provide.

We have lots planned in the coming months for our support group. In December we'll be holding our annual Christmas meal. In January neurosurgeon Simon Thomson is coming along to talk about advances in neurosurgery and in February the clinical



nurse specialist team will be discussing their role and how they can support patients and their families.

We're also excited about our plans to pilot a local support group in Bradford aimed at people who would like to access a support group but find it difficult to attend the group in Leeds. If this proves to be a success we plan to roll out this project around the region – further information to follow in the next newsletter.



JO AND MATT

Finally, the BTRS team and the support group would like to say CONGRATULATIONS to regular support group attendees Jo and Matt, who got married in September at Sandburn Hall. The couple met in 2010 whilst working as a dancer and singer on the same cruise ship. In 2011 Matt was diagnosed with a brain tumour, which meant that the couple were no longer able to work on cruise ships as they needed to be closer to home for treatment. Despite these changes, Matt remains positive and has gone on to marry his beautiful bride.

BIG Bike Ride 2015

Saturday 6th June *For more details please visit www.btrs.org.uk*

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Increase the value of your donation by more than 25% – and it won't cost you a penny!

As long as you are a UK taxpayer, Brain Tumour Research and Support across Yorkshire can claim back at least 25p for every £1 you give, at no extra cost to you. All you need to do is complete this form and return it to Brain Tumour Research and Support across Yorkshire. Thank you.

First name: _____

Surname: _____

Address: _____

Postcode _____

Amount donated £ ____ . ____

I want all donations I have made since 6 April 2000 and all donations in the future to be Gift Aid until I notify you otherwise.

Signed _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____



To qualify for Gift Aid, the amount that you pay in income tax or capital gains tax must at least equal the amount we will claim in the tax year.

Please make cheques payable to: Brain Tumour Research and Support across Yorkshire.

Mail to: Suite 21, The Tannery, 91 Kirkstall Road, Leeds LS3 1HS

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