

Skeletal Cancer Trust



Autumn 2019

The Skeletal Cancer Action Trust is dedicated to the advancement of bone cancer research, to providing the best possible care and support at each stage of treatment and to improving the quality and dignity of life for all patients.

To find out more about this great charity including how to donate and how to get involved visit <u>scatbonecancertrust.com</u> to sign up to receive this newsletter electronically click <u>here</u>



Well, after a considerable consultative process I am thrilled to unveil the new name and logo of this wonderful charity - **The Skeletal Cancer Trust - SCT**. I need to start by thanking Liv Johnson and Nomad for initial concepts and Ellie Lewis for final design. We are very lucky to have such amazing and talented supporters. Ellie is a friend of Lizzie Loughran, who is the sister of a very much missed Hannah Loughran. Thank you to everyone else who contributed their time to getting this right. We hope you love it as much as we do.

This Autumn addition really is all about 'launches' as we are thrilled to present our new-for-2019 Christmas Card. You can read all about the artist you who designed and drove the production of these cards further into this newsletter. I can't thank Jo enough, it has been so much fun working with her and getting to know her better. Please email me to order your packs! More about Jo to follow so keep please keep reading...





Our Chairman Steve Cannon was recently interviewed for the 'People's Playlist' on BBC Three Counties Radio. The programme explores people's life stories through music. Interviewer Tara Dolby informs Mr Cannon that he is described as a 'jewel in the crown of the NHS' – the modest Steve describes his life and why he chose a career in medicine. It is a really great opportunity to hear how he developed techniques and procedures that are now taught all over the world. He also talks about SCT and how important this charity is. Listen to it here: https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p07l49hv

Christmas Cards – 'Merry Christmas Deer'



Jo Buongnini and husband Franco



Message inside reads: 'season's greetings'.

£3.95 per pack of 10 cards



"In 1985, at the age of 34, I was diagnosed with a giant cell tumour in my lower left femur, the diagnosis was given to me at home on a Saturday lunch time. It was a shock as I had thought I was suffering from water on the knee. Things moved pretty quickly after that traumatic day and by the Tuesday I was in hospital for a bone biopsy followed a week later by a bone graft. For my husband and my family it felt like a very dark time.

"I was fortunate to be referred to the Middlesex hospital in London where I was put under the care of a registrar named Mr Steve Cannon. That was a lucky day. I was his patient until he retired, a great man. There is another guardian angel in my life, my physiotherapist Rosemary Lillie, she was present at my first operation in 1985 and still supports and heals me today.

"I was lucky to be diagnosed at a time when limb salvage surgery was revolutionising and rather than amputation my femur was replaced with a Stanmore prosthesis that lasted me 23 years. In July 2009 I had to have my replacement replaced and due to the pioneering work that takes place the new model is amazing, it not only bends, it rotates!

"At some point during those years I took up art. My thought was that if ever my mobility was difficult I could at least paint. Painting took my life on an unexpected journey that has given me pleasure and reward and enabled me to give back by donating my work to support charities. I became a supporter of SCT when there was a fundraising appeal when Mr Cannon retired. Reading the stories of amputee on the SCT website was a very humbling experience for me, so when I was approached to donate an image for a Christmas card I was honoured and excited and agreed straight away. I hope the design will be well received. I have certainly enjoyed putting it all together.

"That dark time in my mid-thirties has been accompanied by very precious encounters and unexpected events - which have had such a positive effect on my life. I hope that raising money for SCT can help other people in a similar position.

"I do hope you like the design. Please order your Christmas cards early and order lots"

EMAIL <u>rnoh.sct@nhs.net</u> to place an order or to arrange a coffee morning sale

Latest SCT Hour podcast

In our most recent interview with James Wilson we get a full and open account of what it was like to receive a cancer diagnosis at the age of 17. James talks about his operation, his recovery, returning to school and life now. It was such a pleasure to spend time with James and we are looking forward to him being much more involved in SCT going forward.

www.scatbonecancertrust.com/sct-hour



Thames Bridges Trek 2019



Huge Congratulations to the 35 people who took part in the Thames Bridges Trek.

This year Ellis parents walked in her memory; Lizzie and her friends walked for her sister Hannah (joined on the South Bank by Hannah and Lizzie's parents – Jane and Tony); Tina and Michael walked in memory of their son Adam – they were joined by Adam's brothers Oliver and James and lots of dear friends; Jackie walked in memory of her aunt; our wonderful nurses, physios, Teacher from the children's ward and retired staff member Clare walked to raise much needed funds for their patients and my lovely friends joined in, including Mamma JoJo with her new bionic hip! We all had a wonderful time and raised over £11,000 for SCT. Well done again and thank you to everyone who supported us to raise such a fantastic amount of money.

Presentation from Borehamwood Bowls Club



Sarah Wright and ex-president of Borehamwood Bowls Club Rob Martindill. At the beginning of September SCT was very fortunate to be presented with a cheque from the Borehamwood Bowls Club. Sadly the club was forced to close at the end of 2018 – in order to turn something very unfortunate in to a positive the club has recently donated £9000 to local charities and community sports clubs.

Notices

Congratulations to Jasper and Lizzy Keech who were married at the end of September

Congratulations on the safe arrival of Brandon Foster's baby Immanuel (you may remember Brandon Foster cycled the London to Paris for us last year)

It is with great sadness that we dedicate this issue to Dermot Clancy, long term supporter of SCT, who died in tragic circumstances.

Thank you

To my whole Thames Bridges Team – Kim, Nick, Rachel, Peter, Nicky, Carole, Sian, Lizzie, Ellie, Tina, Megan, Luke, Julie S, Steve, Abby, Sue, Julie T, Amelia, Margaret, Louise, Cathy, Theresa, Clare, Liv, Jo, Michelle, Flo, James, Jackie, Oli, Elliot, Michael, Lynne.

Thank you to Morgan Cox, James Wilson, Alan Joyce and Keith Reeve at Radio Brockley, Eileen Stoner, Jo Buonaguidi, Elaine Liffchak.

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