

**Welcome** to the latest edition of the Cancer Community Update from the Liverpool Cancer Research UK Centre. This update is designed to keep you informed of local research news, engagement activities and news from the wider cancer community in Merseyside and Cheshire. Please contact Local Engagement and Development Manager Emma Squibb to contribute or comment. [emma.squibb@cancer.org.uk](mailto:emma.squibb@cancer.org.uk) 0151 794 8823 or 07770 597 185



*Charlotte runs nine...one to go*  
Deputy Operational Director of Liverpool Cancer Trials Unit, Charlotte Rawcliffe, has now run nine of her ten Race for Life series. Charlotte has run at Southport, Wrexham, Wigan, Chester, Aintree x2, Blackpool x2 and Preston and will be running her final Race at Knowsley on 6th July. Charlotte's well on course to raise her target £1000. Sponsor her [here](#)



**Publication Success** Three articles authored by Liverpool Ocular Oncology Research Group members have been accepted for publication recently.

Title: Multiplex ligation-dependent probe amplification analysis of uveal melanoma with extraocular extension demonstrates heterogeneity of gross chromosomal abnormalities

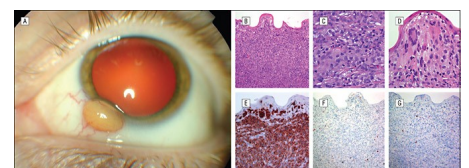
Journal: Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Science Authors: Sarah Lake, Bertil Damato, Justyna Dopierala, Maria Baudo, Azzam Taktak and Sarah Coupland

Title: Multiplex ligation-dependent probe amplification of conjunctival melanoma reveals common *BRAF* V600E gene mutation and gene copy number changes

Journal: Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Science Authors: Sarah Lake, Fidan Jmor, Justyna Dopierala, Azzam Taktak, Sarah Coupland and Bertil Damato

Title: Estimating prognosis for survival after treatment of choroidal melanoma

Journal: Progress in Retinal and Eye Research Authors: Bertil Damato, Sarah Coupland, Azzam Taktak and Antonio Eleuteri [more](#)



## Cancer

news in Mersey-  
side and Cheshire



*Congratulations* to Carlos Rubbi, as lead author, with Mark Boyd and Nikolina Vlatkovic of the p53/MDM2 Research Group who have had their paper *The nucleolus directly regulates p53 export and degradation* accepted for the internationally peer reviewed *Journal of Cell Biology*.

The study shows that p53 stability is directly regulated by the nucleolus rather than by diffusible factors (post-translational modifications or enzymes).

### *New Sarcoma Group for Merseyside & Cheshire*

The Centre was delighted to host a meeting of the newly formed group, Merseyside and Cheshire Sarcoma Support, during National Sarcoma Week on 14th June. Lindsey Bennister, CEO of Sarcoma UK attended, pictured with LEAD Cancer Nurse at the Royal, Gill Hamblin and patient representative Cameron Burry.

If you are interested in joining the group or finding out more, please contact Cameron Burry at [mcsarsup@gmail.com](mailto:mcsarsup@gmail.com)

#### **Sarcoma Facts (courtesy of Sarcoma UK)**

Sarcomas are rare cancers that develop in the supporting or connective tissues of the body such as muscle, bone, nerves, cartilage, blood vessels and fat.

There are around 3200 new cases of sarcoma diagnosed each year in the UK.

Sarcomas are some of the commonest childhood cancers.

Most sarcomas (about 55%) affect the limbs, most frequently the leg. About 15% affect the head and neck area or are found externally on the trunk, while the remainder will be found internally in abdominal area.

There are around 70 different sub-types of sarcoma.

More about [Sarcoma UK](http://SarcomaUK)



### *Ricky Tomlinson opens new wards at Clatterbridge*

Actor Ricky Tomlinson officially opened new in-patient wards at Clatterbridge Centre for Oncology this month. The £4.8m investment to improve in patient wards includes the new Conway Ward, a 24 patient unit with single sex bays, six side rooms and featuring the latest technology to offer the best care possible for patients.

The Royle Family star said, "It was a real pleasure to visit Clatterbridge. People there might be going through a hard time, but it's filled with so much hope, it's a happy place and I met so many lovely people. The work they do to care for people who are fighting cancer is second to none."

[more](#)





## Local Engagement

### Liverpool Carer's Day

Tom Kearns, Gemma Barnett and Emma Squibb manned the stall this year at Liverpool Carer's Day which was held at St. George's Hall on 17th June. The event was attended by around 1000 people, we got the chance to say hello again to Stephen Twigg MP (who visited the Centre in January) and introduce ourselves to the new Mayor of Liverpool Frank Prendergast.



## Cancer Research UK Merseyside & Cheshire Events Calendar



= Researcher/ Scientist opportunity

Please contact Cancer Research UK Local Engagement Manager, [Emma Squibb](#) for details of how you can get involved.

### July

03 Preston Race for Life 

06 Knowsley Race for Life 

07 Dads and Lads Event 

10 Wirral Race for Life 

13 Calderstones School Visit

17 Warrington Race for Life 

22 Bernie's Fundraiser

24 Haydock Race for Life 

Nick Layland, Victoria O'Donoghue and Lee Kenny will be doing a parachute jump for Cancer Research UK on 7th August 2011 at Grange over Sands. Nick was inspired to organise the fundraising event after his step father Dennis Helsby took part in a trial co-ordinated by Liverpool Cancer Trials Unit. Dennis is a volunteer for the Centre and LCTU. If you would like to sponsor Nick and his colleagues, please contact [Emma](#).



## Local People

Eight Merseyside men are set to cycle the length of the country for a cancer charity. The group of friends plan to travel from Lands End to John o'Groats for **Aigburth** based cancer support centre **Sunflowers**. The route is usually completed in 10 to 14 days, but the team plans to cycle the full 1,000 miles in just eight. Alvin Cooney from Sefton Park, is leading the group and will be joined by seven friends, who are all members of triathlon club Mersey Tri. The event will also raise funds for Nugent Care. To donate, [click here](#)



### Scousemarathonman

**Liverpool** man Steven Hill recently completed 40 marathons in 40 days to raise funds for **Zoe's Place**. Steve turned 40 on the day he ran his last marathon. *"I live close to Zoe's Place and have always been aware of the great work they do. I like to think I'm a positive person, and when I was approaching my 40th birthday I decided to kick a few bad habits and do something to raise some money for a good cause. I always like to do things to excess, so thought I'd take on a big challenge. I wasn't super*

*fit before I started, but have managed to complete all the runs, so it just goes to show what can be achieved."* [Donate here](#)



### Race for Life Aintree

Ten researchers came along to help out at the Aintree Race for Life on Sunday 26 June. Ryan Baron spoke to around 4000 women and girls who took part in the morning event and was there to greet the winner. Charlotte Rawcliffe ran races 5 & 6 in her ten Race for Life series. In the morning Charlotte almost beat her personal best, but came in a little further down the field in the afternoon when she ran as the Pink Panther.



[The Running Buffers](#) –Liz, Mel, Eithne, Katie, Victoria and Mini Mel, along with Lauren and Louise from Daimark Bennett's lab all took part in the afternoon event and formed a start line for the race. Well done to all, particularly Lauren who came in 4th.

Liverpool PCT came to the event, bringing with them the Be Clear on Cancer campaign couch. Many thanks to everyone from the Centre who came along and helped out on what was the hottest day of the year so far. Our researchers also got a mention by the [Liverpool Echo](#)



*Together we will beat cancer*



## Other news



Fearless Jenny Frost is the fourth and final celebrity to make a splash for Cancer Research UK by joining [The Swim](#) team alongside Sir Richard Branson, Ronan Keating and Jason Bradbury. The TV presenter and former Atomic Kitten star, who sadly lost her mother Rita Frost to cancer in 2010, is taking on a once in a lifetime challenge to swim the Irish Sea in September.

She said, "I lost my mum to lung cancer in January 2010 which has given me the ultimate motivation to take part in The Swim and help to raise £1 million for Cancer Research UK. Lung cancer is such a big killer, especially when it is diagnosed late, so I'm eager to help raise as much as we can to help fund the charity's lifesaving work."

"I've already started training. I'm pretty good at breaststroke but I'm starting to learn how to do front crawl now. I'll be practising in the sea off Ibiza, where I'm staying this summer, but my training programme has lots of endurance challenges to get me out of the warm waters and ready for the Irish Sea!" Sponsor Jenny today at [www.virginmoneygiving.com/jennyfrost](http://www.virginmoneygiving.com/jennyfrost)

## Cancer Research UK's New Investigator Awards - funding opportunities for aspiring group leaders now available

**Career Establishment Awards** are aimed at exceptional researchers who are within three years of taking up their first national Higher Education Funding Council-funded position, and who wish to establish their own research group. This five-year package comprises salaries for a postdoc and a technician, plus running expenses and equipment costs.

**Career Development Fellowships** are aimed at promising postdoctoral researchers who have between three and six years of postdoctoral research experience, and who wish to achieve independence in their research for the first time. This six-year package comprises salaries for the Fellow, a postdoc and a technician, plus running expenses and equipment costs.

**Senior Cancer Research Fellowships** are aimed at outstanding researchers who have between six and ten years of postdoctoral research experience, and who wish to further develop or establish an independent research group. This six-year package comprises salaries for the Fellow, two postdocs, a PhD student and a technician, plus running expenses and equipment costs.

Cancer Research UK is committed to supporting up-and-coming research leaders across a wide range of cancer-relevant research areas. More information on these funding schemes, including eligibility, details of the packages and how to apply via the electronic Grants Management System (eGMS), is available on our website: [www.cancerresearchuk.org/new-investigator-awards](http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/new-investigator-awards)

## Contribute

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