


Welcome

 **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. To comment or contribute please contact Local Engagement and Development Manager Emma Squibb on 0151 794 8823 or 07770 597 185, email emma.squibb@cancer.org.uk



NCRI Conference comes to Liverpool

The NCRI Conference came to Liverpool for the first time this year with delegates and exhibitors from around the country heading to the Liverpool Echo Arena and Convention Centre. Liverpool Cancer Research UK Centre was among the exhibitors and Kerryanne Crawford, of Dr. Mark Boyd's group was selected to assist with the Cancer in Teenagers and Young Adults session. Kerryanne gave a talk to a group of around 50 young people about her route into cancer research. *"The students were all very excited about the science, asking lots of questions. One student approached me and said although she had applied for medicine, my talk had inspired her to think about science as a career."*

On 8th November Liverpool Echo ran an article about Professor Damato and his team's work, *"Liverpool Royal Hospital develops world leading genetic test with eye cancer."* [Read more](#)

The NCRI Conference will be returning to Liverpool on 6-9 November 2011.

Do you know a little star? Cancer Research UK's Little Star Awards, in partnership with TK Maxx, celebrate the courage of children who have been diagnosed with cancer. Parents, friends and relatives from across the region can put forward the name of a Little Star for special recognition. All nominees will receive a Little Star trophy, a T-Shirt and bear, and a certificate signed by a host of celebrities including Rihanna, Leona Lewis and the Jonas Brothers.



The awards are open to all under 18s who have cancer or have been treated in the last 5 years. Nominations are open until 28 February 2011. To nominate a Little Star email littlestar@cancer.org.uk or [click here](#)

Bonnie (left) was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia when she was 4 years old. Cancer survivor Georgia (right), was described as *"inspirational"* by Prime Minister David Cameron.



Congratulations to Mark Boyd *et al* for acceptance of their manuscript, Loss of MTBP expression is associated with reduced survival in a bio-marker defined sub-set of patients with squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck (SCCHN), into the journal *Cancer*.

Terminally ill cancer patients will be given a better idea of how long they have left to live through the use of a newly published guide funded by Cancer Research UK. It is hoped that the guide will help families and medical staff in the planning of patients' end of life care programmes. The guide was presented at the NCRI conference.

Liverpool Cancer Research
UK Centre



Councillor Joe Anderson Liverpool City Council Leader 17th November 2010



Councillor Anderson met with Prof Ross Sibson, Emma Squibb, Dr. Joe Slupsky, Prof Ian Greer, Prof Andrea Varro, Dr. Seema Chauhan and Prof Neoptolemos. There followed tours conducted by Prof Barr, (pictured with Emily Linanne and Ryan Baron) and Prof Damato & Dr. Sarah Lake.

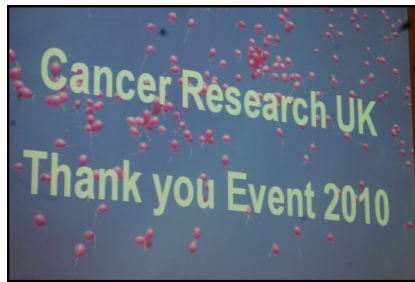


"The work that is done by Cancer Research UK, and especially the work at the Centre in Liverpool, is making a crucial contribution to the fight against cancer across the country. The staff at the Centre are leading the way with their research and I was delighted and humbled to meet some of them. The facilities here are world class, the expertise of the staff is second to none, and the work they do every single day brings us just a few steps closer to winning the fight against cancer."

I thoroughly enjoyed what was a fascinating visit, and I would like to offer my support and service at any time I can be of help. Thank you once again for being willing to set aside time to invite me to your Centre, and thank you for all the work you do in the fight against cancer."

Cllr Joe Anderson
Leader Liverpool City Council

*Cancer
Research UK in
Merseyside and
Cheshire*



Thank You from Cancer Research UK 24 CRUK supporters and volunteers of all ages came to the Centre for a Thank You event on Monday 15th November. Our guests, including the Mayor and Mayoress of Halton, heard from Prof Francis Barr, Dr Seema Chauhan and Elinor Chapman and also visited the labs. *"The event was interesting in terms of developing my understanding of what cancer is and how it is researched and highlighted just how important fundraising is."* Hayley Ashworth, volunteer.



Priestley College Visit The Centre hosted a School's Day on 25th November, welcoming 31 students and teachers from Priestley College Warrington. The students heard presentations from Dr. Joe Slupsky and MacMillan Nurse Phil Whelan before splitting into groups to visit different labs. (With thanks to Lakis Liloglou, Sarah Lake, Helen Kalirai, Bill Greenhalf, Eithne Costello and Terry Jones).



Before leaving, the group heard from cancer survivor Ben Hardman, and met

local CRUK staff and fundraisers. *"Today has helped me decide what career I would like to go into, it has helped contribute to my current coursework, and I would now like to become more involved in the charity."* Lucy Abbey, student.



Bangor Conference 23 supporters attended a CRUK Conference at Bangor Hospital on Saturday 13th November. Dr Chris Holmberg represented the Centre and gave a presentation about his research. Wirral based CRUK fundraiser Bernie Singleton also attended to talk about her recent fundraising events.



Liverpool Gran tells how Tesco Stranger saved her life

A shopper today told how a fellow customer in the queue at Tesco may have saved her life—after spotting a potentially deadly skin cancer. Pat Ball, 71, was queuing at the store check out in Allerton when an anonymous woman tapped her on the shoulder and pointed out a small lump on her arm. The shopper told Pat she was a nurse, and that she should go to the doctor to have the lump checked out. Pat went to her GP straight away and was sent for tests, which showed a Grade 1 Melanoma. Pat underwent an operation to remove the cancer, and remains grateful to the anonymous stranger. [Read more](#)



Local
People

Tributes paid to Grace Sheppard

Prayers were said across the **Diocese of Liverpool** following the death of Grace Sheppard on 11 November. The much loved widow of the former Bishop of Liverpool passed away in St. John's Hospice Wirral. The 75 year old was being treated for breast cancer which had spread to her lungs, bones and liver. [Read more](#)

Liverpool region hospital raises funds for new cancer equipment

Members of staff from the Urology Department at **Wirral** University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust have expressed their gratitude to local fundraisers for their help in raising money for a new piece of equipment to allow the most accurate early detection of prostate cancer. Over the last two years, a fundraising campaign by the Wirral and North Cheshire Prostate Cancer Support Group has raised at total of £65,000 to allow the Trust to purchase a new transrectal ultrasound machine and Histoscanning interface connection. [Read more](#)



Liverpool based CRUK Events Manager Helen Wright recently completed the New York Marathon to raise funds for Cancer Research UK.

Helen, who organises Race for Life events in the North West said, "It was the most amazing experience of my life, I smiled all the way round and the support from the crowds and the money I raised really kept me going. I managed to run/jog the entire 26.2miles in just over 5 hours and I will definitely be signing up to do another in the future! Helen has raised over £1600



Over 500 people attended the **Clatterbridge Cancer Research Midnight Candle Walk** in Sefton Park raising over £60,000. There are now plans to repeat the event again next year.

Clatterbridge
cancer research understanding cancer



Staff from Liverpool Cancer Trials Unit took part in the Liverpool Team Challenge 5K run back in September, raising funds for Cancer Research UK. Well done team!

Pictured, Gary Jeffers, Tony Coffey, Rob Hanson, Mike Edwards, Charlotte Rawcliffe, Sarah Jones and Laura Marsh.



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.

Useful links,
statements and
other local news

December 2010

01 Liverpool LINK visit

02 Merseyside and Cheshire Cancer Network
Patient Partnership Meeting

05 [Liverpool Santa Dash](#) 

05 [Clatterbridge Christmas Carol Concert](#)

07 Dr. Buzz Baum, UCL, speaker

11 Liverpool Women's Hospital Christmas Fair

12 Claire House [Santas on the Run](#)

31 Claire House [Diamond Ball](#)



News [Liverpool LINK](#) has formed a Cancer Task and Finish Group which will be holding it's second meeting here at the Centre on 1 December.

Over the last decade, the number of patients participating in clinical trials has risen from one in every 26, to one in six. These figures presented at the NCRI Conference by the National Cancer Research Network, reinforce the UK's position as world leader in the proportion of patients recruited to clinical trials and research studies.

[Read more](#)

Southport born Gavin Blyth, who was hailed as a genius for his work on Emmerdale and Coronation Street, died last week aged 41 following a recent diagnosis of cancer. [More](#)



Liverpool is bucking the national trend, as smoking cessation services in the city report growing demand. Nationally research suggests that fewer people have been trying to give up smoking since the recession started. But in Liverpool, quit numbers continue to grow, with Fag Ends reporting 11,310 people using the service in 2009/2010 – a rise of 62% from 2001/2002. Susie Gardiner, Public Health Strategic Lead, Liverpool PCT, said: "Obviously, the recession has hit Liverpool as hard as the rest of the country, but the excellence of the stop smoking services here has meant that more and more people have been helped to quit." [More](#)



A Christmas message

A huge thank you to all Liverpool Cancer Research UK Centre staff who supported local engagement events in 2010. Since January our researchers have attended **40 events**, reaching over **31,000** supporters, volunteers and members of the public. I'm pleased to report that there has been an increase in CRUK volunteering in Liverpool in 2010, which is in part due to the Centre's engagement work.

Thanks also to all staff who have donated bags to the Centre's 2 CRUK Donation Stations. In 2010 these contributions amount to around **£5200** donated stock for our local CRUK shops. In 2011 please keep the donated stock coming in. In times of recession our shops find demand high, and donated stock low, so all good quality used items are welcome.

As the country feels the effects of the financial downturn, it will be especially important to make sure we inform our local supporters about our work, and let them know the importance of their fundraising efforts, so please consider getting involved if you haven't already.

We'll have a packed programme of engagement events across the region in the New Year including Race for Life, Lab Tours, Schools Days, Fashion Shows, Supporter Conferences, Variety Shows, Relay, Meet the Scientist Days etc .

Your vital contribution helps us reach new supporters, helps existing supporters understand our work, and helps raise funds for future research, so please keep an eye on this Update for details of how you can get involved.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy 2011.

Emma

LEAD Manager

Together we will beat cancer



Contribute

If you would like to contribute to the January edition of this update, please contact Emma on emma.squibb@cancer.org.uk 0151 794 8823 or 07770 597 185

Together we will beat cancer