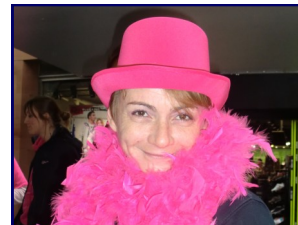


Welcome to the latest edition of the Cancer Community Update from the Liverpool Cancer Research UK Centre. This update is designed to keep you informed of local research news, engagement activities and news from the wider cancer community in Merseyside and Cheshire. Please contact Local Engagement and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



New £451m Royal Liverpool Hospital 'will go ahead' after legal bid dropped

The £451m rebuild of the Royal will go ahead, it has been announced, after a legal challenge was dropped on February 8th. The challenge, brought by campaign Group KONP (Keep Our NHS Public), was due to be heard in High Court in February, but at the end of January KONP leader Sam Semoff was told by the Legal Services Commission that they would be withdrawing Legal Aid for the case.

A statement from KONP said, "Mr. Semoff has principles, but very little money. Very reluctantly, on legal advice, he has withdrawn the case." The statement went on, "Money will flow out of the NHS to banks and private investors. The excess debt will force cuts in the NHS in Merseyside for the next generation."

The Royal estimates the challenge set plans back by six months and added £1m to the bill. Tony Bell, Chief Executive at the Royal said, "We are absolutely delighted this legal challenge is now over. We are sure the people of Merseyside, who have given so much support to the new Royal, will be pleased to hear this news."

Liverpool City Council Leader Joe Anderson said, "It is fantastic news. Now we can get on with building a hospital that is fit for purpose, creating jobs and apprenticeships."

[Read More](#)



Why are breast cancer rates increasing?

New figures published at the beginning of February show that one in eight women will get breast cancer at some point in their lives—an increase from one in nine in 1990. There are likely to be many contributing factors including family size, lifestyle factors and genes, but the good news is that survival rates are improving and two thirds of women will now survive for 20 years or more. Read the full article on **Cancer Research UK's Science Blog** [here](#)

Cancer

news in Mersey-side and Cheshire



Emeritus Professor David Price Evans paid a visit to the Centre on 24th February 2011. Prof Price Evans was Head of Medicine at Liverpool University from 1968 until 1983 and for the period 1972 - 1983 he occupied the Chair of Medicine. He left to become Director of Medicine at the Riyadh Armed Forces Hospital in Saudi Arabia, a position he held for 25 years, and a place where he continues to enjoy a close relationship today.

He is the largest individual donor to the University, endowing two Chairs: the Chair of Medicine was named in his honour, and in 2005 the Owen and Ellen Evans Chair of Cancer Studies was awarded to Professor John Neoptolemos. He is internationally recognised for his work in pharmacogenetics, and has inspired future generations of academics at the University to pursue research into 'personalised medicines'. Pictured with Prof Neoptolemos and Prof Barr.



Congratulations to Andrea Varro et al. for their work which has been published in Cancer Cell this month. Bone marrow-derived myofibroblasts contribute to the mesenchymal stem cell niche and promote tumor growth. Cancer Cell. 2011 Feb 15;19(2):257-72. [More](#)

Liverpool Cancer Conference

Hundreds of international delegates will head to Liverpool for a major conference focusing on the end of life care of cancer patients.

The OPCARE9 Conference at the BT Convention Centre, on Tuesday 9th March marks the completion of a three-year European Commission 7th Framework project involving clinicians, academics, and researchers from nine countries across the world.

The project has been co-ordinated by the **Marie Curie Palliative Care Institute** Liverpool (MCPCIL) which is also the UK representative. [More](#)

New Life Saving Equipment in Liverpool

The £2.3m radiotherapy device, called the Novalis Tx, was unveiled in February, at Liverpool's new Clatterbridge Cancer Centre, next to the Walton Centre in Fazakerley. The pioneering machine could save the lives of patients with inoperable brain tumours. It can perform precise and painless treatments in a single visit without damaging surrounding brain tissue. It can also be used on tumours in other parts of the body.

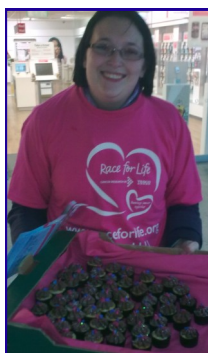
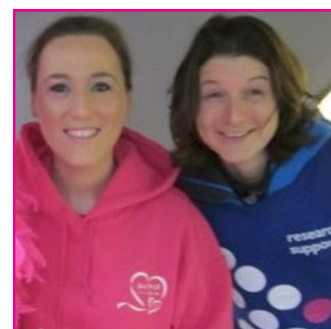
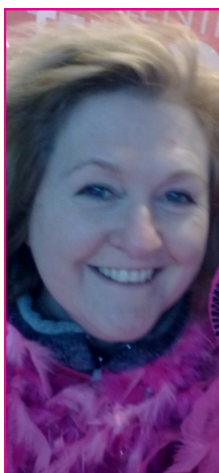
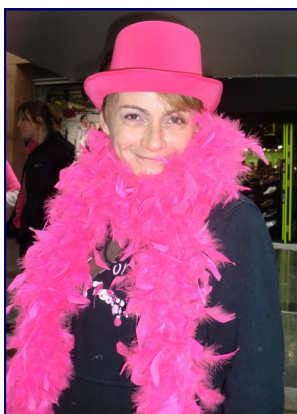
Mr Mohsen Javadpour, Consultant Neurosurgeon at The Walton Centre, said: "The technology allows us to track and treat difficult-to-treat cancers such as tumours really deep in the brain where open surgery is too dangerous. Another great benefit of the knifeless Novalis Tx treatment over open brain surgery is the incredibly reduced recovery times for patients. Most treatments can be performed as a day case or will require a minimum hospital stay."

The machine will be run by Clatterbridge Centre for Oncology and reduce travel times for cancer patients living north of the River Mersey. Dr Brian Haylock, Consultant Oncologist and Clinical Director for Radiotherapy at Clatterbridge Centre for Oncology, said the radiotherapy machine has potential to be very widely used: "Unlike some other highly specialised radiation treatment machines, the Novalis Tx can treat many different types of cancer all over the body, allowing us to treat more cancer patients with a single device." [Read more](#)

Local Engagement

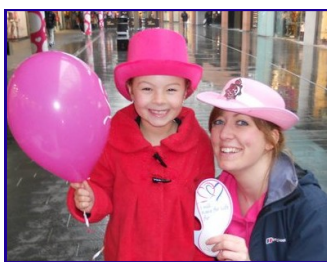
Race for Life Launch Days : Liverpool, Chester & Preston

Race for Life Sign Up is now officially open. Researchers from the Liverpool Cancer Research UK Centre turned out in force, despite the weather, to help the CRUK Events Team at the Race for Life Launch in **Liverpool One** on Saturday 5th February, **Chester City Centre** on Saturday 19th and **Preston** on 26th. Thanks to Neville Cobbe, Andrea Linford, Emily Linnane, Claire Hutchinson, Lauren Dodgson, Louise Rawling, Lucy Beresford, Mike Davies, Sarah Lake, Mark Boyd, Nikolina Vlatkovic and Amro Ebbiary. Thanks also to the CRUK volunteers.



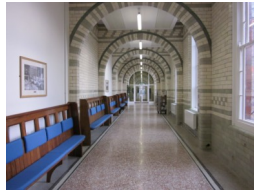
Tesco has granted CRUK access to all of it's 600 shops to promote Race for Life on **11th and 12th March 2011**. If you are available to help out on either of those days, please contact LEAD Manager Emma.

Sign up for Race for Life now at
www.raceforlife.org



New home for Liverpool Cancer Trials Unit

LCTU have now completed their move to new offices and can be found at Block C in the Foresight Building.



Council's Health Reps Visit

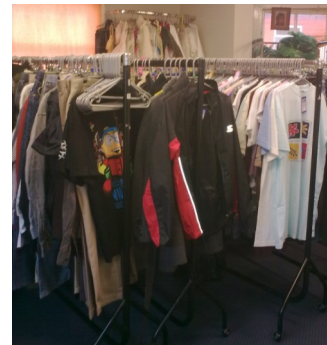
Chair of Liverpool City Council's Adult Health and Social Care Committee Councillor Janet Kent, and Advisory Member Mike Marsh visited the Centre on 16th February.



Case Notes from Liverpool

Profs Sutton, Neoptolemos, Ms Paula Ghaneh and Jo Garry featured in Mark Porter's Radio 4 programme *Case Notes* this month. You can listen to the programme [here](#).

A Year in the Life of a Donation Station



The Centre has 3 Donation Stations: DSO General Office, CRC Foyer, Duncan Building Foyer. Bags are worth up to £30 each.

- Our local CRUK delivery driver Darren collects the bags from the Centre and takes them to one of the local shops.
- The shop manager goes through the bags to give each one an average value.
- The stock is then sorted and priced by volunteers and put out for sale.
- Items which do not sell within a certain time are taken to another local shop for sale.
- Clothes which cannot be re-sold in the shop are sold to a recycling merchant, last year creating £4m income for CRUK.
- Last year CRUK's 600 shops generated income of £65 million



Since February 2010 the Centre has collected stock worth over £10,000

Please continue to donate, and if you haven't already, why not drop into one of our local shops to grab a bargain.

Old Swan, Southport, Ormskirk, Huyton, Widnes, Warrington, West Kirby, Chester, Formby, Moreton, Frodsham

Local People

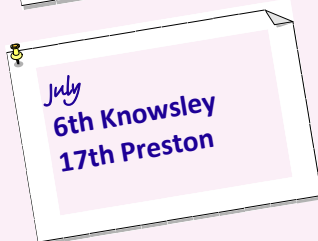
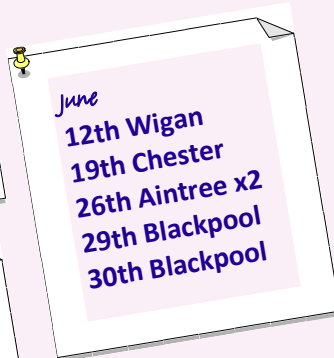
Aughton man gives £15,000 to Liverpool Women's Hospital

Cancer patient Carla Maguire spent her last days at the Liverpool Women's Hospital with her partner Kev Bellion by her side. Kev, of Aughton, wanted to raise cash for the hospital to thank staff for their hard work in looking after Carla so he embarked on a fundraising bike ride from Land's End to John O'Groats last year for the Palliative Care Unit. He was joined by his childhood friends from Aughton, Steve Warner, who came up with the idea, and Lee Connolly. With other events, including a coffee morning organised by his mum Veronica, Kev and his pals managed to raise £15,000 for the unit. [More](#)

Charlotte Runs Ten

Deputy Operational Director of Liverpool Cancer Trials Unit, Charlotte Rawcliffe, will be running an incredible TEN Race for Life events (that's 50k) this summer, to raise money for Cancer Research UK. Charlotte will be running in events across Merseyside, Cheshire, Lancashire and North Wales and would like to be accompanied at each Race by another member, or members, of staff. Please let us know if you would like to keep Charlotte company on one of her runs, (ladies only) she promises to slow down if necessary! Volunteer to run with Charlotte [here](#).

You can show your support for Charlotte by sponsoring her [here](#), and by coming along to one of the events to cheer her on. Good luck Charlotte.



Thank you to **The Honourable Money Grabbers** who raised over £540 for the Centre in October with a dress down day at their offices (The Criminal Records Bureau in Liverpool.)

A group of fundraisers from **DLA Piper Solicitors in Liverpool City Centre** visited for a lab tour on Feb 2nd. The group met Professor Barr and left with plans to hold a Donation Station event in their office, to raise further funds for CRUK.



Mum-of-two Mandy Maxwell, 35, of **Great Sutton**, who has been treated for skin cancer, was the main attraction when Tesco and Cancer Research UK's Race for Life's musical production Join the Girls was staged for one performance only at the **Picturehouse at FACT in Liverpool** on Sunday 20 February. Joining her on stage was a cast of performers who have had lead roles in major musicals including Oliver! and Chicago. [More](#)

Together we will beat cancer

Other news

Liverpool Embassy opens in London

Following the success of Liverpool's participation at World Expo in Shanghai, a business embassy for Liverpool has been opened in London. Liverpool is the UK's fastest growing economy outside of London and it is hoped the Embassy will attract future investment in the area.

[Website](#)

England footballers donate match fees to CRUK

Cancer Research UK has welcomed the England football team's decision to donate part of their match fees to the charity. England and Liverpool legend Steven Gerrard said that the squad had chosen to work with Cancer Research UK "because most people know someone who has been affected by cancer".

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.

March 2011

02 **Frodsham Shop 20th Anniversary Event**

11/12 **Tesco Race for Life Promotion**



15 **LFC for Health Event, Anfield**

16 **Patient and Public Engagement Event**

25 **Guest Speaker: Professor Ludger Hengst**

26 **Widnes Shop Event—Meet the Scientist**



29 **Lab Tour: Shop volunteers**

31 **Lab Tour: Hugh Baird College**

North West Cancer Research Fund are looking to recruit a scientist with current or potential international research stature to a five year NWCRF funded fellowship in the Division of Biomedical and Life Sciences within the School of Health and Medicine, a high priority research and teaching area within Lancaster University. Applicants should have expertise in cancer research that can complement the existing research strengths within SHM. [More Information](#)

As an independent charity **Clatterbridge Cancer Research** has invested over £20 million into world-class research in Merseyside over the past 30 years. Previous work has focused on funding laboratory research and clinical trials in the Liverpool region, but as part of a new research strategy moving forward CCR want to hear from anyone who has the passion and ideas to make a difference to cancer patients living in Merseyside today. [Read More](#)

Contribute

If you would like to contribute to the next 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