



Great Wall Trek to fulfil walker's dream
Avril Smith, 60, will be taking part in a trek to the Great Wall of China in aid of YCR later this year. The trek will take her across the Great Wall and involves walking up to 15 miles a day with stops along the way to rebuild parts of the wall that have crumbled and eroded over time. Avril is hoping to raise a superb £2,500 for YCR and we wish her all the best.

www.ycr.org.uk/overseas

Pyjama Walk for YCR

Two nursery nurses from Dolphins Nursery at Huddersfield Sports Centre organised a sponsored pyjama walk around Greenhead Park in Huddersfield, last summer, to raise money for YCR. The walk was followed by a Charity Good Time Groove evening at Huddersfield Sports Centre with entertainment, an auction, prizes and a DJ. The day's events raised a wonderful £1,600 for YCR.



If you would like to organise your own event for YCR, give Sally a call on **01423 501269**

Splash for Cash - A great success!

A new fundraising initiative entitled 'Splash for Cash' took place throughout October and November last year to raise money for YCR. Participants (including our Chief Executive) set their own swimming challenge, choosing the number of lengths they swam and the date and pool of their choice. 'Splash for Cash' attracted individuals and teams of adults and children alike and was a tremendous success, raising over £14,000 in total. Well done to everyone who took part.

Our Youngest ever Fundraisers!

A family of three children Joshua McGinnes, 2, his brother Jamie, 4 and sister Jasmine, 9 months, all took part in the challenge and swam an incredible 5 lengths each at the Metrodome swimming pool in Barnsley, raising a magnificent £107 for YCR. Well Done!

A Family Affair!

A family of five also dived in to raise £2,192 for YCR. Jill Sharp and her family swam 80 lengths at Spenborough Baths, in memory of her late parents Kathleen and Hubert, who would have both been 80 last year. All five finished the mile and a half plus in less than 100 minutes. Congratulations and thank you to you all.



www.ycr.org.uk/swim

The Will to cure cancer

During the month of May 2006, firms of solicitors in Leeds and the surrounding area will offer their Will writing services to people aged 55 and over for free as part of a new YCR project called 'The Will to Cure Cancer'.

Members of the public aged 55 and over will be offered the opportunity to have their Will prepared by a solicitor and to leave a lasting legacy to help Yorkshire Cancer Research continue funding ground-breaking research work. There is no obligation on those who take up the offer to leave a gift, however, the charity is keen to offer this service to those who wish to support its work.

Over the last 80 years, YCR researchers have made many important advances in the understanding of cancer thanks to donations and legacies received from thousands of hard working Yorkshire men and women. Over the years we have invested millions of £'s into cancer research conducted across Yorkshire.

'The Will to Cure Cancer' builds on the success of previous free will schemes run by YCR in York, Hull and along the Yorkshire coast, schemes that have helped many people to put their affairs in order and to leave a lasting legacy towards the fight against cancer for future generations.



www.ycr.org.uk/legacy

Contact details

Yorkshire Cancer Research
39 East Parade, Harrogate HG1 5LQ
01423 501269
www.ycr.org.uk hq@ycr.org.uk
Registered Charity 516898



Forthcoming events

Ann Dey's May Day

on **Monday 1st May** will take place at Outwood Memorial Hall, Wakefield from 10.30am to 3pm. With many attractions including: tombolas, bric-a-brac and stalls with everything from cakes to plants. There will be something for everyone. Tickets priced £1.

Penistone Walk

Join a fabulous, circular eight mile walk, on **Sunday 14th May**, starting at 9am from Hoylandswaine, passing through Guntawaite and Scout Dyke before finishing in Hoylandswaine. A shorter version is also available. For details please call: Susan Gaughan on **01226 791241** or Jean Farnell on **01226 791366**.

The 9th Jorvic MG & Classic Car Run

The event will take place on **Sunday 21st May**, starting from Langford Grange and travelling around 100 miles through spectacular Yorkshire scenery before finishing at the Malton Rugby Club. Entry forms are available from Alwyn Kershaw on **01759 368685** (no calls after 9pm please).

Keighley Golf Day

On **Monday 26th June**, a golf competition, consisting of teams of four will take place at Keighley Golf Club. To enter a team please call: Brenda Northrop on **01756 749212**.

Calling all adrenalin junkies

Over the weekend of **24th and 25th June** YCR is offering participants a chance to abseil a 150 foot drop down Bailings Dam near Ripponden and/or experience the thrill of a 600 foot zip slide – the ride of your life!

Book Now...we have a limited number of places available at each event so don't delay and join up now.

For more information on how to register please call Paula on 01423 501 269 or email events@ycr.org.uk

Once you have experienced the exhilaration and excitement you will have the confidence to tackle anything!



www.ycr.org.uk/abseil

Pedal for Pounds!

On **Sunday 10th September**, YCR is offering you the chance to take part in a sponsored bike ride. There are two great routes to choose from, both of which start from Harewood House, Leeds and travel through stunning Yorkshire scenery before returning to Harewood House to cross the finishing line.

The day is set to be fabulous fun, with plenty on offer for spectators and participants to get involved in, making it a perfect family day out. So, if you fancy absorbing the wonderful scenery while you cycle to raise money to help fund our vital research, then what's stopping you - sign up today!



www.ycr.org.uk/bike

Fancy drinking tea for charity?

Most of us drink tea or coffee every day, as part of our usual routine at home or at work. Well now you can drink tea whilst raising money for YCR! All you have to do is host a tea break and ask participants to make a donation of £1 in return for a cup of tea or coffee! You can host a tea break in your local school, at work, your place of worship or in your home, it's up to you. All we ask you to do is send us a cheque for the amount you raise. It couldn't be simpler!

Yorkshire's Biggest Tea Break will be launched on **Yorkshire Day (1st August)** and will run throughout the month of August.



www.ycr.org.uk/tea

Passionate about parachuting

With the summer months approaching, what better time to get that adrenalin pumping, with a parachute jump never to be forgotten! We have teamed up with a professional skydiving organisation to offer you the phenomenal experience of freefall whilst also raising money to support our vital research work. Nothing compares to the thrill of skydiving. To be in freefall, surrounded by nothing but blue sky is to know true freedom. Sign up today for an experience of a lifetime!



www.ycr.org.uk/parachute

YCR Golf Day this May

YCR is hosting a golf competition on **Wednesday 24th May** at Sandmoor Golf Club, Leeds. The day will commence with a shotgun start at 2pm followed by a three course meal in the evening with an auction

and entertainment. Teams of four are invited to take part, however, our maximum capacity is 24 teams so places are limited. To secure your team's place sign up today.



www.ycr.org.uk/golf

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Messenger

Spring 2006



Through knowledge comes hope

Scientists in York get to the root of cancer problem

Think of prostate cancer as a dandelion in a lawn – pull the leaves off the weed and the root still remains allowing it to regenerate.

Existing therapies for treating prostate cancer adopt a similar approach, attacking the 'leaves' rather than the 'root', resulting in the disease recurring, often within two years.

But now researchers at the Yorkshire Cancer Research Unit at the University of York have discovered how to isolate the 'root' of prostate cancer, tumour stem cells, which make up one in 1,000 of cancer cells.

The breakthrough by the YCR Professor of Molecular Biology, Norman Maitland, and Dr Anne Collins, will help the development of therapies for treating stem cells

to stop them regenerating.

Professor Maitland said: "For the first time we have been able to extract these stem cells from prostate cancers and we are the only people in the world who have been able to propagate them in the laboratory.

These cells are difficult to see, but Dr Collins has found some clever ways of identifying them. It's the most exciting thing I have seen in 10 years, but we don't want to give people false hope because the therapies for treating tumour stem cells have still to be developed.

However, we can now investigate specific therapies for killing the 'roots' rather than the 'leaves' of prostate



Dr Anne Collins

cancers."

This is a definite step forward in the understanding of tumour stem cells. This latest discovery will allow YCR scientists to build upon this framework of knowledge, in the hope of developing effective treatments in the future.

Stop Press! Patently good income

Breast Cancer Treatment Pays Off

YCR is to receive its first ever return on a patent for a novel treatment for hereditary breast cancer, which was earlier discovered by YCR scientists in Sheffield. The patent was recently licensed to AstraZeneca, which will provide an income to YCR.

The breast cancer treatment has now been through its

first phase I clinical trial with great success.

Elaine King, Chief Executive of YCR commented: "We are delighted to receive an income return on the hereditary breast cancer research programme we previously funded. The money will hopefully be used to further fund the ground-breaking research undertaken by this successful group in Sheffield."



Around 1,000 women (and a few brave men) took part in Yorkshire's biggest aerobathon... details inside

in this issue...



Bailings Dam Abseil



Old surgical techniques return



YCR Bike Ride



Parachute for Free



Old York to New York



Splash for Cash success

Thank you

Dear supporters,

In 2005 we marked our 80th Anniversary and as we are now entering a new decade of research into the cause, development and treatment of a variety of cancers I thought it would be appropriate to review our past performance and look at how we are to tackle the next decade of research and fundraising. To help us do this I would like to know your thoughts, ideas and suggestions, so please do feel free to respond.

In terms of research, applicants will have the opportunity to apply for grants lasting up to five years. Where such grants are approved the funding will initially only be available for 3 years pending a review to ascertain if funding is warranted for the remaining term.

The development of our research strategy will involve consultation with a wide range of stakeholders and careful consideration of a large number of emerging factors in both the fundraising and scientific worlds.

Through membership of both the Association of Medical Research Charities (AMRC) and the National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI) the charity's senior management team continues to liaise and consult with leading figures in the research world to ensure that issues of governance are addressed and new areas of opportunity are considered and explored where relevant.

Turning to our fundraising, we plan to further increase our emphasis on sports orientated fundraising projects as this has not only proved to be a significant and growing income stream but also actively promotes our common goal of raising funds while having fun and, perhaps equally importantly, expanding our database of supporters.

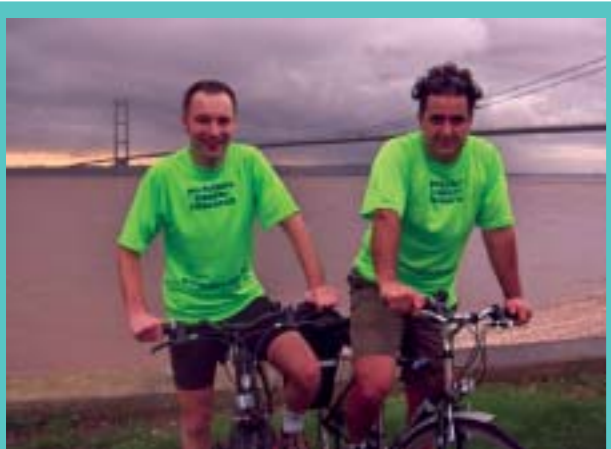
A series of events has been planned for this forthcoming year to help generate as much support as possible. These include: a golf day, abseil and zip slide, bike ride, overseas treks, splash for cash, parachute jumps, plus places in the Great North Run and the New York City Marathon.

With my sincere thanks for your continued support.

Elaine King

Elaine King
Chief Executive

If you would like to reply to Elaine, email eking@ycr.org.uk or write to Yorkshire Cancer Research, 39 East Parade, Harrogate HG1 5LQ



Cycling duo prepares for summer challenge

Dr Gary Liney, a lecturer in Magnetic Resonance Imaging and PhD Student Roberto Garcia-Alvarez, who are based at the MRI Centre at Hull Royal Infirmary, are to cycle from Land's End to John O'Groats to raise money for YCR, this summer.

The cycling duo are planning to start their 980-mile journey at the beginning of May and complete it within two or three weeks. Dr Liney commented: "The MRI Centre is funded by Yorkshire Cancer Research, so in an attempt to raise



money and the profile of our own research we want to complete this challenge of cycling from Land's End to John O'Groats. "Last year we were one of the first centres in Europe to install a new high field MRI scanner, thanks to the help of YCR."

Mike Waites
Health Correspondent, Yorkshire Post

The cycling duo are appealing to companies to help either by servicing their bikes, helping them with transport to and from the start and finish and of course raising as much money as possible. If anyone is interested in sponsoring Gary and Roberto please visit: www.justgiving.com/garyandroberto



Surgeons looking to past as they battle against common cancer

Hundreds of lives will be saved as surgeons go back to the future with pioneering techniques originally used a century ago against a common cancer.

Specialists estimate at least 3,200 deaths a year could be prevented following research in Yorkshire which has found old-style operations used to excise tumours from patients with lower bowel cancer are better than conventional modern ones.

The type of operation performed 100 years ago – which essentially means surgeons carry out operations at a different angle giving them a better view of tumours – appears to reduce rates of recurrence.

Professor Phil Quirke, who is based at the new Leeds Institute for Molecular Medicine (LIMM) at St. James's Hospital in Leeds, said: "Ninety per cent of those who have recurrence of this type of cancer die. Over a long period of time it infiltrates the pelvis and is very unpleasant. It is technically a very difficult operation but we think we can do a lot better for patients using a type of surgery they used to do."

He added: "It is a very cheap and simple way of making improvements. All it needs is an education programme to train surgeons to change their technique. Getting surgery right in bowel cancer is amazingly important."

YCR recently granted £1 million towards research facilities at the new LIMM at St. James's University Hospital in Leeds, which will help Professor Quirke and his team to continue to develop its research into bowel cancer, amongst others.

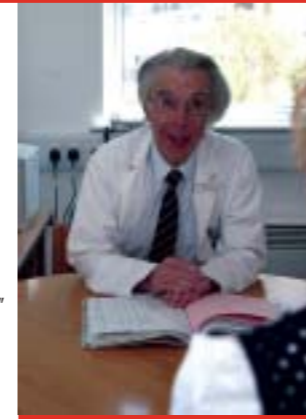
Mike Waites
Health Correspondent, Yorkshire Post

YCR Scientist - a train enthusiast for years!

Professor Barry Hancock is one of Yorkshire Cancer Research's longest serving scientists and clinicians. Originally a Londoner, but has lived in Sheffield for the last 41 years, Professor Hancock has travelled around a lot – expanding his knowledge and honing his scientific skills.

His desire to work within the medical profession stems from a young age. He commented: "When I was a child I had lots of operations and was very impressed by all the nursing and medical care I received. It made me think 'well, why not me?' I went on to study A-levels, followed by medical school and I haven't looked back since."

A keen train enthusiast in his spare time, Professor Hancock loves nothing more than spending time chasing old trains and looking for details in railway history. He says: "When I go to conferences I love exploring the local railway scene, so I'll disappear for a couple of hours in the evening when I'll wander up to the local preserved railways or to the station. I also have a passion for photography and have captured many magnificent railway scenes on film."



Meet the researchers

From old York to New York...

Adam Griffiths, Marc Henderson, Jonathan Lingham and Paul Roberts, students from the University of York ran the 2005 New York Marathon in aid of YCR. Here's an extract of Adam's journey: "The morning of the marathon we met at 6am and headed for Staten Island.

The first two miles were over a huge bridge but compared to the hill training I'd done in the Lake District it was easy.

Through the streets of Brooklyn, the atmosphere was fantastic. Five miles in I could feel that this was going to hurt (I had hurt my knee



www.ycr.org.uk/running

in training). By mile eight the crowds were still phenomenal. Locals were holding out water, and bananas (I actually heard there was a banana shortage in NY that weekend!)

Despite the support by mile eight I was in increasing pain. I headed into the medical centre for some painkilling gel. I was back on the road and raring to go.

Entering Queens, the support was just as strong as in Brooklyn. The skyscrapers of Manhattan were amazing.

At mile 16 my knee gave out again. I started walking, 16 miles down, 10.2 to go. If I wasn't going to be able to run this marathon then I WAS going to finish it!

The last 100 metres came and I accelerated, crossing the finishing line running. I definitely want to go back and do the race again properly."

The team of four raised over £3,000 for Yorkshire Cancer Research. Well done boys and thank you!
L-R: Paul Roberts, Marc Henderson, Adam Griffiths, Jonathan Lingham

Glitter Ball

Last year we marked our 80th Anniversary with a Glitter Ball, which raised a magnificent £16,000.

The Glitter Ball was held at Pavilions of Harrogate and commenced with a champagne reception, followed by a three course meal and entertainment, which included a raffle, an auction led by Mr Jeremy Hopkinson and later, live music from 'Chequers'.

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of our Glitter Ball. The generosity YCR received from its sponsors and guests on the night enabled us to raise a phenomenal £16,000 towards our vital research.



Thank you

Yorkshire Cancer Research is grateful to the newspapers, magazines and individuals who have kindly allowed us to reproduce photographs in Messenger: Halifax Evening Courier, Harrogate Advertiser, Huddersfield Daily Examiner, Hull Daily Mail, Middlesbrough Evening Gazette, Steve Myers, Spensborough Guardian, University of Hull, University of Leeds, University of Sheffield, University of York

Cheque Point

Recent grants awarded by Yorkshire Cancer Research.

£27,579 to the University of Leeds to assess high sensitivity detection of proteins and nucleic acids.

£150,097 to the University of Leeds to study perturbation of B-catenin signalling by the hepatitis C virus NS5A protein: Implications for development of hepatocellular carcinoma.

£129,680 to the University of Sheffield to study the effect of single nucleotide polymorphism on clinical outcome and survival in the Focus clinical trial of metastatic colorectal cancer.

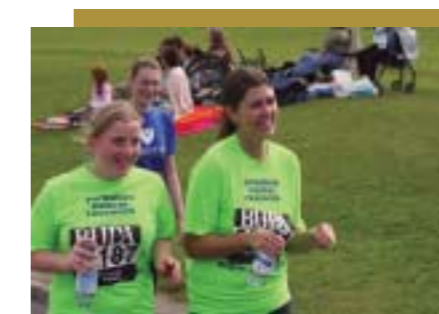
£114,495 to the University of Sheffield to study the role of poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase in replication.

£168,809 to the University of Sheffield to assess Macrophage responses to tumour hypoxia: contribution to tumour angiogenesis and progression.

£141,739 to the University of Sheffield to assess the role of Crumbs2 in epithelial to mesenchymal transition and tumour progression.

£86,218 to the University of York to study the development of lentiviral vectors to track the lineage and differentiation of prostate cancer stem cells.

Information about the work funded by Yorkshire Cancer Research and how to apply for a grant can be found on our website www.ycr.org.uk



Great North Run

Each year we have 300 guaranteed places for the Great North Run, with thousands of runners requesting a place. Last year, Rachael Nutland from Ripon and Lauren Saul from Hampsthwaite, took part in the Great North Run and raised over £1,300 for YCR. The two friends have since been bitten by the bug and now have their sights set on the London Marathon – Good Luck girls!

www.ycr.org.uk/running



Keighley Fashion Show Raises £11,000

A fashion show organised by the Keighley Committee of Yorkshire Cancer Research raised a phenomenal £11,000. With around 400 guests the show, held at the Craiglands Hotel in Ilkley, featured fashions from Ragdoll of Pudsey. BBC presenter Christa Ackroyd and members of the original Calendar Girls, Angela Baker and Lynda Logan, were there to draw the raffle.



Local Fundraisers Reap Reward

Organisers of the Walkington Victorian Hayride received an award at this year's event for 37 years of hard work. Every third Sunday in June, local fundraisers host an event, which sees horse-drawn carriages, vintage farm vehicles and bygone bicycles travel from Walkington to Beverley to raise money for charities including Yorkshire Cancer Research. Since it began in 1967, £250,000 has been raised for Yorkshire Cancer Research and many local charities, making a significant contribution to our fundraising efforts.



Pupils raise £500 for YCR

Members of the Harrogate High School Concert Band took part in the annual Nidderdale charity walk last May to raise money for Yorkshire Cancer Research. The group of young musicians turned themselves into a 'marching' band and raised a fantastic £500 for YCR.



Senior Citizen's trek for Charity

Turning 70 was no excuse for pensioner Maureen Gordon to put her feet up – instead she set herself a major fundraising challenge. Maureen walked 237 miles over 26 days, taking a coast-to-coast route from Bude in Cornwall to Plymouth. She raised a phenomenal £1,100 towards our vital research. We can't wait to see what she'll do for her 80th birthday!

Yorkshire 'Ryder Cup' for Charity

Outlane Golf Club and Marsden Golf Club once again went head to head in a 'Ryder Cup' style competition, raising £1,650 for Yorkshire Cancer Research, in memory of Miss Eleanor Windeatt. For the past three years both golf clubs have organised this annual competition, which was won by Outlane Golf club this year, making it 2-1 in their favour. Thanks to everyone who continue to make this key event possible.



Yorkshire's Biggest Aerobathon a Huge Success

Our first Yorkshire Cancer Research Aerobathon, which took place on Monday 20th March across Yorkshire, was a superb success, with 19 leisure centres taking part and approximately 1,000 participants. The sponsorship money is still coming in thick and fast and we would like to thank everyone who took part in making the Aerobathon such a phenomenal success.

