



**The International Brain Tumour
Awareness Week and Walk around the World
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www.theibta.org

Walk Around the World & Awareness Week

The IBTA is organising the first **International Brain Tumo(u)r Awareness Week** during **21-27 October 2007**.

A feature of the awareness-raising activity in the lead-up to the Week and during it will be a **Walk Around the World for Brain Tumours**, whereby we hope that supporters from all around the globe will undertake sponsored or unsponsored walks for brain tumours during 2007 and by the end of the Awareness Week in October these walkers will have covered a total of at least **40,000 kilometres** (or 24,901 miles), which is the circumference of the earth at the equator.

We have developed [a special webpage](#) with an interactive facility whereby people can submit the distance they walk and the total of the funds they raised. The IBTA wants people to support a brain tumour charity or anti-cancer council **in their own region** - *we are not seeking to collect these funds for the IBTA*, although we welcome any separate unrestricted grants or donations to assist the IBTA in organising this activity.

We seek the support of brain tumour charities and anti-cancer councils from anywhere in the world and we will seek to list them on this special World Walk activities webpage for potential walkers/donors to contact.

Walkers of all ages, shapes, speeds and sizes are welcome. You don't have to be a fast walker.

Brochures in the English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Catalan, and Polish languages, and the Japanese and Dutch languages (posters only), promoting the World Walk and the Awareness Week, may be downloaded from [this webpage](#).

Start planning a walk now. Identify a brain tumour support group or charity in your area that is willing to receive your donation, or a local anti-cancer council, select a date, recruit your friends and tell us about your activity - the total of the funds you raised and the distance covered by you and your friends. Photos of any walk activities would also be welcome. Contact the IBTA Chair (chair@theibta.org) or Secretary (kathy@theibta.org)



US singer [David Bailey](#), who is a ten-year GBM survivor, has allowed the IBTA to use his song "Keep on walking" as the official theme for the 2007 Walk Around the World for Brain Tumours. This has been reproduced on a single-track CD which the IBTA will send to all those who organise an awareness raising activity. See News item dated 20 May 2007 for the words of the song. David visited the UK during the Awareness Week and a report of his visit will be uploaded shortly.

We are delighted to list the many, many activities which are taking place around the world in connection with the International Brain Tumour Awareness Week and the Walk Around the World for Brain Tumours.

Please be sure to keep scrolling downwards to see all of the groups and individuals who have pledged their support of these initiatives. We apologise for the length of this page, but news of exciting events keeps coming in and we want to include all that we can. Completed events have been listed on the webpages of that name and may be accessed from the menu on the left or by [clicking here and here.](#)

Dr Harcharan K (Bali) Rooprai, reader in the scientific basis of Complementary Medicine, will be organising an Open Day on Friday, 26 October at the Enfield Campus of Middlesex University (UK). The brain tumour research group at the University is inviting people to visit them and find out more about their current projects. The Open Day will also serve as a means of thanking people for their support of past projects in brain tumour research and will also appeal to people for additional donations for future research.

The Singapore brain tumour group advises that it will be holding a picnic outing in the Botanical Gardens on 27 October, in connection with the Awareness Week. The contact is: Emily_Ang at nni.com.sg (substitute @ for at).

Dr Eugenio Pozzati of Bellaria Hospital, Bologna, Italy, has organised a meeting during the Awareness Week on 22 October to discuss the intracavity therapy of glioblastomas.

The Brain Tumour Foundation Canada is organising Information Day Conferences in Calgary, AB, London, ON and Halifax NS in upcoming weeks. More information is available at [this webpage](#) where there is also publicity about the BTFC's contribution of 13,003 kms by 3,525 "Spring Sprint" participants to the IBTA's World Walk target. Well done!



The [Brain Tumor Foundation for Children Inc.](#), based in Georgia, USA, supports the World Walk and the Awareness Week and will be holding the 9th Annual William's Walk and Run just a few days following the Awareness Week.



The US-based [Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation](#) which has been in existence for 16 years and has raised \$34m for pediatric brain tumour research and support projects has created a link on its homepage to the World Walk and Awareness Week and has conveyed best wishes for the success of these projects.



[Nichole's Cord Foundation](#), which is a chapter of Malia's Cord Foundation and was formed in memory of Nichole, a young woman who passed away from a glioblastoma in 2005, supports the awareness activities and has its own fundraiser in Philadelphia on 29 September.

Two people who will each be trekking 120 kms in the Himalayas in October on behalf of the [UK Brain Research Trust](#) will donate their distance to the World Walk target. The trek will take place at an altitude of between 2600 metres and 5400 metres, making it the highest of the many Awareness Walks around the world.



Maureen Daniels from the [Gerry and Nancy Pencer Brain Tumour Centre](#) at Princess Margaret Hospital in Toronto advises that both the Centre and the [Canadian Alliance of Brain Tumour Organisations](#) have organised fund-raising and awareness-raising events in the coming months. On 29 September CABTO has arranged with the Toronto Blue Jays to have a paediatric patient living with a brain tumour to throw out the first pitch. The Pencer Centre had its Head for a Cure 2007 5 kms walk on 14 October in which 252 participants contributed 1260 kms (see completed activities). On Friday 26 October the Centre will have an Open House with a presentation by Margie Ingram "Laughing Matters: Jest for the Health of It".



The UK brain tumour charity [Hammer Out](#) will promote the IBTA awareness-raising activities at meetings of its support groups to be held during September-October in the South West Region of England.



The [Children's Brain Tumour Research Centre in Nottingham](#) (UK) is supporting the IBTA's efforts. They will be launching a new website on which they hope to include news of the Awareness Week and World Walk and to link to the IBTA website.

The [Brain Tumour Research Campaign](#) (UK) is encouraging its fund-raising walkers to donate their mileage to the World Walk. Two examples are the walks by Veronica O'Connor and Elaine and Kim Johnston reported in the completed activities webpage.

[Brain Tumour UK](#) is really getting into the swing of things. BTUK has always been associated with fund-raising walks and runs but on this occasion their walkers have really linked in with the Walk Around the World for Brain Tumours. During the Awareness Week there will be the [Norwich Walk](#), a walk near [Brignorth](#), Shropshire, one in [Bucks](#), and a walk in [Battersea Park](#), London.



Ase Rinman from our supporting organisation in Sweden [Svenska Hjärntumorföreningen](#), advises that they will concentrate on the Sunday 21 October when they will have a short walk over a central bridge at Goteborg to an indoor shopping mall where they will have some entertainment and a talk by a well known oncologist and patients' testimonials sharing hope. The boxed item at the right is taken from their website where they link to the IBTA website and the Awareness Week.



Lynn Park, Clinical Nurse Specialist from [Newcastle General Hospital \(UK\)](#), advises that they will have a stand in the Regional Neurosciences Centre and another at the Northern Centre for Cancer Treatment containing patient information on brain tumours and help that can be sought locally. This will be their contribution to the Awareness Week. Joanne McLoughlin from the [Wollongong Hospital](#) in Australia is also planning a local activity which she hopes will attract media attention. Karen Jackson from the [Western Australian Cancer and Palliative Care Network](#) and her group of local people also have plans for an appropriate activity and Teresa Simpson from the [Cancer Therapy Centre at Liverpool Hospital \(NSW\)](#) advises that their activity will centre around the local brain tumour support group which has been in operation for several years.

Mag. Sabine Spiegl-Kreinecker, a biologist at the [Wagner Jauregg Hospital](#) (Linz, Austria), which is a hospital specialising in neurosurgery, neurology and psychiatry, advises that they will be holding a scientific meeting on 24 October in Lentos, in connection with the Awareness Week. Here is a [link](#) to a downloadable copy of the meeting program.



Nervenklinik
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The [Japan Pediatric Brain Tumor Network](#) and the [Japan Brain Tumor Alliance](#) are the latest groups to express support for the inaugural International Brain Tumour Awareness Week and the Walk Around the World for Brain Tumours.

Magi Lluch i Ariet of the company [Microart](#), which is working in collaboration with a European Commission-funded project called [Health Agents](#), which seeks to produce an "Agent-based Distributed Decision Support System for Brain Tumour Diagnosis and Prognosis for the improvement of health conditions of the European population" and consists of a consortium of research institutes in Spain, the UK, Italy, and Belgium, plans to promote the Awareness Week in Catalonia and in Spain.



The Sydney-based [Cure For Life Foundation](#), which is one of the supporters of the IBTA's awareness-raising activities, is organising a trek to Peru during **October 30 - November 14** and plans to contribute its trekkers' walking distance to the World Walk.



On Friday **26 October** the [Edinburgh Centre for Neuro-Oncology in Scotland](#) will host a study day entitled "Towards improving the management of people with brain tumours". This is a contribution by the Centre to the International Brain Tumour Awareness Week. Contact: shanne.mcnamaraat (substitute @ for at)luht.scot.nhs.uk



Walkers from the UK brain tumour charity, "**Andrea's Gift**" have already added 1746.4 kms to the World Walk total. Here is [a link](#) to their main webpage. [Lady Botham](#) (wife of cricketer Sir Ian Botham) has recently become President of the organisation.



Low-Grade Glioma Patient and Carers Information Day. To be held on 19 October 2007 at Homeopathic Hospital, London, UK. Administered by the [SDBTT Astro Fund](#). Contact phone number (44) (0) 845 130 7627 for people to book their free places at the event.



North London Cancer Network
www.nlcn.nhs.uk

Meningioma UK supports the Awareness Week and the Walk Around the World for Brain Tumours. Co-founder Ella Pybus says that members of her Tuesday Phone Pals group (for people who have a brain tumour) have pledged to undertake a walk.



The [Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada](#) will also be supporting the Awareness Week and World Walk through its national walkathon program Spring Sprint.



The UK-based [Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust](#) has really got behind the World Walk project. Jim Huggins, Adrian Clark, Tim Ives, Chris Higgins, and Paul Wilkin will be walking the North Downs Way between Oxted and Farnham on 21 October. They are raising funds for their friend Emma who has a brain tumour ... Nora Ramalingum is holding a walk in Nonsuch Park, Surrey on 21 October and is raising funds for SDBTT Anne-Marie Ramalingum Fund ... Morna Sinclair has organised a walk in Banchory, Aberdeen to take place on 26 October. Her daughter Hannah has had successful treatment for a brain tumour. Stan Ralph is combining with the Banchory walk to raise funds for SDBTT Dennis Ralph Fund. Stan and his wife lost their son Dennis in April ... Julie Rowland will be walking around her cruise ship somewhere in the Caribbean during the Awareness Week. Funds raised will go towards SDBTT Julie Rowland Fund ... On 25 October the parents of a Doctor who has a brain tumour are organising a sponsored walk in the Dartmoor National Park, with funds going to the SDBTT ... Paul Glass is holding a public walk at Blackthorn Golf Course, Cottingham, Market Harborough and round the Welland Valley aka Hippo Walk. Paul is raising funds in memory of his partner Jodie Adams ...



The [Brain Tumor Resource and Information Network \(BRAIN\)](#) in Virginia (USA) will donate the mileage of the walkers in their 3rd Celebration of Hope 5 kms Walk and Run to be held on **28 October**. There will also be a Benefit Concert at the Innsbrook Pavilion. Marguerite Sciuk, founder of B.R.A.I.N. and a brain tumor survivor, advises that various well-known artists and their bands have donated their time to perform at the concert.



BRAIN has provided several small grants to brain tumor organisations and 450 information packages to newly-diagnosed brain tumor survivors.

The [Childhood Brain Tumor Foundation](#) of Maryland supports the World Walk and Awareness Week and CBTF President Jeanne Young advises that prior to the Awareness Week they will be holding a 5 kms Stride for Life and Kids' Fun Run. The walkers' distance will be donated to the World Walk target.



The [Tug McGraw Foundation](#) (California) supports the Awareness Week and World Walk. The Foundation was established by Tug McGraw in 2003 to raise funds to enhance the quality of life of children and adults with brain tumors and their families by stimulating and facilitating research that addresses the physical, social, emotional, cognitive, and spiritual impact of the disease.



[Brain Tumour Northwest](#) - a strategic alliance initially involving the University of Wolverhampton, University of Central Lancashire and the Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust in the UK - will hold a special event to commemorate the International Brain Tumour Awareness Week on Thursday, 25th October - the second wave of membership in the alliance will be formally launched at the University of Wolverhampton. Manchester (Victoria and Metropolitan), Keele and Sheffield and their associated NHS Trusts are now involved. In terms of numbers and facilities, this exciting alliance will compare favourably with many centres in the United States and Europe. For further details contact j.darling at wlv.ac.uk, rwlea at uclan.ac.uk or dawsontp at doctors.org.uk (substitute @ for at).



[FightJPA](#) is a US-based organization dedicated to fundraising and raising awareness for Juvenile Pilocytic Astrocytoma, the most common form of childhood brain tumor. They support the IBTA's Awareness Week and World Walk projects and will seek to organise an activity in October.



The **Zimbabwe Brain Tumor Association** supports the Walk Around the World for Brain Tumours and the inaugural International Brain Tumour Awareness Week. It is led by energetic co-ordinator Christine Mungoshi, who lost her daughter Paidamoyo to a brain tumour in 2006. See article [here](#).



The French [Association pour la Recherche sur les Tumeurs Cerebrales](#) has expressed its support for the World Walk and the Awareness Week. It is a Paris based association with several branches in France. Its main objective is raising funds for medical research on brain tumours and helping improve medical treatment and care.



The Italian organisation [Irene Onlus](#) is planning an awareness run, for both professional and non-professional runners, on **27 October** to be entitled "corri al massimo per IRENE" (it means "run to the maximum for IRENE"), in memory of a patient Massimo, who was a runner. The walk has already been sponsored by the regional commissioner for culture and sport of the city of Rome.

With the assistance of Dr Andrea Pace in Rome [a new Italian version of the IBTA brochure](#) has been produced which lists other scientific and awareness raising activities to occur in Italy, i.e. Nel corso del 2007 si svolgeranno in Italia alcune iniziative collegate con la settimana internazionale di informazione sui tumori cerebrali: Congresso AINO (Associazione Italiana Neuro-Oncologia), Lecce 30/9 - 1/10/2007; Convegno: [Brain Tumor Immunotherapy](#), Milan 19/10/2007

(organised by Gaetano Finocchiaro); Stages in Neuro-Oncologia,



Torino 23 - 27 Ottobre 2007; Convegno su
Riabilitazione e Tumori Cerebrali, Roma 26/10/2007;
Marcia di Gio, Milano 21/10/2007; Corsa podistica
“Corri al Massimo per IRENE”, Roma 27/10/2007.

The Marcia di Gio and the Corri al Massimo per
IRENE are two specific but separately-organised events
for the Awareness Week, as is the Immunotherapy
conference.

Endorsement by former world champions

Mr Simon Baker of Australia, a former Olympian who won the World 50 kilometres racewalking championship in Spain in 1989, has given his support to the **Walk Around the World for Brain Tumours** and has issued an invitation to other world sporting champions to lend their support to the project. **Ms Kerry Saxby**, former World Indoor champion and the first woman in the world to racewalk 20 kms in under 1 hr 30 mins, also supports the **World Walk**.

Notes: IBTA is aware that in the United States "tumour" is spelled "tumor" and will use that spelling for printed materials directed to that region. It was also the intention of the founding meeting that we seek to represent all tumours of the central nervous system. As is the practice in the scientific literature and clinical use, we use the words "brain tumour", not "brain cancer".

