

The newsletter for supporters of the Cancer Vaccine Institute (CVI)

## Message from the Chairman



Cancer Research UK reported recently that skin cancer is now the most common cancer among 15 to 34-year-olds, with nearly 10,000 people a year getting malignant melanoma, the most dangerous form of skin cancer. Alarming, the number of young people affected has doubled in the last 20 years.

Much of the CVI's work has focused on developing a vaccine for this cancer which is notoriously difficult to treat. Statistics like this bring to mind just how important the work that we do is.

Of course none of this pioneering research would be possible without the help of our supporters and we continue to be enormously grateful to those of you who fundraise and donate to the CVI. This year has predictably been a difficult year and we have seen many of our income streams fall. However, the Trustees have a reserves policy in place and with your committed support so far we have been able to 'weather the storm'.

I hope you will be interested to read our newsletter and might be inspired to support some of our events. In particular we still need to recruit runners for the British 10K London Run 2010 which last year raised over £24,000 and are keen for people to hold a CVI sweepstake for the Football World Cup. As ever, we continue to push our Friends scheme offering a chance to make a regular donation. Even a small amount each month makes a huge difference, enabling us to plan for the future safe in the knowledge that funding is secured.

**Harry Cotterell**  
Chairman to the Trustees

## Glamourbelles launch party supports the CVI

Last October, saw the launch party of an exciting new couture business "Glamourbelles" in support of the CVI which raised £2,600. The company was founded in 2009 by Fi Sangster and Annabel Spooner after many years of collecting beautiful vintage clothes. Their aim is to bring back that old style glamour that is so forgotten these days but with a modern twist. Clothes are available through private sales and a selection can be seen on their website [www.glamourbelles.com](http://www.glamourbelles.com)

Fi and Annabel explained why they wanted the CVI to benefit from the party: "We decided to choose the Cancer Vaccine Institute as our

charity that day because between us we have several friends with serious cancer and we realize that it can affect us all in many ways - so what better cause than this?"

Fi hosted the launch party at her home and friends and family all helped to model the vintage couture, serve cocktails and canapés to the guests. Harry Cotterell, Chairman of the CVI, gave a short speech to explain what research work the charity undertakes. It was a wonderful event and everyone at the CVI would like to say how grateful we are to Fi and Annabel and their team for all their hard work and for choosing us to benefit.



Fi Sangster and Annabel Spooner, founders of Glamourbelles



Glamourbelles' models: Kristy, Lettice, Ella May, Darnelle and Moon.

## Tom Neal Memorial Trophy 10th Anniversary at Melton Mowbray Rugby Club

Thomas Baines Neal died ten years ago, aged just twenty. He was a patient under Professor Dalgleish.

Every year, on Boxing Day, some of his old team mates and coaches at the Melton Mowbray Rugby club raise money in a raffle for the Cancer Vaccine Institute which is held after the annual rugby match for the "Tom Neal Memorial Trophy." Tom's passion in life was rugby and this is a wonderful tribute to celebrate his life.

Despite the cold weather, the tenth annual event took place this year between the vets and colts. Over the last ten years over £2,700 has been raised



for the CVI in memory of Tom. The CVI would like to take this opportunity to thank the Neal family, all their friends and

family and everyone at the Melton Mowbray Rugby Club, particularly Tom's old coach Jim Kempin, who have worked so hard to make this day such a success and for raising funds to support Professor Dalgleish's pioneering research.

Betty Neal, Tom's mother said: "From a young boy Tom excelled at all sports, but it was after being introduced to rugby in his teens at Melton Mowbray Rugby Club that it became clear this sport was going to become his passion. He loved rugby, was a good player, made many friends, had some fun times (particularly on tour!!). Sadly it was to be cut short by his health. Tom would be so proud of this event and what has been raised - what a wonderful tribute to him from his very dear club".

## Publications

Since our last newsletter in September, Professor Dalgleish and his team have achieved six publications. If you would like to read these please visit [www.google.co.uk](http://www.google.co.uk) and search for "Pubmed". Once on the website search on Dalgleish A. Publication is a term used by the medical and scientific community where the results of research are shared to enable other researchers to benefit from what has been learned so that cancer vaccine research can develop more quickly.

## Never Forget...

Last year in response to several requests we launched our Never Forget Tribute Funds allowing supporters to set up a fund in memory of a loved one as a lasting way to remember and celebrate their life. Many families have set up funds raising so far over £36,000. All of this income will be used to fund CVI's research offering hope to other patients and their families coping with cancer in the future.

The funds bear the name of a loved one and family, friends

and colleagues can support it by making a donation or undertaking some fundraising as far into the future as they wish. The CVI handle all the administration as well as providing regular reports on how the fund is growing. The fund can also be set up on our website making it easier for people to support. Any money that has already been donated In Memory can be used to start a Tribute Fund. Please do get in touch if you would like an information pack to find out more about it.

## Research Update from Professor Dalglish



Professor Angus Dalglish Bsc (Hons)  
MD FRACPath FRACP FRCP FMedSci

The principle of St George's University of London (SGUL) has re-affirmed his commitment to refurbishment of our areas of the medical school, and most importantly work has begun on the long-awaited Clinical Research Facility which will provide treatment and consulting rooms, offices and laboratories solely dedicated to clinical trials. This will be a real step forward in making SGUL a more attractive place to do clinical trials.

A key area of interest over the last two years has been the investigation of biomarkers of response to therapy. Biomarkers are the product of tests done in the laboratory which may say something about the course of a disease or the status of a patient and their ability to

respond to a treatment. Our work initially demonstrated a panel of proteins found in the serum of melanoma patients, which may indicate the ability of a patient to respond to a dendritic cell vaccine. More recently we have been collaborating with a number of other groups to look at this biomarker in sera from other clinical trials. One interesting upshot of this work was the finding that serum Interleukin-15 seems to be an indicator of clinical response in prostate cancer patients treated with a vaccine. Interleukin-15 is known to be an important factor in producing the right type of immune response to kill cancer cells. Such is the key importance of the substance it has also recently been identified by the US National Institute for Health as the most important substance to develop for use in clinical trials of immunotherapy. Further work must still be done to validate these biomarkers and to clarify their biological roles and work in this respect is ongoing.

In January we published an article in the British Journal of Cancer demonstrating that some standard chemotherapy drugs such as gemcitabine and oxaliplatin have effects on the immune system. Our data implies that tumours treated with these drugs may become more visible to the immune system. Moreover, tumours treated with these drugs produce substances that stimulate dendritic cells which themselves induce cellular immune responses. We have also done studies defining the mode-of-action of the anti-malarial,

artemisinin class of drugs some of which have demonstrated similar effects on tumour cells. Thus the wider implication of this work is that chemotherapy may, in some cases, enhance immune responses and thus may be suitable for combination with immunotherapy. This now forms a key research interest for our group and there has been much recent progress in this field. For some time we have been interested in the use of the thalidomide class of drugs for the treatment of a range of tumours. It now appears that these drugs can also enhance the clinical response to vaccines, providing further evidence for the utility of a combined chemotherapy/Immunotherapy approach.

Over the past few years we have anticipated the production of a new strain of Mycobacterium vaccae, a heat-killed preparation of bacteria which previously demonstrated such promise as a treatment in melanoma and lung cancer. This new strain (M obuense) is now entering a phase 1 study, sponsored by Immodulon Therapeutics, and it is hoped that the treatment will subsequently be available for further clinical trials. We have been working with Immodulon Therapeutics to demonstrate the immunological effects of M obuense in culture, and hope to participate in future clinical trials especially those concentrating on vaccine/chemotherapy combinations.

One of the benefits of having core staff funded by the CVI has been that we are able to participate in collaborative clinical trials with other academic

*The Cancer Vaccine Institute (CVI) is the only national charity in the UK devoted exclusively to funding research into the development of cancer vaccines. The ultimate aim is that vaccines will increase survival rates and patients' quality of life. Research including laboratory research and clinical trials are currently undertaken by Professor Angus Dalglish and his team at St George's University of London Hospital.*

groups and pharmaceutical companies. Currently we are involved in trials for CTLA-4 which is known to modulate immune responses but which is also known to be very toxic. It is hoped that combination of other drug regimens with anti-CTLA-4 treatment will reduce it's toxicity and increase it's clinical efficacy. We are also participating in trials for Avastin and will soon begin a study of OncoVEX<sup>GM-CSF</sup>, a virus with anti-tumour properties which has been modified to induce the production of GM-CSF which itself stimulates immunity. Over the next few years we hope to participate in a number of these large randomised studies. In addition we continue to work with other groups to mount CVI funded clinical trials. Thus, in the next few years we hope to see a clinical trial for Hiltonol (a drug with similar properties to Aldara). When it becomes available we hope to add interleukin-15 to this regimen.

For further information on any of our research projects please visit [www.cancervaccine.org.uk](http://www.cancervaccine.org.uk)

## A Parent's Perspective. Betty Neal shares her experience



My son Tom collapsed in August 1997 aged just eighteen while on holiday with friends in Cornwall. An emergency operation followed as he had a portal hypertension and bleeding of oesophageal varices. Apparently his main portal vein to his liver was blocked and had been for a long time. He was transferred to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham to the Liver Unit (Professor Adams) and underwent a splenorenal shunt operation (Mr. Buckels). All he wanted to do was to get back to playing rugby! The poor doctors! He had wonderful care at all the hospitals. While convalescing he was looking forward to going along with his friends to Belgium on Rugby Tour with the Club even though he was unable to play. He went to have a mole removed from his head and yes..... the next blow he was diagnosed with malignant melanoma. He still managed the tour though! Tom received wonderful care and support from all the doctors at Nottingham City Hospital. The

1999 Rugby World Cup was taking place during the late stages of Tom's illness, despite very poor health he managed with the support of the club, friends and cousins to go to Paris and see England be knocked out of the competition. His oncology doctor Vanessa Potter surprised him with tickets for both semi finals at Twickenham; Tom was overwhelmed by this gesture. Again with support he managed to go and have an amazing weekend. It was very touching to witness Tom embrace the incredible atmosphere the Rugby World Cup offered when he was so very ill. Eventually however, four operations later, Tom was referred to Professor Dalglish at St. Georges for clinical trials. Alas there was no vaccine available, as apparently there had been a fire. This is where our journey ended. Sadly Tom died in 1999 before he could undergo a trial. But it gave us hope, and that is why we continue to support the Cancer Vaccine Institute and its wonderful work.

# THANK YOU ...with a little help from our friends

The CVI wouldn't exist without your support and we'd like to take the opportunity to thank everyone for all their fundraising efforts.

- **Our Friends** who donate in the best way possible. Giving regularly means that we can plan for the future safe in the knowledge that funding is secured. We are delighted that we have gained five new friends this year.
- All those who have donated **In Memory** of a loved one
- Everybody who purchased **Christmas cards** from the CVI this year.

## To all those who tirelessly fundraise on our behalf

- Dr Ceri Jones who competed in the Annual Welsh Dragonride which is a gruelling and competitive timed cycle race which climbs the hills of Wales over a distance of 190km and 130km. Dr Jones raised over £1,000 for the CVI and we are very grateful for his time and support.
- Sue Ellis and her committee organised a murder mystery evening which raised over £425 and an unwanted gift sale which raised £350.
- Jayne Phillips and Sheelagh Hill raised over £500 by organising a Prize Bingo event at their local village hall.
- Mrs Jean Sargent who very generously asked for money to be donated in lieu of presents for her recent birthday which raised £850
- Mr Barry Ellis from the Duke of Edinburgh Pub in Barrow in Furness who allows the CVI to have a collection tin on his bar
- Georgina Andrews who arranged for a collection to be made at two theatre performances which raised £600
- Pat Disley who raised an incredible £2,300 at her recent Christmas sale.
- Beautifully handcrafted greeting cards made by Sue Hart continue to be sold at the "Lucky Duck Tea Rooms" in Shere and have so far raised £1,800
- To all those who have donated through Amanda's Wish – a website ([www.amandaswish.com](http://www.amandaswish.com)) set up in memory of Amanda Bullard – so far over £22,000 has been raised.



Dr Ceri Jones on the Welsh Dragonride. Picture courtesy of [www.sportivephoto.com](http://www.sportivephoto.com)

## To the Companies and Charitable Trusts who have generously donated:

- Givaudan UK Ltd
- The Marketing Store
- The Gerald Palmer Eling Trust
- The Misses Barrie Charitable Trust
- The Mactaggart Third Fund
- Slater Foundation Ltd
- Girdlers Company
- Montecristo Havana Cigar Trust
- AJH Du Boulay Trust
- The Mann Hodgson Charitable Trust
- The Rose Trust
- Sammermar Trust
- The Ancaster Trust
- The P F Charitable Trust
- The Vandrvell Foundation
- Roger Raymond Charitable Trust
- Reyker Investments Ltd
- The Helen Feather Memorial Trust
- The Mactaggart Third Fund
- Ogilvie Thompson Foundation
- Trees Simpson Family Charitable Trust
- Geoff's Ludford Charitable Trust
- Douglas Heath Eves Charitable Trust
- The Mactaggart Third Fund
- The Logie Charitable Trust
- Inman Charity Trustees Limited
- The Alan Cadbury Charitable Trust
- The Mann Hodgson Charitable Trust
- The Inna and Michael Rogatchi Fund

## Rickshaw Run across India raises funds for the CVI

Kate Walwyn and Lulu Wilkinson, recently took part in the 2010 Rickshaw Run and have so far raised over £400. The race went from Pokhara in Nepal to Fort Cochin, Kerala in South India, which approximately as the crow flies is 3,200km, basically the full length of India! The girls finished 9th out of the sixty-eight participating teams, taking only eleven days to complete the race.

It was a pretty daunting and impressive achievement. Armed with a map and the knowledge of Indian road conditions (which as Kate said are the equivalent of a twenty five pronged, heavily pot holed M25 with the odd cow thrown in), they



Picture courtesy of The Adventurists [www.theadventurists.com](http://www.theadventurists.com)

were able to take any route that they liked. There was no back up, just an untrustworthy vehicle to rely on (rickshaws are infamous for breaking down). They spent sixteen hours a day on the road

encountering everything from broken bridges, people, trains, Tata Trucks, more cows, jungles, tiger reserves, frenetic and crazy cities, rural India and so much more.

Kate said: "I did this race with a great travelling friend Lulu Wilkinson who lost her father to cancer and my charity of choice was The Cancer Vaccine Institute – they and Professor Dagleish were integral to the treatment and support of my Aunt, Judy Gaselee, who fought so bravely as so many do, through her cancer. Our family have done all we can to support the CVI and the important work that they do. Judy's husband Nick and his committee organised a wonderful musical evening in her memory which was a great success and raised over £15,000 for the CVI."

The CVI would like to say thank you to Kate and Lulu for choosing the CVI to benefit from their intrepid race.

If you would like to make a one off donation or a regular gift, please complete the form overleaf

# FUNDRAISING NEWS

The Cancer Vaccine Institute needs to raise at least £600,000 each year to fund its pioneering research work. We can only do this with the support of people like you.

For further information about the CVI's work, fundraising or donating please visit [www.cancervaccine.org.uk](http://www.cancervaccine.org.uk) or contact: Emma Appleyard, Fundraising Director, Cancer Vaccine Institute, C/o Rock Cottage, Honey Lane, Selborne GU34 3BZ, 0845 602 0662 [info@cancervaccine.org.uk](mailto:info@cancervaccine.org.uk)

## The British 10K London Run, 11th July 2010



After the success of last year's event which saw the CVI team, (including Sami Mason and George Cotterell), raise £24,000 we are pleased to be able to offer six places for this year's event. The route of this event, now in its 10th year, takes you through the heart of London past some of the capital's finest landmarks. Every year the race attracts some of the world's finest athletes, celebrities and tens of thousands of people of every running ability. Please get in touch for an information and registration pack.

### Change for Change

Please remember that the CVI has money boxes available to store loose change in that you can then donate to the CVI. Please get in touch if you would like one.

## Football World Cup 2010 - CVI Sweepstake

The 2010 Fifa World Cup kicks off in South Africa on 11th June. Teams from thirty-two countries will be battling it out to claim the title. Here's your chance to join in the football fever, have some fun and support the CVI. We are offering a pack with everything you need to organise a sweepstake amongst friends, family or work colleagues that will benefit the winner and the CVI. Please get in touch for your pack.



### Overseas Adventures



We are able to offer several dates to take part in overseas challenges including Climbing Kilimanjaro, Trekking the Inca Trail and the Great Wall of China or the London to Paris Bike Ride. Please get in touch for information and registration packs and a full itinerary of other available challenges including trekking, horse riding and cycling events.

## Nightrider - 19th June 2010



Fancy a cycle around London by moonlight to raise funds for the CVI? This popular challenge is in its second year. It starts at Crystal Palace in South East London and follows a 100km circular route taking in all the key sights of London for one night. Please get in touch for an information and registration pack.

### Leave the World A Better Place

We were grateful recently to receive a legacy of a car which was sold for £8,500. Although sadly the donor lost his battle with cancer his generous gift could help other patients in the future to win theirs. If you are interested in finding out more about giving in this way please get in touch for our factsheet.

## One Big Drop - 5th September 2010



This exciting and unique challenge involves a 66 feet abseil down Earls Court, one of London's most famous venues hosting popular events such as the Brit Awards and Ideal Home Show. If you are brave enough to look you will enjoy stunning views across London knowing that you are helping to raise funds for the CVI. Please get in touch for an information and registration pack.

### Make Friends

Joining the Friends of the CVI by donating regularly is the best way that you can support our work as it allows us to plan our research safe in the knowledge that funding is secure. Please get in touch for an information pack.

Feeling inspired by the accounts of some of our Fundraisers? Would you like to receive more information about raising funds for the CVI? Please tick your interests and return this whole form.

- |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overseas Adventures  | <input type="checkbox"/> Leaving a Gift in Your Will       | <input type="checkbox"/> Setting up a tribute fund            | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising for the CVI               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nightrider           | <input type="checkbox"/> One Big Drop                      | <input type="checkbox"/> The British 10k London Run 2009      | <input type="checkbox"/> Using ebay to raise funds for the CVI |
| <input type="checkbox"/> World Cup Sweepstake | <input type="checkbox"/> Joining a local Fundraising Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Give as You Earn/Fundraising at work | <input type="checkbox"/> Change for Change Money Boxes.        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Becoming a Friend    |  |   |  |

To make a general one off donation or a regular gift – **please complete your details below**

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

I am a UK taxpayer and would like the CVI to claim back the tax on my donations until further notice.

**I enclose a cheque made payable to the Cancer Vaccine Institute for £** \_\_\_\_\_

**I wish to donate £** \_\_\_\_\_ **by credit card.** Please debit my Mastercard/Visa/Switch/Amex card  
 Card No: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Card Start date: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Switch Issue No \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**I'd like to become a Friend and donate regularly.** I will pay £ \_\_\_\_\_ monthly/quarterly/annually  
 to the CVI until further notice starting from \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Bank Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Account Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Account No: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sort code: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Bank ref (CVI use only) \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE DETACH & SEND THIS FORM TO: FREEPOST RLFX-KUKJ-RCZZ  
 Cancer Vaccine Institute, Rock Cottage, Honey Lane, Selborne, ALTON GU34 3BZ  
 (No stamp is necessary but using one will save us money)**