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BLUE SKYE THINKING COVERAGE April 2015



BLUE SKYE THINKING

SUPPORTING RESEARCH & TREATMENT OF CHILDHOOD BRAIN TUMOURS

OX5 RUN

Video: Sophie Carter becomes the first woman winner of the OX5 Run



The runners set off on the five-mile course around Blenheim Palace. Picture: Damian Halliwell [Buy this photo](#)

First published Monday 30 March 2015 in [OX5 Run](#)
Last updated 07:07 Monday 30 March 2015



by [Naomi Herring](#), Reporter covering Bicester. Call me on 01865 425427

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THIS year's wet and windy [OX5 Run](#) was won by a woman for the first time after Sophie Carter took on the challenge for her son.

A total of 1,001 runners joined the 35-year-old in completing the five-mile route around Blenheim Palace yesterday, despite the bad weather.

Oxford Mail

Recommended by @outbrain



Andrew Hall running in memory of his son, Skye

Andrew Hall, 42, Abingdon, ran with charity Blue Skye Thinking, set up in memory of his five-year-old son, Skye, who died in August as a result of his cancer.

He said: "The care that is given not only to your children but also to parents from all staff is incredible, so being able to be a part of that, to support them and offer something back is great.

30 March 2015





Grace's Heroes in glowing tribute

Dorney & Maidenhead: Glow stick run for eight-year-old

SPEED READ: A TEAM of 'Grace's Heroes' will don their hi-visibility clothing and carry glow sticks to fundraise at Dorney Lake in memory of their friend Grace Duggan, who died in December following treatment for a brain tumour. Money raised will go towards Blue Skye Thinking, which funds research into brain tumours.

By Emma Billingham
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A TEAM of young fundraisers will be running with glow sticks in memory of their eight-year-old friend.

Grace Duggan, from Maidenhead, died unexpectedly in December from complications following treatment for medulloblastoma, a form of brain tumour.

Keen to do something fun in her memory is Grace's best friend Phoebe Stokes, eight, who has organised for family and friends to take part in the Glow in the Park event at Dorney Lake.

The event on April 25 is a five-kilometre run held at night with glow sticks, hi-visibility clothing and anything glowing. Competitors run through the



READY TO GLOW: Grace's Heroes will fundraise at the Dorney event in memory of their friend.

glow course and dance through the glow zones.

The 'Grace's Heroes' team say they chose the event because it is fun and Grace would have loved it.

Phoebe, of Lees Close, is taking part with her mum Anne, Grace's brother Jack, Grace's god-mother Karen Clark and six other friends.

All money raised by Grace's Heroes will be going to the charity Blue Skye Thinking.

Its goal is to fund some of the world's best researchers, so that all children diagnosed with brain tumours will have a

better chance of survival and a better quality of life post-treatment.

Grace's mum Shelley had named Blue Skye Thinking as one of the charities that she wanted funeral donations sent to.

Phoebe's mum Anne, from Lees Close in Altwood, said: "I read the website and Skye's story and it reminded me very much of Grace. It felt very personal and I knew this was the charity I wanted to help. Phoebe and I talked about what we could do to help other children like Grace."

"My friend found this event which sounded

good fun but still a challenge, for someone as young as Phoebe. So we signed up and then we heard lots more of Grace's friends were running so we all decided to run together."

Blue Skye Thinking's goal is to fund some of the world's best researchers, so that all children diagnosed with brain tumours will have a better chance of survival and a better quality of life post-treatment.

Anne added: "Her family are most supportive, Grace's brother Jack is also running with us in this event."

£10,500

Hats and hatching for...

Charity Today

Ex rugby teammates take to the streets in memory of coach's son



A Cornish man joined his old school's rugby teammates as they attempted to raise £10,000 running the Reading Half Marathon in memory of their former coach's son who died from a brain tumour.

Oliver Waite, 27, from Porthleven joined the group of 25 'Old Abingdonians' from Oxford as they ran the 13.1 mile route in aid Blue Skye Thinking.

The charity was set up by Sally and Andrew Hall, both from Oxford, last year in response to their four-year-old son Skye being diagnosed with a medulloblastoma, an aggressive and cancerous brain tumor. Sadly on 29 August 2014, Skye died peacefully at home aged just five years old.

Oliver, who runs the Ship Inn in Porthleven was joined by his old school's rugby teammates from all over the world as they all came together for this wonderful cause.

He said: "When my old friend and ex team mate Francis Gater got in touch about his plan to get all the rugby team back together to raise a significant sum of money to support Andrew's charity I knew I wanted to get involved, to have something so tragic happen to someone so young is just awful.

"The day itself was brilliant and it was wonderful to see everybody come together for the cause. We have hit past the half way target but need all the support we can get to reach the final £10,000."

Blue Skye Thinking's goal is to fund some of the world's best researchers, so that all children diagnosed with brain tumours will have a better chance of survival and a better quality of life post-treatment.

More than 350 children a year in the UK alone, face the devastating news that they have a brain tumour but less than one per cent of cancer funding goes towards research into brain tumours, the number one cancer killer in children and teenagers. All the money raised will go into much needed research into new treatments for childhood cancer.



Andrew Hall, Director of Sport & P.E. at Abingdon School, founder of Blue Skye Thinking and dad to Skye joined them in the race. He said: "I hadn't seen Francis for nearly five years when I bumped into him at the Blenheim half marathon last year. A few weeks later he got in touch with me with his idea of all the Old Boys I used to coach, running the race for Skye. I was so moved

when he told me what a fantastic response he'd received from everyone, including Oliver, that I had no option but to join them.

"As a rugby coach, you build up such a strong bond with your players, you see the team four or five times a week, and in particular this team, as it was the first one I coached during my first term at the School. I hadn't seen some of these boys, now men, since they left school so it was be great to see them all together again and they did me proud on race day."

To support the Oliver and the 'Old Abingdonians' you can visit <http://www.justgiving.com/Old-Abingdonians-run4skye>

12 April 2015



Oliver joins his old team-mates for charity run

Graeme Wilkinson
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01872 247414

A PORTHLEVEN man joined his old school rugby team-mates as they attempted to raise £10,000 running a half-marathon in memory of their former coach's son who died from a brain tumour.

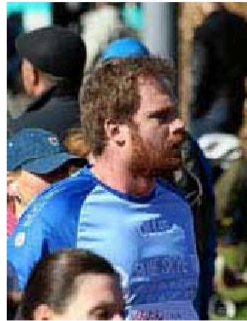
Oliver Waite, 27, joined the group of 25 'Old Abingdonians' from Oxford as they ran the 13.1-mile route in Reading in aid of Blue Skye Thinking.

The charity was set up by Sally and Andrew Hall, from Oxford, after their four-year-old son Skye was diagnosed with an aggressive cancerous brain tumour.

Skye died in August, aged 5.

Mr Waite, who runs the Ship Inn in Porthleven, was joined by his old school's rugby team-mates from all over the world for the cause.

He said: "When my old friend



■ Oliver Waite from Porthleven during the run in Reading.

Francis Gater got in touch about his plan to get all the rugby team back together to raise a significant sum of money to support Andrew's charity, I knew I wanted to get involved. To have something so tragic happen to someone so young is just awful.

"The day itself was brilliant and it was wonderful to see everybody come together for the cause.

"We've passed the halfway target but need all the support we can get to reach the final £10,000."

Blue Skye Thinking's goal is to fund research so children diagnosed with brain tumours will have a better chance of survival.

Mr Hall, director of sport at Abingdon School, said: "I hadn't seen Francis for nearly five years when he got in touch with me with his idea of all the Old Boys I used to coach running the race for Skye.

"I was so moved when he told me what a fantastic response he'd received from everyone, including Oliver, that I had no option but to join them."

To support the fundraising efforts of Oliver and the 'Old Abingdonians' visit www.justgiving.com/Old-Abingdonians-run4skye



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Runner picks causes close to heart



published

17:05 Monday 13 April 2015

A father of one is to hit the streets of London to raise money for two charities close to his heart.

Nick Streeter, 41, will be joining more than 36,000 runners as part of the London Marathon and hopes to raise thousands of pounds for SpecialEffect, a charity which uses video games and technology to enhance the quality of life of people with disabilities, and Blue Skye Thinking.

Blue Skye Thinking was set up by Andrew Hall and his wife Sally in memory of their son Skye, who died last year at the age of five after being diagnosed with medulloblastoma, a cancerous brain tumour.

Nick, from Witney, Oxford, said: "I work for the charity SpecialEffect and they have been brilliant in supporting my seven-year-old daughter Chloe who has a undiagnosed neurological condition.

"It was through this work that I met Skye, who used the charity's services to have some fun with eye-control technology in the last few months of his life.

"When I found out Skye's family had started a charity in his name, I was moved to want to support it. So I decided to use my place in this year's London Marathon to raise money for both."

This is the second time Nick has run the London Marathon. He will be splitting all money raised between Blue Skye Thinking and SpecialEffect and is hoping to raise £2,000.

Sally Hall, from Oxford, said: "Towards the end of his life, Skye had lost all movement in his arms and hands, so being able to play video games using computerised eye-gaze technology and a click button at SpecialEffect was great fun for him.

"We are so grateful to Nick for choosing our charity to run for. If anyone out there, like Nick, is still deciding who to run for, we hope you'll consider ours. All the money raised will go into much-needed research into new treatments for childhood cancer."

To support Nick, visit <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/NickStreeter>.

13 April 2015



BLUE SKYE THINKING
SUPPORTING RESEARCH & TREATMENT OF CHILDHOOD BRAIN TUMOURS

Charity Today

Dad takes on London marathon for charities close to his heart



NICK Streeter, 41, from Witney, will be hitting the streets of London on April 26 to raise awareness of two charities; Blue Sky Thinking and SpecialEffect.

Blue Sky Thinking was set up by Sally and Andrew Hall, both from Oxford, last year in response to their four-year-old son Skye being diagnosed with medulloblastoma, an aggressive and cancerous brain tumor. Sadly on 29 August 2014, Skye died peacefully at home aged just five years old.

The dad of one from Oxford will be joining more than 36,000 other runners as part of the London Marathon.

He said: " I work for the charity SpecialEffect and they have been brilliant in supporting my seven year old daughter Chloe who has a undiagnosed neurological condition. The charity uses video games and technology to enhance the quality of life of people with disabilities.

"It was through this work that I met Skye who used the charity's services to have some fun with eye control technology in the last few months of his life. When I found out Skye's family had started a charity in his name I was moved to want to support it, so I decided to use my place in this year's London Marathon to raise money for both which will hopefully make a big difference to these two small charities."

This is the second time Nick has run the London Marathon. He will be splitting all money raised between Blue Sky Thinking and SpecialEffect and is hoping to raise £2,000.

13 April 2015



BLUE SKYE THINKING
SUPPORTING RESEARCH & TREATMENT OF CHILDHOOD BRAIN TUMOURS

Charity Today cont...

Blue Skye Thinking's goal is to fund some of the world's best researchers, so that all children diagnosed with brain tumors will have a better chance of survival and a better quality of life post-treatment.

Sally Hall, founder of Blue Skye Thinking and mum to Skye said: " Towards the end of his life Skye had lost all movement in his arms and hands so being able to play video games using computerised eye gaze technology and a click button at SpecialEffect was great fun for him – he even managed to play ten pin bowling against his Uncle Simon via Skype in Kenya!

"We are so grateful to Nick for choosing our charity to run for. As a small one, we often miss out on big challenges such as the London Marathon, as we aren't given the places so don't benefit from fundraising. If anyone out there, like Nick, is still deciding who to run for we hope you'll consider ours. All the money raised will go into much needed research into new treatments for childhood cancer."

More than 350 children a year in the UK alone, face the devastating news that they have a brain tumour but less than one per cent of cancer funding goes towards research into brain tumours, the number one cancer killer in children and teenagers.

To support the Nick please visit <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/NickStreeter>

13 April 2015



BLUE SKYE THINKING
SUPPORTING RESEARCH & TREATMENT OF CHILDHOOD BRAIN TUMOURS

Oxfordshire Guardian

Oxfordshire Guardian

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Nick Streater with daughter Chloe

Dad Nick's marathon effort for charity

Posted By: Adam Flinn on: April 16, 2015 In: Community, Witney No Comments

A Witney dad whose seven-year-old daughter has an unknown neurological condition is set to race the London Marathon later this month to raise money for charity.

Nick Streater, 41, from Weavers Close, will be pounding round the course in London on April 26 to raise money for Oxfordshire based charities SpecialEffect and Blue Sky Thinking.

His daughter Chloe suffers from an undiagnosed condition, and has benefitted from SpecialEffect's work in using technology to improve disabled people's lives.

And Nick, who works at SpecialEffect, is also fundraising for Blue Sky Thinking, set up in honour of Abingdon five-year-old Skye Hall, who died from a brain tumour last August.

"I work for SpecialEffect and they have been brilliant in supporting Chloe," said Nick.

"It was through this work that I met Skye, who used the charity's services to have some fun with eye control technology in the last few months of his life.

"When I found out Skye's family had started a charity in his name I was moved to want to support it, so I decided to use my place in this year's London Marathon to raise money for both."

Nick is hoping to raise £2,000 from the marathon to split between the two charities.

Sally Hall, Skye's mum and founder of Blue Sky Thinking, said: "Towards the end of his life Skye had lost all movement in his arms and hands.

"Being able to play video games using computerised eye gaze technology and a click button at SpecialEffect was great fun for him – he even managed to play ten pin bowling against his Uncle Simon via Skype in Kenya.

"We are so grateful to Nick for choosing our charity to run for."

To donate to Nick, go to his fundraising page: uk.virginmoneygiving.com/nickstreater.

17 April 2015



Lincolnshire Echo



Lincoln couple to run eight half marathons for charity

By [Lincolnshire Echo](#) | Posted: April 17, 2015



Paul, Gayle, and Mark who will be running eight half marathons

A husband and wife are to take on eight half marathons in memory of a friend's daughter.

Gayle and her husband Paul, from Boothby Graffoe, Lincoln, will be running the marathons in memory of eight-year-old Grace Duggan who died from treatment related complications for a brain tumour last December after being cured from a medullablastoma brain tumour.

The money that the couple raise will go to Blue Skye Thinking.

The charity was set up by Sally and Andrew Hall last year after their four-year-old son Skye was diagnosed medullablastoma and died in August 2014 after side affects from the treatment.

Gayle said: "We are both keen runners and have taken part in a number of marathons and half marathons in the past but none which have meant as much to us as completing this challenge in memory of Grace for each year of her life. We have a [fundraising](#) goal of £8,000 for the charity so it can help them to reach their target of £120k and fund a researcher.

"We have already completed the Adidas half marathon at Silverstone in March this year along with Paul's brother, Mark, who plans to join us at some of the other races - which is great news and will hopefully help to raise more awareness and more funds for this wonderful charity."

The couple plan to run half marathons in Bosworth, Rugby, Kimbolton, Maidenhead and two in Windsor, before they run the final race in Peterborough in October.

Founder of Blue Skye Thinking, Sally Hall, said: "We have had lots of people organising events in Grace's memory and it is so touching for me personally as I knew Grace and her family after meeting them on the ward with Skye. Every penny raised by people like Gayle and Paul help us to get that one step closer to unlocking the science behind this devastating disease and one step closer to a cure."

Those who would like to [support](#) the couple should visit www.justgiving.com/GayleandPaulBullivant

17 April 2015



Chad



Pair mark girl's life in eight runs



published

16:53 Tuesday 21 April 2015

A husband and wife are to tackle eight half-marathons in eight months to mark each year of the life of a young brain tumour patient.

Gayle and Paul Bullivant, from Boothby Graffoe, Lincoln, are running the half-marathons in memory of eight-year-old Maidenhead girl Grace Duggan, a close friend's daughter who died in December last year.

The couple are raising money for Blue Skye Thinking, which was set up by Sally and Andrew Hall after their son Skye died last year at the age of five following diagnosis of medulloblastoma, a cancerous brain tumour.

Mother-of-two Gayle, 43, said: "We are both keen runners and have taken part in a number of marathons and half-marathons in the past but none which have meant as much to us as completing this challenge in memory of Grace for each year of her life.

"We have a fundraising goal of £8,000 for the charity so it can help them to reach their target of £120,000 and fund a researcher.

"We have already completed the Adidas half-marathon at Silverstone in March this year along with Paul's brother, Mark, who plans to join us at some of the other races - which is great news and will hopefully help to raise more awareness and more funds for this wonderful charity."

The couple's next half-marathons will be in Bosworth, Rugby, Kimbolton, Maidenhead and two in Windsor, before the final race in Peterborough in October.

Sally Hall, founder of Blue Skye Thinking and mother of Skye, said: "We have had lots of people organising events in Grace's memory and it is so touching for me personally as I knew Grace and her family after meeting them on the ward with Skye.

"Every penny raised by people like Gayle and Paul help us to get that one step closer to unlocking the science behind this devastating disease and one step closer to a cure."

To support Gayle and Paul, visit
www.justgiving.com/GayleandPaulBullivant.

20 April 2015



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21 April 2015



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Lincoln couple to run eight half marathons for charity



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A husband and wife are to take on eight half marathons in memory of a friend's daughter.

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Interview with Nick
Streeter re running the
London Marathon

24 April 2015