

Other awareness-raising efforts around the globe ...

In February walkers in **Gisborne, New Zealand**, completed a total of 190 kilometres and donated the distance to the World Walk target.

In June and July **racewalkers in Canberra and Brisbane, Australia**, will undertake events where competitors will be asked to donate their mileage to the World Walk and their money to a brain tumor charity. World record holder for the 50 kms racewalk event Nathan Deakes, also from Australia and who supports the IBTA projects, is now in Italy preparing for competition on the international circuit.

Scientific events, involving brain tumors, will be held in a number of venues during the inaugural Awareness Week (21-27 October), including **Wolverhampton (UK), Rome (Italy) and Brussels (Belgium)**.

A number of walks for brain tumor research – both well-established and new ones –

have also linked into the World Walk and its target of 40,000 kms (or 25,000 miles), including: Matthew's Miles, the Kortney Rose Foundation, Meningioma UK, Andrea's Gift, the Caps for Sam Walk for Wisdom, B.R.A.I.N.'s 3rd Annual Fund Raising Walk, the 2nd Annual Sharing Hope Walk, various Angel Adventure Walks, and Meagan's Walk in Toronto.



The International Brain Tumour Awareness Week is a project of the International Brain Tumour Alliance (IBTA). Inclusion of other organisations' and individuals' specific activities on the Awareness Week website is at the discretion of the IBTA. Promotion of other organisations' and individuals' activities is undertaken in good faith but the IBTA takes no responsibility whatsoever for any other organisations' or individuals' activities and cannot be held liable in any way for any events held in any country in connection with the International Brain Tumour Awareness Week and the 2007 Walk Around the World for Brain Tumours.

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In July an enterprising group in the UK, associated with the **Christopher Clarke Cancer Research Fund**, will attempt a 10-day walk from coast to coast

across the UK, hoping to raise £100,000. The group will donate its mileage towards the World Walk target.

Right at the end of the Awareness Week in October the **Have A Chance Walk** will take place across the Brooklyn Bridge in New York. Last year over 2,000 walkers took part and raised over \$1m for brain tumor research.

October is also **Brain Tumour Awareness Month** in Canada and donations of mileage are anticipated from numerous walks taking place there.



Contact details for the International Brain Tumour Alliance (IBTA)

www.theibta.org

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The International Brain Tumour Alliance is a not-for-profit, limited liability company incorporated in England and Wales. Company number 6031485. Registered address: c/o Roxburghe House, 273-287 Regent Street, London W1B 2AD, UK. Correspondence should be sent to the Secretary at the address above. Undirected grants and donations to the IBTA are most welcome. The 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 the intention of the founding meeting that we seek to represent all tumors of the central nervous system. As is the practice in scientific literature and clinical use, we use the words "brain tumor", not "brain cancer".



World Brain Tumor Brief

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What's happening around the world to raise awareness about brain tumors?

From A to Z, the International Brain Tumour Alliance (IBTA) is raising global awareness of the challenges of brain tumors by linking like-minded organisations around the world.

From America to Zimbabwe, and places in-between, brain tumor patient and professional groups will be participating in the IBTA's two key projects for 2007: **The Walk Around the World for Brain Tumo(u)r**s and the inaugural **International Brain Tumo(u)r Awareness Week (21-27 October)**.

One of the first groups to link themselves



The ABTA's Path to Progress Run/Walk raised over \$400,000

The distance covered by the 3,200 walkers (from among the 4,000 runners, walkers and strollers) in the 2nd Annual **ABTA Path to Progress Run/Walk** in Chicago on 28 April has also been donated to the World Walk target. The runners and walkers raised over \$400,000 for brain tumor research.

In February 15 members of the **Westminster Challenge** (from the UK Parliament at Westminster), who sledded, ran and walked their way across the Arctic, donated their walking distance to the World Walk.

Sally Payne, her family and friends, walked across Sydney Harbour Bridge on the occasion of its 75th anniversary in March wearing signs on the back of their T-shirts supporting the World Walk. The funds raised went to the Australian-based Cure for Life Foundation – one of the more than 50 groups supporting the IBTA projects.



The IBTA's sign on one of the fences at the SSBTR event.

with the Walk Around the World were high school and college students in Arizona who held their 6th Annual **Students Supporting Brain Tumor Research (SSBTR)** Walk-a-Thon in February. Four thousand students walked around a school oval. They raised a massive \$200,000 for brain tumor research.

Every step each of us takes, is one step closer to a cure for brain tumors.



Walking across Sydney Harbour Bridge—the Sally Payne Group.



Keep on Walking!
David M Bailey's official World Walk theme song

The International Brain Tumour Alliance is delighted to announce that songwriter/singer/brain tumor survivor David M Bailey's song "Keep on Walking" has been adopted as the official Walk Around the World for Brain Tumours theme song. A special single CD of the song is available free from the IBTA. A decade ago, David was diagnosed with a glioblastoma multiforme malignant brain tumor. Told he only had months to live, David left his corporate job, returning to his first love: songwriting and performing. "He has since shared his hope and his music with thousands of listeners. Ten years, 14 albums and 43 States later, David and his music are alive and well, challenging all of us to live passionately and treasure the beauty of each new day." (from David's biography on his website at www.davidmbailey.com)

IBTA brochure distributed at conferences from São Paulo to Paris



World Walk and Awareness Week leaflets have been distributed at numerous scientific and professional conferences around the world during the past three months.

In some instances the conference organisers kindly agreed to include the IBTA brochure in participants' bags at no cost to us. On other occasions supporting organisations included the IBTA brochure on their own displays or the brochures were deposited on a common display area for miscellaneous conference literature.

Conferences reached so far include: American Psychosocial Conference, Charlottesville (1-3 March); International Network for Cancer Conference, Brazil (1-4 March); Neuro-Oncology Symposium Hawaii, Cleveland Group (8-12 March); 2nd National Neuroscience Nursing Conference, London (15-16 March); 7th Annual Brain Tumor Conference, UCLA (23-24 March); Neuroscience nursing seminar, St George, Sydney (30 March); Perspectives in Central Nervous System Malignancies Conference, Warsaw (30-31 March); European Symposium on Late Complications after Childhood Cancer, Lund, Sweden (19-20 April); Society of British Neurological Surgeons Conference, London (25-27 April); 59th Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Neurology, Boston (28 April – 5 May); Neuroendoscopy Conference, Paris (9-12 May); Brain Tumor Conference, MD Anderson, Texas (18-20 May).

Polish, German and English versions of the IBTA brochure on display at the March Warsaw PCNSM3 Conference .

If you know of forthcoming conferences where the IBTA brochure would be relevant please contact the IBTA: Kathy@theibta.org

DENNIS ROTH, Chair of The Brain Tumor Society (www.tbts.org) passed away on Sunday, 6th May 2007, in Washington DC. He was also the founder of the Have a Chance Foundation (<http://www.haveachance.org/>). Dennis had attended the 10th Anniversary Race for Hope at Freedom Plaza during the day. The race raised over \$1m for the TBTS and ABC2 organisations. Dennis' son Jeffrey was diagnosed with a brain tumor in 1999 and died in 2003, aged 32. This led Dennis to work tirelessly seeking to identify and support new treatments for brain tumor patients. Dennis attended the inaugural meeting of the IBTA in Edinburgh, Scotland almost two years ago to the day, on 7th May 2005. He was a strong supporter of the IBTA, including the World Walk and Awareness Week. We offer our deepest condolences to Dennis' wife Arlene and his family. RIP Dennis Roth - a pillar of the worldwide brain tumor community. (Dennis, pictured left with Kathy Oliver, IBTA, at SNO 2006)



HOW MANY BRAIN TUMORS OCCUR IN THE WORLD EACH YEAR?

It is a common reaction for many whose loved one has been diagnosed with a brain tumor to wonder how common brain tumors are. Many people have never previously come across anyone with a brain tumor. Then, when a brain tumor enters into your life, you start to notice that brain tumors are not as uncommon as you imagined.

While brain tumors are not as prevalent as breast, prostate, lung or colorectal cancers, which are the "big four", they are common enough to appear in the list of the top 20 cancers in most countries of the world.

As part of its overall contribution to knowledge and advocacy about brain tumors, the International Brain Tumour Alliance has commissioned the Central Brain Tumor Registry of the United States (CBTRUS) to investigate the incidence (number) and prevalence (those living with a brain tumor) for malignant and non-malignant (benign) primary brain tumors in the world.

Based on the World Health Organization estimates as found in GLOBOCAN 2002, it is estimated that the incidence of primary malignant brain tumors is 3.7 per 100,000 per annum for males and 2.6 per 100,000 per annum for females. This represents an estimated 108,277 males and 81,305 females who were diagnosed with a primary malignant brain tumor in 2002, an overall total of 189,582 individuals

Estimated Number of New Cases of Brain and Central Nervous System Tumors Diagnosed World-wide: Primary Malignant (GLOBOCAN 2002) and Non-Malignant (CBTRUS—Preliminary Estimate)

| | Count | | |
|----------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| | Overall | Male | Female |
| Malignant | 189,582 | 108,277 | 81,305 |
| Non-Malignant | 157,833 | 58,851 | 98,982 |

CBTRUS estimates that the incidence of malignant brain tumors may climb to 220,568 in 2010 (125,892 males and 94,676 females). The estimated 2010 counts are based on anticipated changes in world population demographics and do not account for any changes in brain tumor incidence.

Non-malignant brain tumors are often as devastating as malignant brain tumors but were not routinely collected by cancer surveillance organizations in 2002. CBTRUS has provided a preliminary estimate of 157,833 non-malignant brain tumors per annum for 2002.

Metastatic tumors (tumors originating at other sites), including metastatic brain tumors, are not collected by population-based cancer registries. Also, modelling templates are not readily available to estimate their incidence. Some clinical trial data have estimated that these tumors may equal or even exceed the number of primary brain tumors.

These figures are likely to be conservative. Not all countries have well developed cancer registries in which accurate statistics are kept. Additionally, the incidence in many less developed countries could be further underestimated because access to care may be limited.