

Join us, with other groups and individuals, to raise awareness of brain tumours. Support the 2007 Awareness Week and World Walk and email the IBTA with details of your event. (See contact information below.)



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.

Contact details for the International Brain Tumour Alliance (IBTA)
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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 tumours of the central nervous system. As is the practice in scientific literature and clinical use, we use the words "brain tumour", not "brain cancer".

The International Brain Tumour Awareness Week is sponsored by undirected grants from:



World Brain Tumour Brief

September 2007

Walking shoes at the ready as thousands world-wide notch up mileage for brain tumour awareness week

An old proverb says: "It's better to light a candle than to curse the darkness." And no one knows better how all-enveloping that darkness can be, than those whose lives have been touched by a brain tumour.

In an effort to light a firecracker, no less a candle in the darkness, the International Brain Tumour Alliance (IBTA) has launched the inaugural International Brain Tumour Awareness Week from 21 to 27 October 2007.

A feature of the Awareness Week project is the Walk Around the World for Brain Tumours (being held until 27 October) whereby people doing sponsored walks give the funds raised to local brain tumour support groups or research institutions and then donate the mileage achieved to the World Walk target of 40,000 kilometres (25,000 miles) which is once around the world at the Equator.



The American Brain Tumor Association (ABTA) enlisted the help of 3,200 walkers (from among 4,000 runners, walkers and strollers) to raise over \$400,000 for brain tumour research. From their "Path to Progress Walk Run/Walk", ABTA donated the significant mileage to the World Walk.

Brain tumour patients and caregivers shared in the joy of Nathan Deakes' win in the World Championship 50 kms racewalk in Osaka, Japan, on 1 September. Nathan is a strong supporter of the Walk Around the World for Brain Tumours. Understandably, Nathan was very emotional when crossing the finish line after a gruelling 3 hours 43 minutes 53 seconds of walking.



An emotional Nathan Deakes crosses the finish line in Osaka...

Each year around the globe nearly 200,000 people are diagnosed with a primary malignant brain tumour. It's estimated that over 150,000 people per year are diagnosed with a non-malignant brain tumour which can be equally devastating (estimate supplied by the Central Brain Tumor Registry of the United States, CBTRUS, based on GLOBOCAN 2002.) Many more people develop metastatic brain tumours.

Denis Strangman, IBTA Chair, said: "Brain tumours are one of the most appalling of all cancers because they strike at the very core of who a person is, affecting not only mobility, but cognition, personality and behaviour as well - all those things which make us who we are as individuals. Those who travel the brain tumour path and climb its terrifying cliffs need all the help they can get."

MORE information inside about global efforts to raise awareness of brain tumours.

Walking, talking and uniting around the world:

over 60 brain tumour support groups and professional/research/industry bodies around the globe show solidarity by raising awareness of the challenges of brain tumours



People all over the world are walking tall and organising events to raise funds for much-needed brain tumour research. Mileage from the walks is going towards the Walk Around the World for Brain Tumours. Here's just a small sample of the many activities taking place internationally.



Veronica O'Connor has donated 1,400 kms (975 miles) to the Walk Around the World for Brain Tumours. Veronica writes: "I walked from Fatima in Portugal to Lourdes in France via Santiago Compostela in Spain. It was a tough pilgrimage because of the very bad weather but any walk in support of **BTRC** (the UK-based **Brain Tumour Research Campaign**) is worth every minute."

Jim de Cheser in Hawaii has collected 2,016 miles from 300 fitness walkers who use Queen Kapiolani Park on Oahu for their regular exercise. The Park itself continues to Diamond Head along Diamond Head Road where walkers continue to the base of Diamond Head Crater. Jim has also recruited other walkers in California and his native New Jersey to get their walking boots on and raise awareness of brain tumours. Well done Jim!



International Brain Tumour (u) Awareness Week 21-27 oktober i år är det internationella hjärntumördagen. Klicka här så får du veta mer! (engelskspråkig sida)

Ase Rinman from our supporting organisation in Sweden, **Svenska Hjärntumörföreningen**, advises that they will concentrate on the Sunday 21 October when they'll have a short walk over a central bridge in Goteborg to an indoor shopping mall where there will be entertainment and a talk by a well-known oncologist, and patients' testimonials sharing hope.



Twenty-three year old **Adam Ferguson** of Canada, who grew up in the High Arctic, has donated 580 kms that he covered on his hikes and walks this summer across northern Ellesmere Island in Quttinirpaaq National Park, the most northerly land area in North America (pictured at right).



On Sunday, 15 July, members of **Racewalking Queensland** in Australia contributed 135 kms to the World Walk target during Racewalking Australia State Challenge. Funds raised were donated to the **Cancer Council Queensland** for brain tumour purposes.

INTERNATIONAL BRAIN TUMOUR AWARENESS WEEK 21 TO 27 OCTOBER 2007



Both the **Pencer Centre (Toronto)** and **Canadian Alliance of Brain Tumour Organisations (CABTO)** have planned fund raising and awareness-raising events in September and October.



The **Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust (SDBTT)** and **Brain Tumour UK** are arranging numerous fund raising walks, the mileage from which will go to the IBTA's World Walk total.



Italian organisation **IRENE Onlus** is planning a walk/run and a scientific event for the awareness week while the US-based **Have a Chance** organisation, which raised over \$1 million from its walk for brain tumour research last year, is this year donating its mileage from the Have a Chance Walk to the IBTA.



During the Awareness Week, **Ark Therapeutics** staff will do a 10 mile walk through Surrey in the UK. The Sydney based **Cure for Life Foundation** will hold its 5th Annual Cranes for Brains Day on 26 October, when children from all over Australia will participate in a paper crane fold-a-thon or casual clothes wearing day in support of CFL fundraising efforts.



The **Wagner Jauregg Hospital, Linz, Austria** is organising a scientific meeting and information event during the Awareness Week, while the **Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada** is supporting the Week and Walk with its national Walkathon programme Spring Sprint.



Students will be walking in support of the **Charles Warren Brain Tumor Awareness Foundation** (Georgia, USA) and donating their mileage to the Walk Around the World for Brain Tumours. Our Belgian colleagues at **Werkgroep Hersentumoren** will be holding a press conference on 26 October during the Awareness Week.

MORE Awareness Week and World Walk supporters overleaf!