

Stokesley Bike Ride 20th Anniversary: Sunday 14th May 2017

The Stokesley Bike Ride celebrates its 20th anniversary on **Sunday 14th May 2017** and this special event will be raising money for the **Make-A-Wish-Foundation** charity.

This letter explains everything you need to know about the event and how you can take part.

RPS Maltby

First of all, I am delighted to announce that RPS Maltby will once again be sponsoring the ride this year. This is fantastic news and means we are able to continue supporting our local charities. Thank you so much RPS Maltby.

I am also delighted that once again Stokesley Parish Councillors have agreed to allow us the use of the Town Hall and car parking area known as The Plain. Use of the Plain was granted by kind permission of the Manorial Lands Trust. Thank you so much.

Who we're supporting this year

In January this year, we handed over a cheque for **£10,055.79** to **Bloodwise** at our presentation night at the The Mill in Stokesley. Sincere thanks to Alex and his team for their support. A FANTASTIC amount raised, **THANK YOU ALL** so much.

Now, we are preparing to raise another fantastic amount for **Make-A-Wish Foundation UK**.

Make-A-Wish exists for one reason – to grant magical wishes to enrich the lives of children and young people fighting life threatening conditions.

Those of you who have taken part in the ride over the years will recognise part of my back-up support team at the Dog & Gun checkpoint – Kevin and Helen Ideson, along with their children Jack, aged 5, and Megan, aged 3, and their grandma Sheila.

Helen and Kevin have supported the ride since the first day in 1998 and are well and truly part of its history. They are also close friends to me and my family.

On 7th September 2015, Jack was diagnosed with paratesticular rhabdomyosarcoma cancer, which, to say the least, was a massive shock to his Mum and Dad. He is currently being treated at the RVI Newcastle. Jack will be 6 on 13th May and his prognosis is positive.

*During his treatment, the RVI suggested to Kev and Helen that the **Make-A-Wish** charity may be able to help make a wish come true for Jack – which it subsequently did. Jack and his family spent 3 nights at Disneyland Paris.*

What I can say to you all is for those who were at the presentation night in January, we were all blown away (and some tears shed) when young Jack took the microphone from his Dad and told the audience about his trip to Disneyland Paris. Absolutely priceless.

This is the reason we do the Stokesley Bike Ride each year – to raise as much money as we can to help those who need us to help make their lives that bit more bearable.

THANK YOU ALL for what YOU have achieved for your local charities over 20 years.

How you can take part

The 30 mile ride will take place on Sunday 14th May 2017, from Stokesley Town Hall in the High Street, starting at 10am. There will be basic mechanical support, a back-up vehicle and first aid facilities to assist the riders, along with refreshments i.e. bananas, chocolate bars and water, etc.

The entry fee for the ride will be £10 (**£12 on the day**). All proceeds go directly to the charity. **Entry is free to under-16s.**

Please send your entry form and cheque, payable to **Make-A-Wish-Foundation** to:

Paul Mackintosh
90 Salutation Road
Darlington
County Durham
DL3 8JW

Please enclose a **SAE** so I can send your rider number to you (please check that postage is the correct amount!). The closing date for postal entries is **Saturday 6th May 2017**.

If you have any queries, please contact me by telephone 01325 357867, mobile 07801 143942 or e-mail paulmack1@ntlworld.com

You can also download the ride information pack, plus entry forms online at www.stokesleycharityride.org.uk