

NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate release

Appealing for your help for a very brave Sheffield girl

Action for Blind People is launching a fundraising appeal in aid of 13 year old Emma Knight from Sheffield, who was diagnosed with an incurable brain tumour four years ago and as a result lost her sight.

Determined to carry on being as active as she was before losing her vision Emma became a regular participant of Sheffield Actionnaires (a sports club for blind and partially sighted children and young people) run by Action for Blind People. However, Emma recently suffered a stroke and is left unable to walk or talk properly. It is uncertain as to how much longer Emma will have to live.

On Wednesday 4th June, Stuart Woodhead, a club co-ordinator at Sheffield Actionnaires is aiming to raise a minimum of £5,000 to help Emma and her family. Stuart will be cycling a total of 207 miles from Carlisle to Sheffield, via Preston, Manchester and Liverpool, arriving at Sheffield Actionnaires on Saturday 7th June.

Stuart says: "Emma lives at home with her mum, dad and younger sister Katie. Caring for Emma is physically and mentally exhausting for them all, and Emma's illness has had a big impact on the dynamics of the whole family. The funds raised will go towards helping Emma and her family buy essential equipment and adaptations to their home. If anyone can help with making a donation, then this will be gratefully

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received.”

Emma’s dad says: “The money will enable our family to make the rest of the time Emma has left a little easier and allow her to enjoy some of the things she loves doing. We would like to say a big thank you to Stuart and Action for Blind People for their efforts in helping to raise money for our very brave daughter.”

To make a donation then please contact Stuart Woodhead on 0751 518 8045 or online at: <http://www.justgiving.com/actionforemma>.

-Ends-

For further media information please contact Debbie Flatley, press office on 020 7635 4921 or 07739 819954 or email: debbie.flatley@actionforblindpeople.org.uk

Notes to editors:

- Photos of Emma available from the Action for Blind People press office
- Action for Blind People is an expert national organisation, ensuring blind and partially sighted people get practical support in all aspects of their lives. Contact Action for Blind People’s National Freephone Helpline on 0800 915 4666 or www.actionforblindpeople.org.uk
- Action for Blind People is breaking down barriers that prevent visually impaired people from achieving the same opportunities as sighted people.
- If abbreviating “Action for Blind People”, please use "Action" rather than AFBP or ABP.

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