

PRESS RELEASE

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10 Downing Street chooses Sarcoma UK as Charity of the Year

The staff at the Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street, have chosen Sarcoma UK as their Charity of the Year, in memory of Chris Martin, Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister, who died of sarcoma in November 2015.

Prime Minister David Cameron said: "It is an honour to support Sarcoma UK, a cancer charity very close to my heart. Having lost Chris to sarcoma, we have seen first-hand the devastating effects of this disease. No 10 is proud to raise funds and awareness of sarcoma, helping Sarcoma UK to save lives and ultimately find a cure."

Lindsey Bennister, Chief Executive, Sarcoma UK said: "Chris was a loyal supporter and friend of the charity. He made a huge impact on the charity's team and built up personal relationships with the wider sarcoma community. Chris completed the Virgin London Marathon himself for the charity last year. It was poignant to see 'Team 10' show the same grit and determination in completing Tough Mudder, a year later. We are very grateful for their support and we look forward to working more closely with them."

To launch the partnership, 'Team 10' completed a 12-mile assault course, Tough Mudder West, on 30 April. They worked as a team to navigate through the muddy obstacles, 10,000 volts of electricity, and a mind-numbing ice bath. So far, they have raised £8,000 towards their annual goal of £15,000.

10 Downing Street have a calendar of activities planned to support Sarcoma UK as a legacy to Chris, details of which will be announced over the coming months.

Ends.

Notes to editors:

About sarcoma

Sarcomas are rare cancers that develop in the bone and soft tissue.

Sarcomas fall into three main types:

1. [Soft tissue sarcoma](#)
2. [Bone sarcoma](#)
3. [Gastrointestinal stromal tumours \(GIST\)](#)

- 10 people every day are diagnosed with sarcoma in the UK
- There are over 100 different subtypes of sarcoma
- In general, patients with a bone or soft tissue diagnosis tend to be younger than the majority of cancer patients

About Sarcoma UK

Sarcoma UK is the only charity in the UK focusing on all types of sarcoma.

Sarcoma UK's mission is to increase knowledge and awareness of sarcoma through ground-breaking programmes that inspire involvement and transform the landscape for everyone affected by sarcoma.

- We raise sarcoma [awareness](#) to initiate change and improve standards of treatment and care
- We seek answers through [research](#)
- We provide [support & information](#) for the sarcoma community

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