

FINAL

BIKING EVENT TO RAISE MONEY FOR MSTC CHARITY

A Fife motorbike enthusiast is to organise Scotland's first extreme off-road challenge to raise money for a multiple sclerosis charity that has supported his family for almost two decades.

Alan Dalziel, 42, of Crossgates will host Motorrad Central Scotland's Extreme Challenge Weekend, an off-road biking spectacular, at Knockhill Racing Circuit on Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th August, to raise money for the MS Therapy Centre Lothian, in Edinburgh which has provided treatment for his father, Henry Dalziel for 18 years.

The extreme weekend, the first-ever to be held in Scotland, will see motorbike enthusiasts take to their bikes for the ultimate off-road challenge experience and for the superfast track event on Knockhill's famous circuit.

The event will also include stunts from legendary Mattie Griffin, instruction from Simon Pavey's team of instructors, live demonstrations from World Superbike Endurance Champion Terry Rymer with music from Rock Radio.

A charity auction will see Alan Dalziel seek bids for various motorsport goodies to raise money for the MS Therapy Centre.

The MS Therapy Centre has provided treatment and care for Henry, on a weekly basis since 1993. The Centre was also responsible for organising transport from Abbotsford Parish Church in Kirkcaldy to Edinburgh to ensure Mr Dalziel received his much-needed treatment.

Alan Dalziel, partner at Motorrad Central said:

"We've got a fantastic event lined up which will give motorbike enthusiasts the opportunity to challenge themselves on a specially created off road track, sample new bikes and watch some of the world's best stunt acts.

"The inspiration behind the event was to create an unforgettable experience for motorcycle enthusiasts but also to raise money for an incredibly worthwhile charity, one that's supported my family since 1993.

"The MS Therapy Centre in Edinburgh has provided an exceptional level of care to my dad, going above and beyond the call of duty. It was the Centre which organised a collection service to ensure Dad got to and from Leith for his much needed treatment, as he continues to fight multiple sclerosis. This is my way of giving something back for their endless support."

Over 600 bikers and over 10,000 people are expected to attend the two-day event. Entry for spectators is free and gates open both days at 8.30am. The event comes to a close on Saturday (27th August) at 10.30pm and on the Sunday (28th August) at 6.30pm.

Competitor packages are available for the Extreme Challenge Cup and Extreme Track Event. For more information, please visit: www.motorradcentralscotland.com

Henry Dalziel (79) of Kirkcaldy was first diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis in 1986. Having been recommended to use the Hyperbaric Oxygen Chamber by his then consultant because of its role in easing the symptoms of MS, Mr Dalziel has travelled weekly to Leith to undergo treatment.

Hyperbaric Oxygen extends the body's ability to heal and research from a number of countries including the US has shown the benefits of this form of treatment. For Henry, by breathing in

pure oxygen while under increased air pressure, he has slowed down the progression of the disease.

The therapy requires going to the Centre regularly and in Henry's case it was recommended on a weekly basis. However, with his nearest treatment centre in Leith, Edinburgh, transport was always difficult to organise, especially in winter, and often resulted in much needed sessions being missed. However, with the support from the MS Therapy Centre, Henry has attended over 750 sessions and continues to fight the condition.

Notes to Editors

1. Motorrad Central Scotland's Extreme Challenge Weekend takes place on Saturday and Sunday 27th and 28th August at Knochill, Fife. This is the inaugural extreme challenge weekend which gives biking enthusiasts the opportunity to take their bikes off-road and to ride the famous Knockhill track.

2. The MS Therapy Centre, based on Bonnington Road, supports over 200 people living in Edinburgh, the Lothians and Fife with Multiple Sclerosis (MS). It provides hyperbaric oxygen therapy which is known to relieve the symptoms associated with the chronic condition. It also offers an in-house physiotherapist, remedial yoga, and complementary therapists, and carries extensive information on the condition and local services produced by the MS Society, MS Trust and local providers.

The MS Therapy Centre is a registered charity and raises the majority of its funds through member donations and fundraising events.

You can donate to MS Therapy Centre Lothian by text, Simply, text **MSTC40 £2** (or £1, £3, £4, £5, £10) to **70070**.

This service, provided by Justgiving and Vodafone, is free. You will not be charged for this text. Your donation will be deducted from your phone credit or charged to your bill.

www.mstc-lothian.org.uk

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