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Midweek

Bracknell & Wokingham

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Memory of Ollie fuels 100-mile run

A 100-MILE run will raise money for research into brain tumours.

Shaun Edwards is being inspired by the memory of Ollie Young to compete in the Thames Path 100 next month in aid of the foundation set up the little boy's parents.

Ollie died last year, the day before his sixth birthday, and his parents Simon and Sarah set up the charity to raise funds for research into brain tumours and support.

Shaun is friends with the Young family, who live near him in Woosehill, Wokingham. He will run from Richmond to Oxford along with 249 other competitors.

He said: "I'm aiming to complete the race in under 24 hours and it is quite fitting that I'll be finishing in Oxford, just a mile or so from Helen & Douglas House Hospice, where Ollie spent his final weeks. The commitment I'm giving with all the training means I couldn't do the race just for the sake of it and I can't pretend it's not hard, regularly going out to run in the cold and rain for four

hours, but having such a worthwhile target as I do in raising funds for the Ollie Young Foundation makes all the difference."

Shaun, who works for an IT company during the week and as a photographer on Saturdays, has been running up to 70 miles per week in training.

Sarah Young said: "He has been a true friend since Ollie first fell ill and Simon and I are so grateful for what he is doing for our charity.

"The Ollie Young Foundation will support him in every way we can, including during the long hours of the run. He can count on us to be there throughout, cheering him on."

The race takes place on Saturday, March 23.

To support Shaun go to www.justgiving.com/runningforollie

Read Simon and Sarah's touching account of Ollie's diagnosis and why they want to help other children and their families at www.ollieyoungfoundation.org/olliesstory.html



Inspired: Shaun Edwards is in training for the Thames Path 100 in aid of the Ollie Young Foundation.

Every week we give over these pages to charity events and causes that need your support across Berkshire.

To have your charity event included email Sally Stevens with the details and a daytime phone number to ssstevens@berksmedia.co.uk

CDS backs Dream

TWYFORD-based Daisy's Dream has been chosen as its charity of the year by Conveyancing Data Services (CDS).

The property services company, in Woodley, aims to raise £2,000 which will help to provide opportunities for bereaved children to meet and get together at specific events,

receive direct intensive support or help towards providing the telephone support line for families.

Jonathan Stebbings, director of CDS said: "We chose to support Daisy's Dream because we all have young families and can only imagine how difficult it is to lose a parent as a child; we want to put

something back into our community and help children when they are struggling with such a life-changing tragedy."

The company has already raised £644 and has five runners in the Reading Half Marathon on March 17.

Visit www.daisysdream.org.uk and www.conveyancingdata.com

School is recycling cash

SHINFIELD St Mary's CE Junior School and Shinfield Infant School are asking recyclers in Wokingham to sign up to a money raising scheme so they can build new play areas for pupils.

The schools are urging residents to sign up to the Green Schools Programme, run by Recyclebank, which allows them to have their home recycling registered as points which they can donate. The scheme

then gives the schools £1 for every 200 points residents raise.

St Mary's has applied for a £1,000 grant to build raised beds, compost bins, water butts and insect hotels, while Shinfield Infant and Nursery has asked for £837.60, which will be used to develop an exploratory garden.

Recyclebank members have until the Monday, April 29, to donate their points at www.recyclebank.com