



# Make the dream a reality

## Actress launches campaign to raise cash for brain tumour research

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**A PATRON of a Stanmore charity has launched a national campaign to raise £1million a year to fund research into brain tumours.**

Renowned actress and author Sheila Hancock is calling on individuals, businesses and organisations to sponsor a day of research for £2,740 to ensure work at the country's first Brain Tumour Research Centre of Excellence continues.

Each donation will be recognised by a commemorative plaque placed on a Wall of Hope at the centre, a laboratory based at the University of Portsmouth in Hampshire.

Ms Hancock is patron of Ali's Dream, which was founded in 2001 by Julie Phelan, of Hermitage Way, Stanmore, following the death of her seven-year-old daughter, Alison.

The charity is one of 18 that form the Brain Tumour Research umbrella group that

hopes to build seven such centres of excellence across the UK, all of which will require £1million of annual funding.

Ms Hancock, whose grandson now leads a healthy life having been diagnosed with a brain tumour at the age of four, said: 'It is terrible to watch a family member go through the diagnosis and treatment of a brain tumour.'

She added: 'I do implore you to get involved and buy as many days as you can on the Wall of

Hope to support vital research at the University of Portsmouth.'

Mrs Phelan said: 'The loss of our precious daughter, Ali, from a brain tumour is something we remember every single day.'

'I am determined that brain tumours will have the same voice as the big charities, which is why we set up Ali's Dream and have led the coming together of other Brain Tumour Research charities to establish a centre of excellence for brain tumour research at the University of Portsmouth.'



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■ **PATRON:** Actress and author Sheila Hancock is backing the campaign  
 Photo from Mirrorpix





■ **VICTIM:** Alison Phelan was just seven when she died from a brain tumour; (below) the Wall of Hope at the Brain Tumour Research Centre in the University of Portsmouth Contributed

