The facts

**Each day in the UK, 6 teenagers are diagnosed with cancer - that is approximately 2,200 a year.**

One in every 330 boys and 1 in every 420 girls will contract cancer before their 20th birthday.

Cancer is the most common cause of non-accidental death in teens and young adults in the UK.

By the age of 15, you have a 1 in 600 chance of developing cancer. By the age of 24, you will have a 1 in 285 chance of developing cancer.

Young people contract some of the most aggressive cancers that are made worse by their undergoing growth spurts. Survival rates for teens with cancer fall far behind survival rates for other age groups.

Young people with cancer often get a raw deal, receiving hospital treatment in inappropriate facilities alongside very young children or older people.

**Teenage Cancer Trust**

Teenage Cancer Trust focuses on the particular needs of teenagers and young adults with cancer, leukaemia, Hodgkin’s and related diseases by creating specialist teenage units in NHS hospitals.

Teenage Cancer Trust, established in the early 1990s, has already designed and built eight units in the UK; London (two sites), Birmingham, Leeds, Sheffield, Manchester, Newcastle and Liverpool. The Charity is currently developing a unit in Cardiff, costing £2.2 million and a unit at University College Hospital London, to replace the 2 existing London units as well as an additional 12 units across the UK.

The units are developed as dedicated areas for teenage patients who will have been involved in the concept and design of the unit. They are filled with computers, TVs, DVD players, pool tables, kitchens (to avoid hospital food!!), facilities for parents and family members to stay overnight and are staffed with professionals able to deal with the specific of the teenage and young adult cancer patients.

It is anticipated that treatment on a Teenage Cancer Trust unit can improve chances of survival by an anticipated 15%.

Building the units costs on average £1.5 million each. The charity’s target is to have at least 20 across the UK to ensure every young person has access to one.

In addition to its work in NHS hospitals, Teenage Cancer Trust provides an education and awareness team across the UK. TCT’s vibrant schools programme gives information, education and advice that can be tailored made for the curriculum.

The charity sponsors a Multidisciplinary Forum and a regular International Conference on Cancer and the Adolescent, for professionals. TCT has just appointed the world’s first Professor of Adolescent Cancer Medicine and also fund a conference designed specifically for teenage patients called ‘Find Your Sense of Tumour.’

**TCT people and events**

TCT patrons include Sarah, Duchess of York, Bob Holness, Roger Daltrey CBE, Sir Ben Kingsley, Peter de Savary, Mark Knopfler OBE, Michael Watson MBE, Bill Kenwright CBE, Duncan Goodhew MBE, Prince Naseem Hamed MBE, Sir John Beckwith CBE, Terry Brady, Sir Henry Cooper OBE KSG, Nick Faldo MBE, Ian Fletcher, Harry Greenway, Clive Jacobs, Janet Marchioness of Milford Haven, Sir Peter & Lady Middleton, John Napier, Sir Eric & Lady Parker, Rt Hon Lord Pendry, Gerald Weisfeld and Vera Weisfeld OBE.

They organise a number of high profile events to raise funds and generate a wider understanding of the problems faced by teenage patients. These include:

- Treks in 2005 to Guatemala, Mongolia, a horse trek in Patagonia, Argentina and a bike ride in Tanzania.
- An annual bandanna campaign, in 2004 we had support from leading fashion designers including John Galliano, Alexander McQueen, Chloe, Emanuel Ungaro and Burberry. The 2004 auction was held at Selfridges with the support of American Express.
- A supergroup night at London Jazz Club, Ronnie Scott’s. These nights, masterminded by newspaper proprietor Richard Desmond and TCT patron Roger Daltrey, have raised nearly £800,000 for TCT.


For further information contact Teenage Cancer Trust on t: 020 7387 1000 e: tct@teenagecancertrust.org visit www.teenagecancertrust.org or write to Teenage Cancer Trust, 38 Warren Street, London W1T 6AE.
## TEENAGE CANCER TRUST helping teenagers fight cancer

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