

# Vasculitis charity to hold Aberdeen Vasculitis 5K run

Submitted by: Lauren Currie Twilight Foundation

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On Saturday August 29 from 11AM the Lauren Currie Twilight Foundation (<http://www.thelaurencurrietwilightfoundation.org>) will be holding the Aberdeen Vasculitis 5K (<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/aberdeen-vasculitis-5k-tickets-17809107520>), a free-of-charge 5km run (or walk) along Aberdeen Beach Esplanade, Sea Beach, Aberdeen AB24 5NS.

The run is a great chance for entrants to have fun with friends and family, stay healthy and raise money for the foundation. All of the money raised will be donated to vasculitis research at the University of Aberdeen (<http://www.abdn.ac.uk/>), under the leadership of Professor Lars Erwig and Dr Neil Basu.

To date, the charity has given £62,000 to the university, which has been used to support a three-year PhD research project on vasculitis, alongside a patient support group in the city.

Registration for the event can be completed online at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/aberdeen-vasculitis-5k-tickets-17809107520> .

Grant Currie, co-founder of the charity, said, "One shocking thing about vasculitis is that so little is known about it.

"We have a public awareness programme that aims to educate both the general public and medical professionals, but our support of vasculitis research is completely vital.

"Aberdeen is the home of LCTF research and due to the leading researchers and experts in the city it is where the majority of our research funding is spent. We are also sponsoring the Scottish Society for Rheumatology Conference in October, which will be held in the city.

"For that reason, Aberdeen is really important to the Lauren Currie Twilight Foundation. It would be great to see as many of our supporters from the North East as possible turn out to aid our campaign against vasculitis!"

The Lauren Currie Twilight Foundation was set up by Grant and Adrienne Currie following the tragic death of their 15-year old daughter and only child Lauren in 2010. Lauren had suffered from Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis (formerly known as Wegener's Granulomatosis), a variant of the auto-immune disease vasculitis.

Lauren's condition was only diagnosed in the final hours of her life and her parents realised that, with earlier diagnosis, her life could have been saved.

Because vasculitis is uncommon and early diagnosis is an important factor in the effectiveness of medical care, public awareness of the condition is one of the charity's main objectives.

As well as educating the general public, the charity educates medical professionals on how to spot and diagnose the disease.

Vasculitis refers to an inflammation of the blood vessels. It is an uncommon illness and different variations can affect people of different ages.

The Lauren Currie Twilight Foundation aims to raise the international profile of vasculitis, and is one of only two vasculitis-specific charities operating in the UK. It is keen to collaborate with other relevant charities, including those in the US.

The Lauren Currie Twilight Foundation has produced a video explaining the condition, which can be found here (<https://vimeo.com/55595845>).

Links:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/aberdeen-vasculitis-5k-tickets-17809107520>

<http://www.thelaurencurrietwilightfoundation.org>

<https://vimeo.com/55595845>

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Images of previous fundraising events are available on request.

We would be delighted to arrange interviews with Grant Currie.

Media information provided by Famous Publicity. For more information please contact George Murdoch at 07834 643 977 or [george@famouspublicity.com](mailto:george@famouspublicity.com) or Tina Fotherby at 07703 409 622 or [tina@famouspublicity.com](mailto:tina@famouspublicity.com).

What is the background to The Lauren Currie Twilight Foundation?

Lauren was only 15 when she tragically and prematurely lost her battle with vasculitis nearly five years ago on October 23 2010 at Crosshouse Hospital. Lauren died from Wegener's granulomatosis – a form of vasculitis which had remained undiagnosed until the final hours of her life. Lauren's lungs had been fatally damaged by vasculitis, which resulted in internal bleeding and contributed to her death.

The charity was founded within a couple of days of Lauren's death by her parents, Grant and Adrienne. The charity was named in Lauren's memory as a tribute to their daughter's inspirational character and features 'Twilight' in the title in recognition of the love she had for the Twilight books and the films. The charity was set up to help and support anyone affected by vasculitis, to raise awareness of the disease throughout the United Kingdom and to fund dedicated research that seeks to identify and improve treatments.

Lauren's charity was formerly registered in Scotland in December 2010 with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR). Charity Registration Number SC041934.