



**VROOM  
VROOM...**  
Stephen Sinfield will be getting on his bike to raise money for various charities – and wants the public to help him out.

# 'Epic' motorcycle rally to help raise charity cash

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**THE husband of recovering leukaemia patient Katherine Sinfield has revealed he is planning a fund-raiser of 'epic proportions' to raise cash for blood cancer charities.**

Mail journalist Stephen Sinfield first mooted his intentions to hold a motorcycle rally between Birmingham and Burton earlier this year, and these plans are now becoming reality.

He said: "Organising an event of this scale takes months of planning, but things are finally moving in the right direction. The BONE-shaker MARROW-thon will definitely take place on March 2, raising money for three charities – Cure Leukaemia, Anthony Nolan and the QEHB Charity – while paying tribute

to the two hospitals instrumental in Katherine's continuing care, the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham and Queen's Hospital in Burton."

Stephen, of Balfour Street, Burton, admitted planning the event had proved much harder than anticipated, meaning the date of the rally will be many months later than initially hoped.

He said: "In an article in August, I was somewhat optimistic that I could stage the event by October. I hadn't bargained for the amount of planning and red tape involved.

"But, most importantly, Katherine's care comes first, so it's been hard to find the time required to make much progress.

"I spent weeks trying in vain to find a suitable starting point for the ride in Birmingham, but then the perfect offer

**'Katherine's care comes first, so it's been hard to find the time required to make much progress'**

**Stephen Sinfield**


came through – the ride can start from the rooftop of the main car park at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

"Riders will then take a steady 35-mile ride back to Burton where they will 'ride past' the Queen's Hospital before finishing at the Pirelli Stadium, where a family fun day will take place.

"After sourcing venues, licences and ride marshals and dealing extensively with multiple councils, police forces and the Highways Agency, everything is falling into place.

"I've just obtained a licence from the council which allows me to sell raffle tickets.

"Publicity will be key to the success of the ride. This, along with social media and good old-fashioned posters, should ensure we attract hundreds of bikes on the day."

 Want to help support the motorcycle rally? Get in touch online at: [burtonmail.co.uk](http://burtonmail.co.uk)

## New Year adventure as hunt expects large crowd

BUMPER crowds are expected to once again brave the winter cold and New Year hangover to support a traditional hunt through the East Staffordshire countryside.

The Meynell and South Staffordshire Hunt is returning to Uttoxeter on New Year's Day for the fourth year running, and residents are urged to go out and show their support.

The riders will meet in the Market Place, near to the war memorial, from 11am on January 1, with many of those taking part set to park at Uttoxeter Racecourse, in Wood Lane.

Rachel Morley, joint secretary of the Meynell and South Staffordshire Hunt, said the event usually attracted a large crowd of



spectators into the town.

She said: "This is the fourth time we have met in Uttoxeter, although I am informed we did used to do the hunt here around 60-odd years ago. Last year we had 60 to 70 horses and ponies turn out for the hunt and hope for around the same again this year."

## Facebook spreading word on fostering and adoption

NEW Facebook pages have been launched for anyone making a New Year's resolution to find out more about fostering or adopting.

Leicestershire County Council has launched the social networking sites to dispel myths about who can foster and adopt, answer questions and promote events and spread the word.

Fostering can involve caring for a child for a few days or longer, offering a short-term home to a mother and baby, supporting a teenager who is leaving care and much more.

Adoption is a lifelong commitment and is about providing a child in care, who cannot return home, with a permanent and secure family.

Ivan Ould, Leicestershire County Council cabinet member for children and young people, said: "We need more families who can offer our children in care stable and loving homes, and I hope the Facebook pages will help anyone who is seeking more information."

Anyone can be considered – people on their own or in a relationship, working or not working, regardless of their race, religion, sexual orientation or financial situation.

The pages can be found by searching Facebook for 'adoption in Leicestershire' and 'fostering in Leicestershire', and more information is available at [www.spaceforachild.com](http://www.spaceforachild.com)



**James  
Dennison**

Fund-raising  
manager at  
Staffordshire Wildlife Trust

### Born and bred:

I was born in Shipley, West Yorkshire. I then lived in a small village called Walkington in East Yorkshire until I was about 20. I moved to the Midlands to do a degree at the University of Wolverhampton and never left. I now live in Bishops Wood, just outside Brewwood in South Staffordshire. I can hear the V Festival in my back garden.

### Hobbies:

I enjoy tinkering with my classic car, a 1971 Triumph Spitfire. It was a bit of a shed when I bought it in 2000, but it's in really nice condition now.

### Favourite book:

I read all the time. I'll read pretty much anything I find in charity shops and don't really have a favourite. I'm currently reading the Narnia series to my kids, Lucas, 7, and Miles, 5.

### Favourite film:

Back to the Future.

### Favourite food:

I used to go to a family-owned Spanish restaurant in Wolverhampton that served the most amazing paella.

### Proudest moment:

It has got to be the birth of my two kids.

### Most embarrassing moment:

I had to attend a speed awareness course earlier this year. They're run in the training room at Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, where I work, so I had to do the walk of shame past my colleagues.

### Biggest inspiration:

Anyone who overcomes difficulties to achieve what they want to achieve.

### Hopes for the future:

I'd like my kids to do well when they grow up.

### Biggest/best achievement:

I always get a sense of achievement when I fix something that was broken without it costing me money.

### If you ruled the world:

I'd change the weather. This year was good, but I'm fed up of rubbish summers.

### Pet hate:

At this time of year it's people with faulty headlights.

### Greatest love:

My wife, Sharon. We've been together for more than 20 years.

### Favourite belonging:

My static caravan in Wales. We have a mini-holiday most weekends from March to October and the kids can play outside all day without traffic.

### Perfect night in/out:

In: Barbecue with friends in the garden.  
Out: Restaurant with good food and wine.

### What will your epitaph say?

How about "Three times Le Mans winner."