

# 'Epic' motorcycle rally to help raise cash for charity

BY ROB SMYTH

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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.**

Burton Advertiser journalist Stephen Sinfield first mooted his plan 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 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."

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

Stephen Sinfield



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



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