

For immediate release: Insert date

[Insert your area] [Insert as appropriate: man/woman/business/school eg A Bradford woman] is helping the Epilepsy Society to support people with epilepsy

A [select: woman/man/business/school] from [your area] will be supporting people with epilepsy by holding a [insert event] to raise money for the Epilepsy Society.

The event is being held to celebrate Purple Day on 26 March, the international day for epilepsy.

[Insert name], [insert age, where appropriate], will be holding [insert details here of the fundraising event], on [when it will be held] at/in [where it will be held] to help raise vital funds for the UK charity that supports people with epilepsy through research, information and its national helpline.

Friends and family of [insert name] are being invited to join the event and enjoy [insert highlights of the day, such as cakes, refreshments, entertainment].

The event is being held because [insert reason, for example. in memory of a loved one/a friend or relative has epilepsy/ you want to support the work the charity does].

One in 100 people in the UK has epilepsy and 87 people are diagnosed with the condition every day. Living with seizures can affect a person's education, employment, ability to drive and can often lead to isolation and anxiety. Each year 1,200 people lose their lives due to epilepsy. This includes 600 who die of Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP).

[Your name] said "[We/I] want to fundraise for Epilepsy Society because [explain the reasons why you are fundraising for Epilepsy Society, for example a loved one has sadly passed away/someone you know has epilepsy/ you want to support the work the charity does].

"[We are/ I am] hoping to raise [insert amount] to help the charity to support people with epilepsy through research and important services such as information and their epilepsy helpline. I/we really enjoyed organising this event and I/we are really grateful for all those who supported us."

Gordon Craig, Director of Fundraising at the Epilepsy Society said: "We are always really grateful for the amazing contribution that our fundraisers make to the charity. We really appreciate the effort that goes into organising all types of fundraising in the lead up to the event.

"The money raised will help us to continue our pioneering research into understanding what causes epilepsy and how best to treat it. It will also enable us to support people affected by epilepsy through our information and our confidential helpline."

If you would like to sponsor [Your name] go to [insert a fundraising link such as JustGiving if you have one]

To find out how you can help to raise funds for the Epilepsy Society go to www.epilepsysociety.org.uk/fundraise

ENDS

If you would like more information or would like to contact me for an interview or images, please contact me on/at: [your contact details]

About Epilepsy Society

Nicola Swanborough

Head of External Affairs

01494601417

07876834122

nicola.swanborough@epilepsysociety.org.uk

www.epilepsysociety.org.uk/media-centre

Notes for Editors:

Epilepsy:

Epilepsy is the most common serious neurological condition and affects more than half a million people in the UK, around one person in every hundred.

Epilepsy Society:

Epilepsy Society is the UK's leading provider of epilepsy services. Its headquarters in Buckinghamshire are a centre for medical research into the condition, housing the only MRI scanner in the UK dedicated solely to epilepsy. It also operates a globally unique NHS epilepsy assessment facility providing individual assessment, rehabilitation training and ground-breaking research opportunities. It also provides residential care to around 100 people with severe epilepsy.

Epilepsy Society runs a confidential helpline on Monday and Tuesday from 9am - 4pm and on Wednesdays from 9am - 7.30pm. It has a comprehensive range of information leaflets on many aspects of living and coping with epilepsy. In addition, the charity runs tailor-made training programmes for health professionals, employers and individuals as well as providing a comprehensive range of training and qualifications for staff members.

Epilepsy Society helpline

01494 601400

Epilepsy Society website

www.epilepsysociety.org.uk

Charity no: 206186