

Guillain-Barré & Associated Inflammatory Neuropathies



Newsletter issue 20 / 3 November 2021

We have a lot to get excited about this November! On Friday 12th, we're holding an open day, with the opportunity to meet our new Charity Champion and Paralympic gold medalist Ben Watson. We are also pleased to announce that GAIN is supporting the making of a new short film looking at recovery from GBS, and would like to invite you to get involved too! Then, as the month draws to a close, our Big Give Christmas Challenge gets underway, allowing our supporters to have their donations doubled for one week only! Read on for details of how you can join in.

Autumn Open Day Friday, 12 November

If you're within easy reach of Sleaford, or just fancy a trip to Lincolnshire, why not join us for our Autumn Open Day pop-in? You can come along any time that suits you, between 10am and 3pm on **Friday, 12th November** at Glennys Sanders House, Pride Parkway, Sleaford, NG34 8GL.

Refreshments

GAIN charity Christmas cards

Tortoise-themed jewellery
& stocking fillers

Meet Ben Watson
double Paralympian Gold Medalist

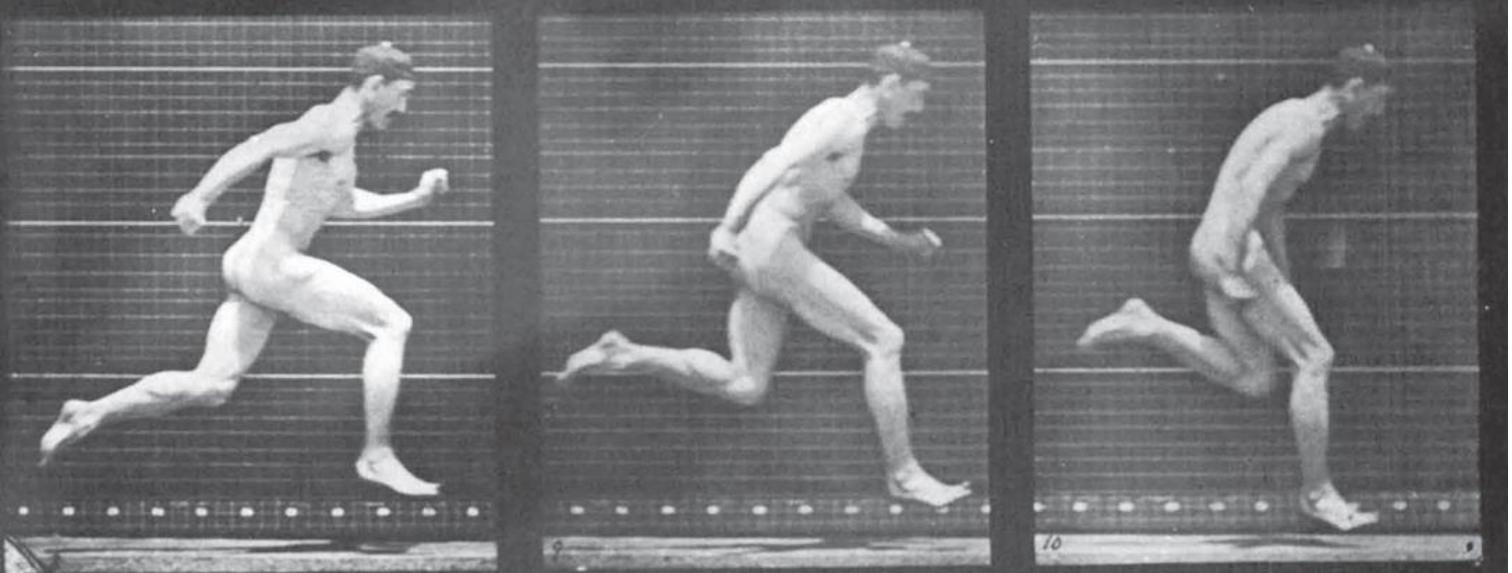


Come and meet our brand-new Charity Champion!

Remember **Ben Watson**, the Paralympian cyclist who battled GBS as a 14-year-old? Well, Ben outdid himself in his first ever Paralympics in Tokyo, winning not one but two gold medals in the men's C3 Time Trial and Road Race! Ben is keen to get involved with GAIN, and is now officially a GAIN Charity Champion, in every sense of the word.

If you would like to meet Ben, and maybe take a selfie with a real live Paralympian double gold-medalist, he will be joining us between approximately 11am and 1pm.





FALL BETTER IS A SHORT FILM ABOUT RESILIENCE
IN THE FACE OF A TOTAL LOSS OF CONTROL

CASTING CALL

YOUNG MAN [16-25] TO PLAY
ROBBIE - LEAD ROLE

NON ACTORS FROM ALL BACKGROUNDS ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.

Robbie is learning to walk again. He is in recovery from a debilitating illness and cannot trust his body to respond to him. But rebuilding a body isn't just about rebuilding muscles: Robbie must learn to let himself fall, and fail, and face up to his vulnerabilities in order to overcome them.

FALL BETTER is a deeply personal story based on the lived experience of writer-director George Magner.

WE ARE ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN MEETING APPLICANTS WITH PERSONAL EXPERIENCE OF NEUROLOGICAL ILLNESS OR BRAIN INJURY. WE WELCOME APPLICATIONS FROM NON-ACTORS, AND INDIVIDUALS FROM UNDER-REPRESENTED GROUPS, WHO FEEL A PERSONAL CONNECTION TO THE STORY.

If you feel you are suitable for the role, email FALLBETTERSHORT@GMAIL.COM with: your name, a photo of yourself, and a brief description of why this story resonates with you.

Please note: if you are under the age of 18 applications must be made by a parent/guardian. The role will be paid.

The countdown has begun to the Big Give Christmas Challenge 2021

Following our successful summer appeal to attain pledges totaling £2,500, we are delighted to report that our campaign has also secured match-funding of up to £2,500 from Big Give Champion, The Hospital Saturday Fund. This means that for every pound donated during the campaign (up to £5,000), we will receive a further pound from the pledge pot. And that's not all - if we meet or exceed our overall campaign target of £10,000, we will be eligible to enter the Christmas Challenge Awards, for the chance to win a further £1,000 - £3,000!

How does the Big Give Christmas Challenge work?

For ONE WEEK only, our supporters can have their donation doubled.

To join in, visit our campaign page

<https://bit.ly/GAINBigGive>

between 12 noon on Tuesday 30 November and 12 noon on Tuesday 7 December 2021



Fall Better: a short film about recovery from GBS

Filmmaker and GBS survivor, George Magner, is making a short film based on his experience of recovering from Guillain-Barré syndrome as a young man. Part-funded by GAIN, the film will be accompanied by a 'talking head' style video, with the aim of providing context and raising awareness of the condition.

George and his crew are keen to cast someone in the lead role who has had personal experience of GBS or a similar neurological disorder. No previous acting experience is necessary, so if you think you might fit the bill, please contact George and the team at fallobettershort@gmail.com (see Casting Call for full details). Filming will take place in the South West of England, probably in or near Bristol. George would also like to hear from people in terms of their experience of rehabilitation, even if they do not wish to get involved in the filming.



GAIN 200 Club

Winning numbers for October

68 70 22

New members wishing to join in time for the November draw (plus bonus draw), must register via the GAIN website or by phoning the office before noon on Wednesday 10th November (contact details on back page). Open to residents of England, Scotland and Wales who are 16 or over.

See website for full terms and conditions;
<https://gaincharity.org.uk/product/gain-200-club/>

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Coronavirus remains a serious health risk. You should stay cautious to help protect yourself and others.

- Let fresh air in if you meet indoors. Meeting outdoors is safer
- Wear a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces where you come into contact with people you do not normally meet
- Get tested and self-isolate if required.
- If you haven't already, get vaccinated

Make sure you have the latest advice and information for where you live

If you are in **England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, or Wales** you can find recent and upcoming changes to COVID guidelines by visiting the gov.uk website and selecting your location:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

If you live in the **Republic of Ireland**, you can find the latest public health updates here:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/3361b-public-health-updates/>

Get connected – grab a cuppa and join a video chat!



Carers, family & friends	GBS / acute	CIDP / chronic	Lancashire & Cumbria
2 nd Thursday of the month at 2pm	3 rd Thursday of the month at 2pm	4 th Thursday of the month at 2pm	1 st Friday of the month at 2pm

For details of how to join a video chat, visit www.gaincharity.org.uk

A massive thank you to everyone who continues to support us during these difficult times. If you would like to make a donation, please visit the website and click on the DONATE button, or simply text GAIN to 70085 to donate £5

Don't forget, you can also support us when you shop online! Look us up on AmazonSmile, EasyFundraising, Give As You Live and GoRaise

Keep in touch

Look us up on social media

-  office@gaincharity.org.uk
-  www.facebook.com/groups/727400487277814/
-  @gaincharity
-  gaincharity

Contact us during office hours
(Mon-Fri 9am-3pm)

Email: office@gaincharity.org.uk

Phone: 01529 469910

Helpline: 0800 374803 (UK) / 1800806152 (ROI)

And if you want to drop us a line,
you can write to us at the usual address;
GAIN, Glennys Sanders House
Pride Parkway, Sleaford, NG34 8GL