



## MEDIA INFORMATION

### **Tavistock Tyres helps raise £300 for Cancer Trust**

A CAR CARE and maintenance centre in Tavistock has recently helped raise £300 for the Bob Champion Cancer Trust, while also assisting with raising awareness for another charity.

Tavistock Tyres donated four Toyo Tyres to an auction that took place as part of the 'Upsides for Autism' event at Tavistock Association Football Club's (AFC) Red & Black Club on Saturday, November 7.

Tim Schmidt, Manager of Tavistock Tyres, which is located on Plymouth Road Industrial Estate in Tavistock, explained: "We know Allen Lewis, who organised the evening, very well and we were happy to support him at this dual purpose event designed to increase awareness of autism and to raise money for the Bob Champion Cancer Trust. We donated four Toyo Tyres to the auction and they were sold for £300."

Eighty guests, including horse racing legend Bob Champion MBE, attended the charity dinner and auction, which was held to increase awareness for children with autism and to raise money for the Bob Champion Cancer Trust. The auction raised a total of £2,710 for Bob's charity.

Sixty-one-year-old Bob was diagnosed with testicular cancer in 1979. He battled with the disease and went on to win the 1981 Grand National on the outsider horse Aldaniti. In 1981 he was awarded the BBC Sports Personality of the Year for his achievements.

Allen said: "It was a great evening and I would like to say a big 'thank you' to Bob for attending and being the guest speaker. I would also like to say thank you to Tavistock Tyres and all the other local business that donated items to the auction. We were very pleased to raise £2,710 for the Bob Champion Cancer Trust.

"The Trust aims to improve methods of detection and treatment of prostate, testicular and bladder cancers, to identify cancer genes, and ultimately to eradicate male cancers. It was also a chance for me to raise awareness of autism in children, which is a cause I am heavily involved with."

The evening started with a re-run of the 1981 Grand National. There was then a three-course meal followed by a speech from Bob about his life, the Grand National and the work of the Trust.

At the end of the evening Allen made a short speech about his work since 2004 raising autism awareness and the success of his son, Paul who is autistic and follows the Son-Rise Program.

The Son-Rise Program is a treatment for children and adults challenged by Autism, Autism Spectrum Disorders, Pervasive Developmental Disorder (PDD), Asperger's Syndrome, and other developmental difficulties.



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It teaches a specific and comprehensive system of treatment and education designed to help families and caregivers enable their children to dramatically improve in all areas of learning, development, communication and skill acquisition.

Charles Scott from Whiddon Down hosted the auction of horse racing memorabilia and items donated by businesses from the area.

An original painting of Aldaniti by Linda Slater, an equestrian artist sold for £520. An Aldaniti head print signed by Bob Champion sold for £600.

Allen added: "During the evening Bob signed a lovely photo of himself with Aldaniti and presented it to Hayden Goulder from West Sussex, who is autistic. Hayden came especially for the evening hoping to meet Bob, so it was the icing on the cake for him."

For more information about Tavistock Tyres, which is located at Unit 23 on Plymouth Road Industrial Estate in Tavistock, and the support it gave to the Bob Champion Cancer Trust, please call the company on 01822 617966.

**ENDS**

**For further media details, please call Porcupine PR on 01278 446801, email [Sarah@porcupinepr.co.uk](mailto:Sarah@porcupinepr.co.uk) or visit [www.porcupinepr.co.uk](http://www.porcupinepr.co.uk).**



**Photograph 1:** (From left to right) Linda Slater, equestrian artist, and Bob Champion with Linda's painting of Aldaniti and Bob. (Photograph courtesy of Lisa Seward)



**Photograph 2** (From left to right) Francis Jasper from the Union Inn, Derek Pethick, Chairman of Tavistock AFC, Bob Champion MBE, Sally Perkin from the Market Inn and Tim Schmidt, Manager at Tavistock Tyres, and main sponsor of Tavistock AFC first team, at the charity event to raise money for Bob Champion Cancer Trust and to increase awareness of autism in children. (Photograph courtesy of Lisa Seward)



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### **Notes to Editors:**

For more information about the Bob Champion Cancer Trust, please visit [www.bobchampion.org.uk](http://www.bobchampion.org.uk).