

LOCAL MAN JOHN MARTIN SHAVES HIS HEAD FOR SKIN DISEASE RESEARCH

Psoriasis sufferer John Martin has shaved his long locks to raise money for skin disease research. John, from Eastbourne in Darlington has shaved his hair for charity every decade on his 30th, 40th and now 50th birthday raising £355.

Hairdresser Ashleigh Fairhurst was trusted to shave John's longer-than-shoulder-length hair and beard during his 50th birthday party at the *Wheatsheaf pub* on Yarm Road on Sunday 28th August.

John, who is now retired with psoriatic arthritis, explained *"I try to manage both conditions with as little medication as possible because I suffer from side effects so much. I'm hoping for the day they find a cure/treatment without severe side effects that is suitable for me too."*

Post-shave John said, *"Well the drastic deed is done, shocking at the time but I'm getting used to it now. Thank you to everyone for supporting me and such a great charity."*

John will also donate his hair to the *Little Princess Trust*.



You can still donate to John on Just Giving here:
<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/John-Martin40>

The **British Skin Foundation** is the only UK charity dedicated to raising funds for skin disease and skin cancer research. There are **eight million** people living with a skin disease in the UK, some are manageable and others are severe enough to kill. Skin disease doesn't just affect the skin. It can have a huge impact on a person's day-to-day life, crush self-confidence, restrict movement, lead to depression and put a huge strain on families as well as personal relationships.

Our unwavering commitment to funding quality research means we won't stop until we've found cures for common skin problems like eczema and acne through to potential killers like malignant melanoma. This year the British Skin Foundation turns 20 years old, giving out more than £10 million in grants to over 300 research projects since 1996.

For further information please contact:

lisa@britishskinfoundation.org.uk or call 020 7391 6347

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