

April 2019

DARING LOCAL FUNDRAISING TEAM TAKE LEAP OF FAITH IN ACELORMITTAL ORBIT ABSEIL

Lepra's daring fundraising team will be taking a leap of faith on 4th May, by abseiling down the ArcelorMittal Orbit in Stratford, to raise funds for Lepra. Olivia Egan, Phoebe Nicholson, Angela Stafford, Lucy Fenna and Amy Sabin will be taking on this impressive challenge to help people affected by leprosy. The fundraising team are aiming to raise £1000, the money donated will be used to help diagnose people in India, Mozambique and Bangladesh with leprosy, along with providing a cure and any post treatment care that they may need.

When asked about her motivations for abseiling Olivia stated, "Working at Lepra you see and hear first-hand the challenges people affected by leprosy face, from misdiagnosis to unnecessary disabilities as well as the prejudice and discrimination that can come alongside this. You also get to learn more about the incredible people overcoming these challenges, who are now trying to help others and make a difference. We have decided to take on our own small challenge of abseiling 262 feet to beat leprosy and raise awareness of this neglected disease."

You can support Lepra's fundraising team by donating to their fundraising page:

www.wonderful.org/fundraiser/teamlepraabseil-Ofd91348

Those who are interested in fundraising for Lepra are advised to email fundraising@lepra.org.uk to find out about opportunities and how to get involved.

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For more information please contact:

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Notes for Editors

About Lepra and leprosy

Lepra is a UK-based international specialist charity that has been working to beat leprosy since 1924. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II became Patron of Lepra in 1952, shortly after the death of her father King George VI, who had been Lepra's Patron since the charity was founded in 1924.

Leprosy affects over 7 million of the most vulnerable people in the world, causing life-changing disabilities and attracting terrible prejudice and discrimination. **But there is a cure.**

Lepra works to beat leprosy in India, Bangladesh and Mozambique by finding, diagnosing and treating people affected by the disease. By raising awareness, pushing for early detection and supporting people living with disabilities caused by leprosy, Lepra works towards a day when this disease no longer destroys lives.

Last year, the charity reached 301,000 people through diagnosis, treatment and care. It reached a further 1.7 million people through health education and events to raise awareness of leprosy and other neglected diseases.

Find out more about Lepra on its website and social media channels:

Website: www.lepra.org.uk

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/LepraUK>

Facebook: <https://https://www.facebook.com/LEPRAUK/>

You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/LEPRAHinA>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/LepraUK/>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/lepra/>