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sia spinal injuries association
for life after spinal cord injury



GUNPOWDER BALL 2026

Thursday 5 November
The Royal National Hotel

Supporting sponsor

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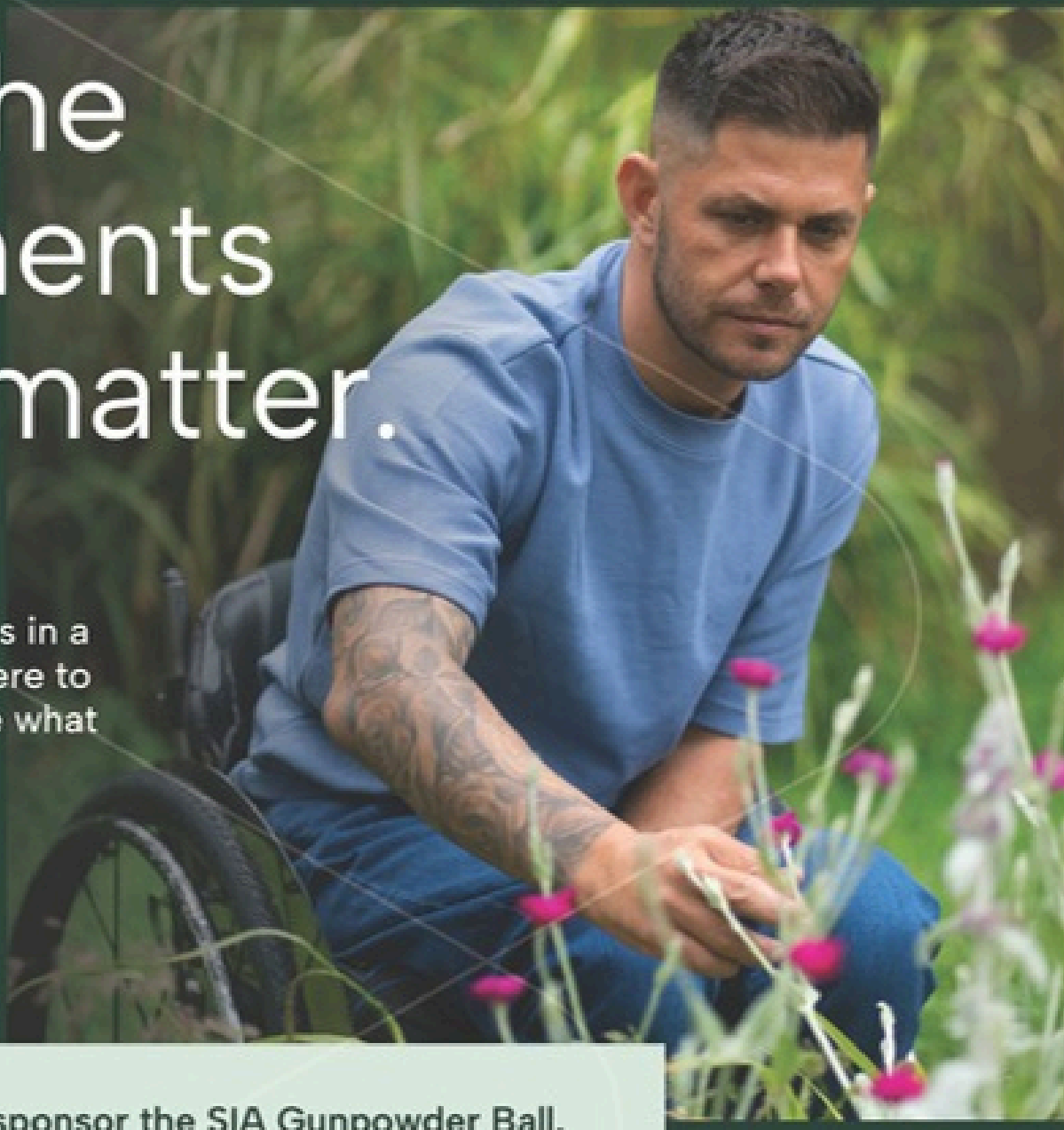
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fletchers solicitors

For the moments that matter.



When life changes in a moment, we're here to help you navigate what comes next.

We are proud to sponsor the SIA Gunpowder Ball.

A spinal cord injury can leave people feeling uncertain about how their future will look, what support is available, and where to turn.

As one of the UK's leading specialists in serious injury and medical negligence law, we help bring clarity at a time of uncertainty. We'll help you understand what has happened, guide you through what comes next, and secure the support you need to help you move forward.

We help people and families recover, rebuild and regain independence. Because our role isn't simply to handle a claim. It's to stand beside you, helping you rebuild your life so you can focus on the moments that matter.

WELCOME

I am delighted to welcome you to SIA's 2026 Gunpowder Ball, held once again at the wonderful Royal National Hotel in London.

The Gunpowder Ball is one of my calendar highlights. It is one room I can always walk from end to end knowing I will be chatting to and meeting people united in our cause.

Our ambition at SIA is to be able to offer a lifetime of care - standing by people with SCI from injury to end of life - advocating for their needs, their wishes, their independence and their right to choose, for as many years as we are needed.

Tonight you will hear from Val Milnes who became spinal cord injured in a skiing accident. Val's life changed in an instant and she found herself in a world she didn't understand, facing circumstances she felt powerless to control.

And then she finds SIA - Support Coordinators who are supporting newly injured people from the very first days of injury, offering understanding, hope and guidance; our Clinical specialists advocating for her health and care; our Advocacy team working on access to care, health and benefits to which Val and all our members are entitled.

None of this should need fighting for. But it does. And so perhaps the most important story of all is behind the scenes - our campaigners working with the government to create lasting change to ensure people can choose the life they want after spinal cord injury. Val tells us how SIA's support helped turn her life around, from offering guidance on travel independence, to advocating for her benefits and more. Her story is a powerful reminder of what can happen when someone has the right support, at the right time, and knows they do not have to face the future alone.

We are entering the second half of our Strategy 2030. And I want it to be a time where we force the issues – the systemic failures. Support and services should be for everyone, everywhere. Not just the person with a legal case, or the one who does get the right care by luck of postcode, or like Val, happens to find SIA. We must make it automatic. As your treatment ends and rehab and then re-integration back into your community begins – a network of help, support and advocacy must be there, from the first day, and for life. Needs change, circumstances evolve, and new barriers can emerge at any stage of life. Our commitment is to be there through all of it, providing expert advice, practical support and a trusted voice whenever it is needed.

YOU make all this possible. You help us keep doing what we do best; to be the expert, guiding voice for life after spinal cord injury. Thanks.

And tonight would simply not be possible without our headline partner Fletchers Solicitors, our supporting sponsor PCS and our category sponsors Active Care Group, Quilter Cheviot, Rathbones and Secure Healthcare Solutions. We are proud and grateful for their ever-present support.

Thank you my friends for being part of something important. Your presence is valued and your friendship is everything.

Nik Hartley OBE
CEO, Spinal Injures Association



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High quality, compassionate care for individuals with complex neurological and physical needs, delivered at home and in the community.

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Skilled and compassionate care professionals you can rely on.

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BETTER OUTCOMES

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LET'S TALK ABOUT

WHAT'S POSSIBLE.

Find out more or get in touch

www.pcs.uk.com

SCAN TO FIND OUT MORE OR VISIT

www.pcs.uk.com/sia/#sia-form

TONIGHT'S APPEAL

This evening, we're telling Val's story. After sustaining her SCI in a skiing accident in 1996, she was left feeling completely isolated. A single mother, with no idea how to navigate the complex world of disability and all that comes with it, she felt alone.



"It was difficult because I was isolated...I got to the point where I didn't want to live."

People affected by SCI find themselves having to self-advocate in situations they never even considered before. Thankfully for Val, this was where SIA stepped in.

"SIA helped me with getting the car, getting benefits, all the information...I really wouldn't be where I am without SIA."

In the last year, SIA's advocacy team and support line helped over 1,100 people with continuing healthcare, social care and general support. But the need will continue to get greater. Donate this evening and help us to support even more people.



DONATE NOW

SIA's Specialist Advocacy Service

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Our advocacy team is here to help people affected by SCI to navigate the processes and ensure they get the quality care they deserve. We will provide advocacy and representation if they are refused or given inappropriate support.

Our team support people at meetings and assessments for NHS continuing healthcare and guide them through discussions with local authorities for social care provision. Our support and advice can help transform someone's options.

FIND OUT MORE



SIA's Advocacy and support line team

TRUSTED CARE PARTNER OF THE SPINAL INJURIES ASSOCIATION (SIA)

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Secure Healthcare Solutions



HELPING INDIVIDUALS TO LIVE FUFILLED LIVES AFTER SPINAL CORD INJURY

Personalised care, specialist support and greater independence, tailored to each individual's needs and goals.

Supporting What Matters Most to our Service Users

We believe everyone deserves a fulfilling life at home, with specialist care and everyday support tailored to their needs.

SPECIALIST COMPLEX CARE | TAILORED TO EACH INDIVIDUAL'S SPECIFIC NEEDS | CQC REGISTERED

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We help people live independently in the comfort of their own home.

INDEPENDENCE

Skilled, dedicated teams deliver complex care with dignity and respect.

PERSON CENTRED CARE

Care tailored around each person's needs, goals and what matters most.

PASSIONATE CARE • PERSON-CENTRED • INTEGRITY • EXCELLENCE • INDEPENDENCE

DISCUSS SPECIALIST COMPLEX CARE PROVISION

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GRAND PRIZE DRAW

Kindly sponsored by

QUILTER CHEVIOT

A luxury stay at Lucknam Park in Wiltshire, including an overnight stay, four-course tasting menu at Michelin-starred Restaurant Hywel Jones, a full English breakfast and use of the spa facilities. Tickets £30 each.
Buy your tickets from SIA staff who will be visiting you at your table. The winner will be drawn at approx. 22.30pm

SILENT & LIVE AUCTION

Please support us by bidding on the auction; a great chance to get your Christmas shopping started! The silent auction closes at 22.10pm, see the catalogue on your table to bid. The live auction will begin at approx. 21.40pm.

Your donations are hugely important to ensuring we raise vital funds for SIA. Thank you for your support!

WHERE YOUR DONATIONS GO

£2,500 could help fund SIA's community groups giving people with spinal cord injury across the country a safe space to meet others and talk openly about their challenges and experiences.

£260 could help fund a block of 10 hour-long counselling session for people struggling to cope with the mental and emotional impact of spinal cord injury.

£106 could help cover the cost of a peer support session providing families with vital advice and support from the perspective of someone who has lived experience of spinal cord injury.

£26 could help fund an hour-long counselling session for people struggling to cope with the mental and emotional impact of spinal cord injury.



Support at every stage.
One team behind you.

Award-winning specialist spinal cord injury support, from intensive rehabilitation to care at home.

active care group
case management

active neuro
specialist rehabilitation transforming recovery

active assistance
specialist care in the home



Proud to support the sia spinal injuries association for life after spinal cord injury Gunpowder Ball

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Secure Healthcare Solutions
A Trusted Partner

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SIA OVERSEAS CYCLE

JOIN TEAM SIA FOR AN UNFORGETTABLE FIVE DAY CYCLING ADVENTURE, COMBINING CAMARADERIE, CULTURE, AND A GREAT CAUSE.

LAKE GARDA, ITALY
5 - 9 MAY 2027






CLICK HERE TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST

www.spinal.co.uk/events



RATHBONES

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Our specialist Personal Injury and Court of Protection team works in close partnership with clients, families, deputies and legal professionals to safeguard assets and provide long-term financial stewardship. Whether entrusted with a compensation award or supporting clients with their long-term needs, we deliver a personalised service shaped around each client's individual needs, with a consistent focus on understanding and responding to each client's evolving needs, ensuring their circumstances and priorities remain at the heart of every decision.

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The value of investments and the income from them may go down as well as up and you may not get back what you originally invested.

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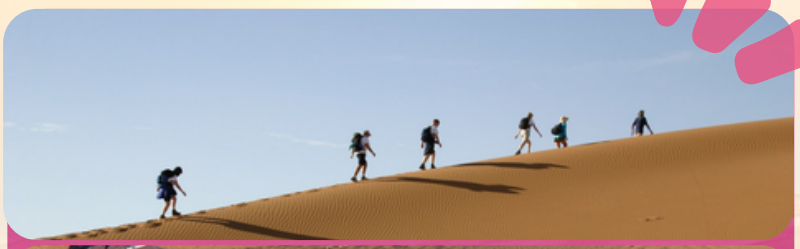
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DISCOVER Adventure

Sahara Desert Trek (Moroccco)

Join our friends at Discover Adventure for a challenging 7 day trek across vast dunes, rocky plains and star-filled night skies.





"What an amazing once in a lifetime experience trekking through the Sahara. The whole group were fab from start to finish and made some great memories!"

WHEN *multiple dates available

- 13 – 19 Nov 2027
- 11 – 17 Mar 2028

COST

- £199 registration fee
- £2,300 (£1150 to cover the cost of trip and £1150 to fundraise for SIA) *Full Payment and Part Payment options also available.



www.discoveradventure.com/charities/spinal-injuries-association

info@discoveradventure.com

Independent Reviews 96% ABTA ABTA No.Y6195

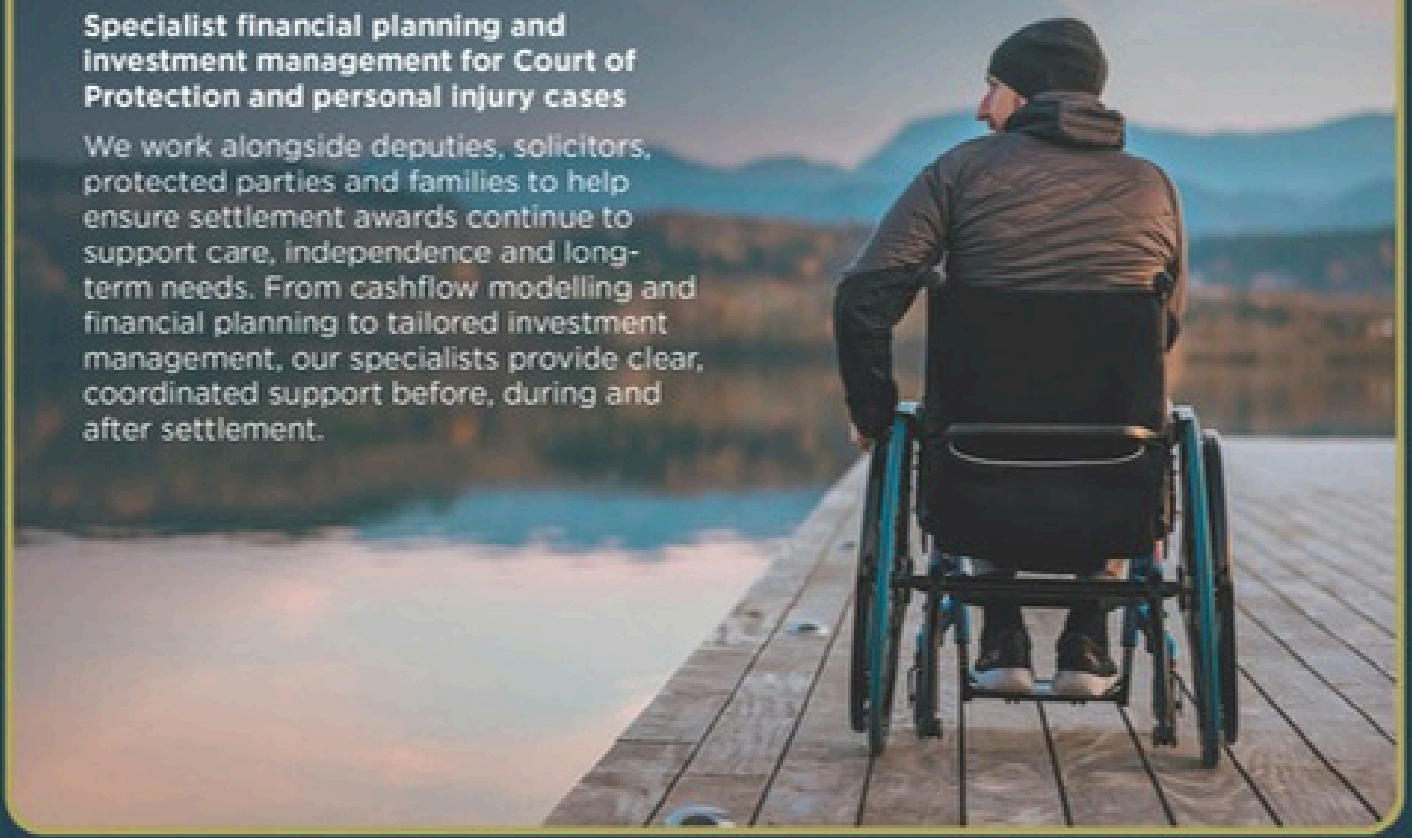
TABLE HOSTS

We would also like to extend a huge thank you to the table hosts for their incredible support tonight.

1 Crow Office Row
12 King's Bench Walk
7BR
Active Care Group
Bolt Burdon Kemp
Brooks Macdonald
Charles Stanley
Chase De Vere
Coastal Case Management
Complexus Care
Corpore
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Evelyn Partners
First Active 365
Fletchers Solicitors
Frenkel Topping
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We work alongside deputies, solicitors, protected parties and families to help ensure settlement awards continue to support care, independence and long-term needs. From cashflow modelling and financial planning to tailored investment management, our specialists provide clear, coordinated support before, during and after settlement.

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SIA RL

REBUILDING LIVES CONFERENCE

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for life after spinal cord injury

SAVE THE DATE

Lived experience at the heart of change

Join us for 2 days at Stadium MK



Thurs 7 & Fri 8 Oct 2027

FIND OUT MORE

For more information about sponsorship or exhibiting email: events@spinal.co.uk

2027 EVENTS

Take part in one of our fantastic fundraising events or organise your own to help raise vital funds for SIA.



CORNFLOWER BALL
18 March



LAKE GARDA OVERSEAS CYCLE
5 - 9 May



POLO DAY
25 June



SUPERHERO TRIATHLON
21 August



REBUILDING LIVES
7 - 8 Oct

Why not organise your own challenge event? Think about what you're interested in and use that as a starting point.
Contact fundraising@spinal.co.uk

CHARITY POLO DAY

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for life after spinal cord injury



Friday 25 June

Cirencester Park Polo Club, Gloucester

Join us for our Polo Day at one of the country's most prestigious clubs and raise vital funds and awareness for people with spinal cord injury.

Ticket includes: Champagne upon arrival, three-course meal with wine, an introduction to polo and match and an evening cocktail with music.

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST

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SIA Business Membership

Want to become part of a community dedicated to improving the lives of people with spinal cord injury?

FIND OUT MORE



sia Business Member

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

Charity no: 1054097

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A HUGE THANK YOU TO

EVENT SUPPLIERS

Auction Lots
Sweet & Lowdown Band
JR Centrepieces
Makin Lightin
Royal National Hotel

GUNPOWDER COMMITTEE

Tim Beasley
Steve Maloret
Laura Platts
Nicola Stanwix
William Theaker

EVENT CONTRIBUTORS

Auction prize donors
Simon Pinnell
Table hosts
Val Milnes

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