

Hello and welcome to our latest e-newsletter - we hope you find it interesting. Click on the links for more info:

**Cayden's ebay Auction – Last chance to bid ....** Adrian & Caroline Grove have organised an online Auction in memory of their son, Cayden, who died in April 2008 aged 22 days from late onset GBS infection. Adrian and Caroline want to raise money for GBSS to help stop other parents from going through such an awful experience. The auction includes celebrity and sporting memorabilia, signed artwork and various other items – You've still time to bid the auctions close between Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> October and Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> October 2009 and all of the final auction price goes to GBSS. Visit <http://myworld.ebay.co.uk/caydensgbssauction/> and good luck!

**GBSS Raffle 2009** - We only do one national fundraising campaign each year, and this is it! And we so need your support – all charities are affected by the recession and we are no exception. Please contribute if you can. The GBSS Christmas Draw 2009 is on Saturday, 12 December 2009. Our top three prizes are: 1st prize £500, 2nd prize £250 and 3rd prize £100. The closing date for returned raffle tickets stubs and money is Friday, 4 December 2009 (non-cash raffle prizes will only be sent to UK addresses). If you would like some of our raffle tickets to buy or sell to friends, colleagues, family, please contact us on [info@gbss.org.uk](mailto:info@gbss.org.uk) or 01444 416176.

**GBSS Christmas cards & gifts** – Please order your Christmas cards and other gifts from us, then we'll happily send you a catalogue or you can see what's on offer online at <http://tinyurl.com/gbssShop>

**Personalised Christmas cards** – If you'd like personalised Christmas cards, then you can still support your favourite charity! Charitycards are offering a new service – choose from 20 attractive designs and include any greeting in a choice of fonts and colours, together with a photograph if you wish. Prices start for 75p/card for text only and 95p/card with a photo (minimum order 20 cards). Fantastic personalised Christmas cards and supporting GBSS - check it out at <http://www.charitycards.co.uk/charities/gbss>.

**New research - Rapid testing for group B Streptococcus during labour: a test accuracy study with evaluation of acceptability and cost-effectiveness.** See <http://www.hta.ac.uk/project/1388.asp?src=alr> to download the summary or the long version. The conclusion was that neither of the rapid tests was sufficiently accurate to recommend it for routine use in clinical practice but intravenous antibiotics in labour to women, directed by screening with enriched culture medium at 35–37 weeks' gestation, is likely to be the most acceptable cost-effective strategy. However, the research paper concluded that “it is premature to suggest the implementation of this strategy at present.” Why?

**Do you have a story to tell?** Would you be able to tell your GBS story in 100-200 words and send it, and a photo, to us at GBSS? We'd like to include some stories in a variety of places – on our website, in our printed newsletter and in funding applications. And would you be able to say how GBSS has been able to help you (if we have, of course!)? This can be a powerful way of raising awareness of group B Strep and supporting our work. If you would like to help, please email Jane Plumb at [jplumb@gbss.org.uk](mailto:jplumb@gbss.org.uk) – and we promise we won't use your story/quote without your express permission!

**Twitter & Facebook** - You can now become a fan of GBSS on facebook <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Group-B-Strep-Support/98947320307>. You can also follow us on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/GBSSupport>. Each of these where we'll keep you up to date with what's happening at the charity, published articles and fundraising news. It's early days and we're still learning about Twitter and facebook, but we'd love you to join (and help us)!

**Free e-cards!** Don't forget you can send as many of our e-cards as you like: check out <http://www.gbss.org.uk/sendcard/index.php>. And if you have any pictures you would like us to consider for new e-cards, please send them to us at [info@gbss.org.uk](mailto:info@gbss.org.uk) and we'd be delighted to extend the collection!

That's all for now – we'll be in touch again in a few weeks time.

With best wishes from all of us here,

## The GBSS Team

If you'd prefer not to receive e-mails such as this from us, please let us know by replying to this email with REMOVE in the subject heading.

If you would like leaflets or posters to help raise awareness of GBS, please let us know and we'll happily send them to you.

## Group B Strep Support

preventing life-threatening group B Strep infection in newborn babies

Tel: 01444 416176

Email: [info@gbss.org.uk](mailto:info@gbss.org.uk)

Fax: 0870 803 0024

Web: [www.gbss.org.uk](http://www.gbss.org.uk)

P O Box 203, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH16 1GF