

17 December 2009

Dstl raises more than £29,000 for charity

Staff from the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl) have raised more than £29,000 for charity during 2009, and are aiming to exceed that figure in 2010.

Cancer Research UK, Help for Heroes, local air ambulance services and the Royal British Legion have all benefited from Dstl's fundraising enthusiasm, with the final total coming in at £29,123. Events ranged from abseiling to head-shaving and staff have now selected the charities they wish to help in 2010.

Brenda Hinton, Dstl Charity Coordinator, said: "Support to charities is close to many people's hearts in Dstl and I am pleased that so many people took the trouble to respond."

Staff at Dstl's Fort Halstead site, near Sevenoaks in Kent, will be raising money for Demelza House Children's Hospice. Demelza provides hospice care for over 600 children with life-limiting illnesses and their families across East Sussex, Kent and South East London

Staff at Dstl's Portsdown West site, near Portsmouth, will be raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support. Macmillan provides practical, medical and financial support and push for better cancer care.

Staff at Dstl's Porton Down site, near Salisbury, will be raising money for Naomi House Children's Hospice, based in Sutton Scotney. Since welcoming the first families to stay on 27 June 1997, the hospice has cared for around 450 children with life-limiting conditions as well as their parents, brothers and sisters.

All three Dstl sites will be supporting the Soldiers Sailors, Airmen and Families Association (SSAFA). SSAFA help and support those who serve in the Armed Services, used to serve, and their families.

Dstl will also continue to support the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Brenda added: "Staff raised an incredible amount in 2009 – let's see if we can beat that figure in 2010".

ENDS

For more information contact the Dstl press office on 01980 658088, 07766 134768, press@dstl.gov.uk.

Notes to editors:

Dstl

The Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl) is a centre of scientific excellence for the Ministry of Defence (MOD). Its 3,500 strong workforce includes some of the nation's most talented and creative scientists with the brief to ensure that the UK Armed Forces and Government are supported in-house by the very best impartial scientific and technological advice. Dstl's position at the heart of the MOD means that its advice is trusted by governments, academia, industry and international partners. It offers timely and accurate advice at all levels of military planning and operations, both overseas and on the home front. For more information please visit www.dstl.gov.uk