



**News Release**  
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Syncope Trust And Reflex anoxic Seizures

[www.stars.org.uk](http://www.stars.org.uk)

Working together with individuals, families and medical professionals to offer support and information on Syncope and Reflex Anoxic Seizures

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## Tyneside man runs for STARS, the charity that helped his friend.

**NEWCASTLE 18 SEPTEMBER 2011:** A man from Tyneside is taking part in the gruelling Great North Run to raise funds for Syncope Trust and Reflex Anoxic Seizures (STARS).

Gordon Cunningham, from Tyne and Wear decided to tackle the half-marathon after his friend was diagnosed with Reflex Syncope (Vasovagal syncope), a disorder of the autonomic nervous system, which regulates blood pressure and heart rate. The charity STARS offered him much needed support and information and Gordon is completing this run as a way of saying thank you.

"A good friend of mine started collapsing, and once epilepsy and brain tumours had been ruled out, the doctors lost interest. STARS' feels is that anyone presenting with unexplained loss of consciousness receives the correct diagnosis, the appropriate treatment, informed support and attention from the appropriate medical professional. "

STARS ([www.stars.org.uk](http://www.stars.org.uk)) is the leading resource for support and information for both patients and professionals on syncope. The charity provides information and support from diagnosis through to treatment and long term management of syncope for all age groups.

The Great North Run covers 13.1miles, starting in Newcastle and ending in South Shields. The race takes place on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2011.

Fundraising Officer at STARS, Fiona Ahearn, said, "We'd like to say a big thank you to Gordon for helping to raise vital funds for our charity. We're so pleased that we were able to help his friend when he needed support."

Gordon has a Just Giving page at <http://www.justgiving.com/gordondcunningham>

ENDS

Editor's Notes:

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[www.stars.org.uk](http://www.stars.org.uk)   [info@stars.org.uk](mailto:info@stars.org.uk)   [www.education.stars.org.uk](http://www.education.stars.org.uk)

**Patrons:** Prof John Stephenson, Prof Christopher Mathais, Prof Rose Anne Kenny, Dr William Whitehouse, Dr Adam Fitzpatrick,  
Sir Elton John CBE, Twiggy Lawson, Sir Roger Moore KBE, John Burton Race.  
**Trustees:** Mrs Susan Broatch, Mr Andrew Fear, Prof Rose Anne Kenny, Mrs Cathrine Reid, Dr William Whitehouse.  
**Founder & Chief Executive:** Mrs Trudie Lobban MBE

Registered Charity Number – 1084898



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1. For more information please contact Fiona Ahearn at [Fiona@stars.org.uk](mailto:Fiona@stars.org.uk) or call 01789 451826
  2. The STARS website is at [www.stars.org.uk](http://www.stars.org.uk)

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