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Press release

**12 September 2017**

**Band Aid producer teams up with Bath artists for mental health charity single**

He produced the most famous charity single of all time, and now Stuart Bruce is working with artists **Sam Eason** and the band **littlemen** on a charity single in aid of St Mungo’s and other local charities for World Mental Health Day 2017.

The single – *More Than That* – was written and recorded at NAM studios in Wiltshire, in a matter of weeks after the artists set themselves a challenge to release the song in time for World Mental Health Day on Wednesday 10 October.

To mark the release of the single, Sam Eason and littlemen will be performing a one-off gig - Music in Mind - at the Orchard Street Theatre in Bath on Friday 13tOctober.

Tickets for the gig are on sale now from [brown paper tickets](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3064448).

The single is on sale on Friday 6 October from [Bandcamp](https://bandcamp.com/) and [iTunes](https://www.apple.com/uk/itunes/) and costs 79p to download.

All proceeds will be equally split between two St Mungo’s projects New Hope and Hope Space, plus KS2 and the Bath Mind project Greenlinks @ the Potting Shed.

Stuart Bruce said: “The twin issues of homelessness and mental health and how they interrelate are extremely important to me. I have always felt that as a nation we do not pay enough attention to them and so the work of charities such as St Mungo’s and the other projects in Bath is of paramount importance. I am very pleased to be involved in the making of this single and hope it succeeds in raising awareness and much needed funds to help in this incredibly important work.”

Artist, Sam Eason, who hassuffered with anxiety and depression for a number of years said: “Talking about mental health has enabled me to come to terms with the illness and understand more about what it means to me. I'm honoured to be supporting St Mungo’s in raising awareness of their vital local projects, as well as highlighting the national work of the charity. It's also a massive treat to be able to write, record and play alongside my very good friend Simon Allen and the incredible littlemen for Music In Mind 2017. I'm massively excited about the song we are working on together and look forward to sharing it in the run up to World Mental Health Day."

littlemen’s Simon Allen has experienced homelessness and struggled with his own mental health. He tells us: “Since I was 15 I've experienced many ups and downs with my mental health, the highs of feeling well, the lows of curling up in the foetal position crying my eyes out and not being able to speak to a soul, the anti-depressants and counselling. And so, I find myself writing songs with my brother in musical arms, Sam Eason, trying to raise some awareness and lift a little bit more of the lid off the stigma about talking about mental health. Writing songs is what Sam and I do and we hope, that our words and melody will get people singing and talking.”

Helen Brian. Mental Health Move On Worker for St Mungo’s said: *“*We are hugely grateful to Stuart, Sam and littlemen. These massively talented musicians have a huge local fan base and we are delighted that they are working with us to promote this amazing cause and to fundraise for vital mental health peer groups in Bath.”

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**Notes to editors:**

Stuart Bruce, Sam Eason, Simon Allen and Helen Brian are available for media interviews. For information, images please contact Jo Lenny at St Mungo’s on jo.lenny@mungos.org or call 07702 858243

**littlemen**are led by singer-songwriter Simon Allen with Robert Brian (drums), guitarists Paul Hartshorn and Andrew Maggs (bass) and Jon Buckett (keys). littlemen play emotive alt-country / Americana and after releasing debut album, ‘Long Road Home’ in 2016 are now working on an EP set for release later in 2017.

**Sam Eason** is a Bath based singer-songwriter originally from Bristol. He has performed live sessions on BBC Introducing in The West and has supported the likes of Scott Matthews, Turin Brakes and James Vincent McMorrow. He released his second EP, ‘Undertow’ written about his own mental health struggles, in January 2017

**Further information on the groups that money raised will support:**

**(St Mungo’s) New Hope –** a network of people looking at ways to improve mental health services in B&NES. Offering support to volunteers, carers and people with experience of mental health. They also support people to attend monthly gigs and events who would otherwise not be able to due to social isolation or their mental health. Contact: NewHopeBanes@gmail.com

**(St Mungo’s) Hope Space** – This volunteer run group meets every Tuesday evening in Bath. It is open to anyone feeling socially isolated, emotionally fragile, depressed or anxious.  An informal gathering offering refreshments, conversation, games and companionship. Call or text Ralph 0782 511 5775.

The money will also support:

**KS2 –** A carer run group meeting monthly in Bath. Providing support to carers of people with mental health issues. Working with and informing services about what works for carers, in order to improve their support and the support of service users. Call: 07528 668040 or email: admin@ks2bath.org

The Bath **Mind** project **Greenlinks @ the Potting Shed** - a peer led group gardening at Ammerdown, near Radstock. Open to anyone who wants to take advantage of the benefits of working outdoors with a small, friendly, supportive group to improve their physical and mental health and wellbeing. Call: 01225 831852 or Email: community@bathmind.org.uk

**To find out about World Mental Health day and the other local events go to:** [**www.newhopebanes.org**](http://www.newhopebanes.org)