

APPEAL

# Sam takes control on flight to America

■ Cancer sufferer visits cockpit on journey to the States for treatment

CANCER battler Sam Shaw got a special treat when he jetted off to America for his treatment — the chance to sit in the cockpit of a plane.

The four-year-old, from Huddlesden, journeyed to Philadelphia to receive immunotherapy treatment.

Sam, of Glencoe Avenue, was diagnosed with child-



Sam Shaw points the way to Philadelphia on the map and, left, with mum Christine in the cockpit



Sam was really good on the flight

Christine Shaw

By DAN CLOUGH  
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hood cancer neuroblastoma in January and a campaign to raise £250,000 to pay for treatment was launched.

She said: "All Sam's grandparents came to the airport to wave him off. "It was a strange goodbye as they will not see him for months after seeing him every day this year. "Sam was really good on the flight, which took seven-and-a-half hours and he really enjoyed seeing where the pilot sits. "He got to sit in the pilot's seat in the cockpit when we arrived in Philadelphia and we also managed to have a day out and about sightseeing when we got there. Sam has since had a number of scans, tests and appointments ahead of his treatment. Mrs Shaw said: "He has had a hard week of long days at the hospital full of tests, scans, examinations and appointments. "He has had a lot of change to get used to with a new home, hospital, doctors and nurses. "He says people talk funny

here and he hasn't got his family or friends around. "It is such a lot for a four-year-old to adapt to, but he has mostly taken it all in his stride." Mrs Shaw also thanked people for donating to the appeal and urged people to continue their support as more cash may be needed in case of any complications. She said: "Once again, we would like to thank everyone who has supported Sam's appeal and those who are continuing to do so."

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The treatment is unavailable on the NHS but could improve the youngster's chances of survival by 20 per cent.

Mum Christine, who has travelled out with Sam alongside husband Carl, said they were prepared for a long stay in America.

will be voting yes. "The College continues to invest heavily in our growing 65 million campus supporting around 15,000 students each year. "We are keen to work

## Hallowe'en fun in park

A PARK will be turned into a haunted graveyard as part of Hallowe'en celebrations on Thursday.

Ghostly dress up, interactive games and a scare zone will transform Rhyddings Park, Oswaldtwistle, from 6pm at the family event hosted by the friends group and Civic Arts Centre.

### Festive fun run

RUNNERS and walkers are needed to take part in East Lancashire Hospice's fundraising Santa dash in Clitheroe.

The event on Friday, December 6, kick-starts the festive season with hundreds of Santas and reindeer dashing through the streets along the 1km route. Call 01254 733411 to register.

## Health fears

ALMOST two-thirds of women in the North West put the health of their families before their own, a new survey suggests.

Catherine Westwood, editor of Woman's Own magazine, which ran the study, said: "It's frightening to think we are putting ourselves in second place.

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