

MRF Media contact BOTTESFORD, Lincolnshire

Lincolnshire mother's warning: Babies under one hit hardest by meningitis and septicaemia.

Lucy Jackson from Bottesford.

5 members of Lucy's family suffered from meningitis. In her words: My niece contracted Meningitis at 6 weeks old in 2006, she is now 3.5 years and full of life and love (and cheekiness!). In 2007 my brother in law and I raised well over £1000 doing the Great South Run for the charity. Amazingly my son was born in November 2008 (just over a year after the race) and he contracted meningitis when he was 9.5 weeks old (he was very ill with RSV bronchiolitis and had spent a week on life support, he contracted the illness during that time) he also got encephalitis. He is now 20 months and is so delightful and wonderful.

It's also odd that I had meningitis when I was a babe, so did my older brother who died at 17 months old. My father also had the illness in adulthood. We are amazed at all the cases just in our family... we always make sure all our friends and family know the symptoms etc... you can never be too equipped with that sort of knowledge.

Quote for media use: Said Lucy: "There have been five cases of meningitis in our family. My son and my niece both had the disease at less than one year old. I suffered from meningitis, as have my niece, father and brother. Babies and children under one are 28 times more susceptible to meningitis, and two babies die from the diseases each week. It's vitally important to be aware of the symptoms That's why I am supporting Meningitis Research Foundation's Meningitis Awareness Week."

Willing to do: Press, Radio, TV

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