



LONG ROAD AHEAD: Max Gare is undergoing intensive physiotherapy in hospital

Max is learning to walk again after bike crash

Boy, ten, suffered horrific head injuries in tumble

NAINA BHARDWAJ

A SCHOOLBOY is learning how to walk again after a simple fall from his bicycle left him suffering from traumatic head injuries.

Max Gare was cycling in the car park of Prestongrange Industrial Heritage Museum when he took a tumble and hit a metal pole.

A passer-by called an ambulance which rushed Max to Edinburgh's Royal Hospital for Sick Children, where he was diagnosed with a fractured skull, a broken neck and bleeding and swelling of the brain.

The ten-year-old spent two weeks in intensive care and was put in a body and head brace for at least three months. He is undergoing physiotherapy in the neurosurgery ward with help from his mum, Louise McKenna, but their home will require changes to make it easier for him to get about.

He will need further surgery once the brace is removed and his medical team are currently putting together a treatment



GENEROSITY: Pete Barrie with mum Louise McKenna

plan for him. This will involve home physiotherapy, occupational therapy and a psychologist, as he may not be able to do many of the things he used to do for himself at first.

To help meet the cost of adapting the family home, freemasons from Lodge Thorn-tree 1038 in Prestonpans have rallied to the aid Max and his mum, raising £1000 towards the final bill.

Pete Barrie, the Master of Lodge Thorn-tree 1038, said: "I heard about Max's accident through a mutual friend and since he was so young and had suffered such traumatic injuries, I wondered how our lodge could assist."

"During this pandemic, it's been important to get freemasonry back to basics and assist in the local community, so this was the ideal situation."

"We started to fundraise by auctioning off a limited edition print of Rudi Skácel from the 2012 Cup Final and then various members made donations."

"I think everyone could relate to the accident as well, as we are all still kids at heart and I remember having various bumps and bruises myself."

After lodge members presented Ms McKenna with £1000 she said: "I honestly can't thank the brethren of Lodge Thorn-tree enough for this amazing kindness, it means so much to us."

City full of DIY disasters

RESIDENTS of the Capital have ranked fifth in a list of the UK's top ten most disaster-prone DIY enthusiasts according to a new poll.

A survey analysed 820,000 queries about seriously botched work such as flooded bathrooms, bungled pipe work, dodgy electrics and collapsed shelves.

Londoners were most likely to have messed up a do-it-yourself repair, found the poll by Rated People, which provides tradesmen who often spend their time clearing up amateur disasters.

Boy knocked off bike by car on East Lothian road

A DRIVER who knocked a schoolboy off his bike is being sought by police after he left the scene of the accident.

The 12-year-old suffered a serious arm injury after he was struck from behind and sent flying by a Vauxhall car, possibly a Signum or Astra, at around 5.30pm on Friday on the A6124 between Carberry and Whitecraig.

The driver of the "dark-coloured" vehicle stopped to check on the boy, but left the scene before police officers arrived.

Appealing for witnesses or

any motorists with dashcam footage to come forward, PC Paul Aitchison from Lothian & Scottish Borders Road Policing Unit said: "This young boy has fortunately not received any life-threatening injuries as a result of the incident, however we need to trace the driver of the car involved."

"We understand that the car approached him from behind, and then drove off in the direction of Whitecraig. I'd appeal to the driver of this car to contact us so that they can assist us with our investigation."

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