

NEWS



This Frankel painting is to be auctioned at Windsor tonight

Cecil nephew sponsors race in memory of daughter

SIR HENRY CECIL'S nephew Mikey will complete a 1,000-mile charity bike ride today at Windsor, where he and wife Anna have sponsored the Isla Cecil Brighter Future Maiden Fillies' Stakes in memory of their daughter who died aged just 15 months last year, writes *Graham Green*.

The two-week tour of places Isla visited across the UK during her short life was undertaken by Cecil, a property investment manager from Fulham, in support of the fund the couple launched to aid research into childhood brain tumours.

The fund will help finance Instinct, a new research consortium led by Isla's oncologist at Great Ormond Street Hospital, Dr Darren Hargrave.

Jockeys riding in this evening's

race will wear wristbands carrying the fund's name, while among lots going under the hammer at a dinner at the racecourse for more than 300 guests is a painting of Frankel by celebrated artist Sophie Gilbert-Denhøm.

Cecil said: "We have been overwhelmed by the support of so many who are working so hard to get this consortium funded so it can get up and running.

"We have already raised £250,000, not only thanks to my fellow cyclists but to others known and unknown to Anna and me who were moved by Isla's story contacting us with fundraising initiatives."

To donate or for information on the campaign, visit islabrighterfuture.com.