

Brave teen fighting cancer for 2nd time

By **DAISY COLLINS**
daisy.collins@archant.co.uk

A FOOTBALL-mad teenager who survived a brain tumour as a toddler has been struck down once more by an inoperable bone cancer.

The “devastated” family of Pedro de Freitas, of Rosebery Avenue, Tottenham, are helping the Spurs fan battle the aggressive growth after he was diagnosed with it two years ago.

The 15-year-old has undergone chemotherapy and radiotherapy and suffers persistent aches and pains, but has refused to let cancer defeat him.

His mum and full-time carer Sonia de Freitas, 36, said: “Pedro successfully received treatment for a brain tumour when he was only two years old and for the next 11 years, although he had residual side effects of treatment and tumour, he managed to live a relatively normal life.

“However when he was



■ PEDRO de Freitas relaxes in his special chair, paid for by the React charity

about 13 we started noticing different symptoms; blurred vision, poor balance, things like that.

“Pedro had lots of tests to get to the bottom of his problems and we were devastated to find out that he had developed bone cancer in his skull.”

React, a charity which works with children with potential terminal illnesses, has gone some way to easing his pain by providing Pedro with a reclining massage chair, which he has now dubbed “his

throne”.

His parents, who also have three other children, struggled to raise the £350 needed for the chair and appealed to the charity for help.

Pedro, who was awarded a Haringey Hero award last year, continues to play sports including bowling and football but said the chair allows him to relax when his friends come to visit.

To get in touch with React, visit www.reactcharity.org.