

London Marathon April 2017



I had the opportunity to run the London Marathon in 2001. I had undergone surgery to remove a brain tumor ten months before, and although the prognosis was very grim (I was only given six months to live), I got myself fit enough to complete the marathon. I raised a lot of money to donate to The Brain Tumor Charity, formerly known as Samantha Dickson Brain Tumor Trust.

Miraculously, and against all the odds, I am still fit (relatively) and healthy. I am still under the hospital and yearly scans have not seen the tumor come back. So, 15 years later and two stone heavier, I still run but not to the level I did before. I have turned 50, but still feel I have the mental and physical determination to get myself fit enough to complete the marathon, once again raising lots of money for a cause that is close to my heart.

Our youngest son, who is now 20, has Hypohydrotic ED. Over the years, we have seen him cope with lots of issues with overheating and his lack of teeth. He has undergone a lot of dental treatment which is on-going, and last year implants were tried in both his upper and lower jaws. These were not 100% successful due to the lack of bone on the bottom jaw and seeing him beside himself with pain was very distressing. He faces further work which may well

include a bone graft before the next attempt to provide implants.

We are incredibly grateful for the support and knowledge that the ED Society has provided us with. The opportunity to be able to raise several thousand pounds in sponsorship would be the least I could do to show my appreciation to an organisation that has provided so much good advice, encouragement, and helpful medical support to us, and so many others who either have ED or family members who are affected by it.

I have a wide network of friends and family who have seen first-hand the issues our son has faced growing up. We have moved several times over the years and the support and generosity we have experienced from them has been phenomenal.

I am employed by a national based company and support from work colleagues for fund raising is the norm. I belong to a local church of 800 people who are like a large group of close friends to us.

My wife thinks running the marathon for the ED Society is a great idea. She has got some great ideas of fundraising events to help increase the total raised which I can donate. I am sure she would also welcome getting a slimmer, fitter husband once more!

I finished the marathon in 6:23:04 and managed to raise £1322 - it was pretty grueling but I'm so glad I did it, even if I did pass out shortly after the end.

Supporting a normal lifestyle

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