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## Super Fundraisers

**East Coast Ladies Darts Team** have recently raised over £1,000 for the Donor Family Network and we are really grateful to them for choosing us to be their sponsored charity for 2012 and 2013. One of their players is Carla Melling, Grandmother to Luca Giovannini, who sadly died in November 2011, aged 5 years.



**Simon Steward** is running five half marathons on behalf of the Donor Family Network this year. He completed his first run on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2013 in Watford in a time of 1 hr 41 mins and his next race is in Reading on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2013. Simon is raising money for the Network in memory of Luca Giovannini and has already raised the fantastic sum of £7,000. If you want to support Simon visit his Just Giving page.



**Philip Walton** a SNOD from South Wales is cycling from Paris to Geneva through Discover Adventure, in September 2013 (over 300 miles) and raising money for the Donor Family Network.



**Stamford Park Infant School** in Hale, Cheshire recently raised over £1,200 for the Donor Family Network by taking part in a Fun Run. Two of the children who raised the most money joined the Headteacher, Miss Thatcher in presenting a cheque to the Network.



## Why not run – or walk- for the Network this year?

Did you know that sponsored 10k runs are held all around the country? If you are interested in running for the Donor Family Network check out [www.runforall.com](http://www.runforall.com) for details of how to take part. If you prefer a slower pace, have a look at [www.bigfunrun.com](http://www.bigfunrun.com). These events take place at venues around the country, invariably in the safe environment of a park and are 5 km in length. You can walk if you wish, the majority of venues are suitable for a pushchair and at a lot of the venues you can even take the dog!



If you are interested in fund raising in this way, get in touch and we can provide you with sponsor forms and will advertise you efforts on our Facebook page. Alternatively, you could create a Just Giving page and make it yours with a story and photos. The main advantage of using Just Giving is that there is no need to collect names and then collect money after the event. Your sponsors just log onto Just Giving, choose Donor Family Network and pledge their donation on your page. Gift Aid is collected automatically. During 2012 over £6,000 was raised by our supporters using Just Giving and that figure has already been exceeded this year!

## Meetings Update

Donor Family Network Trustees continue to represent the Network on numerous committees and at meetings in relation to organ donation. NHSBT have requested the involvement of DFN in establishing an Organ Donation Bereavement Pack. They are aiming for a common approach by all NHSBT staff. Following consultation with staff, a common pack is to be formulated. The specimen pack will shortly be ready and will be presented to a number of donor families for consideration and comments, before being given to new donor families in the future.



Plans are coming to fruition regarding events for this year's Transplant Week and will include, as last year, a competition for colleges to produce a short film regarding organ donation.

NHSBT recently called a strategy meeting to discuss their options post 2013 when the recommendations from the Organ Donation Task Force finish. They invited recipient groups, donor families and clinicians from the UK and abroad (3 from the USA, 1 from Holland and 1 covering Europe). The committee formed looked at:

A review of the role of the Specialist Nurse, Organ Donation (SN-OD)

Review of how the approach is carried out and by who

Better organ retrieval and better matching of organs

Review of Intensive Care beds

Better recompense / incentives to donor hospitals

## Memory Poem

Love lives on forever in each memory and thought

Of the special ones who meant so much and the happiness they brought.

Love lives on forever, it will never fade away

For in our heart our loved ones are with us every day.

(If there is a poem which reminds you of your loved one or has given your comfort and hope, send it to us and we will include it in a future newsletter).

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## Donor Bus

The Donor Bus, an old London route master, was given to the Network many years ago. DFN Trustees accompanied the bus on the Transplant Torch Relay each year to the Transplant Games, travelling from the previous years' venue to the current venue stopping at many towns on



route. It advertised the games and also encouraged members of the public to join the organ donor register meeting one of our objectives - promoting organ and tissue donation. The Donor Family Network signed up thousands of members of the public onto the organ donor register. The bus has recently been sold, the proceeds to be used toward the development of the Gift of Life National Memorial.

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## Donate Life Campaign

This campaign aims to promote the organ donor register. Transplant Sport UK is organising a concert during National Transplant Week. Plans are moving forward for the concert to be held in the Sheffield City Hall on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2013 from 7.00 to 9.30 pm. Music workshops will be held during the day and publicity stands will be available. The organisers are still seeking members of donor families (adults or children) to make up a choir of over 200 to perform at this event, which will include performers from all aspects of the transplant community. Rehearsals will be held before the event. Further details may be obtained from the TSUK website. Tickets will be available shortly from TSUK.

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## iLIVEiGIVE Campaign

The Organ Donation Committee for South Devon Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust recently launched an awareness campaign called iLIVEiGIVE which focuses on inspiring people to think that if something happens to them, they could give the gift of life to many more people. The campaign involves specially designed t-shirts, worn as walking adverts by people attending events or posting their photo on Facebook. At the launch of the campaign two football teams wore the t-shirts during the warm up and many celebrities have been encouraged to wear the t-shirts.



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## Plans for Donor Recognition

As you are all already aware the Donor Family Network is currently raising funds for a national memorial to organ and tissue donors to be cited at the National Arboretum in Alrewas, Staffordshire. NHS Blood and Transplant, together with the Order of St John are now planning to establish a national donation recognition programme in 2013. This will be delivered locally by the respective Lord Lieutenant's throughout the UK on an annual basis.





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## Events

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Transplant Sport UK May Ball- Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2013, includes meal, dancing and charity auction.

To be held at the Tally Ho Conference Centre, Birmingham. Tickets £50.00 each from TSUK.

Donor Family Network Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving - Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July at 2 pm - St Margaret's Church, Great Barr, Birmingham B43 7BA.

To be followed by the Bi-Annual General Meeting in the Great Barr Memorial Hall—Agenda enclosed.

Transplant Sport UK Concert – City Hall, Sheffield- Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2013.

National Transplant Week – 8<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> July 2013.

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Join us on

**facebook**



and Twitter at:

@donorfamilynetw

Don't forget you can help us to raise funds by creating a fund raising page for your event on

**JustGiving**<sup>™</sup>

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## Organ Donation

Since 1 April 2012

- **1,060** people have donated organs
  - an additional **2,532** people have donated corneas
  - **3,241** people have received the gift of sight
  - **2,710** people have received transplants
- 7,442** people are still waiting for transplants