

Virgin London Marathon 2011- Human Interest

Name	Region	RN.	Story	Charity
Lee Riley	Cheshire	34322	Lee is an ex Royal Marine Commando who now works as a Personal Training Instructor. For the Virgin London Marathon 2011 Lee will be attempting to break the Guinness World Record for running the fastest time for a full marathon whilst carrying a 40lb backpack. However also going for this record is another Team Soldiers' charity runner Barry Stoddart.	ABF The Soldier's Charity
Captain Barry Stoddart	Aldershot	34338	Captain Stoddart is an Army Physical Training Instructor within The Parachute Regiment. Last year he broke the Guinness World Record for running a half marathon with a 40lb backpack. He did this at the 2010 Fleet Half Marathon and for the 2011 London Marathon will be going for the full marathon record. However also going for the record is another Team Soldiers' Charity runner, ex Royal Marine Lee Riley. The historic competition that exists between the Paratroopers and Royal Marines is legendary so there looks to be some serious inter team rivalry on the horizon!	ABF The Soldier's Charity
Warrant Officer Gary Chilton	Wiltshire	34310	Gary is the lead singer with the 'The Soldiers', a singing trio of serving soldiers from the British Army. As a band they've performed live at Albert Hall, have been televised on the BBC and will be embarking on their second nation-wide tour this March following the success of their platinum selling album 'Coming Home'. The trio have raised hundreds of thousands of pounds for service charities but their fundraising efforts, including Gary's London Marathon attempt, will solely benefit The Soldiers' Charity.	ABF The Soldier's Charity
Adnan Sarwar	Burnley	34295	Adnan used to serve with the British Army with the Royal Engineers. He has since undertaken a number of roles in the media including journalist for the Guardian newspaper and TV military consultant for the BBC. He is also an ambassador for our charity; when he left the army he found it financially impossible to build a new career. The charity was happy to give him a grant and his talents won early recognition when he was shortlisted for the London Fringe Festival Fiction Awards.	ABF The Soldier's Charity
Steve Barnsdale	Tring	34335	Steve will be running the 2011 Virgin London Marathon in memory of his son, Corporal David Barnsdale who was killed by an explosion whilst serving in Afghanistan in October 2010. David was a Explosive Ordinance Disposal Expert and his funeral was held on Armistice Day 2010. His local hometown of Tring, Herts have been incredibly supportive of the Barnsdale family during this tragic time and generous to the fundraising efforts of Steve for his first ever marathon.	ABF The Soldier's Charity

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Colin Maclachlan	Llanelli, Wales	34304	Colin will be running the 2011 Virgin London Marathon in memory of his son, Alec Maclachlan who was killed in Iraq following a lengthy abduction. Alec had previously served with The Parachute Regiment but was working in Iraq as a private security guard. His brother Ross, currently a serving soldier, was meant to be running the marathon with his Dad Colin but has been sent on sudden deployment to Afghanistan so is sadly unable to. Colin will be undertaking this challenge in memory of his son Alec, but also in honour of his other son, Ross who come race day, will be fighting in one of the most dangerous places on earth.	ABF The Soldier's Charity
John Bedford	Sheffield	34319	John will be running the London Marathon in a full EOD bomb disposal suit, in an effort to break the world record for "Fastest Marathon in a Bomb Disposal Suit." The current (unofficial) world record stands at 6 hours 56 minutes. He has the full support of Sheffield University which will undoubtedly be needed as his core body temperature will reach 39.5c and the suit on average weighs at least 55lbs.	ABF The Soldier's Charity
Glenn & Darren Aitchison	Suffolk	18805, 34312	Glenn is a serving soldier in the Royal Logistics Corp and has toured Afghanistan, Iraq and Bosnia, Darren previously served with the Royal Engineers. The brothers are attempting to break the current world records for a half marathon (at Fleet in March 2011) and then a full marathon dressed as a doctor and a nurse.	ABF The Soldier's Charity
Sam Peters	London	28353	Sam is an ex army officer, having served with The Royal Fusiliers but is now a journalist for The News of The World. He is running the London Marathon as part of a larger campaign entitled Row2Recovery where 4 individuals will be rowing across the Atlantic in December 2011. They have a number of high profile supporters including Ben Fogle supporting their campaign. The London Marathon will launch their campaign which aims to raise £1 million for service charities	ABF The Soldier's Charity

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Helen Maynard	Priors Marston, Warwickshire.	33430	Helen's demanding run through the streets of London is her way of honouring the daughter known affectionately as 'Piglet', who touched the hearts of many people, and grew into a real little character known to so many in the local area around their home village of Priors Marston, Warwickshire. Lucy had a very rare syndrome called CdLS, and a huge number of problems, including an undetected heart problem, but was otherwise strong and healthy, and led a full and very happy life. She had spells of respite care for many years at Acorns Children's Hospice, before she died suddenly in December 2009, aged 17. Geography teacher Helen said: "I feel that the Virgin London Marathon is something I want to do for Lucy as a way of honouring her and her life. It is almost as if she will be there, as my strength keeping me going. I would like to cross the finishing line for her, as well as for Acorns, without whom we would have found life very difficult when she was alive. We want to give something back to a truly amazing charity. Without them, you feel so alone."	Acorns
Kevin Harvey		31929	Kevin works full time as a physiotherapist at Acorns Children's Hospice. Kevin is going to try and break the current Guinness world record for the 'fastest marathon dressed as a nurse'. He decided not only for fundraising purposes, but also to increase awareness of Acorns' work with children and young people who have life limiting or life threatening conditions. There are many families and professionals who are not aware of the services offered by Acorns and other children's hospices across the country. Running in a nurse's outfit was the obvious choice, because even though he is a physiotherapist, the outfit draws attention to the amount of specialist nursing care these children require.	Acorns
Jemma and Mike Leonard		33440, 45997	Their children are both visually impaired as a result of oculocutaneous albinism. A condition resulting in poor development of the fovea in the central part of the retina, causing reduced vision for detail. They both also have associated nystagmus. The RNIB have given their children opportunities that they wouldn't normally have access to from enlarged library books to actioneers activities.	Action for Blind People/RNIB
PJ Hopper	Vauxhall, London	50935	PJ will be running the event in a Elephant costume (predictably called 'Nelly') for the Africa Educational Trust. He is aiming to get round in 5 Hours. The Elephant is also the logo/mascot of PJ's Rugby Club the Kings Cross Steelers.	Africa Education Trust

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Fabiola Adnan	Earl Shilton	7698	Losing a baby prematurely eight years ago made fabiola determined that if given the chance she would go the extra mile to help families who have suffered similarly. Now she is set to do just that. She has done half marathons, 5k and 10k races but this will be her first 26 mile run. However she is following a training plan three or four times a week and is looking forward to the event.	Adapt
Maggie Atherton and Monica Martin	Worcester	33770,	Maggie and Monica want to show the world that you're never too old for a challenge. Maggie has previously run 10 marathons and persuaded Monica, who has run the London Marathon in the past to join her. They are both 70 years old.	Age UK
Tom Harrison	Reading	30320	Tom turns 75 this year and is celebrating by running three marathons starting with the London Marathon in April. He also plans to re-claim his title of "World Bog Snorkelling Pensioner Triathlon Champion' in August. Tom also coaches runners in his local area.	Age UK
John Starbrook	Staines	33794	John turned 80 this year, but has no plans to give up running. He's taken part in over 45 marathons and fitness challenges and this will be his 25 th London Marathon.	Age UK
Jonathan Ball	Leeds		Jonathan was very close to his grandmother and helped her live independently until her death at 90.	Age UK
Ashley Leach	Manchester	33779	Ashley's grandparents do not have access to the healthcare they need and Ashley is concerned they are living in poverty. He's running to prevent this from happening to others	Age UK
Oliver Mulgrew	Hampshire		Oliver's mother lives independently thanks to the support from Age UK	Age UK

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Graham Simms	Huddersfield	33776	Graham became very concerned for his 94-year-old grandmother after she lost a significant amount of weight during a spell in hospital. The experience inspired him to run the marathon to support Age UK's malnutrition campaign and help others facing a similar situation.	Age UK
Fiona Devine	Berkshire		Fiona is the founder of a charity which is building the children's hospice for Berkshire, she is doing this event in memory of her little boy, who sadly died at the age of eight from a brain tumour.	Alexander Devine Children's Hospice Service
Richard Daniels		50942	Is running in memory of his son who sadly died to a medical condition with his bowel, which happened very suddenly.	Alexander Devine Children's Hospice Service
Sarah Gould-Davies	Newcastle, Emlyn	34184	Sarah's sister, Sam, was diagnosed with leukaemia in 2002, and although she does not need a blood stem cell transplant at the moment, this may well change in the future. Sarah, 35, says, "We found a potential donor on the Anthony Nolan register a few years ago but Sam is currently responding well to drug treatment. However, it's a huge relief to know that the register is there if the situation changes." Sarah adds, "I ran the London Marathon for Anthony Nolan last year to raise money so that they can continue their lifesaving work. I wanted to do it again because I loved being part of the Anthony Nolan team – I felt really supported and special. Plus it's a great feeling knowing that I could be helping other people like my sister."	Anthony Nolan Trust
Russell Taylor	London	34191	Russell's brother Martyn was diagnosed with myeloma in 1988. Martyn chose not to have a blood stem cell transplant for several years, although both Russell and their sister Katrina were tested and Katrina found to be a match. It was only when Martyn married, and he and his wife Sarah wanted greater certainty about his health before trying for children, that he decided to go ahead with the transplant. The transplant took place in July 2008 and, in December 2010, Martyn and Sarah became proud parents to twin girls.	Anthony Nolan Trust

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Stuart Halfpenny	West Sussex	3370	Stuart has strong links with the charity, and he joined the Anthony Nolan Register in 2004. In 2006 he donated blood stem cells to help others. In 2009, the person who received Stuart's donated stem cells made contact with him, and they met up a year later. Sadly, four months after meeting, Stuart's recipient died. Stuart, 33, says, "The stem cell donation was an extraordinary experience. It was an incredible feeling knowing that I'd given someone four more years of life. When she sadly passed away, I wanted to do something else to help, so I decided to run the London Marathon again to raise awareness of Anthony Nolan." his father was diagnosed with MDS and has been advised that he will need a blood stem cell transplant. Stuart adds, "Now I've got even more reason to tell people about Anthony Nolan's work and encourage them to join the register. Even if they're not a match for my Dad, they could be a match for someone else."	Anthony Nolan Trust
Andrew Kelcher		34138	Andrew's father sadly passed away from lymphoma, a form of blood cancer, several years ago. On running the Marathon for us Andrew, 34, says, "Although the treatment ultimately didn't work, my family and I will always be very grateful for the extra chance that the transplant gave him. Anthony Nolan relies heavily on donors and charitable support to perform its vital work, so by running the Marathon I hope to raise money that will help Anthony Nolan give someone else the chance of life."	Anthony Nolan Trust
Andy Rudall		34104	Andy is not only running the Marathon for Anthony Nolan, but has also set himself the additional challenge of recruiting six people to the Anthony Nolan register. So far he's recruited four, including his 18 year old daughter Holli. Commenting on why she signed up, Holli said, "It seems such a small thing to do for someone in need. If you come up as a match, you could end up helping to save someone's life. I just had to get involved."	Anthony Nolan Trust
Annabel Walton	London	51269	Annabel, an International Business Co-ordinator, is helping 'Aspire,' a charity founded by and run by an inspirational Rwandan woman working with victims of poverty, war and the 1994 Rwandan Genocide . Aspire, based in the Rwandan capital, Kigali, provides simple but life-changing training so women can become literate and learn a useful skill. The charity also teaches women to work together, forming business co-operatives. Annabel says "When women describe themselves as survivors rather than victims, you know they deserve a helping hand. The women in Kigali were thrilled when they heard I was running the Virgin London Marathon. They can't believe someone they've never met is prepared to do this, and they've sent me a 'good luck' bracelet to wear while I train."	Aspire

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Dave Price		50950	<p>Dave's son, Jacob, age 10 has severe autism. He began running pushing my Autistic son Jacob in a buggy in Autumn of 2009 having been inspired by seeing footage of 'team Hoyt'. Dave's first full year of running in 2010 saw them compete together in several events - 10k's in Regents Park, the Bupa 10k together and a solo run in the Royal Parks half marathon, climaxing in completing the Stevenage half marathon together. For 2011 they are upping the anti. The fundraising target to support Autistica is going up as is the level of the events. They will still aim to continue competing in as many Regents Park 10k's as possible. The events calendar is now as follows: Berkhamstead half marathon – 3rd March – not able to push Jacob but still ran. Reading half marathon – 20th March – confirmed place pushing Jacob. London Marathon – 17th April – confirmed solo run. Bupa 10k – 30th May – pushed last year – hoping to be given OK again. Robin Hood (Nottingham) Marathon – 11th Sept – awaiting confirmation that I can push Jacob following a positive initial response. Royal Parks half marathon – 9th Oct - solo run. Stevenage half Marathon – 6th Nov</p>	Autistica
Dave Borley	Colchester		<p>Dave has run the marathon 10 times for the Children's Hospital at the Royal London. When his son Harry was prematurely born he needed an emergency life saving operation – he was born with his bowel and intestines outside of the body. Every year the charity reserves places especially for Dave and the team he puts together. Dave first ran the Marathon in 1997 and has continued to raise funds for the Children's Hospital. To date Dave has raised £50,000 for the charity.</p>	Barts and the London Charity
Phil Brockman	Essex	34952	<p>Phil suffered a Cavernous Haemangioma in Dec 2009, this is where blood vessels in the brain malfunction, collect on top of the brain and then haemorrhage. This caused Phil to have a severe and dangerous seizure and a stay in hospital. Then in February 2010, Phil had a Craniotomy to clear the blood vessels that were on his brain. He was referred to the Royal London Hospital for his surgery and received fantastic treatment. He only had to take 1 week off work following his treatment and he has been fine to date. Getting a place in the marathon has given Phil the chance to give something back to the hospital that saved his life and has provided essential follow up neurological care.</p>	Barts and the London Charity

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Andy & Rhiannon			<p>In 2001, soon after Andy and Rhiannon had met at university, Rhiannon's father was diagnosed with bowel cancer. Andy's father was diagnosed a few months later and because of Rhiannon's experience she could support Andy through this difficult situation. The couple say the support they gave each other bought them much closer together and both fathers have since made a full recovery.</p>	Beating Bowel Cancer
Andy Thom		35023	<p>Andy was working in the Marine Support Unit of the Metropolitan Police when he began experiencing symptoms – which he ignored, putting it down to a tummy bug. While at work, in the Marine Support Unit of the Metropolitan Police, Andy pulled a known drug user out of the River Thames and was consequently bitten by the man, Andy was sent for a blood test for HIV but during the tests, other abnormalities were identified and he was finally diagnosed with Dukes A (early stage) bowel cancer. After successful surgery (June 2009) Andy got in touch with the charity, Beating Bowel Cancer and he will be raising funds for them when he runs on April 17th. He returned to work in March 2010 and is now back working as diver for the Met and believes his recovery to full health was due to his levels of fitness before diagnosis</p>	Beating Bowel Cancer
Dawn Whing		35026	<p>Dawn's father died from bowel cancer on 26th April 1987 a week before Dawn's 18th birthday. Two years later Dawn's paternal Uncle also died of bowel cancer and five years ago Dawn lost another paternal Uncle to this as well. Dawn's father ran the London Marathon twice and now Dawn wants to run in his memory, 28 years on.</p>	Beating Bowel Cancer

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James Jenkinson		35008	James's father was diagnosed with terminal bowel cancer in April 2005 and died only 6 weeks later. James was on a working holiday in Australia when he received a call from his father explaining the diagnosis. James managed to get a flight home the same day and his father died within six weeks of his return. James also has a metal plate and pins in his ankle after breaking it badly in 2004 so completing this year's Marathon will be a huge achievement.	Beating Bowel Cancer
Kerry Lee		35012	Kerry's friend, Anna is a bowel cancer survivor who is 10 years in recovery. Through Anna, Kerry has learnt that bowel cancer is both very common and largely treatable. Kerry will be running in Anna's honour.	Beating Bowel Cancer
Laura Coppins		34996	Two days before Christmas Laura's father was diagnosed with colon cancer. He has since had an operation to remove the cancer and is now 6 months through chemotherapy. Laura is running the race for her father.	Beating Bowel Cancer
Mark Hudson		20525	Mark's mother was diagnosed with bowel cancer almost three years ago. She was ill for 4 weeks but sadly dies only two days after being diagnosed. Mark is running in memory of his mother.	Beating Bowel Cancer
Matthew Hammill		35004	Matthew's father has suffered from bowel cancer over the past 3 years and is now in remission, so Matthew wanted to run the event for his father.	Beating Bowel Cancer
Frank Gerard Bonner	Worcester		Frank is running for Bliss after his daughter Kate gave birth to twin girls in July 2009. They were both born 17 weeks premature. Molly weighed just 1lb 4oz about two thirds of a bag of sugar but sadly her twin sister did not survive. Kym Marsh interviewed Kate in the Birmingham Women Hospital for Born to Soon, a programme she did for ITV in November 2009. Molly is a beautiful, bouncy baby girl, tipping the scales at over 16lbs. Bliss were there when his family needed help and running the marathon is his way of saying thanks and giving something back.	Bliss

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Judy Hicks	Hampshire	35110	Judy's son Jonathan was born at 31 weeks knows only too well what it is like to have a baby in a Special Care Baby Unit, after suffering a placenta abrupt. Jonathan spent just under six weeks in the unit before coming home. She wants to give something back to Bliss by taking part in the marathon. She says: "During that time I read everything there was to read on the Bliss website and finding out about kangaroo care as well as the other things I could do for him. I was so grateful to the doctors and nurses and their expertise as well as the equipment we had access to. Jonathan is a lovely little boy who has enriched the lives of all of us, including grandparents, uncles and aunts. We could not consider a world without him."	Bliss
Tracey Stainer	Watford	35123	Tracey gave birth to premature babies at 26 weeks. She has been wanting to run the marathon for a long time now but having the twins early has been hard work.	Bliss
Joanne Hall	Kent	53613	Joanne was meant to Run 2010 but after contracting swine flu and having an injury she had to pull out. But she is back this year and is determined to raise as much money as possible. Joanne's son Leo was born six weeks premature in October 2008. He had to spend two weeks in intensive care and a further two weeks in the neonatal unit. Joanne says: 'Leo was very lucky that he pulled through and is now a wonderful and healthy baby boy but so many babies in special care were born so much earlier and had slim chances of survival. It was a heartbreaking situation, something I wish others did not have to go through. Bliss is a wonderful charity helping babies like Leo to get the best care and support to help them through those early months of their lives when they should still be in the womb.'	Bliss
Nick Bladon	Northampton	35094	On September 9 2009, Edward Bladon was born 27 weeks premature, weighing 2lbs 6oz after being delivered by an emergency C-section. He was taken to the special care baby unit in Kettering General Hospital where he received care for 10 weeks. After 6 weeks, just when Nick and family were beginning to look forward, Edward sadly contracted meningitis and became extremely poorly. The feeling of helplessness that Nick and his family experienced was awful as they watched Edward fight for his life. Edward responded to the treatment and is now a happy little boy with no obvious signs of damage from the meningitis or prematurity.	Bliss

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Rob Burgess	London	35089	Rob's little boy Al was born weighing just 700 grams. Mum Tamara became pregnant unexpectedly and after a routine check found out she was already five months gone. Within three weeks of the initial shock Tamara went in to labour and was rushed to hospital. Al spent three months in a special care baby unit where consultants told the couple that Al wasn't a 26 week old baby as they thought but in fact around the age of 21-24 weeks. Rod says: "Life was like a rollercoaster, we thought we were going to lose Al. I think it's important to remember that other people are living this experience every day. Myself and my family would love to give something back to Bliss so they can continue their work of providing care and support to premature and sick babies and their families."	Bliss
Richard Halldearn	London	35107	Richard is following in Tony Audenshaw's footsteps (Bob Hope from ITV1 soap Emmerdale) and will run this year's London marathon dressed as a baby. Richard's daughter Annabelle was born December 2009, almost two months early and weighed 4lbs 2oz. She is now one year on doing brilliantly. Tony currently holds the record breaking time of three hours 12mins dressed as a baby and Richard is going to try his best to beat it. Richard got to meet Tony when he was down in London for the National Television Awards this week. Richard says: "It was great to meet Tony and I am going to try my best to beat his amazing time. I am running for Bliss to help them continue to provide parents like us with the information and support they need at such a traumatic time." Tony Audenshaw added "Best of luck to Richard, he is an inspiration to other parents of premature babies."	Bliss
Frank O'Connor	Cardiff	35190	His mother died of bowel cancer last year and as a result he has decided to run the course whilst playing his trumpet the entire way.	Bowel Cancer Uk
Richard Wakely	Eastleigh	51556	After years contemplating the challenge of the Virgin London Marathon the 32 year old father of two has bravely taken the plunge in memory of his mother who passed away from bowel cancer aged just 52. Having been a keen competitive teenage swimmer, he sees the marathon as an opportunity to become more active again, whilst fundraising for a charity very close to his heart.	Bowel Cancer Uk
James Wright	London	51559	Bowel cancer is hereditary within James' family and whilst he has to endure full examinations every 18 months for the rest of his life, he is determined to complete the Virgin London Marathon this year for Bowel Cancer UK to raise awareness of the disease.	Bowel Cancer Uk

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Jonathan Worcester	Berkshire	51558	As a very fit and healthy 25 year old, Jonathan was rushed to hospital last year with a twisted bowel and underwent emergency surgery to remove a third of his large intestine, which was on the point of rupture. Although Jonathan's case was not cancer related, from talking to cancer sufferers on his ward he felt he could very much relate to them. By running the marathon he hopes he will prove to himself and others that it is possible to come back from major bowel surgery and achieve something special.	Bowel Cancer Uk
Jacky Packman			In early 2010 a friend of Jacky's was diagnosed with bowel cancer. Jacky was already acutely aware of the impact of this disease as her maternal Grandmother succumbed to it when Jacky was in her teens. Jacky entered the public ballot with the sole intention that if she was successful she would run in memory of her late Grandmother and in support of her friend, Helena. At the time, Jacky had not even considered the possibility that she would be running. Helena passed away on 17th September 2010, leaving behind her husband of 2 years and her daughter, who had not even reached her first birthday, Jacky has so much respect for Helena for the dignity with which she hadled herself throughtout the gruelling treatment, and the ultimate outcome.	Bowel Cancer Uk
Luke Flatman		38884	Luke , who is recovering from a serious brain injury after a car accident in 2008, is running in this year's Virgin London Marathon to raise vital funds for the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Trust. He was studying at university at the time of his accident, was admitted to Fen House, a residential centre for people with acquired brain injury. While at Fen House he followed an eight week neuro-rehabilitation programme and was given the support that he needed to complete his studies. Luke spent ten days in a coma after his accident and up to six months receiving medical treatment. Not only were his head injuries serious, but he also fractured his left foot and collar bone. Although Luke still suffers from memory loss and fatigue he finds it helps for him to follow a timetable and keep a journal of events. He also attends group therapy sessions and is in regular contact with an Occupational Therapist and Clinical Psychologist. Luke decided to run for the Trust because he thought it would be great to give something back. He said: "The staff gave me some really helpful support just before returning to University and this made me realise just what an invaluable resource the service is."	Brain Injury Rehabilitation Trust

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<p>Carolyn Pierpont</p>	<p>Aberdeen</p>	<p>35265</p>	<p>Carolyn has not stopped raising money since her partner Mark was floored by a brain cancer related seizure at his work place nearly two years ago. Having already been photographed naked in a fundraising event, this year she is involved with the Neurofest music festival at Glenesk Park in Dundee, a black tie event and the small matter of running 26 miles around the capital. The athletic couple's lives were turned upside down after doctors released that Mark needed an operation to remove a malignant cancer. Doctors at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary initially suspected he had meningitis, before it was discovered he had a "shadow" on the right frontal lobe of his brain which would require surgery. He carries out his life like anyone else would and during this kept a positive attitude throughout everything. He is an inspiration to those who have the same condition, Carolyn now focuses much of her energies on raising money for Brain Tumour UK.</p>	<p>Brain Tumour UK</p>
<p>Tommy Barber</p>		<p>35330</p>	<p>Tommy is aiming to complete 3 Marathons in 6 weeks to raise money for Breakthrough Cancer,. His mum was diagnosed with Breast Cancer in 2005. As a family they witnessed firsthand the debilitating effects of the treatments, chemotherapy and radiotherapy, sickness loss of hair etc. To see someone you love battling such an illness is tough for anyone. Fortunately his Mum is now 5 years clear which is great; however there are so many others who are battling with this disease. The 3 Marathons he plans to run are the Brighton Marathon, Virgin London Marathon and the Edinburgh Marathon.</p>	<p>Breakthrough Breast Cancer</p>
<p>Kevin Hunt</p>	<p>Longton, Preston</p>	<p>35369</p>	<p>The Managing Director of 29 SPAR stores across the North West will join thousands of runners for the 26.2mile race on Sunday 17 April to support his wife Andrea who was diagnosed with breast cancer in September 2010. Kevin said: "My wife was diagnosed last September and the care she has so far received has been superb. As a keen runner, I would like to give something back to a charity that funds research into this disease. I've always wanted to run the London Marathon and supporting Breast Cancer Campaign in doing so, will be fantastic, so I hope lots of people will dig deep and sponsor me for this challenge to help the charity take a step closer to beating breast cancer. I am really impressed with everyone who works in our SPAR stores – I cannot believe how committed they are to helping me reach my target. Without them, this would be impossible and it's given me an added push to make sure I run all 26.2 miles!"</p>	<p>Breast Cancer Campaign</p>

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Katy Towse	Wimbledon	35377	In October 2010 Katy took part in her first half marathon, which was a real achievement, so now she is very excited to be training for her first full marathon. Katy's mum has done lots of fundraising for a breast cancer charity in Kent so she thought she would do her bit to honour her Nan by running and raising money for Breast Cancer Campaign. Katy's Nan handled her diagnosis with such grace so Katy thought running 26.2miles will be a great way to show her how proud she is and how much she admired her strength. Katy hopes lots of people will sponsor her to help Campaign continue funding world-class breast cancer research.	Breast Cancer Campaign
Dave Holby		35322	Dave is raising money for Breakthrough breast Cancer. Among other things he rowed round the world on a land rowing machine, now he has set the challenge to run the Marathon.	Breakthrough Breast Cancer
Kerry Burton		35286	In Oct 2009 Kerry was granted a place through Breakthrough Breast cancer, just 3 months after she finished an 8 session course of chemotherapy and 5 weeks of radiotherapy. At that time she could just about walk one mile, having the marathon to focus was fantastic for her as it gave her a reason to regain her fitness. she feels as though she has a new lease of life, she is now 3 stones heavier than before treatment and now she has the incentive to lose that and to get her peak physical fitness for this years race. The only thing she regrets from the 2010 is that she did not make it in time to attend Breakthrough's post race party, so it is her aim and goal to get there.	Breakthrough Breast Cancer
Ricardo Beaganza	Ilford, Essex		The maths student, who set a Guinness world record for playing the world's longest football match in October, has his sights on a new challenge to complete the 26.2mile race on Sunday 17 April in under four hours. Ricardo, 21, said: "In October I set a new world record for the world's longest football match by playing for 60 hours with my fellow teammates at Loughborough University. I organised the challenge to raise money for my London Marathon place and I'm thrilled to have raised more than £18,000 from my football-athon. Now I've got a new goal to aim for and I can't wait to take part in the Marathon for Campaign and continue helping their mission to beat breast cancer."	Breast Cancer Campaign

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Dianna Green	Northampton	35388	Diana took up running after she was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2002. As soon as she was diagnosed she set herself a goal to run the marathon in 2003 and since then she has completed eight marathons and several half marathons. Thankfully Diana has been given the all clear from breast cancer and firmly believes her love of running helped her on the road to recovery. Diana has even had two hip replacements, and even this won't stop her from lacing up her trainers!	Breast Cancer Campaign
Sue Ashe	Forest Hill	35382	Sue was diagnosed with breast cancer in September 2009, she is also running in memory of her mother, Dorothy who sadly passed away from breast cancer in 2005 and also to support her sister Catherine who was diagnosed with the same disease 10 years ago. Sue, who moved to Australia in December, In March 2011 she will have her last treatment and in April 2011 it will mean the world to her to run the London Marathon and raise money to help fund research aimed specifically at finding a cure. This is a cause that's very close to her heart so she hopes lots of people will sponsor her and help the charity beat breast cancer.	Breast Cancer Campaign
Alexandra Adames	Hertfordshire	7127	Alex decided to run her first ever London Marathon in April 2009 in memory of her father George who sadly passed away from breast cancer in 1994. Before his diagnosis George loved to run half marathons with Alex's mum and now Alex is following in his footsteps by running the London Marathon for a third time in 2011. Breast cancer affects just 300 men in the UK compared to 45,500 women. Although it is incredibly rare for men to get breast cancer, Alex is eager to raise awareness so that more men check themselves for lumps.	Breast Cancer Campaign
Tracey Chevalier	North London	35375	Best selling Novelist Tracy Chevalier is running the race to support several friends who have been diagnosed with breast Cancer in recent years. She is currently writing a new novel and is a judge at the Orange Prize for Fiction awards this summer.	Breast Cancer Campaign

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Cheryl and Matt Crisp	Lowestoft, Suffolk	35361, 19043	The couple are running the race in memory of Cheryl's sister Marie Kirby who sadly passed away from Breast Cancer in 2001 aged 33. This year will be the tenth anniversary of Marie's death and Cheryl feels running the marathon in her memory will be a lovely opportunity to remember her publicly and raise money for the charity that funds research which leads to diagnosis and treatments that can help save lives. Matt is excited to run with his wife.	Breast Cancer Campaign
Steve Amos	Wickford, Essex	35351	Steve is very excited about running in the race again for Breast Cancer Campaign as it's a cause very close to his heart, as his mother-in-law Jean Dobson sadly passed away from breast cancer in 2002. Losing Jean was the most painful time of the families lives, but it brought them together as a family was the need to do something in her memory and Steve is proud to run as a tribute to her. Since his last marathon he has kept running, although sometimes the training can be uncomfortable and even painful, but when he thinks of what Jean experienced in the final year of her life his pain doesn't compare and he just keeps going.	Breast Cancer Campaign
Daren Benton	Broxbourne	35381	Almost a year to the day of the Virgin London Marathon 2011 is the anniversary of his mother-in-law, Sue Loveday passing away. Daren vowed at her funeral that he would run in her memory. The plan is for family and friends to make a 'celebratory' day of it, travelling up to London so they can laugh at Daren as he plods his way round the course! It's a cause very close to his family's hearts. Charles Walker MP of Broxbourne, has given Daren his full backing for the running challenge.	Breast Cancer Campaign

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Kirstie Snellgrove	Essex	35380	Kirste initially took up running to get in shape but after being diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 35, she decided to keep running to aid her recovery. Since her diagnosis six years ago, Kirste has run a whopping 20 marathons around the world and has taken on the London Marathon about nine times! She believes her love of running has helped her deal with her breast cancer, which has now spread to both lungs and the lymph nodes in her neck. Despite undergoing chemo while training for the marathon, Kirste remains upbeat and refuses to let cancer take over her life. She is such an inspiration that Runner's World magazine recognised her running achievements by awarding her the 'Survivor' award at their annual Running Heroes awards ceremony in April this year, Kirste loves taking part in the London Marathon and has vowed to take part every year. She has always run for Breast Cancer Campaign and is a strong supporter of the work we do. She is currently on a drugs trial which is funded by Campaign.	Breast Cancer Campaign
Gemma Bowerman & Derek Thomas	Towcester & Thornborough	35379, 17314	Gemma 20, and grandfather Derek, 71, will be running the race together in honour of Gemma's grandmother and Dereks wife who had breast cancer in 1993 and is now fully recovered with more than 15 years clear. Gemma is thrilled to be running with her granddad as he is going to be 72 and this will be the last year he is going to run, so it's great they can run together and support this worthwhile cause after her nan had breast cancer. Derek is looking forward to running with his granddaughter and supporting the cause as the care of his wife received was amazing. He is very excited about the event and Gemma and Derek have trained hard but really he thinks he is the better runner and will carry her over the finishing line.	Breast Cancer Campaign
Patrick Ness	Bromley, Kent	51573	The best-selling novelist, who wrote the multi-award-winning <i>Chaos Walking</i> trilogy, will join thousands of runners for the 26.2 mile race on Sunday 17 April in memory of fellow children's author Siobhan Dowd who sadly passed away from breast cancer in 2007. Before her death, Siobhan had begun work on a new novel, which her publishers asked Patrick to complete. The book, <i>A Monster Calls</i> , by Siobhan Dowd and Patrick Ness will be published on Monday 2 May 2011 by Walker Books.	Breast Cancer Campaign

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The Bone Brothers' - Martin, Robin and Darren		35449, 2858, 23248	The Bones Brothers are bankers and are running in the event for British Blind Sport. They are running as exposed bankers! This means from the front you will see them in suits and hats looking like 'bankers' and then when they run passed, you will see that the back of the suit has been cut away and sexy womens underwear will be on show. They will also be holding up a banner which will say 'Bankers Exposed!' Their catch phrase would be 'bankers exposed.....cheque the arrears!'. 	British Blind Sport
Simon Mather	Gillingham, Kent	35766	A police detective has lost more than half his body weight after a life-threatening blood clot galvanised him into action. Less than two years ago, policeman Simon Mather was dangerously obese and tipped the scales at 36 stone. Simon visited his GP and he asked if Simon had considered gastic band surgery, for hours after Simon thought it was the answer to all his problems, but then he considered the risks and decided to give it a go on his own. He enrolled in a Weight Watchers group and followed the diet plan and went swimming every morning, then Simon's weight began to drop off. Dc Mather, who is now a much trimmer and healthier 17 stone, said 'I have changed my whole life. At work I have bumped into people that haven't seen me for months and they haven't recognised me. When I look back to when I was offered the gastric band, never in my wildest dreams did I think that 18 months on I would be running a marathon. It's an amazing experience for anyone , let alone someone like me who used to weigh 36 stone'. 	British Heart Foundation
Robert March	Braintree, Essex	35777	Robert's son was 6 months old when he had open heart surgery that saved his life. He is now 3 and a half and enjoying life as a healthy young boy. Robert is eternally grateful to the staff who helped his family though a very difficult time. He is happy to talk about this experience and how it has changed him not only as a father but as a person who wants to live life to the full. 	British Heart Foundation

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Valerie Siviter	Bangor		<p>Valerie suffered heart failure in 2008 at the age of 64. She woke in the night, finding it hard to breathe and her husband rang for an ambulance. She was rushed to hospital and her family were told to prepare for the worst. A virus had attacked her heart (although she didn't feel ill). The left side of her heart was enlarged so the valves leaked, and it was also slightly twisted so the heart beat was irregular. As a result, her lungs had filled with fluid, preventing breathing. Valerie was put on medication to slow her heart and help it recover. Valerie has a slight electrical malfunction to the left side of my heart, but doesn't let this get her down. Last year, she was back to mountain walks and managed to ski everyday on a holiday. Valerie had watched the London Marathon many times on TV and had always been impressed not so much by the elite athletes, but by all the extraordinary people who run for various charities, often taking up the challenge when they have had enormous personal problems. She checked with her doctor and was encouraged to take up the challenge. With the support of her family and her daughter, Becky, who is her training buddy. Training started last August and Valerie could only run for a minute, then walk for 90 seconds, then run again. "I wondered if I could ever do it, but as the weeks have gone by I now find I can easily run for an hour without feeling totally exhausted. It is amazing but running has made me feel really alive again. We have several different routes to vary our running, and use the treadmill in the gym when the weather is really bad. We aren't looking to break any records, and I am quite prepared to walk occasionally if I need to, and I'm sure I will. But I intend to finish. Don't give up on life and accept less than you are capable of, enjoy every precious minute and live life to the best you can –life is good and I am so very happy to be alive and grateful that I have been given a second chance."</p>	British Heart Foundation
Laura Dixon	London	35652	<p>Laura will be running with her partner, Andrew, who had open heart surgery to replace two heart valves in 2006. Andrew was 26 years of age at the time of his operation and has since made a full recovery. The couple are keen to raise money for the BHF as it is possible that Andrew will need the valves replaced in the future.</p>	British Heart Foundation

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Charlotte Robinson	Billericay, Essex	35509	When Charlotte was just 18 her father died of a sudden heart attack. It came as a great shock and devastated the whole family. Charlotte had always planned to run the Marathon at some point in the future, but her father's tragic death made her even more determined, and she decided to fulfil a long term dream of running in his memory. Charlotte fits her training around her life at university where she is studying for a degree in English and Creative Writing.	British Heart Foundation
Ellen Coker	Sale, Trafford	35562	Ellen had a triple heart bypass at the age of 21 and will be running with her partner this year to celebrate the 10th anniversary of her operation. She first was first diagnosed with 3 narrowed coronary arteries after experiencing chest pains during her second year at uni. Since then with medication and fortnightly DALI (dialysis) treatment, Ellen is living a healthy life. The treatment she receives means her blood is cleaned of cholesterol and Ellen is keen to raise awareness of heart disease. As a fit and healthy person, people were surprised to hear that high cholesterol was a contributing factor to her heart problems.	British Heart Foundation
Hayley Brent	Isherwood, London		Hayley was just nine years old when her father died of a heart attack. She is keen to raise awareness of the importance of heart health. Addressing her own health issues, she had a gastric bypass operation in October 2008 and has lost over 9st. Being able to complete the Marathon will be an enormous personal victory.	British Heart Foundation
Michael Dixon	Benfleet, Essex	35680	Michael was born with congenital heart disease and had corrective surgery at just 5 days old. His mum began her fundraising efforts when he was 6 months old and Michael joined in with her swimathons from the age of 18 months. Michael has run the Paris, Berlin and Edinburgh Marathon for the BHF. This will be his first London Marathon and he is keen to show how you can go on to live a normal, healthy life after surgery.	British Heart Foundation

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Lyndsey Matthews	Sutton-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire	35670	Lyndsey has overcome numerous operations, including a hole in the heart and narrow valve surgery. She now suffers from atrial fibrillation (abnormal heart rhythm) but refuses to let this stop her achieving her goal. She trains regularly and is looking forward to taking on the challenge.	British Heart Foundation
Stephen Hider	Cambridge, Cambridgeshire	35764	Stephen is running in memory of his niece, Isla-Rose. Two years ago, Stephen's sister gave birth to twin girls, Isla-Rose and Freya-Mae. Both were born with heart complications. Freya was born with a hole in her heart, which has now healed. Sadly, Isla was only eight months old when she died from a dilated cardiomyopathy and mitral valve regurgitation. Originally the doctor's only gave Isla 24 hours to live, when she was rushed to Royal Brompton Hospital and Stephen can remember then receiving a tearful phone call from the intensive care unit. Stephen believes it was down to her determination and the great work of the hospital that the family got to spend 8 special months with her. Losing Isla hit the family hard and they have helped and supported one another, focusing on caring for Freya. Stephen is so proud to be running the London Marathon in memory of Isla and he can't wait for his family to see him cross the finish line. He is passionate about raising awareness of heart health and has noticed an improvement in his fitness and lifestyle, since he began running.	British Heart Foundation
Graham Rogers	Northampton, Northamptonshire	35583	Graham ran the London Marathon for us 10 years ago dressed as a birthday cake to celebrate our 40th anniversary. This year the British Heart Foundation are celebrating their 50th birthday so it seems fitting that Graham should be running for us again. It will be the 10 year anniversary for his daughter's heart and lung transplant and he wanted to do something special to raise funds and mark the occasion.	British Heart Foundation

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Wendy Harris	Saltash, Cornwall	35742	<p>Wendy was born with a congenital heart defect which was fixed when she was just 12 hours old in Southampton General Hospital. Wendy had been living a normal life until 2 years ago when she required open heart surgery to replace what had been done in the previous operation. The procedure involved two heart valve replacements which required a very long and drawn out period of recovery over a year. Thankfully, Wendy is feeling much better now and has more energy than ever before. She has taken the marathon as a personal challenge to achieve something which was not possible before her operation and to show anything is possible.</p>	British Heart Foundation
Clare Douglas	Swansea, West Glamorgan	35522	<p>Last year Clare lost her partner of 11 1/2 years. He was 43 years old and the post- mortem showed he had a problem with his heart which no one knew nothing about. Clare has been running for three years and her partner always supported her running. She believes that running the Virgin London Marathon would make him extremely proud and at the same time raising money to beat heart disease.</p>	British Heart Foundation

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<p>Lucy Baker</p>	<p>Essex (currently living by Gatwick Airport)</p>		<p>Lucy is an airhostess for Virgin Atlantic. When Lucy met Steve she imagined them going on plenty of dates and getting to know each other. But, after only their 2nd meeting Steve went for an annual check up for a heart murmur and on their third date, Lucy was watching a man she had know for a few weeks, have an endoscopy. Steve was told he would need surgery. He had regurgitation to the mitral valve, his heart was getting bigger and bigger and action was needed. They attended the pre assessment clinics and looking around the room, they were the youngest there by at least 25 years. Steve didn't have any symptoms; he looked so fit and healthy. He didn't have shortness of breath, he didn't feel tired or have swelling to the ankles, and he didn't have any chest pain, which are all usual symptoms. The five hour operation went fantastically well and Steve made brilliant progress, with age on his side he was out of hospital in a week. The cardiac health and rehabilitation team has an amazing programme in place. The support and advice he got from the group was priceless and has set him up for the future. He was advised on how far he could push himself and his limitations. He jumped back into normal life possibly a little too quickly and had a few setbacks. Everyone is different and a recovery is a personal a learning curve. It's now over a year ago, and Lucy has learnt to let go a little bit more. She says, she worries about him still everyday but he knows to listen to what his body is telling him. It has brought the couple closer than ever and they are now engaged. "We have experienced things that we wouldn't wish on anyone and I'm thankful for every day I share with Steve." Lucy will be running the Virgin London Marathon to raise money for the BHF, as her way of saying thank you.</p>	<p>British Heart Foundation</p>
<p>Rachel Misselbrook</p>	<p>Bognor Regis, West Sussex</p>	<p>35735</p>	<p>Rachel will be running in memory of her partner and soul mate, Ian. In 2005, Ian died suddenly leaving the most unimaginable and unfillable hole in the lives of Rachel and their two children, Finlay (3) and Eadie(8 months). Rachel describes Ian as a wonderful, funny, loving and gentle man who was taken from this world far too early. Ian's death was in part due to coronary artery dissection and ventricular failure, an area of medicine where there is so much vital research needed. The past 5 years have been traumatic and challenging for Rachel and she believes that no family should experience what they have been through.</p>	<p>British Heart Foundation</p>

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<p>Anna Marie Rowledge</p>	<p>Ipswich</p>	<p>50988</p>	<p>In recent years, Anna has known special people she cares about, who are either suffering from cancer or have friends an family ill wih cancer. She has seen that it is not only fighting the cancer itself but also having the strength to work through all the treatment. The pain and suffering as a result of the treatment alone is something you never wish for a loved one to have to go through but if it means beating this horrible disease, then bring it on. She has always loved running but has never done a marathon. Her husband , David sadly lost his father to cancer in July 2010. He was an incredibly brave and strong man with an amazing postive outlook on life. So every mile she trains, every mile she runs on the day of 17th April, will be for him particularly along with all the other brave people who fight the disease.</p>	<p>Cancer Campaign in Suffolk</p>
<p>Mark Harris</p>	<p>Leeds</p>		<p>April 24th 1988, Ester, Mark's first child was born at St James Hospital Leeds, incidentally where he was born and his other child Joe, who is running with him in the race. On April 24th 1989, Mark 33 years of age was given 3 months to live with advanced thyroid cancer, he was treated in St James Hospital but the surgeons there worked a miracle and saved him against all the odds as an aside they believed from the rarity type and age of the cancer, he was one of a handful of UK residents affected by the radio active fallout over England from the Chernobyl nuclear disaster. On April 24th 1990 Mark ran his first marathon even though as a total laryngectomee (the permanent removal of vocal chords and the permanent breathing through a stoma hole in the neck.) his doctors said it was physically impossible, he became the first known person with the disability to do it, he was accompanied by Dave Jackson who similarly has come out of retirement to accompany Mark again this year. Over the next 9 years Marks family have raised over £250,000 all for cancer care at St James Hospital, they paid for the first combined head and neck cancer unit in England. Mark ran another 9 marathons countless half marathons and 10k's but he also did the Leeds Swim Marathon (5K) again believed to be a world first simply because the hole in his neck means instant drowning so he had to swim with a specially adapted snorkel attached to the hole. He is coming out of 'RETIREMENT' now 55. In January 2010 his mother in law was diagnosed with cancer, she was treated at St James and sadly died in June. In October 2010 Esther his 22 year old daughter was also diagnosed with cancer and treated in the same ward by the same surgeon at St James who cared for his mother in law. He is pleased to say the prognosis is excellent for Esther.</p>	<p>Cancer Care at St James Hospital</p>

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<p>Keith & Sue Hamilton</p>			<p>Keith and his wife, who are both 63 and are running the London Marathon on the very day of their Ruby (40th) Wedding Anniversary, they are running for Cancer Research UK, as Sue has cancer 5 years ago and their son had Leukaemia 20 years ago - both are now fine. Keith works for CRUK and has done for nearly 9 years. Keith said he will carry Sue over the threshold (finish line) at the end as someone has promised to double their contributions if he does so. Sue will hopefully be wearing her wedding headdress at the same time.</p>	<p>Cancer Research</p>
<p>Tom Johnson</p>		<p>54904</p>	<p>Tom a senior radiographer at Heartlands Hospital, will be taking on the 26.2 mile run in memory of a colleague Simon Parker who sadly lost his battle with a rare form of cancer. Simon was diagnosed with Lymphoma in September 2009 and since then it has been a rollercoaster journey. From chemotherapy to transplants Simon had been through a lot and at on point they thought he may get through it when Simon was given the all clear. However it wasn't long before the Lymphoma returned and Simon and his families worlds were turned upside down again. the second time round really hit them hard and they had to make the very difficult and harrowing decision to withdraw from all medical treatment and Simon spent the rest of his days at home with the people he loved. Simon's wife Rebecca is touched that Tom has chosen to run the Virgin London Marathon in Simon's honour. Simon will be sorely missed by everyone that knew him. Tom had been thinking of how he could do something in his honour and knowing Simon it had to be something sports related. Tom has always dreamt about running the London Marathon and to combine a sporting achievement with such a personal tribute to a great man will be a truly wonderful thing. Simon sadly passed away in Novemeber 2010.</p>	<p>Cardiology department at Heartlands Hospital</p>

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Clare Bull & Claire Dodridge	Newbury		Two Newbury mothers are preparing to run their first ever marathon. Clare Bull's husband Andy died seven years ago just months after he was diagnosed with brain cancer, leaving her a single mother to their 20 month old son.	Cancer Research
Andy Jackson	South London	29067	Former leukaemia sufferer Andy Jackson, 26, is running from John O'Groats to Land's End VIA the 2011 Virgin London Marathon as Mr Happy in aid of CwL. Andy completed his first London Marathon in 2003 BEFORE his life saving bone marrow transplant. He recovered in record time, just in time, as two days after leaving hospital Andy's mum died of cancer. Andy will run an average of 22 miles a day for 9 weeks and will be popping into well know attractions including Gleneagles, Aviemore Ski resort and Alton Towers along the way	Children with Leukaemia
James Rumble	Kings Langley Herts	37626	James, 35, is running for CwL as his 3 year old son, Louis, is currently being treated for the disease. Louis was 19 months when he was diagnosed with leukaemia in 2009 after feeling 'under the weather' for 5 days'. Louis hasn't gone through his treatment alone, as well as his parents, he has twin Grace to keep him company.	Children with Leukaemia
Julie & Matthew Ashmore	Burton - On Trent, Staffs		When former leukaemia sufferer Matthew Ashmore, 37, decided to run the 2010 Virgin London Marathon, his mum Julie was with him every step of the way and trained with him day and night. Julie, 64, is taking her loyal support for her son one step further this year and will join him on the starting line of the 2011 Virgin London Marathon. Matthew has also had open heart surgery and has been diagnosed with asthma.	Children with Leukaemia
Samantha Curry	Hornchurch, Essex	37668	Samantha Curry, 41, was 35 weeks pregnant when her 2 year old daughter, Abigail, was diagnosed with leukaemia. The situation was made worse by a blood clot in Abigail's leg, which needed regular injections for 3 months before all of her treatment could start. Abigail became needle phobic and even now, aged 13, dreads the regular blood tests she needs to monitor for signs of the disease returning. Samantha is keen to emphasis post treatment trauma children, like her daughter, have to go through years after their treatment has finished.	Children with Leukaemia

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Simon & Amanda Blair	Kettering, Northamptonshire	37385, 37257	Amanda Blair, 37, was pregnant with her second child when she noticed her 2 year old son Sam was unwell. Her medical training kicked in and she insisted Sam had a blood test – a test they were later told saved his life. Sam’s treatment started, but the family would face more stress when Amanda was rushed into maternity and tests showed she would need close monitoring for the duration of her pregnancy. Tough times lay ahead for Sam as in year 2 of his treatment he spent 4 days in intensive care and also contracted chicken pox, a potential killer for a child with leukaemia. Sam, now aged 12, still finds returning to the hospital for tests hard as it throws up some bad memories and recently told his father his memories of being pinned down for injections.	Children with Leukaemia
Mike & Roni Kelly	Llandysul, Dyfed	20931, 37316	Mike, 76 and his wife Roni, 70, will be attempting their 3 rd London Marathon this year after being married for a staggering 52 years! Mike, who has a new hip and knee, and his wife are retired teachers and run a swim school and holiday complex.	Children with Leukaemia
Stuart Coker	London (E16)	37279	Stuart has discovered a new and novel way of raising funds for this year’s Virgin London Marathon, thanks to the generosity of Ubiquitous Ltd, Stuart’s black taxi will advertise his marathon attempt and CwL for a month leading up to the marathon itself.	Children with Leukaemia
Noel Bresland	Manchester	37235	Veteran marathon runner Noel Bresland, 34, who launched his challenge to run 223 marathons in memory of his nephew, at the 2009 London Marathon, will run this year’s event (marathon 31) as Little Miss Naughty for CwL and just 12 days after completing the world’s first Eyeathon, on a treadmill inside a capsule at the London Eye.	Children with Leukaemia
Andrew Parkinson	Shenfield, Essex	36838	Andrew, 44, is taking time out of his busy schedule to take part in this year’s Virgin London Marathon. Andrew is Executive Chef at Jamie Oliver’s ‘Fifteen’ and not only manages a team of 25 professional chefs, but also mentors a team of 15 apprentices every 18 months as part of a pioneering apprentice programme for young people.	Children with Leukaemia
David Grice	Scunthorpe, Essex	37490	In 2008 David and Claire Grice’s son Dan died of leukaemia aged 12. Dan suffered for two forms of leukaemia (ALL & AML) and had two bone marrow transplants. David, who is currently in the army, will be completing his first full marathon in memory of his son	Children with Leukaemia
Harry Newton		30291	73 year old Harry was diagnosed with non-hodgkins lymphoma last year and is taking part as a way of saying Thank You to The Christie of which he refers to as 'Life-saving'.	Christie Hospital NHS Trust

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Mike Keen	Wrexham, North Wales	53382	Mike will be running the 2011 London Marathon with his 18 year old son Tom, who will be raising money for CLIC Sargent in July 2008 when Tom was 16 he was diagnosed with cancer and is still under the care of his CLIC Sargent Nurse, Rhian and Alder Hay at children's Hospital in Liverpool. Mike and Tom want to raise as much money as they can to say 'Thank You' for all the care Tom has received and to make sure as many children who are given the same devastating news, receives as much help and support Tom has been given.	Clic Sargent
Louise Turner	Horninglow	38656	Louise has begun training in a bid to raise funds and awareness for Cystic Fibrosis - a condition that affects her 15 year old sister, Beth. Her mum Emma said: " Beth has suffered with this condition all her life and Louise wanted to do something to raise funds for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust as they continue to find a cure. Last year Louise took part in a skydive to raise funds, she has not done much running before but Louise is very determined. Louise is currently studying for her A Levels at John Taylor High School and is set to go to University next year to study nursing.	Cystic Fibrosis
Louisa Winslade	Bognor Regis	38662	Louisa is to run her first London Marathon this year. She has Cystic Fibrosis, a life threatening inherited disease affecting the lungs and digestive system. She had a life saving double lung transplant in March 2006 and is determined to put her new lungs to good use. Louisa's lungs had become so damaged that by 2005 she had less than a 30% of the function of a normal person's lungs. She had been getting worse and worse since she was 16 and in 2005 her doctors recommended putting her forward for a transplant. Her prognosis was less than two years to live before the transplant and after her operation doctors told her that the state her lungs were in, she would have had only another two months to live without the transplant. Five years ago she didn't have the strength to walk down her driveway or wash her own hair so she has come so far. when she takes part in the marathon she will be celebrating five years post transplant and this is her opportunity to give something back and to encourage others to keep fighting.	Cystic Fibrosis

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Lynsey Morton	Yorkshire	38667	Lynsey had Cystic Fibrosis which means she has to take up to 50 tablets a day and finds herself in hospital two or three times a year with serious chest infections. She started running in 2008 as her lung capacity was not great and she wanted to get fit and to do something positive. She does tend to get breathless and suffer from coughing fits, but as time goes on running has actually helped her lung function. At one point she didn't believe she could do 10k and now she is training for her first marathon. Lynsey is running with her husband to raise money for the cystic fibrosis trust, her niece also has the same condition.	Cystic Fibrosis
Patrick Hoffstetter	Chelsea	38683	Patrick is preparing to run his first London Marathon this year, he has previously run the Paris Marathon twice and the Royal Parks Half Marathon twice. Patrick is running in memory of his father who died of Cystic Fibrosis in 1970. Patrick was the first child in the world to be born to a father with Cystic Fibrosis. Sadly his father died when Patrick was just three, and although he has no memory of him, he is determined to fundraise in his memory.	Cystic Fibrosis
Emily Foran	Hampshire		Emily is running the event dressed as a fairy to try to break the Guinness world record for the fastest fair to run a marathon. She is running for this charity as her friend has a three year old son, Freddie has Cystic Fibrosis.	Cystic Fibrosis
Gregg			Gregg is running the Virgin London Marathon for Diabetes UK in support of his dad who has had both legs amputated as a result of his diabetes. It had always been Gregg's dad's ambition to run the Marathon, however this ambition was halted last year when his diabetes sadly led to him having both his legs removed. Gregg has now decided to take on the challenge himself in support of his dad and hopes he will be able to raise awareness of the seriousness of diabetes.	Diabetes UK
Laura			Laura is running for Diabetes UK after her fiancé, Paul, was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes while they were travelling in Australia two years ago. He noticed he was feeling unwell but didn't think much of it. However on a three hour journey he collapsed and fell into a diabetic coma. He spent a week in hospital and Laura describes this as a terrifying and life-changing event. The pair have now readjusted their lives to cope with Paul's diabetes and are engaged to be married.	Diabetes UK

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Damian			Damian is running in support of Diabetes UK after being diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes six years ago. Since then he discovered how important it is to take good care of his health and will be arriving to the start of the Virgin London Marathon in style - by sailing to the start in his yacht! He will be sailing from Felixstowe to St Katherine's Dock and the yacht will display the Diabetes UK logo as he is passionate about supporting the charity.	Diabetes UK
Hayley			Hayley has had Type 1 diabetes for 16 years and will be celebrating her first wedding anniversary by taking part in the Virgin London Marathon. Hayley got the shock of her life when she was diagnosed with diabetes and was often bullied in school. Throughout college her feelings turned to denial and she often missed injections and drank too much alcohol, resulting in her being hospitalised. Hayley has now adjusted her lifestyle to help her manage her diabetes and has also become more comfortable with her condition since getting married in April 2010.	Diabetes UK
Dan			Dan is running in support of Diabetes UK in memory of his brother, Simon, who died as a result of diabetes complications two years ago. Simon was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes when he was 10 and became an active supporter of Diabetes UK. He was determined not to let his diabetes stop him from leading a normal life. However after experiencing a severe hypoglycaemic attack, Simon died aged only 35, leaving behind his wife and two children. Dan was inspired by all the runners taking part in the Virgin London Marathon last year and hopes his challenge will raise awareness of the seriousness of diabetes in memory of his brother.	Diabetes UK
Sarah Bance	Redhill	38896	Sarah is running for the Disability Challengers, which she says is her 8 year old son Dominic's "all time favourite" place to be. Dominic is profoundly deaf, autistic and has behavioural problems, but the surrey charit, which runs play schemes for disabled young people, has had a major impact on his life. As of his disabilities Dominic requires round the clock care and supervision. Sarah feels Disabilitly Challengers is the only place Dominic can enjoy himself independently away from the family. But she fears about the effect Goverment cuts could have on Disability Challengers, and is determined to raise money to protect the charity.	Disability Challengers

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Richard Lord		39054	<p>When Richard's daughter Phoebe was diagnosed as being profoundly deaf Richard and his wife realised that the only way that she would ever access sound and have a chance to talk was to have a Cochlear Implant. When Phoebe was 4 months old they started on a Cochlear Journey with her and throughout this time (she is now 6) they have had tremendous support from The Ear Foundation. The Ear Foundation were instrumental in explaining the whole process from assessment to surgery to rehabilitation. But this is only the beginning. Once Phoebe had her first Cochlear Implant (aged 15 months) she has to learn to listen and interpret the sounds that she heard. Again the Ear Foundation have helped them as a family to understand how she hears and give them the skills and knowledge to support Phoebe through this. Phoebe is now at mainstream school and has had age appropriate speech for a hearing child! The Ear Foundation continues to support them to assist Phoebe in all the challenges in her life, a Cochlear Implant is not a cure for deafness. Importantly they have met many other families that have been a great source of support and inspiration to them and have become good friends. Richard has been a keen runner for several years and he did the great North Run in 2007. When he found out that the Ear Foundation had some spaces for 2011 Virgin London Marathon he decided that it was time that he ran a Marathon. Richard quotes 'It is very hard work and my wife says that running has taken over my life, although at times it does feel like that I have to keep reminding myself why I am doing it.'</p>	Ear Foundation
Steve Peek	London	39157	<p>Steve is running in memory of his late wife, Joan Peek, who passed away just before christmas on 23rd December 2010. Joan was diagnosed with epilepsy only a few years ago. Epilepsy Action was her favourite charity, and the information they provided help Joan come to terms with her condition. Steve is delighted to be able to take part in the London Marathon again.</p>	Epilepsy Action
Jack Packman		51050	<p>Eighteen year old Jack will be running the Virgin London Marathon on 17 April in memory of his friend Jordan Boyce who died from Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP) aged 18. Although Jack will be one of the youngest competitors in the 2011 event, he is an experienced long distance runner. Last year he successfully ran from Trafalgar Square to Margate, which is equivalent to three consecutive marathons.</p>	Epilepsy Bereaved

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Kevin Mead	Oxfordshire		Kevin is running in honour of his colleague's daughter, Grace. Grace Windram was born at 32 weeks, by the time Grace was three to four months she was not meeting the physical milestones of other similarly aged children. In July 2008 Grace was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy. After a recommendation by another Footsteps family and a search into several therapies at the time, Grace started at Footsteps.	Footsteps Foundation
Matt Nolan		39273	After a long period of increasingly frightening and debilitating symptoms, Matt was finally diagnosed in 2007 with an arterio-venous malformation located in the left-temporal lobe in his brain. AVM's are very rare, they cause many varying symptoms but can, and often do cause strokes. Matt is one of the very lucky few that discovered his AVM before what was an inevitable stroke at some point in his life, the fact that it had not ruptured already was a miracle. He eventually had two operations in 2008 where a tube was inserted into his femoral artery into his thigh and then passed all the way inside the blood vessels to the affected area of the brain where the gluing was then performed to block off the affected section. In December 2010 he was given the final all clear. So he has set himself the challenge of running the Virgin London Marathon.	Family Holiday Association

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Neil Marshall			<p>This is the first time that Neil is running a marathon, he feels both excited and nervous about the challenge ahead. Neil is running for 2 special reasons. 1) Follow that Fire Engine: Lots of people have lots of aspirations that they talk about in the pub but never quite complete. Well, Neil's cousin Steve, set himself a challenge 2 and a half years ago and is very near completing it. In memory of his Dad, Steve decided it would be a fab plan to plan to drive a fire engine around the world - Martha. This trip is fully funded by the crew and 100% the money raised (currently £95k) goes to Follow that Fire Engines nominated charities. Martha arrives back to Greenwich on 10th April, it will be a momentous occasion, everyone cannot wait to see her and Steve of course. Neil will be wearing his FTFE t-shirt instead. 2) Neil's great friend Debbie has worked on the marathon for 17 years. This means she leaves Spencers wood on a Friday lunch time and returns in the early hours of Monday morning and in between times works very hard. This in itself is no mean feat, however, Debbie not only has 10 children to juggle but also the running of the local church cafe and the Chair of the Pre School and both the Village hall and school committees. So he will do this as a small thank you to her, he can not wait to see her at the finish line and to celebrate.</p>	<p>Fire Fighters charity, Roy castle Lung Cancer Foundation, Macmillan Cancer Support.</p>
Dave	Malawi, Mulanje		<p>Dave is running on behalf of the charity which he is a trustee for, Friends of Mulanje Orphans. This charity feeds, clothes and schools 5,500 orphans in the impoverished southern region of Malawi, called Mulanje. 2010 was a pretty awful year as six of their own staff (Malawians) were imprisoned and also their founder from the UK.</p>	<p>Friends Of Mulanje Orphans</p>
Stuart Rhodes	London	51081	<p>Stuart is heavily involved in tennis and very keen to run and raise money for such a worthy and specific cause purely focused on broadening access to tennis for kids.</p>	<p>Give it your max</p>

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Martin Palmer		39900	Martin decided to run in a gorilla suit because it was a bit out of the ordinary and might encourage people to support him by sort of 'Going the extra mile'. Like 26 isn't enough. This is Martin's first marathon so he has been training a lot for it, with and without the suit. The sight of a gorilla running around his home town has raised both support and eyebrows.	Gorilla Organization
Paul Winks		40064	31 year old City worker and Ironman Triathlete Paul Winks running in honour of his great grandfather Harry Green – winner of the Polytechnic Marathon, the original London Marathon, exactly 100 years ago in 1911. Paul Winks is delighted that he has been given this momentous opportunity to follow in the footsteps of his forefather from a marathon place with Guide Dogs for the Blind.	Guide Dogs for the Blind
Cy Honeyman		39213	Cy is running for Havens Hospice in the memory of his daughter Megan sadly lost her battle against numerous illnesses, at the tender age of 6, on 3rd December 2009. During Megan's life she spent many 'Holidays' at Little Havens Children's hospice in Essex, this gave Cy and his wife much needed respite from the 24 hour care Meg required. It allowed them to take her brother, Callum, out to places it was difficult to take Meg. The care Meg received was fantastic and she would always get really excited about her visit. The hospice also helped the family through the most difficult time of their lives preparing a chapel of rest at the hospice for their 'little angel', and also setting up a Friends and family room next door so people could go and pay their respects whilst having somewhere to talk. Cy entered the ballot in 2010 race, but when Meg fell terminally ill in September 2009, he didn't follow up on a place. Only after her funeral did he decide to phone the Little Havens and ask for a charity place, but there were none left. Then just after Christmas a phone call came "Someone dropped out would you be interested in running." So having not run for nearly 20 years, he started his training. Being a smoker whose only exercise was a fortnightly round of golf this wasn't easy. Cy will be running in a shirt and pink tie.	Havens Hospice

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Bryan Connor	Crouch End, Haringey		Bryan and his partner Michelle have set themselves the ultimate challenge of running the VLM 2011. The couple met at a local Virgin Active gym in April 2006. Shortly after meeting, Bryan suffered a heart attack whilst training on a rowing machine. Luckily Michelle was on hand to ring an ambulance and support him through the ordeal. After having stent fitted in his right coronary artery at Westmoreland Hospital, Bryan began building his fitness back up with Michelle's help. Since then their relationship has gone to strength to strength and they have continued to run in many holiday destinations including Ibiza where they got engaged last year.	Heart Research UK
Katherine and Beth Page	Tooting, London	40345, 40346	Katherine and Beth are running in memory of their dad who died aged just 51, last year from a sudden heart attack. They are both running in tribute to their father, who they adored and wanted to raise money and awareness.	Heart Research UK
Tony Selwyn	Richmond, Surrey	40560	Tony will be running wearing a Betty Boop Costume, in memory of his father, who was cared for by a hospice at the end of a long battle with bowel cancer. Tony who works in London as an environmental consultant, had worn the costume to a fancy dress party and never thought to wear it again – until his friends bet him he wouldn't wear it for the Virgin London Marathon. He took up the challenge because this year, the run has a special significance for him. Tony's Dad died towards the end of last year in the Princess Alice Hospice aged 64, after battling bowel cancer for many years. The care he received at the hospice was second to none, from the transport to and from the hospice to the nurses who took such good care of him when he was there. Even now, the support and aftercare that his Mum is receiving at the moment is wonderful and a huge help. Hospice services are free of charge but Tony never realised until chatting to one of the nurses that hospices relied so much on fundraising and volunteering, and he is keen to do anything he can to help – so if wearing a Betty Boop costume will help me to raise more money for Help the Hospices, then he absolutely will do it.	Help the Hospices

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Jamie Holmes, Darren Strachen and David Bone	London	40567,	Jamie and his colleagues Darren and David propose to run a marathon of marathons; 100.9 miles in one week. They will run in the Brighton Marathon on Sunday 10th April 2011, then on Wednesday 13th April they will run from Brighton to London (48.5miles) and on 17th April they will run the Virgin London Marathon along with Jamie's wife. The reason Jamie is running this distance is to help raise awareness for Hemihelp as his daughter Holly suffers from hemiplegic, a neurological condition that weakens one side of the body. Jamie, his wife and Holly have been members of Hemihelp for many years.	Hemihelp
Adam Hollyoake		40702	Adam's step brother died of Huntington's disease in 2007, his step sister is currently battling the disease as well and their father passed away in the late 90's as a result of Huntington's disease. His step mother who is a really big part of Adam's life has been amazing, her strength throughout the death of her first husband, eldest son and soon to be only daughter has been inspiration in wanting to raise money for such a worthwhile cause, that is very close to his heart. He hopes to raise awareness of Huntington's with the help and support of his girlfriend Kate Lawler on her radio station.	Huntington's Disease Association
Rabbi Odom Brandman	Buckhurst Hill, Essex	50997	Rabbi Odom is ths Rabbi and Director of a Jewish Community Centre. He is running this year to raise awareness and funds for the work they do. The Centre serves a very wild range of people in the West Essex area provideing educational, social, regigious and cultural services. Odom and his wife set up the Centre 5 years ago and have built up a range of regular programs and services for the local community which is funded solely from local donations with no outside help or grants from any othe organizations or branches. When he decided to run the marathon it started out as a joke, it's not something people expect to see their Rabbi doing, but he has taken on the challenge an, produced a comedy video, which has merited over 2700 on youtube.	Jewish Community Centre

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Penny Tree	Lodsworth, West Sussex	41163	67 year old grandmother Penny is taking part in the Virgin London Marathon this year as her 9 year old granddaughter Sophie has type 1 diabetes and relies on pump infusions and insulin injections 24/7, just to stay alive. It is clear that more progress has been made towards finding a cure in the last five years than in the last fifty, and whilst Penny and her family all cling to the hope that a cure will be found in Sophie's lifetime, as her grandmother she is desperate to see this happen in her own lifetime. Sophie's strength and resilience is an inspiration to them all, and will drive Penny's 'youthful' legs around the 26.2 miles, but where as Penny can focus on the finish line, for Sophie there is no let up - whether she is playing hockey, at school, at a party, a sleepover, or just at home, she and her family all have to live with the constant worry of this hidden condition. The fact that Sophie and so many other children have to deal with type 1 for the rest of their lives it is a great incentive for Penny to train. In fact it has worked to her advantage as Penny has been spotted by locals running in the rain . They felt so sorry for her they donated to JDRF.	Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation
Connor & Joanne Wilkinson	Bushey, Hertfordshire	41154, 41177	Couple sweat it out in marathon training on opposite sides of the world. Separated by more than 3500 miles, Connor runs in the desert and Joanne runs across the English countryside, but together the couple will raise money for research into type 1 diabetes, after their son Ben was diagnosed with the condition aged two. Connor is currently serving in the Army in Afghanistan has been jogging on sand in Camp Bastion to get fit for the race. When Joanna isn't looking after their nine month old baby, Joanna is training hard. It hasn't been easy for them both, but it will be worth it if they can help raise money to fund this charity,	Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation

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Chris Piper		13238	<p>Chris is on of the Longest standing marshal group leaders as the marathon and this year he is running it in honour of his niece. Chris's niece Katie Piper was the victim of an acid attack in March 2008 which nearly ended her life. Since then she has inspired Chris and many others for her determination to get on with her life, Katie has featured in a channel 4 Documentary 'Katie - My Beautiful Face' and many other programmes. Katie has won many awards for her bravery and wa on of the Daily Mail's inspirational Women of the year. She had also set up her own charity which Simon Cowell is Patron. There is to be a 'follow-up' programme in March/April this year, and the publication of a book she had written. It will be a tough run for Chris as he is not as young and fit as he used to be, but he is happy to endure the pain for 4 to 5 hours, as compared to what Katie has been through, it will be a walk in the park.</p>	Kaite Piper Foundation
Ashley Brough	New Oscott, Sutton Coldfield	41362	<p>Ash is running the race on behalf and in support of his sister Donna who had two of the world's most rarest diseases. In 2008 a pregnant Donna was diagnosed with Lymphangioliomyomatosis (known as LAM) and tuberous sclerosis, when 13 weeks pregnant she suffered a massive internal bleeding from a tumour haemorrhage on one of her kidneys and her life hung in the balance. Her left kidney had to be removed in order to save her life. A few days later one of her lungs collapsed and surgeons fought to re-inflate the organ. Donna underwent eight excruciatingly painful chest drains and two lung operations before doctors were able to stabilise her. Against the odds Donna and her unborn baby survived the ordeal, daughter Lily is now 19 months and thriving.</p>	LAM Action

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Darren Whitney	Watford	41364	<p>Financial adviser Darren decided to support the charity after his friend Sarah Wood was diagnosed with the lung disease lymphangioliomyomatosis (known as LAM) in spring 2010. The condition causes the lungs to deteriorate. There is no cure, nor effective treatment. Darren decided he wanted to run the London Marathon just a couple of weeks after Sarah was diagnosed. She needs oxygen to help her get about because she is so short of breath which makes life very hard. Unless you know someone with an illness like this you don't realise how tough it can be. Sarah is a very strong person and has a very positive outlook on life and is coping incredibly well. She is incredibly courageous. Darren has completed a number of half marathons but this will be his first full Marathon.</p>	LAM Action
Brian Doan & Heather Thomson		40769, 41457	<p>Brain and Heather will be running this year London Marathon and Boston Marathon. In 2008, they came up with "Tri The World", an endeavour that had them compete in sixteen Ironman 70.3 triathlons (Half Ironman Distance) in 11 countries, on 4 continents in less than 8 months. We were raising awareness of Acquired Brain Injuries and Testicular Cancer. After a few years off, they decided to take one more crack at helping others, they the "Everyman Marathon Grand Slam", where they will run in each five world majors in 2011. Usually the Boston and London Marathon are a week apart, but this year London is a day prior to the Boston. So after a year of planning, they will be at the start line in Hopkinton after having run the Virgin London Marathon, Two world Majors in Two days.</p>	Leaonard Cheshire Disability & Everyman

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Andrew Owen	Bermondsey	41559	Andrew is taking part in the Paris Marathon on Sunday 10th April, he is then cycling from Paris to London to take part in the Virgin London Marathon a week later. He has never run a full marathon in his life and he was originally meant to be taking part in the challenge with a friend who has since had to pull out. He is therefore doing it solo. He is fundraising for Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research because a friend's brother died from leukaemia 8 years ago.	Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research
John Hibbs	West Midlands	50061	Deciding to run was an easy decision for John knowing he'd be running to support his sister in her battle against Lupus. But he also knew it would be the greatest challenge of his life. After a promising start to a career in football, he was hampered by a knee injury before finally being diagnosed with arthritis and forced to call it a day. Now 13 years on, despite his dodgy knees, he is preparing for his second consecutive London Marathon and he has no intention of it being his last.	Lupus UK/ West Midlands Lupus Group
Dave Heeley		1000	1000 Miles- 10 Days - 10 Marathon's - 750 Miles Cycling. Not satisfied with running 7 marathons in 7 days on 7 continents, Blind Dave now wants to explore Britain from Top to Toe - that's John O'Groates to Land's End. Dave raises money for Macmillan cancer as he has lost his father, father-in-law and then lost his last guide dog to cancer. Then very recently in terrible consequences hit home again when it claimed the life of a long time friend of 35 years. Each day he will start with a marathon run of 26.2 miles, then a cycle to the next destination - an average of 75 miles. So, one man, 10 marathons, nearly 1000 miles and one tandem.	Macmillan Cancer Support

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Robin Harvie	London	43077	<p>Robin plans to double the distance of the London Marathon by running a whole marathon immediately before doing the official race, starting from Big Ben at 4am. He has been running marathons for a decade and runs ultra-marathons in excess of 50 miles and has also penned his first book entitled <i>Why We Run</i>, which is due out in April. Robin is running for Mind as his mother-in-law was diagnosed with depression following the death of her husband two and a half years ago. Her diagnosis came as a shock to her family, who welcomed the support and advice offered to them by mental health professionals to help their understanding. Robin and his family have praised the patience and expertise of the doctors who treated his mother-in-law, who he says ultimately saved her life. Robin cites the breakthrough moment for his mother-in-law's recovery during a therapeutic walk in the countryside and he sees this outdoor activity as a fitting way to raise awareness and money to support the people and organisations that help those with depression</p>	Mind
Sarah White, Donna Jansen, Michelle Jansen	Middlesex	43110	<p>Donna and Michelle, along with their aunt Sarah, are running for Mind in memory of their older sister Karla who tragically took her own life in 2009. Karla's birthday was 17 April which gives their marathon run on what would have been her birthday extra significance. The group are also running to support other family members who have experience depression and mental distress. They are currently helping to organize an event at the Heathrow Hilton to raise money for Mind and their marathon attempt.</p>	Mind
Ian Webber	Devon	43108	<p>Ian works for a homeless charity in Exeter. This year will be his tenth consecutive London Marathon. Thanks to his ten marathon runs Ian has raised more than £33,000 for a number of charities. He has also taken part in seven Amsterdam marathons. This year he will be hosting a coffee morning as well as tapping into his dedicated network of sponsors for support. This year Ian will be raising money for Mind following the untimely death of a 35-year-old relation. Through his work for the Exeter-based homeless charity Shilhay for over 12 years he has encountered many individuals who have experienced mental health issues.</p>	Mind

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Clive Butler	Reading	43060	Clive is on a massive weight loss mission and he has lost 4 stone in the last 8 months and has decided to train for his first London Marathon as part of his new healthy exercise regime. He is running for Mind as he has first-hand experience of the impacts of mental health problems on families as his mother has had schizophrenia since he can remember. Clive praises the excellent work of Mind in helping his mother over the past couple of years and wants to promote the help that is on offer through the charity	Mind
Jason Edwards	Yorkshire	51612	Jason took up running after having experienced depression and anxiety brought-on by the pressures of becoming a father and work-related stress. He was also diagnosed as being overweight. He now feels in control of his life and mentally and physically healthier. He is running for Mind to help combat the stigma that surrounds those who experience mental health difficulties. He is also hoping to support his wife who still struggles with depression and make her proud. His love of running has inspired his eight-year-old daughter who recently asked to join the school running club 'so I can be like you dad'.	Mind
Carollyn Gamble	Saffron Waldon, Essex	43074	Secondary school teacher Carolyn is running the London marathon for the first time as a unique 50 th Birthday present to her mother. Caroline wants to show her mum, who was diagnosed with severe bipolar depression sixteen years ago, that she is very proud of her and is running for Mind due to her mother's experiences with the condition and the affects it had on her upbringing. As a teacher, Caroline passionately believes that young people need to be made aware of mental health issues and wants to promote the services that Mind provides	Mind
Roy Redford	West Sussex	43162	Roy now 82, has run in the last 20 London Marathons. Since he took up running in his 60's, Roy has raised over £100,000 for charities. Before he retired Roy used to be a barber. One day a customer of his received a diagnosis of MND and Roy has run for the charity ever since.	Motor Neurone Disease Association

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Sarah Lacey, Grace Channing, Emma Brazell, Laura Charles, James Manley.		54660, 54655, 54653, 54656, 54662	A group of five cousins will be running this year and they hope to break the world record for highest number of family members in on race. They have lost three members of their family to MND. They are running this year in tribute to their gran Vera, who died last year.	Motor Neurone Disease Association
Andrew and Hannah Graham	Buckingham shire	43176, 43177	Andrew and his daughter Hannah will be running together in this year race. Andrew lost both his mum and dad to MND. This is very rare as MND affects 5000 people in the UK, so for a couple to both have the disease is very unusual.	Motor Neurone Disease Association
Simon Nkosi	South Africa	54665	Simon works as a lifeguard at a hotel and lives in a township in South Africa. He built up a friendship with one of the volunteers (Andrew) whilst they were on holiday. Simon is passionate about his running, he gets to work at 6am so he can train on the golf courses for an hour before work. He is 45 years old and has a dream to run in the world's greatest marathon - the Virgin London Marathon. He has been running for 20 years and this will be his greatest moment. Andrew and some volunteers decided to help him achieve his lifelong ambition and are helping him come to London and are raising money on his behalf for the charity.	Motor Neurone Disease Association
Gina Browning	Surrey	43156	Gina Browning's dad was diagnosed with MND in October 2009 and sadly died a year later in November 2010, ten days after Gina gave birth. His brother had previously died of this disease too. Gina found out she has a marathon place for MND on the day of her dad's funeral. Gina only gave birth four months ago so it is quite an amazing achievement for her. She will be running alongside her mum to pay tribute to her dad.	Motor Neurone Disease Association
John Lavarino	Catford	43304	John's wife, Elisa was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis two years ago. She is expecting their first child. John is running in honour of his wife, he will be dressed as a 'Top Gun' Fighter Pilot.	Multiple Sclerosis Resource Centre

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Richard Bannister		54671	Richard is running the marathon as the final race in his Three race challenge in his FULL fire kit of: Boots, leggings, Tunic, Helmet and breathing apparatus. The 3 races are - Kilomathon Derby 16.3 miles on the 20th March. Lincoln 10k on the 3rd April and the Virgin London Marathon. His step father suffered with cancer and his sister is very poorly with cancer at the moment, so any cancer charity is close to him. Richard chose Myeloma UK to run for as they guaranteed his a place as a lad on his watch at work has Myeloma and has only recently returned to work after a 2 year period. He is also attempting to break the world record for the fastest marathon in a firemans uniform, the current record is 4hrs 45 mins and 16secs this was acheived without the breathing Apparatus, but Richard is hopefully to still break this record even though he will be running with the BA and it adds on about 3 stone in extra weight.	Myeloma UK
Colin Kirkham		26355	Colin, a 66 year old marathon Olympian (1972) is to give away his Virgin London Marathon finisher's medal to the person who guesses nearest to his finishing time. Raising money for two charities for disabled children, anyone who wants a guess is charged £1, nearest has a choice of the medal, t-shirt, foil blanket or goodie bag, second closest has the next choice etc. until everything is gone. Colin has a disabled grandson, who is now 5 and attends a special school , for the first months of his life he had to be on life support equipment.	Newlife and Tiny Tim's Children's Centre
Flora Frank	Middlesex	44058	At the age of 67 she is a great grandmother, in the last 12 years she has completed 20 marathons. She has raised over £150,000 for the charity Norwood. Since 1998 she has run every London Marathon. She is a very keen fundraiser and has always supported Norwood as her brother lives in one of the homes.	Norwood
Sasha Kenney	Pandy, Wrexham	44410	Sasha runs hula-hoop fitness classes for adults and children across the region. Now she wants to use her finely honed skills at the marathon. If she succeeds Sasha could set a new world record for the longest run which a hula-hoop. It may be tricky at times if runners are crammed together but past this she is confident she can go all the way.	NSPCC

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Robert Reed	Somerset	52538	Robert believes that charity is the fundamental cornerstone of humanity. 'For many the world we live in is a cold place and it's people like Oxfam who change that', he says. An artist illustrator living in Somerset, he has been inspired during his training, running across valleys, hills and rivers. He also has had his local pub raise money for him, while everyone within a two mile radius knows he is running the marathon for Oxfam as he usually has his bright green vest on!	Oxfam
Jess Asz	London	44729	Despite a demanding job as a BBC producer, Jess has committed to running the London marathon together with her partner Ben. For her, Oxfam means bringing equality and fairness into a world where the distribution of wealth means some people have worse lives than others for no good reason. She never considered herself sporty so for her training for London is also about smashing that belief and being whoever she wants to be! Her marathon experience so far, she says, has simply been amazing. 'I never realised how much you could learn about life just by running - it's life in a nutshell!'	Oxfam
Melaney Noon	London	52501	Melaney was introduced to Oxfam and its work through her Nan, who has worked in the Oxfam shop in Bracknell and wants to source her entire running outfit from Oxfam shops. So she is running VLM not just to achieve it for herself but to also contribute something significant to her Nan's dedicated charity. A few of her friends have also worked for Oxfam abroad and she knows through their stories Oxfam's scope of activities. 'It is very international charity and help will always go where it's needed', she says about Oxfam.	Oxfam
Leonard Tedd	London	52568	As a development professional who has worked for Oxfam in Darfur and southern Sudan, Leonard particularly respects its work on the ground. 'Emergency response is needed but is not part of a solution to poverty' he believes. 'We have a human obligation to do something about the suffering and lack of opportunity that is the burden of poverty'. He says he can document that the money raised for Oxfam is money well-spent in worthwhile projects, has a number of human stories and images to share and has also fundraised for Oxfam through Trail walker.	Oxfam

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Andrew Makeover	Gloucestershire		Andrew describes himself as 'a fat man who plans to get fit and thin through the pressure of running the London Marathon' He is planning to run the marathon in a sumo wrestler suit. He has been training in the suit setting off at the crack of dawn to run to work, and trying to avoid too many people seeing him, He said unfortunately he had to run straight through a town, and he attracted quite a few confused looks and a car has even pulled over to ask if he was alright.	Oxfam
Martin Kirk	Oxford	52449	Martin works for Oxfam and is dedicating his personal time to help. "I'm running for Oxfam as its a salve on the rawness of the world; a sense of hope - to add to a positive force in the world. Oxfam can speak to everyone's better angels. It can be the place where people come together without having to worry about power or profit - just to contribute to the vision of a better world." He is running because he is 40 in 2012 and knows it'll only get more painful and difficult to run a marathon the older he gets.	Oxfam
Laura Hancock	Oxford	52658	As first time marathon runner, taking on the challenge with 2 months to go, Laura believes that "Oxfam means change. It means opportunity. It means providing basic human rights to every person – treating everyone as an individual. When I went to Mali, I met a young girl called Leyla. In 2006 they had one girl in the school (Leyla). When we visited in 2009 there were 213 students, 114 of which were girls. This gives me goose bumps! Oxfam have helped to change the lives of that community so dramatically, and the fact that I'm a part of that is what gives me the motivation to take on the awesome challenge of the Virgin London Marathon!"	Oxfam

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Cate Davis	Cumbria		<p>In 2008 Cate cycled a rickshaw 300 miles from Kendle to London over 10 days to raise money towards her marathon fundraising total. She rode with a bucket for donations on either side of the rickshaw and a big sign explaining what she is doing. This year she is riding around 50-60 miles a day for five days from her home to the start of the marathon. This will be the equivalent of around 10 marathons. This is the fourth time running the marathon for Oxfam and she has raised £30,000+ so far! She will be riding down to London on her bike from the Lake District with her 21-year-old son. They are setting off on the 11th of April, and they hope to take 5 days and arrive to London just in time for the race! It is approximately 10 marathons in distance, so 2 a day on wheels, then a (short) rest and one marathon on foot to finish. 'Or finish me off!' jokes this 57-year-old Oxfam runner. 'People seem to be genuinely impressed by my efforts (or fool hardiness). I can't quite see why, but if it raises awareness and they sponsor me then all to the good! Being fortunate enough to live in the west we should all feel a responsibility to those whose lives are so different than ours, as our actions (climate change for example) can directly affect their future'.</p>	Oxfam
Robin Stehlik	Dorking	52562	<p>Robin plans to shave and dye his hair into an Oxfam green mohawk in supporting his chosen charity Oxfam, and will also shave the Oxfam corporate logo into the sides of his head, as part of his fundraising efforts he is planning to play a drum-solo non stop for 10 hours.</p>	Oxfam
Cathryn Miller	Coventry	52482	<p>Cathryn will be celebrating her 28th birthday on race day. Cathryn climbed Kilimanjaro in October to raise sponsorship for her marathon run.</p>	Oxfam
Matt Sparrow	Kilburn	52557	<p>This will be Matt's 10th London Marathon. Its 20 years since his first marathon. Matt has been an Oxfam Volunteer for over 20 years and has also been an Oxfam Trustee.</p>	Oxfam

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Richard Willcox		45217	Is running just 12 days before his 30th Birthday. His motivation for running is his son Lucas, he was born in February 2010 and when he was just a few weeks old he was watching last years marathon with lucas asleep next to him in his mosses basket and Richard thought what a great idea it would be to run the race and dedicate it to him.	Phab Kids
Rebecca Roberts		45320	This is Rebecca's very first London Marathon. She runs with Pete and some other friends that live in the same village. Pete is her inspiration at 62 years old he is more than 20 years her senior and can out run Rebecca very easily, he ran the very first London marathon in 1981. He does all Rebecca's long runs with her and is always so encouraging and supportive, training really would not have been the same without him. She must not also forget to mention 'Barney' the wonder dog, her lovely Border Terrier, he just gives her those sad eyes and they go out running whatever the weather. It would be so easy not to run on some of those very cold or very wet mornings if it weren't for Barney.	Power International
Andrea Fawell		45319	Andrea ran the marathon 2 years ago and it was a huge day of celebration and she loved every second, she never wanted it to finish. Andrea wanted to be involved in 2010 and was a marshal but hated it, she hated not running and felt very left out, so Andrea really wanted to run again this year. Andrea quotes "As a full time working mum in a stressful senior position, changing jobs in the middle of the training program strikes me as mad but the truth is, if you want something doing, give it to a busy person, that's me!! I may not be fast, but I am determined and just want to show other working mums if you have a dream and really want to achieve something big in your life and support a very worthy cause, start running now!"	Power International

Virgin London Marathon 2011- Human Interest

Eddie Neilson		51294	<p>Eddie Neilson is former professional heavyweight boxer who fought Joe Bugner and Frank Bruno in his heyday. All 3 sons followed their father into boxing to varying levels, and now run a boxing gym together. The family has fundraised prolifically for the Pancreatic Cancer Research Fund (PCRF) following their mother Laura's diagnosis with pancreatic cancer. Laura died in January 2009, aged 57, just 9 months after her diagnosis. The family runs White Collar Boxing evenings along with other events, such as sporting dinners all through their promotional events company Neilson Promotions, raising funds for PCRF. They have also donated thousands of pounds to a local teenager with a very rare disease, who uses their Swindon gym with his dad, to buy him a state-of-the-art wheelchair and provide much needed equipment for the boy's school. Eddie had entered the London Marathon many years ago in his boxing days, but was injured just before and had to pull out. he is aiming to lose 3 stone before April as part of his training.</p>	Pancreatic Cancer Research Fund
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Virgin London Marathon 2011- Human Interest

Maianne & Louise			<p>Maianne's sister (Catherine Chick) was taken ill and within a week she was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. They were told that there was nothing that could be done for her. Cath was 43 with 3 children the youngest not quite 16. Maianne will never forget the day she diagnosed, Maianne didn't know what to do, her sister was so strong. From then on she had chemo to help with pain relief, but she suffered so much pain, their family had to watch a fun loving who loved to party, full of life young woman being destroyed by this dreadful disease. She never gave the fight up but it was so painful for Cath's family to watch someone you love go through so much pain and there was nothing we could do to help apart from give as much support as they could. After four months of being diagnosed she passed away at home. In fact it was Maianne's husband's birthday, Cath sort of wished him happy birthday in the morning and by 8.45 p.m. that night she had died. Maianne went through a very bad time after tgus and couldn't understand why this had happened. However, after watching her sister fight and lose her battle against this deadly disease at such a young age and so quick, it has made her determined to help cancer charities, especially Pancreatic Cancer UK to help achieve earlier diagnosis and even a cure. So she is gaining up with her daughter, Louise and will run the Virgin London Marathon in memory of a loving sister and aunt.</p>	Pancreatic Cancer UK
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Virgin London Marathon 2011- Human Interest

Jodie Potts	Cambridge	44864	Three years ago, solicitor Jodie of Cambridge firm Taylor Vintners caught the running bug and signed up for the Paris Marathon. But when a serious car crash forced her to pull out, Jodie lost confidence and felt that she had failed the challenge she had set herself. Thinking her injuries meant she would never be able to take part in another marathon, Jodie quit running altogether. Jodie's outlook was changed when Papworth Trust visited Taylor Vintners. She said "Papworth Trust told us how donations can have an impact on the lives of disabled people. When I found out that they had places in the 2011 Virgin London Marathon, the idea of raising money for a great cause gave me the motivation I needed to try running again." Jodie was offered one of the Trust's Marathon places and had begun training. she said "Getting into training has been great and I've definitely rediscovered my love for running. Knowing that a charity is depending on me to do my best is making the cold and icy morning runs so much easier. I am thrilled that I'll be running the Marathon in aid of Papworth Trust and I hope to complete the challenge that I set myself several years ago!"	Papworth Trust
Greg Satchell	Swindon	44943	He is the youngest member of the Wessex Male Choir. He sings at Parkinson's carol concert and will there singing on marathon day around the course and at Parkinson's post-race reception. Greg is running for his Grandfather who has Parkinson's.	Parkinson's UK
John Watkins	Tywyn, North Wales	44935	John suffers with Parkinson's and is linked to the Machynlleth branch who are helping him fundraise.	Parkinson's UK
Ian Thomson	Mellor Brook, Lancashire	44891	He ran the LA Marathon a few weekends ago and is running the Virgin London and also the Edinburgh Marathon in May, Ian's mother has Parkinson's. Ian had also participated in lots of other runs for Parkinson's in previous years.	Parkinson's UK
Anna Gee & Joanne Doherty	Nottingham	44897, 44895	Anna and Joanne are good friends with Sheila Noeth (Derby and District Branch of Parkinson's UK) who are volunteering with Parkinson's on marathon day and are very active in fundraising. Sheila is their link to Parkinson's. Anna's mother also had Parkinson's.	Parkinson's UK

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Rob Carmichael		44987	<p>Rob lost his darling wife, Sue, in 2008, after a five year battle with Breast Cancer. Sue was the most extraordinary lady....beautiful, loving and generous. She was also the strongest person, kicking the backside of that filthy disease for five years before winning her final battle and departing on her own terms. She was, is, and will remain an inspiration to Rob and others. This year Rob will be running to raise funds for a charity which is very important to him and Sue. The Penny Brohn Centre in Bristol was a huge support when we first returned to the UK, and introduced Sue to some amazing people who helped her during some very dark times. Rob knows that Sue will be helping him over 'the wall' if times get hard.</p>	Penny Brohn Cancer Care
Peter Hellawell	Bournemouth	32003	<p>Peter was hooked on running and he has loved the London Marathon from first taking part back in 2004. Then he had turned 40 and had been living with HIV for 20 years - half his life. Unfortunately as a novice runner, He underestimated his potential, got caught in traffic and only managed a respectable (but personally disappointing) 3:21. (Three weeks later he set his Pb of 3.04.03 over the hilly Isle of Wight course.) This year's race sees another milestone - 26 years with HIV... 26 miles. And he is determined to beat his Fast Good For Age qualifying time of 3:10; would like to set a new Pb, but better yet he would love to come under that magic 3 hours. As if that wasn't enough of a challenge he shall be running in fancy dress for the first time: a large HIV red ribbon over a black tri-suit. Made by a friend of his in Bournemouth it could go either way; the wired collar that sweeps behind his head might add resistance and slow him down, or else the support of the crowds might give me that boost to dig deep and go for it.</p>	Positive Action
Uli Kilian	London	54745	<p>Uli, aka the Rubik's runner is aiming to solve 100 rubik's cubes while running the capital's 2011 Virgin London Marathon in an attempt to raise thousands of pounds for charity and set a new Guinness world record. Uli set himself this challenge in 2009, when his father was diagnosed with prostate cancer. He says 'It was a frightening time and there was so little we could do to help. Thankfully my father has made a full recovery, and now I want to raise as much money as possible for Prostate UK.' The run will combine two of Uli's passions: running and solving Rubik's cubes. He started 'cubing' over christmas 2008, when he was first given a Rubik's cube. and he can now solve them in a respectable 30-35 seconds. He has run two marathons in the past, both under 4 hours. But by running and cubing at once he is setting himself an entirely new challenge!</p>	Prostate UK

Virgin London Marathon 2011- Human Interest

Andrew Langley	Wanstead, East London	45632	Andrew who quit smoking in 2010 has chosen to run on behalf of uk stop smoking charity QUIT to encourage others to follow in his footsteps. Andrew smoked for 7 years and knows how difficult it can be to quit. He believes if there was more help for people through charities such as QUIT, their chances of stopping would be hugely increased.	QUIT
Jane Bruce	Lambeth, South London		Is running on behalf of the charity after her uncle and grandfather died from smoking-related diseases. Jane, who works for The Institute of Cancer Research, said: "I want to support QUIT so hopefully fewer people have to go through this. Through my work I am also well aware of the massive risks smokers are taking and want to help as many people as possible quit. "	QUIT
Kelly Warburton		51338	After completing a collection at Paddington Railway Station to raise money as part of her fundraising for the London Marathon, a few days later Kelly was on the way to the bank to deposit the money, she was mugged and the money was stolen. Sadly only 6 days after the mugging, an intruder came into her house while her fiance nipped out to do the shopping leaving herself and her 2 year old boy in the house. The guy tried to make away with her laptop and camera, he attacked her son and her, luckily Liam was not hurt, but he has left Kelly with a nasty lump and bruise on her head. As a result of this she has been suffering quite severe panic attacks and sure to post traumatic stress her voice has stopped working. However on a good note she says "I won't let them win and have done my training this week in the gym and I am ok as long as there is someone I know with me. Luckily I am with a running club and quite a few are either running London or will be there for support." She went out running with her club at the weekend and did 24 miles so is on track for a good marathon.	Railway Children

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Fred Tomlinson	Doncaster	45703	61 Year old Fred Tomlinson is now preparing to take part in his 19th consecutive London Marathon, He lost his daughter Claire who died from a very rare cancer when she was just 15 years old. He said "Losing a child is indescribable and even now, 20 years on, the pain is raw. My wife Vanessa and I had little support through this dark time and following Claire's death I was at rock bottom. At this time, I remember picking up a running magazine one day and reading about Rainbow Trust." He had never owned a pair of running trainers in his life he describes himself as typical couch potato, however when he read the article about Rainbow Trust he was so inspired, He said " it has been like therapy for me, a way I could make some sense of something so awful and help people get through what we'd been through as a family.	Rainbow Trust
Debra Connolly	West Horndon		The mother of a four year old undergoing treatment for a brain tumour and is running the London Marathon to raise money for the charity helping her family through this difficult time, Debra found out that her daughter Iris, who celebrated her fourth birthday on 9th January, was diagnosed with a brain tumour in early 2010, Since then Iris has had six weeks of radiotherapy and 21 weeks of chemotherapy to come. Debra shaved her hair off last year to raise money for the Rainbow Trust and to make her daughter to feel more at ease about losing hers.	Rainbow Trust
Roger Peacock	Market Harborough, Leicestershire	45709	Roger Peacock, whose 13-year-old daughter, Lois, has been visiting Rainbows for a number of years. It was in October last year that Roger decided he wanted to give something back to the hospice for the work it does for both his daughter and the rest of his family. "I've never been a runner, so doing the London Marathon in April will certainly be a challenge – I'm determined to do it though and raise much-needed funds for this brilliant hospice."	Rainbows Hospice for young children and Young People
Alan Brown	Maidstone	45889	Fire fighter Alan will be running in memory of his daughter Charlotte. Charlotte passed away in June 2009 at Richard House Children's Hospice at just 8 years old. Charlotte was born with Edwards Syndrome and could not breathe properly on her own. She also had a problem with her heart. Now Alan want to give something back to the hospice that gave his family the care and support they needed during Charlotte's final hours and after her death.	Richard House Children's Hospice

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Lolo Leyenda	London		63 year old, Lolo works at the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability, in the catering team, and has done over 30 years. During this time he has run the London Marathon 25 consecutive times. He has raised funds for the RHN. Over the years working for the RHN he has made good friend with a resident, Deirdre Tydd, she has helped him to raise money for the care of 240 other patients, and the grand total so far of £70,760. They have also nominated Deirdre for a local award, which she has been shortlisted for, so they feel it would be great if Lolo could be recognised by the VLM for everything he has done. Last year Lolo and Deirdre raised a staggering £15,400, and they are trying to succeed in beating this target next year.	Royal Hospital for Neuro - disability
Fabien Francis			Fabien Francis and his now fiancée, Jacqueline, met in 1984; they were together for two years before they had to go their separate ways. In 2008 their paths crossed again and they got together for good – Fabien proposed and Jacqueline said yes. Unfortunately, however, just another two years later Jacqueline suffered a near-fatal brain haemorrhage which has left her severely disabled. Jacqueline is now being cared for at the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability in Putney, and Fabien has moved from France to the UK to be with her as much as possible. The Marathon is his way of doing something for the RHN and for ‘the love of his life’ (as he calls her) so that he does not feel quite so helpless.	Royal Hospital for Neuro - disability
Ewan Black		46351	Ewan Black’s mum, Diane, suffered a near-fatal brain haemorrhage and was given 48 hours to live back in 2009. Thankfully, however, this was not an accurate prediction and Diane did survive – but she was, unfortunately, left in a vegetative state. Slowly, over the past year and a half, Diane has regained movement, starting in her thumbs and spreading slowly across her body, and she also began to mouth words. Now, with specialist treatment and therapy, she is speaking more loudly, can answer questions and is remembering things. Ewan is just 22, and is working as an intern in the City.	Royal Hospital for Neuro - disability

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Andy Ford and Katrina Scaife	Brighton, East Sussex	46503, 46504	Andy's sister Christina was cared for by Saint Francis Hospice 2 years ago. He watched the marathon with her the weekend before she died. Christina had said she wished she could take part. To raise funds for Saint Francis Hospice Andy and his fiancée, Katrina are going to get married whilst taking part in the Virgin London Marathon. The Bride and Groom, plus 2 best men and bridesmaids will be taking part in the race, at the 20th mile they have arranged to leave the race to get married in a nearby hotel, in front of their family and friends before joining the race again to finish. Andy said that Christina had a wicked sense of humour and would love what they had planned. They have decided to get married during the marathon to make sure that they can feel Christina is part of the wedding. They are a really happy, enthusiastic couple who are happy for the hospice to make the most of this publicity opportunity.	Saint Francis Hospice
Paul Freeman	Hornchurch, Essex		At the age of 86, Paul is about to take part in his 20th Marathon. He hopes to raise another £10,000 on top of the £50,000 he has already donated. He ran his first marathon at the age of 69, and has only missed one London Marathon in 2004 when he had a heart attack. He decided to start running at the age of 61 for the fun of it, but it was soon his ambition to complete a marathon. Once he'd completed his first he was hooked and wanted to beat his time each year, managing to complete his 3rd marathon in 3 Hours 56. Nineteen years ago Paul visited Saint Francis Hospice on Christmas Day with his son. They spent about 4 Hours with the patients and helping on the ward. His trip moved him so much he decided to run and raise money for them, and he has remained going to the hospice every Christmas day.	Saint Francis Hospice
Mary Brooksbank	Scotland	51393	The Sandpiper Trust was set up in 2001 in memory of Sandy Dickson, a young energetic 14 year old boy. Mary was a school friend of Sandy's and she has set herself the challenge to run her first marathon for the Sandpiper Trust.	Sandpiper Trust

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Mark Aldridge	Northampton	52182	Mark, who has five children, is running the Virgin London Marathon in memory of the baby he and his wife, Jennifer, were expecting in 2008 and who died four months into pregnancy. Mark, aged 41 says, 'The pain we felt when our baby died was unimaginable and it changed my life forever. I had always been a big chap, but it made me realise that life is too precious to waste and that I needed to be around for our children in the future. Previously twenty five stone I decided to get myself in shape and now, having lost nine stone, I'm delighted to be running my first ever full marathon for Sands, the stillbirth and neonatal death charity. I wish we had known about them back in 2008 as I know they would have given us all the support and comfort we needed at such a sad time in our lives.'	Sands
Paul Woods	Rothwell	7402	Paul will be running the Virgin London Marathon in memory of his four children. Liam who was stillborn at 24 weeks in 1989, Nathan who was stillborn in October 1992 at 40 weeks, and twins, Nicola and Natalie, who were born in July 1993 but tragically died a month later. Paul, aged 47 says, 'Thanks to Sands my children are buried in a communal grave at Harehills Cemetery here in Leeds. Sands helped us so much at such a devastating time in our lives and I just hope I can raise as much money as possible for such a worthy cause.' Paul and his wife, now have a young son, Callum aged 4.	Sands
Adam Brown			Adam is running the marathon for the 20th time for Save the Rhino, for 2011 they are having 10 new rhino suits made. At the moment there will be 12 rhinos running in the race with the possibility of a couple more.	Save the Rhino International
Alan Banks	Scarborough	51394	Alan suffers from albinism, but he hasn't let his sight problem stop him from leading a normal life, he is 41 years old and works as a health care assistant in a local hospital, is married and had 4 sons. For many years he has trained a local junior football club players and now has set himself the challenge of running a marathon to raise funds for the society. This will be Alan's first Marathon.,	Scarborough Blind and PS Society
Stephen Sutton	Kent	53087	Stephen will be running the Virgin London Marathon for his son who suffers from cerebral palsy.	Scope

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Jasmeet Athwal	Ilford, Essex	46711	Jasmeet has a younger brother who has cerebral palsy, She sees this as a life changing experience for her doing the marathon, and knows what it will mean to her brother.	Scope
Lucy Chatfield	Basildon	46726	Lucy's best friends daughter Luka has cerebral palsy and she has seen the effects this has on his and his friends life. She wants to raise money for Scope so she knows that she will make a difference to her friends and Luka's life	Scope
Adam Clarke	London	46791	Adam's best friends son Jacob has cerebral palsy and Scope has helped the family out a lot. Adam wants to run to give something back to Scope.	Scope
Mike Cody	Clwyd	46793	Mike's niece has cerebral palsy, she is 7 years old and was born with CP, so she finds being active very difficult. Mike wants to show that even though someone may have CP they can still enjoy their life and it is ok to be different.	Scope
James Court	London	46731	James's cousin Ruby had an operation in the US to help with her diplegia cerebral palsy. He wants to raise money to help other people affected like Ruby.	Scope
Peter Curran	Surrey	46817	Peter's friend Revalyn who has cerebral palsy has been an inspiration to him, this is why he has decided to run the race for his friend.	Scope
Andrea Gayle	Kent	46727	Andrea's daughter Georgie has cerebral pals. She is in a wheelchair and has severe learning difficulties. Scope is very close to Andrea's heart.	Scope
Ian Gibbs	Cambridgeshire	46725	Ian's step daughter had brain damage at birth, and since she started to attend Scope's Meldreth Manor School she has improved amazingly. Ian wants to raise money to help fund the school.	Scope
Lindsay Hopkinson	London	46717	Lindsay is a paediatric physiotherapist working with disabled children with cerebral palsy. She has organised sports events for children with CP.	Scope

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Nathan Khider	London	46778	Nathan's uncle has cerebral palsy and asked Nathan to run for Scope.	Scope
Neil Speight	Preston	13699	Neil has his own entry into the Virgin London Marathon but is running for Scope as his niece has cerebral palsy.	Scope
Keith Moore	Hull	46704	Keith's daughter Sofia has cerebral palsy, he wants to run the marathon as a platform to raise money for the cause.	Scope
Jenna O'Malley	Stockport	46718	Jenna is running with her partner Grant as her cousin died of cerebral palsy at the age of 18. After seeing the pain and suffering that her cousin had endured she wants to do anything that she can to help. Grant is also celebrating his 30th birthday this year and wants a challenge.	Scope
Emma McIlwrath	Somerset		Emma used to work as a team leader for the Scope Inclusion in Cornwall. The experience changed her life as she cared for a young girl with cerebral palsy who passes away after a surgical procedure caused complications. The young girl taught her so much about life and it will be an honour for Emma to run the marathon for Scope.	Scope
Lateef Maynard	London	46724	Lateef has a sister with cerebral palsy. His family insists that her disability is not the definition of her experience. Scope has been an amazing influence in her life.	Scope
Sam Marsh	Basildon	46714	Sam has a brother with cerebral palsy. Sam has always been interested in representing a cause for his brother. His brother was diagnosed at birth and he has so much respect for him. Sam would love to show a way of how proud he is of him for keeping his head up high and dealing with what he has got and not complaining. Despite having his dad in prison for 18 years and a family torn apart his brother always manages to smile.	Scope

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Pamela Learmonth	Beckenham	46712	Pamela's older brother suffered from spina bifida and died at the age of 12. Pamela is running the Virgin London Marathon for her brother and admires the work of Scope.	Scope
Emma Kenally	Surrey		Emma has just recovered from Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and is taken on some life changing experiences of which the VLM is one as she has never been sporty before. She is running with her friend Lauren who's uncle has cerebral palsy. Emma is also running dressed as a fairy.	Scope
Mark Hughes	Swindon	46799	Mark had his own business and became ill with stress. The stock market crashed and he lost his business. That was the last straw and he now wants to change his life in to something giving not taking, so this made him decided to run the race.	Scope
Rebecca Hamilton	Basingstoke	46729	Rebecca has lost a lot of weight over the last 2 years and now is running to keep the weight off. She also has a friend who is a carer of someone who has cerebral palsy.	Scope
Centipede			50 people are attempting to break the World Record for 'Most linked runners to complete a marathon.' One of the runners, and the inspiration behind the Centipede is a trustee of Scope since 2009 and an executive committee member since 2006 who has a son with cerebral palsy. His wife and older son are also taking part in the Centipede challenge.	Scope
			5 profoundly deaf friends are running for Scope, they play on the same football team and are holding fundraising events to raise money. They have had a dream for some time about completing the London Marathon together despite their disability.	Scope

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			16 people from the solicitors firm Simmons & Simmons are running to raise money to pay for a Scope Response worker for a year. The Scope Response team provides free, impartial and expert information, advice and support to disabled people, their families, carers and professionals.	Scope
Chris Charles	Hull	51395	Chris' sister developed an eating disorder at 10 years old having suffered for 16 years and seen first hand how this devastating illness has a profound effect on anyone who is part of their life. She is now in recovery and recently had her acting debut having played a guest role in Doctors. Chris is keen to raise money for this charity in honour of his sister.	Seed Eating Disorder Support services
Carl Creasey		46883	Royal Marine Sergeant Carl Creasey will be attempting to break a world record by carrying a 60lb pack from start to finish in less than four and a half hours. A Royal Marine would normally carry 45lb and maintain a pace of 10 minute miles over a distance of 30 miles. He is currently running 10 - 15 miles a day, carrying 9lb, then he is running 13 miles carrying 60lb once a week. He has chosen Seafarers UK as the charity as they are offering a growing support to injured Royal Navy and Royal Marines personnel in Afghanistan.	Seafarers UK
Mike Lomas and the Huddersfield University Marathon Band	Huddersfield	47134	The Huddersfield University Marathon Band is a unique ensemble, they will be marching the London Marathon while playing their instruments, they will be raising money for the charity Sense.	Sense

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Kibiina Ronald	Jinja , Uganda	51402	Kibii has worked for Soft Power Education for the last 4 years, He is the key contact with volunteers who come to Uganda to volunteer with the organisation. He meets hundreds of people every year and always talks to them with enthusiasm and a huge smile. His famous catchphrase is 'Happy, Happy!'. Kibii ran the marathon in Uganda to raise money for the organisation. The Organisation thought it would be good to get him into the London Marathon. So Kibii will fly to London from Uganda especially to run the marathon and they hope to have hundreds of ex volunteers lining the route shouting 'Happy Happy' at him as he runs past.	Soft Power Education
Nick Huggett	London	51857	Nick's aunt Annie was paralysed following a riding accident in 2002, he started running when he lived in Sydney five years ago. In 2011 he plans to complete the Barcelona and the London Marathon in aid of southern Spinal Injuries Trust current appeal is to fund a specially designed rehabilitation garden - the Jubilee Garden - at the Duke of Cornwall Spinal Treatment Centre in Salisbury. Annie spent 9 months at the Duke of Cornwall spinal treatment centre in 2002, The nature of spinal cord injury means that many patients are those who enjoy outdoor pursuits. Annie found the confinement indoors one of the hardest things to adapt to during her rehabilitation. It's clear that having an accessible outside space at the Spinal Centre will make a real difference to patients' lives. By running two marathons in two months he hope to be able to contribute in some way to the funding of this project and to the wider work of SSIT."	Southern Spinal Injuries Trust

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<p>Fiona Westwoods</p>	<p>London</p>	<p>48756</p>	<p>Fiona and her fiance are running their first (and final!) marathon for The Stroke Association and in memory of Fiona's Mother who suddenly died of a stroke in 2009. Fiona is an ex-British Longjumper and her fiance, Toby is an ex-international rugby player, so distance running isn't something that their bodies are used to....they like short fast and powerful training rather than the hard slog of marathon training. When her mum suddenly died, her world was rocked and in the early stages of grief, Fiona was struggling to sleep. Toby suggested to go for a short run to try and tire her body out so that it would encourage sleep. After that initial run, running became Fiona's saviour and she used it to help her deal with her loss and grief. It was her comforter and helped her clear her head when everything around her was going crazy. After a year of running, Fiona decided that she wanted to turn my running into something even better by using it to raise money for The Stroke Association in order to get the message out about spotting the signs of strokes so that you can act fast to stop a fatal one occurring, as in the case of her Mum.</p>	<p>Stroke Association</p>
<p>Adrian Raby</p>		<p>17052</p>	<p>Having run the Brighton Marathon last year Adrian was keen to run another so he was delighted to get a place in the 2011 London Marathon. Choosing a charity to run for was not difficult. Working as a General Practitioner in West London he has a friend who is a nurse who had worked in a teenage cancer unit in London. She invited him to a charity event at the Royal Albert Hall last year, where he met Jack, a teenager who had benefited from one of the TCT units, and was campaigning for the charity. As a doctor who has worked on Childrens wards Adrian could immediately see the importance of their specialised units within NHS hospitals where teenagers can be treated in an environment that caters for their needs. In these units young people can meet one another and draw strength from sharing their experiences, maximising the likelihood of a positive outcome. Adrian is now well into his training programme, working hard at fundraising, and looking forward to the big day.</p>	<p>Teenage Cancer Trust</p>

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Andrew Lowe			<p>Lowey (Andrew Lowe) is a friend of the Reeve Family. Aidan Reeve was 16 when he was diagnosed with a bone tumour in August 2010. Lowey decided to run the marathon to help teenagers like Aidan. In November 2010, Aidan had an endoprosthesis replacement in his left femur at the Birmingham Royal Orthopaedic. Aidan is having chemotherapy at Addenbrookes, Cambridge. Addenbrookes is preparing to open a Teenage Cancer Trust unit which will help youngsters like Aidan to come together during their illness. Aidan said "it would be more comforting and less daunting when all teenagers are together in one ward as sometimes you think you are the only one receiving treatment."</p>	Teenage Cancer Trust
Bebe Johnson		16671	<p>Bebe works as a staff nurse on one of the oncology wards at Southampton General Hospital. Teenage Cancer Trust currently has a two bed unit there but is in the development phase of building a new larger unit for some more young people from across the South can be treated in a suitable ward. Bebe is running the London Marathon to raise funds for this new unit in Southampton and she is also hoping to become a teenage cancer nurse specialist.</p>	Teenage Cancer Trust
Colin Low	Ipswich	21437	<p>Running for Teenage Cancer Trust and Everyman – he has run the London Marathon for three years now, previously running for the National Autistic Society and this year has chosen Teenage Cancer Trust as a young lad (16) who lives two doors away has been diagnosed with cancer. He is from Ipswich near to where we are building a new Teenage Cancer Trust unit at Addenbrooke's Hospital.</p>	Teenage Cancer Trust

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James Best		12739	James first became aware of the Teenage Cancer Trust about five years ago, after attending one of the trust's annual concerts held at the Royal Albert Hall. Being a singer / songwriter himself he was inspired by the quality of the acts that were using their public profile to support and increase awareness of the charity by performing at the event. James was truly touched by the stories of those teenagers that took to the stage during the event to tell of how Cancer had affected their lives but also of how the Teenage Cancer Trust had provided much needed help and support to them, from when they were diagnosed, during treatment and following treatment. The experience of hearing these stories first hand from those affected was very humbling and struck a chord that continues to ring today. So to supplement he continued annual attendance of the fantastic concerts, James decided to put himself through the Virgin London Marathon 2011 to offer what little additional support he can to the Trust and those sterling people involved in providing life changing assistance to the teenagers and young people that need it.	Teenage Cancer Trust
Dennis Black		51744	In terms of real inspiration, through his 32 year old son Stephen, (who is also running) Dennis has been made aware of the fantastic work that takes place at the London Centre for Children with Cerebral Palsy, as Stephen's partner has a nephew, Joseph who is benefitting from their good work. This is the charity that Dennis and his son are raising funds for. This is Dennis's first marathon and he describes himself as 'The wrinkly old marathon virgin.'	The London Centre for Children with Cerebral Palsy
Steve Black		9836	After quite a few years saying he was maybe thinking about running the marathon and not completely meaning it, May 2010 came around and after he saw some coverage on TV he decided that it was time to stand up and be counted. Ever since Steve first met a little boy called Joseph who is his partner's nephew who has Cerebral Palsy, he knew he had a calling and a responsibility to do something to help him and others like him. He is also running with his father Dennis.	The London Centre for Children with Cerebral Palsy

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Steven Foyster	Horsham, St Faith		Mandy will be running to London from her home in Horsham St Faith in Norfolk before running the Virgin London Marathon. Her daily itinerary is as follows: Monday 11th April: 30 mile run to South Lopham in South Norfolk. Tuesday 12th April: 16 miles run to Stowmarket in Suffolk, Wednesday 13th April: 33 mile run to Earl Colne in Essex, Thursday 14th April: 25 mile run to Chelmsford, Friday 15th April: 38 mile run to Westminster Bridge in Central London. Saturday 16th April: Day off to register at the Excel Centre. Sunday 17th April: To run the Virgin London Marathon. In total Mandy will be running 168 miles in 7 days. Mandy is married and a mother of 2 sons. She works part time as a clerical assistant in her village primary school.	The Royal National Lifeboats institution
Nigel Smith	Knowle	43904	Nigel was released from Gloucester Prison in 2007, after 55 sentences costing him 18 years of his life. Four years later and three stone lighter, he will run the Virgin London Marathon this year in aid of a London Charity who help those trapped in the cycle of drug addiction and jail he has escaped from. Nigel is fulfilling a boyhood dream by running " I feel overwhelmed. I can hardly believe that in such a short space of time I've gone from needing help from charities like this, to raising money for them".	The Nehemiah Project
Christopher Green		43961	Christopher is a comedy writer and performer, and also a widower. Chris only started running in October last year at the age of 40 following the death of his husband Ben, in August. Ben was diagnosed with cancer in November 2007 and he died 20 months later. Chris often felt that nothing in his life up to that point in their 14 and a half years of love had prepared him for Ben being taken. A few months after Ben's death Chris started writing songs, they came steadily and surely and strangely effortlessly. they seemed to have stopped now, but who knows, grief is a strange land and he is sure he will be bound to encounter territory soon where he needs some musical orientation again. Chris is running for The Norfolk Hospice, Tapping House for a big thank you when helping Ben and himself at their hard time.	The Norfolk Hospice, Tapping House

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Timothy Birir	Eldoret	49842	<p>Timothy was born and still lives in Kenya where he currently helps to organise the Eldoret Marathon. He is extremely passionate about the role that safe water can play in preventing avoidable deaths in not only his country, but others where the lack of clear water and sanitation is an ongoing problem. Timothy is running the race carrying 20 litres of water with a view to create attention and mobilize people the world over to take action in regard to water. He is currently undertaking extensive training to be able to undergo this challenge which includes clocking up to 180km in training a week, while carrying different degrees of weight. Through his role in the Eldoret Marathon, Timothy is also in close contact with a number of elite runners, who he has persuaded to support WaterAid by wearing a WaterAid armband during the Virgin London Marathon. His contacts include: Robert Kiprono Cheruiyot, Martin Lel, Felix Limo, Emmanuel Mutai, Salina Kosgei.</p>	WaterAid
Anthony Tyler	Newton	32576	<p>A scientist has set himself a challenge of running three marathons in three countries in just three weeks. Anthony will be raising money for wateraid as he takes on races in Italy, France and London. He was inspired to take on the gruelling task of running 78 miles in 10 hours following the death of two of his best friends Mike and Sara in a car accident in Canada. He will be heading off to his first race in Sicily (3rd April) the next week he shall take part in the Paris Marathon (10th April) then finishing on the 17th with the Virgin London Marathon. Anthony said " After the loss of my two very good friends, I decided I wanted to do something big and spectacular to raise money for WaterAid and this seemed the best way to do so." Mike and Anthony had met at reading University and he was also a keen runner.</p>	WaterAid

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Ed Coats	Bristol	28125	<p>Ed is an Obstetrician and Gynaecologist. He has undertaken a set of challenges over 12 months called '30 at 30'. Which Running Fitness have been following this in their magazine each month. In 2009 he skied to the South Pole with Ben Fogal and James Cracknell which was made into a 5 part documentary series for BB2 called 'On Thin Ice'. After Antarctica he wanted to challenge himself back in the UK and Ireland and decided that in the 12 months after turning thirty he would try to take on thirty of the quirkiest and toughest challenges that the UK adventure racing calendar has to offer. He has raced across Scotland, traversed the Outer Herides, completed one of the hardest 80 mile night endurance mountain bike races. Completed mountain marathons, cyclesportices and swam down the Thames in London. Plus many more like racing up Tower 42. He is currently on Challenge '18 of 30' and plan to make London one of his final events. Each of the challenges he is doing is with someone who has had an impact on his life from friends and family yo more high profile people that he knows. The only event he has done alone is the 'Dublin Marathon'. The reason is he planned to run with a blind friend called Mark Pollock. Mark and Ed met on the South Pole Race. Sadly last year Mark fell two floors and broke his back. He is now paralysed from the waist down and is in a wheelchair. In addition to this in a few weeks time he is taking five socially and emotionally challenged children to Spitzbergen as part of a documentary. In October he will be leaving the UK shores again to take on a historic trip to the South pole.</p>	Wellbeing of Women
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<p>Mark Wadsworth</p>	<p>Halifax</p>	<p>50571</p>	<p>Mark is not a runner but a rugby player, he has played for 25 years. January this year his cousin who lives in Jersey talked him into doing the London Marathon for the charity Whizz Kids. He wasn't sure as he had 2 full knee reconstructions, 1 in each knee due to rugby injuries, the last one being on his right knee only 18 months ago and he weighed almost 18 stones. Anyhow he agreed and started training, he went out the night before for 1 last meal as he weighed 17 stone 10 pounds and needed to lose a lot of weight for it as well as the training. He would have takeaways 4 nights a week and the usual drink at weekends and some nights mid-week. He stopped all that as soon as he started training, it was hard, he felt uncomfortable, his first 2 mile run was awful. Just over 3 months later he lost over 3 stone and he looked totally different, he has not had 1 takeaway, doesn't drink as he is training and has spent hours of lonely runs at 7am Sunday mornings. Also his had now done his knee for a 3rd time rugby training and need a full reconstruction again on his knee he had done 11 years ago, So he is running the Marathon for charity needing a major knee operation to insert a new anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) from his hamstring into his left knee, he thinks this with losing over 3 stone is a proud achievement that all his family and friends are proud of.</p>	<p>Whizz Kids</p>
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Gemma Parker		8135	<p>In June 2008, Gemma qualified as a teacher with her friend, Claire Cordon. To celebrate passing the course and having jobs from September, they had arranged to go to Glastonbury on the 25th June with their other halves. Gemma's boyfriend wasn't able to get all the time off work, and was going to join them 2 days later. They left for Glastonbury very early in the morning, but tragically were involved in a very serious car accident just outside Salisbury. Despite the best efforts of the air ambulance crew and all the staff at the hospital, Claire passed away due to the severity of her injuries. Not a day goes by when Gemma doesn't think about her or wish that Claire was still here. She had so much going for her, a new job and she was due to get married to her fiance later that year. Gemma had struggles coming to terms with Claire's death and had several internal injuries, but Gemma promised herself that one day when she could physically cope that she would give something back to the air ambulance crew who looked after Claire. She therefore entered the Marathon, she is very nervous about this as she has never run a marathon before, but Gemma has been training hard and she is determined not to let Claire down,.</p>	Wiltshire Air Ambulance
Steve Tovry			<p>His mother, Marjorie, worked as a volunteer for the WRVS for over a decade - and was incredibly proud of her service badge - so Steve thinks it's fairly safe to say she'd be happy that he is running on behalf of this charity. Marjorie only passed away in February after a short battle against cancer. It all happened very quickly and came as a complete shock. Steve is trying to raise as much money as possible for the charity in honour of his mother.</p>	WRVS

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John Philpott	Stocksmoor	25083	<p>John will be running the race in memory of his wife Joanne. Wife and mother-of-four was diagnosed with terminal brain and lung cancer in June last year, and sadly passed away in September. In the months preceding her death she kept family and friends up to date with her progress on Facebook. At that time, John described her as a 'fantastic wife and mother who touched the lives of everyone she met'. Now the independent financial advisor has decided to raise even more for the research into the disease by taking on the marathon challenge. It will be the 3rd time he has taken part in the event and the second on behalf of the Yorkshire Cancer Research. John decided to take part in the 2004 event as a gesture of gratitude after Joanne survived a previous five year battle with cervical cancer and was given the all clear.</p>	Yorkshire Cancer Charity
Lara Pepper	Holbrook	43606	<p>Lara lost her smile two years ago when she was diagnosed with the rare Myasthenia Gravis muscle weakening and fatigue disease. Now after an operation and steroid treatments her smile has returned and she is looking forward to her second year at university and running in the London Marathon.</p>	
Lorna Croft		3652	<p>Lorna withdrew her entry last year as very sadly lost her father on 29th December 2009, she was in no position to do any training at all during the months after. It was completely unexpected loss to cancer and one that has truly devastated her and her family's, world. Lorna says " Even now, 9 months on, life is so hard without him and there isn't a day that goes past that I don't think of him. I'm 31 and definitely a Daddy's girl, he was always my inspiration, my motivation and my sensible head - I would always go to him for every reason be it good or bad news and it's hard to not feel lost without him." She has never been a runner and states 'Me and running do not love each other at all' but she is determined to do it in the memory of her father and to raise money for cancer charities. Just last week Lorna had surgery herself but can't wait to start her training programme. She might even do it in a whacky fancy dress to raise more money.</p>	

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Ben Hammond	London	28908	<p>Teacher, Ben Hammond will dance the course of the Virgin London Marathon. The fact that he can't really dance doesn't matter, as he hopes to get the famous marathon crowds dancing with him as he shuffles, points and swings his way to the finish. Dancing the race is Ben's first big step in his journey to break the world record for the longest ever dance in the world (125 hours) in October in central London. His motivation originates 5,000 miles away in a refugee camp on the Thai - Burma border, where five years ago he spent a year teaching. Ben's nervously dancing the streets of London four days a week in preparation for his biggest challenge yet, spurred on by his dreams of tangoing over Tower Bridge, can-canning through Canary Wharf and mumboing up the Mall.</p>	
Steve Treweeks		1954	<p>Steve was diagnosed with PMP – pseudomyxoma peritonea, an abdominal cancer referred to as cancer of the appendix. It doesn't use blood or a tumour as 98% of cancers do. There are only two centres in the UK that treat it – The Christie in Manchester (which he is running for) and Basingstoke Hospital. Steve was diagnosed with one of the rarest Cancers in the world in 2007, the day before his 41st birthday. He has had two major surgeries, two lots of chemotherapy and part of his abdominal wall removed. He got married on 1st December 2007, seven weeks after his first major surgery. He and his wife eloped to Gretna Green and now have a 2 yr old boy born 3rd Dec 08. He works as a dispenser for a pharmaceutical company.</p>	

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Mike Brown			<p>A friend of Mike's, Amanda Woodhouse was diagnosed with a brain tumour in 2009 and despite relentlessly dealing with what she had to go through, she has become incredibly determined to raise funds for specific clinical and medical research into brain tumours, both for diagnosis and treatment, but also for those living with brain tumours. She has with the agreement of Cancer Research UK set up 'Amanda's Angels' as her project, and needs to raise £20,000 a year for these trials and research to take place. As this will be Mike's last marathon, he has volunteered to become an angel, so he has been telling people that he is 'training to be an angel', and so far, he has run the Brighton Half Marathon as an angel, going to run the Worthing 20m as an angel and to then build to the finale of the London Marathon as an angel to help raise funds for 'Amanda's Angels'. It seems just a small gesture for him to run in costume and to raise funds towards this when Amanda is dealing with this day in, day out. Every year Mike has run the marathon, in the last mile or so, he has been overtaken by parrots, dogs, Batman and all sorts, this year it's time to settle the score and watch the angel head for the line.</p>	
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