

LONDON MARATHON 2020

I run so they can walk

On the 26th April 2020 I will be taking part in the London Marathon.

I am looking to raise £15,000 so that 40 Kenyan children who suffer from the club foot condition can access life changing surgery.

It has always been a goal of mine to run the London Marathon, since I was 8 years old and watched my uncle compete. In my early 20s, I had a knee injury which meant this was not possible, but thankfully some years I now feel up to the challenge.

I will be aiming to run my first (and probably last!) marathon to my full potential, as I would like to try and complete the 26.2 mile course within 3½ hours, which would put me in the top 20% of finishers.

SO WHY AM I DOING THIS?

I was approached by ROPE, a Buckinghamshire based international development charity, offering me the marathon place to raise funds to help children with disabilities and I simply couldn't say no.

WHAT IMPACT WILL THIS HAVE?

ROPE and their partners, Dreamland Mission Hospital, based in Western Kenya, have helped over 400 children in the last 5 years, but they would like to help more.

In Kenya, children with club foot are viewed as "cursed" because of the "sins" of their mothers, leading to whole families being ostracised. The children are isolated, unable to play or enjoy a 'normal' childhood, left completely dependent on their families to care for them.

HOW COULD YOU HELP?

With the money raised, we can fund the total cost – £383 per child – for the surgery and after-care for 40 children.

The cost of this not only includes the life changing surgery, but also provides full support for the child including follow up care and even their first pair of shoes

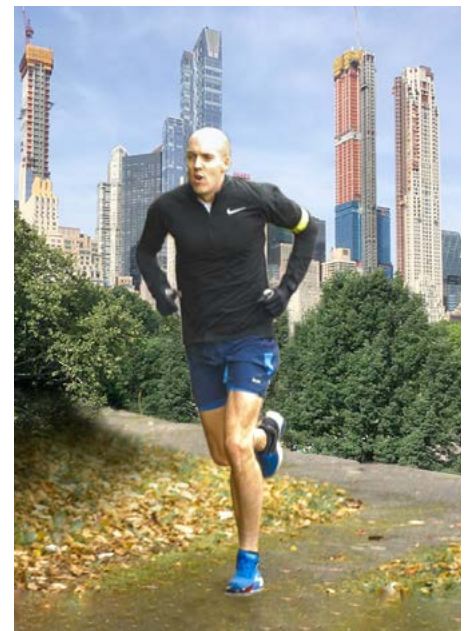
You may receive several such appeals for sponsorship every year, so please feel under no obligation to respond.

If you feel inspired to help, please visit give.net, where you can make a donation:

www.give.net/CountyFinancialChallenge2

If you are unable to use the link, please send a cheque made payable to **Rope Charitable Trust** to the County Financial offices.

By supporting such a worthwhile project, not only will it help me have the motivation to train throughout the winter so I can complete the London Marathon,



but most importantly, it will make a real difference to 40 Kenyan children's lives -

"I run so they can walk"

Thank you.

Andy Hounsell



AN EXAMPLE OF A PERSON WHO WILL BENEFIT

Caren is the eldest child in her family. Her clubfoot condition meant she was unable to walk. She would sometimes get mocked at school and her disability added pressure on her family, especially her mother, who struggled to care for her and farm their land.

Dreamland assisted Caren and her family. Following corrective surgery, she can walk, play and help both her parents as they work on the farm. Caren's school life has improved and she is a much happier and confident child.