

As some of you may know I am participating in the New York Marathon on Sunday November 6th this year. I have deliberately used 'participating' rather than running or competing for reasons obvious to those of you who know the extent of my physical prowess!

Why am I doing it? This is such a great question and the answer is basically in two parts. Firstly it falls into the things to do before you're 40 list and secondly by being inspired, cajoled, bullied and generally encouraged by a great mate to 'go for it' and 'raise some money for a great cause'.

I am aiming to raise money for two different charities;

The first is 21st Century Kids.

It is a North West focussed children's charity that provides funding for groups working with disadvantaged kids in the area, local to where I live.

The second is Give them a Sporting Chance

The charity has a national focus and seeks to give people of all ages with disabilities and their carers an opportunity of fun whilst turning their sporting chance or recreational dream into reality. As some of you will know this was the charity supported by Harry J-F, who sadly passed away suddenly a couple of months ago and who is the 'great mate' I referred to earlier.

The charities would be extremely grateful for any donations that you feel able to make.

I have set up a web page at www.justgiving.com/NYMClarkie - all pledges and donations made here will go directly to 21st Century Kids.

If you want to donate money to Give them a Sporting Chance, please send cheques made payable to Give them a Sporting Chance direct to me at the office (address below) and I will forward them on your behalf. If you want to send round the loose change from the back of the drawer I will consolidate all that and submit it to the charity of your choice.

Many thanks for your help and support

Pete Clarke

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