

## Melanoma survivor David Walker to run London Marathon for skin cancer research



David Walker, 52, from Brechin in Scotland is running the iconic London Marathon to raise money for skin cancer research. David survived melanoma – the most serious form of skin cancer – and now wants to help the British Skin Foundation fund vital research.

In late summer 2016, father of three David underwent a procedure to have a suspicious mole removed from his leg after noticing that its shape and colour had slightly changed. His life changed four weeks later when the histology report confirmed David's worst fears. The mole had become malignant and a stage two melanoma had been removed from his leg. David was admitted to Aberdeen Royal Infirmary for further tests to determine whether the cancer had spread.

*"It was very difficult waiting for the test results to come back, but in my head, all the abnormal cells had been removed and the follow up surgery and investigations were purely precautionary."* Explains David.

After receiving the all-clear from doctors in December 2016, David decided the epic 26.2 mile marathon was for him. He explains, *"I've never done things by half measures so what better way to blow away the cobwebs than to run in the London Marathon. If I can help even just one person all the blood, sweat, tears and blisters will be worth it!"*

During the marathon David will run past world-famous landmarks such as Tower Bridge, St. Paul's Cathedral, The London Eye, the Houses of Parliament and Buckingham Palace on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2017. Preparation has been tough at times with wild weather in Scotland impacting on David's hard-core schedule, training five days a week.

*"Negative thoughts don't last long though, because failure isn't an option. I'm doing this for all those who haven't survived this truly devastating disease, young and old."*

David's aim is clear and he has a message for everyone – check yourself and your loved ones regularly. *"The disease can affect anyone and at any age,"* he said. *"If it isn't detected early the effects can be devastating, that's a fact. So it's therefore essential to make sure you check your moles and your partner's today! If you have even the slightest concern, see your GP."*



**David is aiming to raise £3,000 for skin cancer research. Show your support for David by donating here:**

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/David-Walker82>

### About the BSF

The **British Skin Foundation** is the only UK charity dedicated to raising funds for skin disease and skin cancer research. Our unwavering commitment to funding quality research means we won't stop until we've found cures for common skin problems like eczema and acne through to potential killers like malignant melanoma. To date we've raised £15 million to fund research projects since 1996.

For further information please contact: [lisa@britishskinfoundation.org.uk](mailto:lisa@britishskinfoundation.org.uk) or call 020 7391 6347

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David Walker will be running in  
**London Marathon**

23rd April 2017 on behalf of **British Skin Foundation**  
Help make melanomas a thing of the past



Don't run or hide from  
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Every penny donated goes to BSF



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