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Chris running into more cash

IT'S never too late to raise much needed funds for a worthy cause as a Petersfield man discovered last week.

Laid low the week before with swine flu, Chris Jones, of Rival Moor Road, was forced to miss out on his ambition to run the Great South Run last month.

It was the culmination of a challenge to get fit and

cash in on pledges of more than £700 for Children with Leukaemia at Great Ormond Street Hospital, London.

Instead, it looks like Chris is now set to raise well over £1,000 for the charity after taking to the streets of Portsmouth for his own version of the run last weekend.

Keeping him company on the 10 miles, which

started at the Pyramids Centre in Southsea, were Imogen Restell from Denmead, Jenna Fuller from Waterlooville, Donna Stagg from Hilsea, and Londoner Tom Bauer.

Chris' run was for James, the son of friend Imogen Restell, who also joined him on the run, after James was devastatingly diagnosed with leukaemia.

"As the route was based on the original run there were some bits we were unable to do around the docks, so the route was diverted and more into town," said Chris.

The total length was 10.3 miles and Chris finished the race in one hour 43 minutes.

"From a total of £700 I am now way over the £1,000 mark. I would like

to thank my friends who ran with me to keep me going and the supporters to start me off and there at the end."

Charity spokesman Lucy Brooks thanked everyone for their kind and generous donations.

"I am so pleased with the outcome, from someone who could not run even to the end of the road," said Chris.