

The News

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IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU

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Newspaper
of the Year

FINAL 45p

LEST WE FORGET

Darren Chant's final journey home was a poignant farewell to the latest to fall so that we can be free – and a reminder why today on November 11 we remember them

FULL STORY ■ PAGES 4&5



PICTURE: PAUL JACOBS

TN2 KIDSOWN: ALL SET FOR BATTLE OF THE BRAINS FINAL ■ PAGE 21

NEWS

It's never too late to go on the run!



IT MAY be three weeks after the event, but Chris Jones is determined to finish the Great South Run.

Chris, 34, was forced to pull out the day before the 10-mile race after catching swine flu.

Now fully recovered, he's lacing up his running shoes on Sunday to run for four-year-old leukaemia sufferer James Restell.

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100s OF HOMES FOR SALE OR RENT

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SPORT

Jamie: I'm up for the fight

ON-LOAN midfielder Jamie O'Hara has told Pompey fans that he wants to stay on to help the club's fight against relegation.



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South Fork Steakhouse Mouthwatering Steaks

Fantastic Views

Great for Parties

Southsea Marina, Fort Cumberland Road. Tel: 02392 817493 Christmas bookings now being taken

Swine flu forced competitor to pull out of 10-mile event

by MICHAEL POWELL

The News

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IT MAY be three weeks after the event, but Chris Jones is determined to finish the Great South Run.

It's not that the 34-year-old is a slow runner – he was forced to pull out the day before the 10-mile race after catching swine flu.

Now fully recovered, he's lacing up his running shoes on Sunday to run for four-year-old leukaemia sufferer James Restell from Denmead.

James' mum Imogen, who completed the official run last month, will be joining Chris along with friends Jenna Fuller and Donna Stagg for the challenge.

Chris, of Rival Moor Road, Petersfield, first dreamt of taking part in the Great South Run in April and quickly roped friends into joining him.

'I needed a challenge, especially when my Wii keeps reminding me that my Wii fit age is 60,' he said.

'At the time, I thought best not to run for charity just in case I could not make it



DETERMINED Chris Jones with James Restall, James's mother Imogen, centre, and his co-runners Jenna Fuller, left, and Donna Stagg, who will be raising money for Children with Leukaemia, running a route based on the Great South Run

around the track. However, that changed when my friend Imogen called me to say her son James was unexpectedly diagnosed with leukaemia.'

From there on, Chris battled to get fit and raise as much money as possible to help his friend's son.

But the day before the big race he was struck down with suspected swine flu.

'I was completely gutted,' he said.

'I had completed well over 250 miles in training and I wanted desperately to com-

plete 10 miles as I had pledged over £700 for Children with Leukaemia.'

Fully recovered and still determined to cash in on the pledges made by friends, family and work colleagues, he mapped a near-identical route to the Great South Run and will set off from Portsmouth Pyramids car park at 11am on Sunday.

Imogen, 32 of White Horse Lane, Denmead, near Waterlooville, who is taking on the sponsored 10-mile run through Portsmouth and

Southsea for the second time in a month, said: 'Chris and I were actually planning on doing the run before my situation happened. After he heard about James, Chris decided he would do it to raise money for Children with Leukaemia.'

'Chris was really sad about not being able to do the run because he was ill but he wanted to achieve it and I wanted to be there to help him. I really appreciate that he's raising money for a charity which obviously means

quite a lot to me.'

Imogen thinks Sunday's run may be tougher than last month without the crowds of other runners to spur her on.

She added: 'I think it's going to be quite a lot harder this time but in a way it will mean a lot more. Hopefully the weather is good so my family can come and cheer us on.'

For more information and for details on sponsoring the run, visit www.bmycharity.com/run-forjames.