

Siemens' David Mushet Carries Commonwealth Games Baton

Just eighteen months after receiving a liver transplant at the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, David Mushet, a Regional Finance Manager at Siemens Rail Automation's Glasgow office, was invited to take part in the Queen's Baton Relay as part of the build up to the Commonwealth Games.

Nominated by his daughter and colleagues from the Barrhead Youth Football Club, where David has played a very active role for over 20 years, it was fitting that his leg of the relay on 16 July should take him through Barrhead in East Renfrewshire where his family, friends and work colleagues turned out in great numbers to support him.

Speaking after the event, David said: "This has been a really emotional day, but I'm delighted and very proud to have taken part in such an amazing event. Looking back, it's hard to believe that just after my transplant in January 2013, walking 100 yards was a real achievement, and one that left me completely exhausted! Now having completed the Queen's Baton Relay, I'm training to compete in cycling, walking and relay events at the British Transplant Games; these are held each August not only to celebrate those who donate organs, but also the extraordinary achievements of those who receive them".

However, David's path to recovery hasn't been a completely smooth one. In November last year while out on a routine cycling session, he hit a pothole and fell off his bike, breaking a collar-bone and four ribs. Although the accident set his training

programme back, it certainly didn't dent his determination or competitive spirit; David continued: "I've been back on my bike since April this year and although it will be a real honour just to compete at the Transplant Games, winning a medal would definitely be the icing on the cake!"

Now back at work full time, David is also actively involved in the organ donation campaign in Scotland and has delivered a number of presentations to people who are on the transplant waiting list – talking through some of the issues, anxieties and challenges that he faced.

For more information visit www.organdonation.nhs.uk.

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