



CHF parkrunners



Gabby

After Gabby was born the hospital picked up a heart murmur during routine checks and her parents were told it was probably caused by a hole in the heart which would be likely to close over time.



Four weeks later Gabby had an appointment with her cardiologist and was diagnosed with [Tetralogy of Fallots](#) a more serious condition. At five months old Gabby had heart surgery at Bristol Children's Hospital, this took longer than expected as it took two hours to get Gabby's heart working without the bypass machine which was required to keep her heart going during the operation.

Gabby from Cheltenham will be eight in December has been dancing since she was in nappies and now does tap, ballet and modern dance. She attends a local youth theatre and plays the violin, ukulele and has recently started learning the guitar. She has also already taken part in parkrun six times.

Ethan

Ethan from Hoddesdon was diagnosed with [pulmonary stenosis](#) during an ante-natal scan while his mother was pregnant. He was just seven days old when he had a valve catheter procedure at the Evalina Children's Hospital.

Over time the catheter procedure caused his valve to leak and his heart to become enlarged. It was decided this year that he needed a replacement pulmonary valve and this operation was carried out in August 2018.



Ethan is now 14 and a black belt at karate, he has represented England in this sport. Because of his recent operation he is unable to fight currently but has returned to help coach the team.

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Eleanor

Eleanor from Milton Keynes was diagnosed with [pulmonary stenosis](#) soon after birth, she had a cardiac catheterisation in June 2018 at Great Ormond Street Hospital. Aside from her heart condition, Now aged six, Eleanor is fit and healthy and thriving academically too.



Jack



Jack's heart condition was not picked up at a scan and he was dismissed from hospital soon after birth. Nine days later his mother rang the midwife as she was concerned about his breathing and he seemed unusually sleepy. She was advised to take him to hospital as the midwife thought it could be a virus.

After blood tests and a chest x-ray both coming back clear the doctor was about to send Jack home but a senior nurse said that his respiration was getting worse and that it could be due to a heart problem. So Jack was sent for further blood tests and an echogram but while they were struggling to get any blood, he collapsed and stopped breathing.

Jack was resuscitated and the family were rushed to Great Ormond Street Hospital in the early hours of the morning, following a rapid response ambulance not knowing if Jack would survive the journey.

After some time at the hospital Jack was diagnosed with [Coarctation of the Aorta](#) and his parents were told that he needed an operation. Although this operation is carried out fairly often, the anaesthetist warned that because of the circumstances Jack may still not survive.

The operation lasted several hours and went well, Jack has just turned eight years old he took part in his first parkrun in October in Luton where he lives.