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My name is Oliver Rofix and I am currently sailing around Britain single-handed in a small boat in aid of the **Anthony Nolan Trust**. I am asking for donations or indeed any form of support to help me complete this challenge.

I want to encourage other people who have, or have had, serious life threatening setbacks that it is possible to achieve seemingly 'impossible' goals. I know from personal experience that having such a goal can be a real incentive to get better.

I was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia in 2005. I was responding well to treatment until, two months in, the diagnosis changed to Acute Myeloid Leukaemia - a much more aggressive and life threatening strain. Matters then went from bad to worse. I contracted pleurisy and pneumonia during my chemotherapy and the doctors told me I was very lucky to have survived this. My diagnosis then changed yet again to an extremely rare form of Leukaemia; I am only the third known person in the world to have had this strand.

Sadly the other two had died and my only chance of survival was to have a bone marrow transplant. Three days after my 21st birthday in March 2006 I had a bone marrow transplant. The unrelated donor was found through the **Anthony Nolan Trust**. There were only 2 possible donors out of the 9 million on the international register.

I spent 8 weeks in isolation at Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge, returning daily for many months afterwards. During this long and lonely time, I set my heart on sailing around Britain in my 18ft sailing boat, the 'Jolly Olly', which I have restored myself from a wreck to a seaworthy craft.

After a slow start to my recovery, my health improved dramatically in 2009 and, after spending 2010 building up my strength and stamina for the voyage, the official launch of the Challenge took place in January 2011 at the London Boat Show. My circumnavigation started from St Katharine's Docks, London on the 28th March - the day after my 5 year "all clear". For me, this was putting the past behind me and moving on into the future.

I have since been sailing around Britain anti-clockwise, and expect the voyage to finish, in London, towards the end of October. Whenever possible, I have been stopping in a harbour or marina so that I can meet other people who are, or have been in a similar circumstance to me, with the hope of giving them the confidence to pursue their own dreams.

I have put all of my own savings and more into this project because it means so much to me, and I now need to raise £8,000 to cover some of the costs incurred to date and to enable me to complete the circumnavigation. Donations, of whatever size and whether in cash or in kind, are going to be key to my success. For example, the supply of provisions, fuel, insurance, berthing etc, will all help enormously. To give you an indication of costs, a berth for a night is £20, food for a day is £10, and fuel for a day is £10. So one day of the voyage costs around £40.

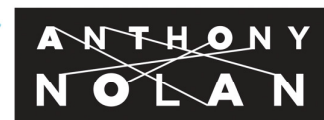
I also would like to recruit and fund 40 potentially life saving bone marrow donors for the **Anthony Nolan Trust**. To donate solely to the **Anthony Nolan Trust** please visit my website.

Any support you can offer, either to my voyage or to the **Anthony Nolan Trust**, would be hugely appreciated. It will enable me to fulfil my dream, to encourage other people who have had, or are suffering from cancer, to achieve the goals, and to help grow the register of potential life-saving bone marrow donors in the UK.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you.

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