

This girl needs a life-saving hero

Thursday 19th July 2007

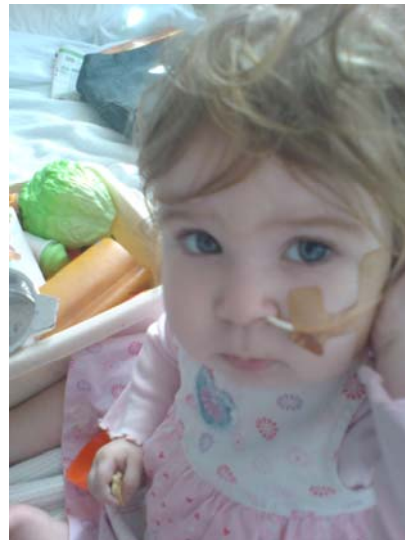
By [Charlie Campbell](#)

REDBRIDGE residents are being given the chance to save the life of a 22-month-girl who desperately needs a bone marrow transplant.

Little Holly Chambers is being treated by Great Ormond Street Childrens' Hospital for Langerhans Cell Hystiocytosis (LCH) which is a cancer-like condition where the body's immune system attacks healthy tissue.

Her grandfather Alan Sizer, who is a policy officer for Redbridge Council, is desperately appealing for help to save her.

He told the Guardian: "Someone out there is a match for Holly, or indeed for someone else, and they have a huge chance of being a life-saving hero."



Can you help Holly?

The appeal for a donor is being led by leukaemia charity The Anthony Nolan Trust, and backed by Redbridge Council which is hosting a special donor session at Ilford Town Hall on Tuesday, August 7.

Possible donors can join the bone marrow register by attending the event at the Lambourne Room in Ilford Town Hall from 3.30pm to 7.30pm.

Mr Sizer, from Billericay, said: "Holly has just left hospital after three months but still has to go back every day to get drug implants. The disease is not a cancer but the treatment is quite similar. She has an enlarged spleen, liver and lesions on her body.

"She has had chemotherapy but now a bone marrow transplant is her last hope. She is quite remarkable. She can play a little and has just started to learn to walk again after so long in hospital"

Every 21 minutes someone in the UK is diagnosed with a potentially life-threatening disorder like leukaemia.

Donor recruitment manager Lynsey Dickson of the Anthony Nolan Trust said:
"Holly is sadly just one of about 7,000 patients in the UK currently waiting for a potentially life-saving bone marrow transplant.

"We desperately need more people to join our register and become potential life saving heroes. And don't be disappointed if you fall outside the age range, you can still help by raising awareness of our work or by participating in one of exciting fundraising challenges."

New donors can contact The Anthony Nolan Trust 24 hours a day on 0901 882 2234, newdonor-@anthohnolan.org.uk or www.anthohnolan.org.uk