

tom's hospital stay

At hospital now and they are doing loads of tests before they decide whether it is a go or not. Sylvie has come with us ... I couldn't let her be on her own and worry :- (we should have some results back about 6 tomorrow morning xxx

Day 1. Tom is truly blessed to have you guys in his corner. He was called last night by the royal free and tom, sylvie and i were rushed there by ambulance. He went down to the theatre at nine this morning and we have just had it confirmed that the transplant was a success and he is now sleeping peacefully in critical care. Sylvie and i are going up to see him tomorrow, so we'll keep you updated with how he's doing xxx

Day 2. Tom is in intensive care ... They think he will be there for another couple of days but my goodness, what a difference already. He is still attached to loads of lines but already his colour is better and he looks 10 years younger. They are doing loads of things to him tomorrow, trying to get him breathing on his own etc. So suggested it may be a good idea to have a break from visiting and come back in on sunday. He squeezed our hands before we left and gave sylvie a nod so all in all a good day xxx

Day 3. Left Tom in the capable hands of the intensive nursing team. Will see him tomorrow.

Day 4 - another good day for tom. He was moved from intensive care to the high dependancy ward this afternoon. Still on a lot of medication but the transplant team are really pleased with his progress xxx

Day 5. Still in the high dependancy ward but sat in a chair for the whole 3 hours we visited for. Sylvie bought him an ice lolly which he wolved down and he's having macaroni cheese (which he used to hate) for tea. I think he is turning into a vegetarian!!! xxx

Day 6 the physios had got hold of tom before we arrived and must have walked him round half of london as he was asleep for most of the afternoon. But his colour looks better every day and most of his lines are now out. The doctors are really pleased with his progress but on a sad note i have to report that my news about him becoming a veggie was untimely .. He's having beef stew tonight xxx
liz

Day 7 thank goodness we have such a brilliant family .. Tom was visited by John & Tracy today and this is their words..... Tom was in fine form today, he had most of his tubes and catheter removed (before we arrived thankfully!) And had managed a small walk. Thankfully, they havent transplanted his sense of humour. Lots of good stories to tell. There are vegetarian tendencies creeping in again as he ordered veggie hotpot for tea. All in all we have to say it was great to see him getting back to his old self xxx

Day 8 and tom went on a marathon walk with hi2s physio while we were there. Spoke to one of his surgeons who said he is doing way above average and because his jaundice has gone they can now study his tattoos Another doc with a sense of humour xxx88

Day 9 saw tom's scar today in it's full glory... 38 staples ... Yes, he counted them!! Tried to get his bedside telly to work and failed miserably. Tom was really tired this afternoon but as the doctor told us ... He is doing so much more that is bound to get a bit tired xxx

Day 10 and we have met everyone in the uk who has a bike ... Roads, undergrounds all closed while cycists take over london. Didn't worry tom though as his telly is working and he was watching ladies golf and he just gets betterer and betterer xxx

Day 11 didn't visit tom today. Sylvie goes home tomorrow and most of central london was closed again because of the bike rides/racing. Texted tom this morning and just phoned him to say night night. He had a bit more pain today but we think the internal stitches are starting to pull, they have also taken out his first staple. Ouch! Every 5th one, one a day ... Lets hope he keeps his increased sense of humour as many of you are starting to visit next week xxx

Day 12 simon and i are finally at waterloo and on our way home after talking to a chilean driver for 40 minutes whn was trying to convince us that he knew more about british history than us ... Just what we needed!! Tom's surgeon is still really pleased with his progress and tom himself is doing laps around the ward trying to prove he is okay to go home. No news yet on his release date though xxx

Day 13 john and Linda visited Tom this afternoon, this is their words he looks a lot better than the last time we saw him and has still got his sense of humour. He was a bit Harry Threaders today though as had been on nil by mouth since yesterday evening. However, the reason for this has improved so he can now eat again. He is hankering for sausage, mash and gravy or even a BLT sarnie so don't hesitate to take something tasty up, even if it's cold. He's in

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good spirits and looking forward to being back home, which hopefully will be in 2 or 3 weeks. xxx thanks both :-)) he sounded really good when i spoke to him after you had left xxx

Day 14 and tom's been through the wringer today and come out the other side with only half his staples now left in. His sister sue and sylvie were his visitors today and tom is so much better each day. How much was that cup of tea at the station sue? ... Yes you did make him laugh....Tom's taste buds are still not quite there but all the sauces tina sent him are definately helping xxx

Day 15 and just had a text from smokey and karen and a call from tom who was just about to finish the last of his blt. Smokey was amazed at how well tom is doing but i'm not sure about this hugging ... I'm pretty sure it was karen that was going to give him a hug from us all. Last of the staples are due to come out on saturday and once stable, that's it, he can come home xxx

Day 16 jez, fin and i have just left tom in good spirits. I'm not convinced it was because of our visit but more to do with england making such a good recovery at cricket. Dohh!!! The good news tonight is that when tom has his staples out tomorrow there is a good chance they may send him home. Fingers crossed and i'll keep you updated on that one xxx

Day 17 i've been waiting in all day just in case tom was allowed home but his last set of tests were not as good as expected so they want to keep him medicated for another few hours and repeat the tests tomorrow. It's given me loads of time to think though and remember the important things. One quote kept coming to mind " it's a good thing to be rich and a good thing to be strong, but it's a better thing to be loved by so many friends and relatives" you guys have been absolutely amazing xxx

Day 18 since tom had his transplant and he is on his way home. How amazing. It's going to take him a few hours so i'll send out more news tomorrow xxx

Day 19 - definately nothing to worry about - tom arrived home last night, was having a bath when his muscles seized. We called the paramedics and have now spent the whole of tom's first night home at the 5 star qa a&e ward. The deluxe ripple beds looked really comfy but i don't recomend economy class chairs. They have done tons of tests, conferred with his doctors and are happy to let him home as soon as they arrange transport. Tom told them he was missing the hospital food but thank goodness he's fine. Xxx

Day 20 and my final text. A specialist nurse popped in to see tom and was telling us that another transplant patient from our area had been in the royal free for over 2 months which put into perspective how well tom is doing. He has hospital appointments this thursday and next tuesday so far but apart from them he is open for short visits but no bugs or germs please as he still has no immunity to them. And my very last quote is " there is nothing better than a friend, unless it's a friend with chocolate" only joking about the chocolate but a girls got to try xxx