

## PRESTIGE EVENT: £10,000 windfall gets Games off to a flying start



IN THE SADDLE...Laurie McGlone of Coventry Rugby Club at the marathon event at Coventry's West Orchards shopping centre watched by (left to right) Blake Forsythe, of Coventry Blaze, Councillor Jack Harrison and Emma Dean, event organiser for the Transplant Games. *Pictures by Mark Radford.*

# Huge boost has Transplant Games riding high

DONATION...Stephen Skinner (left) of Unite, hands over the cheque to Sarah Lewis, manager of Coventry's team and Coun Jack Harrison.



**THE PRESTIGIOUS British Transplant Games - being hosted in Coventry this year - has been handed a huge £10,000 boost.**

The cash has been donated by the Unite Charity Foundation to help support the four-day event which takes place in the city from July 30 to August 2.

Sarah Lewis, manager of the British Transplant Games Coventry team who received a kidney transplant, said the money would mean a lot to the Games.

She said: "The British Transplant Games help publicise the importance of people signing up to the Organ Donor Register. There's a huge increase in the

**By Cara Simpson**

amount of people signing up wherever they are held."

More than 600 athletes will take part in the Games. They have all had a life-threatening illness and are fit thanks to a transplant. The events include

swimming, cycling and climbing, tennis and golf.

Coventry's Deputy Lord Mayor, Coun Jack Harrison said: "Hosting the British Transplant Games is a fantastic honour for the city and I'm delighted that organisations like Unite want to be part of it."

● NINETY miles were clocked up at the West Orchards Shopping Centre in Coventry on World Kidney Day last month to raise awareness of organ transplantation and to promote the British Transplant Games. Coventry Rugby Club and Coventry Blaze players took part.

### WHAT THE GAMES ARE ABOUT - AND HOW YOU CAN HELP

**THE Coventry Telegraph is backing the Games to increase the number of people signed up to the NHS Organ Donor Register in Coventry and Warwickshire.**

There are 10,000 people waiting for organ transplants

in the UK, 500 of whom live in the West Midlands. Many will die waiting.

We're aiming to get 19,000 people in Coventry and Warwickshire to sign up to the NHS Organ Donor Register by September.

Help us - join the NHS Organ Donor Register today.

To sign up to the Organ Donor Register visit the website [www.uktransplant.org.uk](http://www.uktransplant.org.uk) or call 0845 6060 400, lines are open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

## OnThisDay

1199: Richard I, Coeur de Lion, King of England, was killed in battle.

1483: The painter Raphael was born in Urbino, Italy - and died on the same day 37 years later.

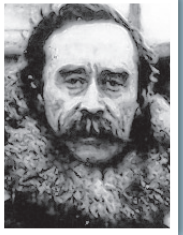
1896: The opening ceremony of the first modern Olympic Games was held in Athens.

1909: US Commander Robert Peary (below) became the first man to reach the North Pole - it was his sixth attempt in 15 years.

1917: USA entered First World War.

1944: Pay As You Earn income tax introduced in Britain.

1965: Early Bird, the first commercial communications satellite, launched by the US.



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