

## Intestinal Failure patient of St Mark's Hospital asks supporters to

Friday 30 May, 2014

Helen Hill, a patient of St Mark's Hospital, Harrow, has set up an exciting initiative to raise vital funds and awareness for the Hospital Foundation. Helen has Intestinal Failure, is encouraging friends and family to 'Donate a Dinner' to raise awareness for her Gastroparesis & Visceral Myopathy.

Donate a Dinner asks supporters to imagine being only able to be fed artificially through special tube called a Jejunostomy Tube which by-passes the stomach, directly in to the small intestine. People are encouraged to donate the worth of a dinner or a lunch to put against the fundraising page set up online. Helen is hoping to raise £5,000 for St Mark's Hospital Foundation which will help eliminate the fear of Bowel Diseases and Inflammatory Bowel Diseases. In the space of a few days Donate a Dinner has had 18 supporters take part.

Helen is a patient of Gastroenterologist Dr Simon Gabe at St Mark's Hospital, she said "Without his expertise and care my conditions would have continued to go undiagnosed and both myself along with my family, truly believe as a result I would not be here today!"

In the field of bowel cancer treatment, St Mark's was instrumental in the development of endoscopies to detect and remove pre-cancerous polyps and pioneered the use of keyhole surgery for removing tumours. They are making further developments for bowel illness but need more donations in order to fund these ground breaking projects.

To Donate a Dinner, visit <http://www.justgiving.com/Helen-Hill22> and donate the worth of your dinner or lunch in aid of researching our ground breaking projects.

To find out more about St. Mark's Hospital Foundation, the only charity dedicated to supporting research, training and education at the world renowned St. Mark's Hospital in North West London, visit [www.stmarksfoundation.org](http://www.stmarksfoundation.org) or contact Alexander Burton, [alexburton@nhs.net](mailto:alexburton@nhs.net)

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