

I have just re-read my first posting and that seems a long time ago. I had on the 18th March 2018 a Liver Transplant.

The journey from diagnosis to transplant was 7 years.

After the first unsuitable liver I went for trial cell replacement where they take your own cells and then repair them and replace them, that bought me some time and I went two years off the transplant list.

Life was ok ish but still suffering the fatigue, terrible itching, poor sleeping and my condition slowly got worse.

My portal vein became blocked and I slowly went downhill, something I could not tell but everyone else did!

Back on the list we waited another 15 months, no travel, no holidays, and no energy, but at least no real pain.

This is all very warring on my wife without who's care I would have been in hospital.

Then when you least expect it on the one night when it snowed none stop, the phone went at midnight, we were collected by ambulance and drove up a M6 on the one lane free of snow.

You wait for the two teams of surgeons to be assembled and the liver tested, 9 hours later I am in the operating theatre.

The operation took 10 hours but as I woke up in intensive care I immediately could tell the aches and pains and itching had stopped; my wife saw me and exclaimed that I was pink again!

The nurse said you'll get better every day and that was true. Within 10 days I was home a new man!

I am still building my strength up, but feel so much better. My mind is clearer and while still on the road to full recovery we managed a short holiday this month.

I have been constantly touched by the care and support shown by many friends and strangers shown on the way, one special one was the taxi driver taking my wife to visit me in hospital donated his fare to the QE Hospital.

My thoughts are with Donor for giving me the chance of a new life for which I will always be grateful for and will ensure I look after my precious gift.

I thought that the transplant was the end of the journey, but I am discovering it's just a station on the trip.

I hope my words give hope to anyone on the journey, and will help anyone with information or just a chat if I can.

My thoughts are with you all