

NHSBT Board
May 25 2016

Vicky Pettersen



Vicky Pettersen, 45, from Middlesbrough, received a double lung transplant 17 years ago.

Vicky attended the national memorial unveiling and spoke with a number of local press as well as speaking live on Sky News to encourage people to join the organ donation register and share their decision with their loved ones.

Vicky was originally advised at the time of transplant that the average survival for a cystic fibrosis patient receiving a lung transplant was 5 years or less. 'I just wanted to live long enough for my son to remember me. We hoped a couple of years may be possible; three, maybe four at the most. I knew my friend Paul was 6 years post double lung transplant, so I had hope that we might have a few good years together. We had no idea, 17 years on, I would still be living life to the full, able to see my son graduate next month'

Vicky is incredibly passionate about raising awareness for organ donation and volunteers for the Freeman Heart and Lung Transplant Association as well as being a Transplant Sport committee member, the organisation behind the British Transplant Games. Since the event, Vicky has introduced other transplant recipients to the team who would like to share their story of organ donation to raise awareness.