

## Strictly embargoed for 00.01 Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2013

## **CLAIRE SQUIRES HONOURED WITH FUNDRAISING AWARD**

- Claire Squires, who died during Marathon last year, named Most Popular Fundraiser
- Family of Claire Squires collect her JustGiving Award at London's Troxy theatre.
- 11 category winners announced, including Celebrity Fundraiser and Charity of the Year

Claire Squires, the marathon runner who died running the race but raised nearly £1m in the process has been honoured with a national fundraising award.

The family of Claire Squires collected the award on her behalf after she was named Most Popular Fundraiser at the JustGiving Awards – a title given to the person who receives the most individual donations to their JustGiving page in one year.

Nearly a year since Claire passed away, a number of her friends will run the marathon this year in her memory, raising funds for The Squires Effect – an organisation set up in Claire's memory to help other charities.

Speaking from the awards last night, Claire's mother Cilla Squires said "It's been really emotional and it's an honour to accept this award on Claire's behalf. She's achieved so much for the Samaritans and I want to thank everyone involved in helping us continue to fundraise in her memory."

Now in their fourth year, the JustGiving Awards were held last night at the Troxy, London in association with WorldPay. Sponsoring the awards for the first time this year, WorldPay are a leading global provider of payment processing and JustGiving's preferred online payments provider.

As well as Claire's achievement, last night's awards celebrated many other outstanding individuals, teams and charities who together helped raise over £200 million through their

**JustGiving**<sup>\*\*</sup>

JustGiving pages for good causes over the last year. The JustGiving Awards covered 11

categories, recognising everything from feats of incredible endurance, to extreme creativity

and commitment.

Anne-Marie Huby, MD at JustGiving said: "Each year we are overwhelmed by the inspiring

fundraising stories we hear, and the truly incredible lengths to which people will go for the

causes they care about.

Hundreds of thousands of JustGiving pages are created each year, all with inspirational

stories and goals, so to make the shortlist takes real effort and determination."

Shane Happach, Chief Commercial Officer at WorldPay said: "Each and every one of the

JustGiving Awards' finalists has shown real determination, creativity and intelligence to raise

an incredible sum for their chosen charities.

The lengths that the finalists have gone to, and the clever way in which they've been able to

encourage donations through online channels should be a real inspiration to people across

the UK."

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**About JustGiving** 

JustGiving (www.justgiving.com) is the UK's largest online fundraising platform and has

helped 13 million people raise over £1 billion for more than 12,000 charities since 2001. In

2009, JustGiving's CEO Zarine Kharas was awarded the RSA's Albert Medal for

"democratising fundraising and technology for charities" and JustGiving was awarded the

"best use of technology award" at the 2009 Sunday Times Tech Track 100 Awards.

**About JustGiving Awards 2013** 

## **JustGiving**<sup>\*\*</sup>

The first ever JustGiving Awards were held in February 2010. The Awards celebrate the amazing achievements of the charities, fundraisers and donors who, together, have raised more than £1 billion through their JustGiving pages since 2001.

## **2013 JustGiving Award Categories**

Young fundraiser of the year

Most popular fundraiser

Most creative fundraiser

Endurance fundraiser of the year

JustTextGiving by Vodafone mobile fundraiser of the year

The Huffington Post celebrity fundraiser of the year

Outstanding commitment to fundraising (for individuals or teams)

Charity of the year

Company of the year

Special recognition award