



FIND OUT  
WHAT'S ON  
ON THE GO  
DOWNLOAD YOUR  
**FREE**  
CHRONICLE  
MOBILE APP NOW



# Fundraising dad wins top charity award



Ivan Hollingsworth and team finish their coats to coast run for charity at Tynemouth. Ivan with son Seb and wife Nadine. Inset, with TV presenter Ben Shephard

**By Helen Rae**  
Health Reporter  
helen.rae@ncjmedia.co.uk

A MAN whose fundraising has seen him ski down a mountain in nothing but a mankini has won a prestigious award.

Ivan Hollingsworth was inspired to pay back the hospital that saved his son's life by completing a series of stunts to raise money for Newcastle Freeman Hospital's Children's Heart Unit Fund (CHUF).

Today the 38-year-old will receive a new Point of Light award, which recognises outstanding individual volunteers, people who are making a change in their community and inspiring others.

The new award has been developed by Prime Minister David Cameron in partnership with the Points of Light programme, which has recognised over 5,000 people. The US programme was established by President George Bush, and both he and President Barack Obama have publicly supported the partnership with Points of Light UK.

Ivan, of Monkseaton, Whitley Bay, said: "This award is a huge honour and I dedicate it to the surgeons, doctors, nurses and every individual who has helped us in our fundraising for CHUF"

Ivan's son Seb was born in 2009 with a congenital heart condition. This resulted in

him undergoing six hours of open heart surgery at only 16 weeks old in order to save his life. Ivan and his wife Nadine have tirelessly campaigned to raise funds to purchase much needed equipment, aftercare and research.

So far Ivan has raised a staggering £343,000 to fund the building of a play room and outside play area at the Freeman's children's heart unit.

This has been achieved by events such as running 100 miles in just 24 hours, organising a fundraising ball and multiple marathons. Ivan's exploits even made him a YouTube star after he skied 10 kilometres down a mountain wearing only a mankini to raise money. Ivan will be presented with the award by Tynemouth MP Alan Campbell at the registry office in North Shields.



#Wing  
Roulette  
what you gonna get?

Share your finger selfie @NandosUK

Mango  
& Lime