MY MARATHON STORY

This year, we have 19 amazing Missing People supporters running the Virgin Money London Marathon. We really love to get to know our runners and here we ask former G4 singer, Ben Thapa, what inspired him to do 26.2 miles for the charity.

I was inspired to run the London Marathon for the first time by watching the Great North Run. On my first attempt at running, I didn't make it over Wandsworth Bridge! Things improved... I now love running for many reasons, importantly health, both mental and physical. With the group G4 I helped raise money for Missing People in the past. My father left when I was four, and in 2016 I was reunited with him 30 years later in Bangalore, so the work Missing People do is close to my heart. When things get tough, a stiff gin and tonic, my friends and belief in my own strength help me. Anyone who says life isn't sometimes challenging, I don't believe you - we're all in this together.









GETTOGETHER

Your newsletter from Missing People



CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- Unmissable
 Exhibition at
 The Other Art Fair:
 Thursday 14 –
 Sunday 17 March
- London Marathon: Sunday 28 April
- International Missing Children's Day: Saturday 25 May
- Missing People 10k Run Sunday 9 June

Join #TeamMissing People at the Turk's Head 10k

Sunday 9 June • Twickenham Registration: £20 with code MP2019 www.missingpeople.org.uk/10k



Fundraising target £100, which could help us answer 10 calls from a missing person on our 24/7 helpline

MISSING

My name is Andrea, and I am the mother of Georgina Gharsallah who has been missing from home for almost one year. Georgina was 30 years old when she went to the shops near my house in Worthing, Sussex, and simply never came home. She is a wonderful daughter and sister and a mother to two children who miss their mum. We all miss Georgina so much and just want to know that she is safe. My biggest fear is that the longer Georgina is missing the more she will fade in to the background and be forgotten.

Missing People and their incredible supporters stop this from happening. The charity has given me hope and support via funding specialist counselling to get me through each day and vital publicity for Georgina to help continue the search in the hope she will return to our family.

Inside, you will read more about the projects, partnerships, and the innovative ways Missing People are working towards finding more missing people like Georgina. I am also glad to introduce you to the Community Ambassadors: a group of family members across the UK who are, or have been, affected by a loved one's disappearance. I am proud to be a part of this group. United together, we hope by sharing our stories with the public we will raise awareness for families affected by missing and reunite with our loved ones.

Please enjoy reading this issue of gettogether. Missing People and the Community Ambassadors would love to know what you think. If you have any feedback, please email supporters@missingpeople.org.uk.

Missing People, 284 Upper Richmond Road West, London SW14 7JE 020 8392 4590

missingpeople.org.uk info@missingpeople.org.uk / / missingpeople.uk @ @missingpeople.uk / / omissingpeople.uk / / / missingpeople.uk / / omissingpeople.uk / / omissingpeople.uk / / omissingpeople.uk / omissing

#Unmissable

AN EXHIBITION OF PORTRAITS OF THE MISSING

THE OTHER ART FAIR: The Old Truman Brewery, 14-17 March 2019

There is a crowd, in the crowd you see a face. You have cherished this moment for so long, dared to even entertain the thought that this moment may one day happen.

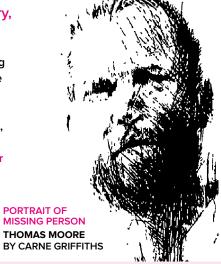
To anyone watching that face is just one of the crowd, to you they are forever unmissable.

Ben Moore, Curator



FIND OUT MORE

unmissable25.co.uk

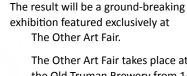


To mark our 25th anniversary,
Missing People are again partnering
with 'Art Below' curator Ben
Moore, who has worked closely
with us since his brother Tom went
missing in 2003. Together we are
collaborating with some of the
most celebrated portrait painters
of our time alongside an exciting
new generation of emerging talent.

Artists who have already begun producing portraits include Carne Griffiths, Ru Knox, Nina Mae Fowler and Sky Art's 'Portrait Artist of Year 2018' Samira Adoo, with many other names from the art world still to be announced.

These internationally acclaimed artists have each been given the face of a missing person, from the thousands of long-term missing cases over the last 25 years, to interpret in their own unique style.

UNMISSABLE EXHIBITION



The Other Art Fair takes place at the Old Truman Brewery from 14 – 17 March. Limited edition prints from the original paintings will be signed and numbered by the artists and will be sold alongside a selection of the original paintings as part of an online auction. All the proceeds will go to Missing People helping to continue our vital work to reunite and support those affected by missing.

Each family of the featured missing people will be presented with a framed limited edition signed print. This innovative project aims to raise awareness of the individual cases and also to spread the word about the impact of missing on so many people's lives.

SPOTLIGHT ON

TIM WIDDEN OUR AGE PROGRESSION VOLUNTEER

What is your background?

I'm a forensic artist, which involves making facial images for the purpose of identifying missing or unidentified people. Most of my work is linked to police investigations.

What inspired you to volunteer for Missing People?

I'm inspired not only by Missing People's efforts in finding and reaching out to missing people, but also the support they offer their families. It's so beneficial to the people affected, and I wanted to contribute to that work.

What does your role entail?

When someone has been missing for a number of years their appearance will have changed with age. Producing an age progressed image not only gives an indication of a missing person's current appearance, but also helps



to draw public attention back to longrunning cases and can hopefully bring in new leads.

What has been your highlight of volunteering for Missing People so far?

Having the opportunity to contribute to Missing People's campaigns is very rewarding in itself. However, getting positive feedback from the families

of the missing people I have age progressed is definitely a highlight.

Mary Flanagan has been missing since the age of 16.



Peter McCaffrey went missing in 1981 aged 20.



MISSING PEOPLE HIGHLIGHTS

Deliveroo

Last Christmas
Missing People and
Deliveroo teamed
up to help reunite
missing people
with their loved
ones. The Ride



to Find campaign ran throughout December as approx. 500 riders transformed their delivery bags into mobile billboards across London, Manchester, Birmingham and Bristol. We are pleased to report that three of the featured missing people were found safe and well.

•••••

Community Ambassadors

In November 2018 we launched the Community Ambassador scheme which intends to create a network of missing people's family members across the UK. By doing this we hope we can put those people affected by a disappearance at the heart of everything we do. We look forward to updating you on all that Andrea and the other ambassadors have achieved in the next edition.

The Missing People Choir and Long Lost Family

The Missing People Choir has continued to represent the charity at a number of events in the past 12 months including the Night of Light Gala at the Rosewood London and the Missing People Carol Service at St. Martin-in-the-Fields. The Choir was also featured on Long Lost Family's Christmas Reunion show, singing carols and sharing the heartbreak of facing the festive season with an empty space at the dinner table.

