

NEWS RELEASE

Date 11th April 2005

For immediate release

HELP US TO HELP BLIND KIDS RUN FOR LIFE Get fit and healthy and run for Action for Blind People at this year's Edinburgh Marathon

When David Connelly was born, he was registered blind. Growing up, he lacked confidence and did not have the courage to run without holding someone's hand. Now at age 14, thanks to the crucial work of the 'Actionnaires' Sports Clubs run by Action for Blind People, David has advanced remarkably. David not only runs on his own, but plays football with other visually impaired children his age.

'Actionnaires' clubs take place in various parts of the country to enable blind and partially sighted children to participate in sporting activities frequently denied them. Action for Blind People has helped David build up his self-esteem and develop social skills with his peers.

You can make a difference for many blind and partially sighted children across the UK by supporting Action for Blind People in one of the most spectacular marathons in the world.

The **Edinburgh Marathon** will take place on **Sunday 12th June** 2005 and you can be guaranteed a place, while running for a very important cause.

The Scottish capital's biggest running event offers runners the ultimate personal challenge with a breathtaking scenic route, taking runners past many of Edinburgh's most famous landmarks and tourist attractions. The event is not just a run, but a

NEWS RELEASE

festival of fun, with on-route entertainment and finish-line celebrations.

To take part in this fantastic event and make a huge difference to the lives of thousands of blind and partially sighted people, like David, across the UK, please contact the Action's Events Team on telephone: **020 7635 4888** or email

events@afbp.org

Ends

For further information please contact Debbie Flatley or May Ho, at Action's Press Office on 020 7635 4921 or 4898

Notes to Editors:

- Action for Blind People supports over 20,000 blind and partially sighted people in the UK every year.
- Currently there are seven 'Actionnaires' clubs across the UK for visually impaired children, with more due to be opened soon.
- Action works to inspire change and create opportunities to enable blind and partially sighted people to have equal voice and equal choice and to live a full and valuable life.
- Funding is vital to keep all of Action for Blind People's services running.

NEWS RELEASE