

My name is Megan, I am 18 years old. I have a genetic condition called Neurofibromatosis Type 1 (a condition that causes tumours to grow, on the body's nerve endings., in and on the body. They will never stop growing, they will pop up for the rest of my life. Surgery is the only way to remove them. I have had many surgeries. Some more major than others) I also have ADHD and I am Dyslexic.

My condition makes life difficult at times but it has not, and will not stop me doing things in life that I enjoy or stop me from helping other people.

I am currently studying A-levels at secondary school 6th form and I am my schools "Subject Ambassador".

I am a self-confessed science geek, I love all things space related, I love to sew (I am about to start making my prom dress for my year 13 prom) , I babysit, I work part time. I have fallen in love with America and Africa (two totally different ends of the world spectrum) I never stop, I am continually on the go.

Ultimately I would love to become a doctor but, I will need to go about it the long way round. I am hoping to study Medical Science at collage next year and then go to university to study for a degree in Bio-Medical Science, the plan being to then go into Medicine as a post graduate student.

In the summer of 2013 I went on a trip to America where I met some amazing people that inspired me. I spent time with Astronauts, Astronaut trainers, Mission control personnel and real life Rocket Scientists. Physically I struggled with the gruelling schedule and it made me realise that if I want to do amazing things I needed to take responsibility for my physical fitness so I can have the strength to do so. I took up cycling the 12 mile a day round trip to school instead of getting the bus and what a difference it made!

In the summer of 2014 when I was just 17 I took myself off on my own (my poor mum waved me off with tears in her eyes) on a trip to undertake work experience in a Hospital in Tanzania. WOW what an amazing experience. It made me realise that while I have my problems I am surrounded by luxury. We moan about our health care system but boy oh boy do we have it easy in comparison. I came to realise that not every bed in the hospital had a mosquito net, there were 29 beds in the ICU and the Psychiatric unit that were without so after a quick email home, I (along with a member of the community) went out on the hunt for enough nets to make sure every bed had one! We did it! The amount of lives that will help save is unfathomable. Such a simple thing can do so much. It cost £100 of my own money that I would, no doubt, would have spent it in Dubai airport on the way home on coffee, cake and Knick knacks.

That trip changed me. It opened my eyes, Yes I have difficulties but you know what? So do many others in this world. I actually see myself as very fortunate. The trip made me determined. I will not be told I am not capable/able because I am! You can do anything if you put your mind to it and have the support necessary.

This summer I have set myself my biggest challenge yet! I am going to climb MOUNT KILIMANJARO in Tanzania!! This will be a 7 day hike traveling across 4 different seasons, reaching a height of 5,985m above sea level. This will be an incredibly challenging adventure, both physically and mentally. I have overcome many obstacles in my life and this is just one more mountain to climb.

In the process I will be raising money for three fantastic UK charities. These are Funny Lumps, The Neuro Foundation, and The Kent MS Therapy Centre.

Whilst I am in Tanzania I will also be volunteering in a local orphanage/child care facility and would like to take out some much needed supplies, such as pens, pencils, text books and have some money to buy any mosquito nets should they be required.

BUT.....

First I need to get there. My amazing family have come together and contributed approximately £3,000 out of their savings to cover the cost of the climb, accommodation, food, and the required medications and vaccinations that I need.

I still need to find the money for flights, equipment, supplies to take out and funds for excess baggage should it be required. I have estimated the extra funds needed to be around £2000. Should I exceed this target or have money left over it will be split between all the causes I am raising money for. <http://www.gofundme.com/meganksadventures>

Please, please help me fund my Passage to Africa so I can then concentrate my efforts on my training and charity fund raising.

Please help me climb one more mountain, build on my confidence and add valuable life skills.

You can follow my adventure here- <https://www.facebook.com/Meganksadventures>

Thank you all,

This is a video of some photos taken during my last adventure in Tanzania

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OfXzs3-umbc>

Megan-Cherise Kerr