

Goodwill message - recipients:

Whatever your circumstances, I wish you all the very best, and good luck. Becoming a sperm donor is one of the most important things I have ever done. I hope that my contribution can help you to create your perfect family.

Goodwill message - children:

We may never have met, but my heart goes out to you. I wish for you all the very best in life – good health, good fortune and, of course, love.

If you're curious, then hope the words below can give you a sense of who I am. It's suggested that I also share with you a few words of advice, but someone else has usually said it better, so:

"Very little is needed to make a happy life; it is all within yourself, in your way of thinking... You have power over your mind – not outside events. Realise this, and you will find strength."

.....

A passionate [redacted] politician [redacted] of humble origins. Well-travelled, well-spoken with a love of all things social and outdoors. [redacted]

Donor pen picture:

Born [redacted] to parents of humble origins, I spent the early years of my life [redacted] close to the family of both my mother and father. My mother was the middle one of three children born to English parents, my father the fourth of five children born to German mother and Irish father – both of whom immigrated to the UK with their parents.

When I was five my parents [redacted] and bought a hotel. Despite my young age I'd already acquired a rather distinct London accent, so I stood out like a sore thumb in my new [redacted] home town. [redacted]

I enjoyed regular trips [redacted] to visit family and always said that I planned to return there – which I did, as many young people do, after graduating from university and starting my career. But most of my formative years were spent in 'the North' and many of the friends I met at school continue to be some of my closest friends today [redacted].

My father died in a tragic accident when I was 12, but family life before this was relatively 'normal' with happy times spent as a family at least every week and annual holidays to somewhere in the Mediterranean – or, on one occasion, Disneyworld.

As an only child, I had a lot time for our pet cat. I don't have a cat today but I'm a big cat lover and whenever I see a cat on the street I always go over for a stop'n'chat.

Some of my best memories growing up were of camping trips – the Scouts fed a sense of adventure and provided opportunities for great outdoor experiences like climbing, kayaking and caving. I later joined the Army Cadets [REDACTED] [REDACTED] – although I'd say the Scouts was far more enjoyable and developmental. At school I was in the swimming team, I also played a couple of games of rugby for the school.

Growing up I was fascinated by history and heritage, and this shaped my decision to study social sciences at College and University, which in turn shaped my career choices. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

My most recent roles have been for [REDACTED] trade associations and today I act as an advocate for thousands of UK businesses [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. As a lobbyist I have always been mindful of acting ethically and achieving outcomes that serve the greater good – usually the rights and interests of the consumer [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Friends and family have described me as clever, thoughtful, adventurous, interesting and fun to be around. They must mean it as I'm godfather to my cousin's children and acted as Best Man or a groomsman to several of my friends. Myers-Briggs tests usually suggest that I'm one of the analyst personality types, and other tests describe me (probably accurately) as confident, sociable and someone who enjoys meeting new people. I'd also say that I'm open-minded, although I sometimes hold myself and others to high standards.

I run or go to the gym fairly regularly, and now tend to go on a skiing holiday every year. I own a kayak, and earlier this year took a course in rowing and sculling which was great fun – especially when the seals come over to see you in the Thames. I also started a sky-diving course [REDACTED].

I used to read a lot as a youth, although this hasn't carried much into adult life. I usually have a book on the go but don't pick it up as often as I'd like to, preferring dinner and a movie after a lot of time spent reading emails and papers at work. If I'm going out then I love a stand-up comedy night and have become a big fan of immersive theatre. I also travel a lot – a little for work, but largely for leisure – and have taken extensive tours or road trips of SE Asia, Oman, India, Canada, Mexico, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Spain, and the USA. My favourite trip to date was backpacking in Nicaragua, and for eating well abroad I'd say Poland.

In 10 years' time I hope to be married to my current partner bringing up children of my own, engaged in public life in a part of the UK that is as far from London as employment can afford, and maybe playing guitar with a middle-aged folk band. And in retirement I hope to catch-up on all the box sets / Netflix series' that my friends have told me over the years that I must watch.

Favourite bands / composers: Muse; Erasure; Depeche Mode; Daft Punk; Placebo; Editors; Vast; Morrissey; The Smiths; Queen; Venus Infers; Pet Shop Boys; Massive Attack; Bloc Party; Lana Del Ray; Supertramp; La Roux; Kim Wilde; T'Pau; Phil Collins; Sting & the Police; Madonna; Joy Division; New Order; The Human League; The Communards; Journey; Tears for Fears; The Flaming Lips; Zorita; Gogol Bordello; Samson & Delilah; David Bowie; Bob Dylan; Bob Marley; Billy Ocean; Jimi Hendrix; Nina Simone; Sam Cooke; Leonard Cohen; Roy Orbison; Cutting Crew; Europe; Berlin; Lykke Li; Alison Moyet; Nik Kershaw; Ladyhawke; Adele; Dermot Kennedy; David Gray; Arcade Fire; Soft Cell; Peter Gabriel; Dire Straits; Guns N' Roses; Eurythmics; Go West; Men at Work; Black; The Cranberries; Purcell; Handel; Bach; Beethoven; Mozart; Rodrigo; Puccini; Verdi; Vivaldi

Favourite films: Drive; Goodfellas; Apocalypse Now; Apocalypto; Elizabeth; The Mission; Inception; Titanic; Gladiator; Clash of the Titans; Jason and the Argonauts; Troy; Legends of the Fall; The English Patient; Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves; Eyes Wide Shut; Quills; Bridge on the River Kwai; Interview with a Vampire; Bram Stoker's Dracula; Mary Shelley's Frankenstein; Leon; Predator; Moon; Heat; Dusk til Dawn; Pulp Fiction; Forrest Gump; Philadelphia; Last of the Mohicans; Groundhog Day; Slumdog Millionaire; Goodwill Hunting; 12 Monkeys; Fight Club; The Elephant Man; Being John Malkovich; Amistad; Amazing Grace; Labyrinth; Far and Away; Magnolia; Valkyrie; Dorian Gray; American History X; The Theory of Everything; Brokeback Mountain; A Single Man; Hannibal; 24 Hour Party People; Die Hard; The King's Speech; The Iron Lady; V for Vendetta; American Beauty; Requiem for a Dream; Withnail and I

Favourite TV show: *Frasier*

Favourite opera: *Dido & Aeneas*

Favourite book: *I, Claudius*