

## **JUST two years ago, Chris Lound's brother Greg saved his life by donating the vital bone marrow he needed to survive.**

The 14-year-old was diagnosed with rare blood disorder aplastic anaemia when he was 12 years old.

If left untreated, Chris would have died, but despite only a one-in-four chance of being a match, Greg's bone marrow was suitable.

And now the brothers are teaming up again to use their rugby skills to help other teenagers who need hospital treatment.

The brothers will take part in a competition during half-time of tomorrow's derby between Hull FC and Hull KR to raise awareness and money for the Teenage Cancer Trust (TCT).

Chris said he wants to help others who find themselves in hospital for a long period of time, like he did.

He said: "It's amazing what my brother did for me.

"I would do the same for him, we are very close.

## **in short**

Two years ago, Chris Lound's brother saved his life by donating bone marrow.

During tomorrow's rugby derby, the boys will take part in a competition to raise money for the Teenage Cancer Trust.



**PROUD: The Lound family, from left, Susan, Chris, Greg and Geoff**

"I could not have imagined this time two years ago being fit enough to play rugby."

The money raised at the game will help the charity open teenager cancer units (TCUs) in more hospitals, and possibly help fund one at Castle Hill Hospital.

Greg, now 15, who had to take a month off playing rugby after the operation, said he is pleased to be able to help others.

He said: "If we hit the bar during the competition, the clubs will donate extra money to the trust. That is my ultimate aim now.

"I'm glad I was able to help Chris, I couldn't let him just stay in hospital while I was out having fun."

The boys' parents Sue and Geoff, both 54, will be cheering on their sons.

Mrs Lound said: "We are very proud of them both.

"If they had not matched, Chris would have had to undergo prolonged drugs treatment. That could have taken between six and 12 years to become effective, and would only stabilise it.

"The only option for a cure was to find a match – and Greg saved his life."

Although Chris was not treated directly in the TCU at St James's Hospital in Leeds, he did benefit from the use of the unit.

A 40-strong army of TCT volunteers will also be at the game tomorrow collecting money for the charity.

James Rule, Chief Executive of Hull FC said: "We are delighted to be working with TCT as our charity of the year and look forward to many exciting fundraising opportunities to come."

● **Titanic battle: Back page**

### **Links**

#### **Teenage Cancer Trust**

[www.teenagecancertrust.org](http://www.teenagecancertrust.org)

#### **Hull FC**

[www.hullfc.com](http://www.hullfc.com)

#### **Hull KR**

[www.hullkr.co.uk](http://www.hullkr.co.uk)

## **Providing best possible care**

THE Teenage Cancer Trust, (TCT) is a national charity that helps teenagers fighting cancer, by ensuring young cancer patients get the best possible care in hospital and the chance to do all the things other teenagers do.

TCT funds specialist teenage cancer units in NHS hospitals, with the aim being to give every young

person with cancer access to a unit and improve survival rates.

TCT currently has nine units around the country which care for young people aged between 13 and 24 and is planning to open a further 14 units by 2012.

It costs about £2m to open a new unit, all of which TCT has to raise.