

In 2009 I was diagnosed with Severe Gastroparesis. Two years later in 2011 it was confirmed that I had intestinal failure related to a diagnosis of Mitochondrial Neurogastrointestinal Encephalopathy (MNGIE). For the past four years I have been on total parenteral nutrition (TPN).

My medical conditions and treatments are time consuming and I never know when I will have a 'good' day or a 'bad' day. I try to work on the basis that every day will be a good day so I can enjoy my family and my life.

## Little Miss Sunshine





## Life on home artificial nutrition

(HAN): My nickname, Little Miss Sunshine, was given to me by the nurses on the team when I started my TPN. Smiling helps me cope and I want people to see me as person and not someone with an illness.

We recently moved from London. I now live in a lovely little village near the sea in north Somerset with my husband Eric and our daughter Jordan. I still travel back to London for hospital appointments and to see family and friends.

TPN is my lifeline that has **given me back some quality of life** and has allowed me to still do some of the things I enjoy, such as travelling within the UK and abroad and socialising with family and friends.

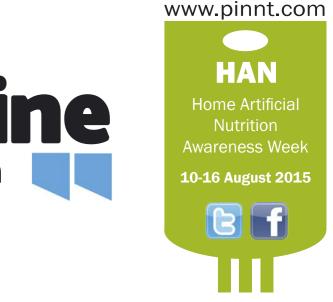
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**PINNT: "Supporting people on home artificial nutrition"** 



Relying on TPN is very challenging and it's easy to feel isolated. However the support from family, friends and PINNT, and the network it provides, has helped me to **face these challenges**.

Having access via PINNT to fellow patients, companies and healthcare professionals has helped me cope with a smile on my face. PINNT provides a reliable platform for information.

My hope for the future is to be play a greater role within PINNT. I am joining the executive committee this year and following on from some the other meetings I have been involved with, I can help PINNT with a very busy agenda. No doubt I will be learning new things along the way as well as using my personal experiences to help others.

