

THE **BIG** QUIZ OF THE WEEK!

WIN
£50

1 How did TOWIE's Chris Clark dump Little Mix's Jesy Nelson?

2 In which unusual place did ex-Blue Peter star Helen Skelton have her baby?

3 Prince Philip has announced his retirement from all public duties. But how old is the elderly duke?

4 Paul Gascoigne has vowed to finally beat his alcoholism as he approaches which landmark birthday?

5 A former boyfriend of which ex-Girls Aloud star has been given a lifetime restraining order after years of harassment and intimidation?



4. Paul Gascoigne



2. Helen Skelton

6 What is the name of the new head judge to replace Len Goodman on Strictly Come Dancing?

7 Prime Minister Theresa May has opened the door to the return of foxhunting. When was the blood sport originally banned?

8 Robert Miles – famous for 1990s rave classic Children – has died. How old was he?

9 Who sings this year's UK entry into the Eurovision Song Contest, with the song Never Give Up On You?

10 ITV were rapped by Ofcom for showing a terrifying snippet of which classic sci-fi horror film at 9am?

Closing date for entries is May 25.

YOU could win £50! Just send your answers (don't forget to number them!) to: quiz@loveitmagazine.co.uk and include your name, address and telephone number

After years of sorrow, Krista's baby miracle...

Having your first period can be a traumatic time for a young girl. But for me, it was just the beginning of years of heartache.

I was 12 years old when it happened and I was crippled with excruciating pain at the end of every cycle.

People would tell me, 'It's normal to have cramps,' or, 'Every woman goes through this.'

But I would soon find out that, for me, it was actually something far worse.

After nine months of awful cramps and crippling back pain, my parents finally agreed to take me to see our family doctor.

That's when the bad news began.

After countless tests and ultrasounds I was diagnosed with uterus didelphys – although it would be years before I'd find out that it actually had a name.

In simple terms, it meant I had been born with two wombs, two cervixes – and, as I would later discover, two vaginas.

At just 12 years of age I was given the heartbreaking news that I would never be able to have children.

I had barely come to terms with having my periods and how to use tampons, and I was already having to deal with the fact I'd never become a mother.

CRUEL TAUNTS

The doctors asked me to come back, but without health insurance it would have been too costly for my parents to pay for endless tests and scans.

Besides, back then so little was known about the condition that doctors couldn't tell us much. When I was called in for tests it was usually to satisfy their own curiosity rather than help me.

Growing up with the condition was tough. The other kids at school would call me a freak or shout names at me in the halls.

I developed a thick skin and learned to brush off the negative comments by turning them into jokes.

But the cruel taunts and bullying led to me dropping out of high school early.

As I got older I started to date. I was always open with guys about my condition as it could make sex quite painful.

The only 'benefit', I guess, was that I didn't have to



CJ and Krista had all but given up hope

worry about contraception to avoid falling pregnant.

When I met my husband Courtney – or CJ, as everyone calls him – at 20, I told him straight up that kids weren't in my future.

We were both in other relationships when we met at the restaurant where we both worked, but it was absolutely love at first sight.

Out of respect we waited until our respective relationships fizzled out on their own before doing anything about our obvious attraction to each other.

And it was totally worth the wait!

Things moved pretty fast at first. CJ and I knew very early on that we wanted to spend the rest of our lives together.

THE BUMP OF MY DREAMS



After 10 years of trying, Krista and CJ are finally going to be parents



Then, around a year after we started dating, a miracle happened – I found out I was expecting.

We hadn't ever used protection when we had sex as we assumed there was zero chance of conceiving.

It was something I never dreamed would happen.

But our dreams were crushed when I went to see a doctor who said it wasn't a viable pregnancy.

'You're going to miscarry,' he told me.

Hearing those words broke my heart – and CJ's too.

We had a tough year trying to come to terms with what had happened and, in the end, it proved too much and we split up.

FAINTEST HOPE

Shattered by the break-up, I set off on a church mission to Australia in an attempt to try to take my mind off CJ.

While I was there, I started getting severe pain and was rushed to hospital.

'It's a cyst on your ovary,' they told me. 'We may have to remove the ovary.'

While that news would have been difficult for any woman to hear, it was made worse for me as I'd only been born with one ovary to begin with.

Then came another shock. When the surgeons went in to remove the affected ovary, they discovered I did in fact have a second ovary on the right-hand side. There was no way of knowing whether it was functioning.

It gave me the tiniest bit of hope that having a family might not be completely out of reach just yet.

And I realised if that was the case, I didn't want to do it with anyone but CJ.

After flying home, we got back together and were married in 2010.

Being apart from each other helped us both realise what we wanted in life – and that was a family of our own.

We started seeing a fertility specialist to discuss options such as IVF and my chances of having a natural pregnancy, all of which seemed slim. We even talked about adoption.

'Whatever happens, happens,' I said to CJ and we carried on trying for another miracle.

CJ was absolutely incredible. He had so much faith in me throughout that whole time. But I found it really tough

The ultrasound of their miracle baby



to keep building my hopes up, only to have them knocked down again.

Over the years we must have taken thousands of pregnancy tests, all of which came back negative.

Until December last year.

'I'll do a quick test before we leave,' I joked with CJ, as we were leaving for church one evening.

We'd gone through so much disappointment over the past six or seven years that we'd begun to joke about taking the tests as a way of coping with the inevitable outcome.

This time, though, it was positive.

I ran out of the bathroom to tell CJ the good news.

'We're going to have a baby!' I screamed.

I knew there was still so much that could go wrong, but I allowed myself to enjoy the moment and fell to the floor in hysterics.

After 10 years of trying, it had just happened. We were finally going to be parents.

Because of our past experiences, we both tried to hold back our excitement until we'd had the first ultrasound scan.

SO THANKFUL

Thankfully everything has been plain sailing so far.

I'm now five months pregnant with a baby boy – who we've already named Lincoln.

CJ and I can't wait to welcome the first addition to our family.

There are still things that are uncertain, such as whether I'll be able to deliver him naturally or I'll need to have a C-section.

But we are just so thankful every single day that we were granted this miracle.

I hope that by telling my story, I can give hope to other women with uterine didelphys and let them know miracles really can happen – even when you're least expecting it!

Krista Schwab, 32, Washington, USA

AS TOLD TO JESS SUNDERLAND

Krista and Courtney are raising money to take their 'miracle baby' on his first mission trip abroad. To find out more about their story or to donate, visit tinyurl.com/mvyljmb