Berkshire man completed difficult La Marmotte challenge raising over £1400 for pancreatic cancer charity

Thursday 18 July, 2013

Simon Scholfield from Wraysbury near Windsor took part in one of the world's most gruelling cycling and sporting challenges on Saturday 6th July in aid of Pancreatic Cancer Action.

Simon, who raised over £1400 by taking part in La Marmotte 2013, said: "I decided to take part in this challenge for Pancreatic Cancer Action because the medical field has made huge progress towards increasing survival rates for certain types of cancer but with the pancreatic strain, one of the worst, not nearly enough is known about its causes.

It is great to know that the funds raised will go towards improving early diagnosis of pancreatic cancer and make more people aware of this grim disease that is remarkably underfunded in terms of research."

At the present time, only 3% of those diagnosed with pancreatic cancer survive beyond five years. Pancreatic Cancer Action is committed to working towards earlier diagnosis of the disease so that surgery, currently the only cure, is made available to the sufferer.

La Marmotte covers a distance of 174 km (108 mi) and with 5,180 m (16,990 ft) of climbing, the route is considered to be one of the hardest of any cyclosportive and comparable to any of the most challenging high mountain stages of the Tour de France. Several famous Tour de France mountains feature; the Col du Glandon, Col du Telegraphe, Col du Galibier and the final ascent of one of the legendary Alpe d'Huez.

Simon is an associate of Lockton UK, part of the world's largest private insurance broker. The company chose Pancreatic Cancer Action as its charity of the year for 2013. Jack Lockton, who founded the company, died from pancreatic cancer in 2004.

Ali Stunt, Founder of Pancreatic Cancer Action, said: "We are delighted and grateful to Simon for taking in such a difficult and exhausting challenge to support Pancreatic Cancer Action.

"As a charity, we rely on the generosity of individuals like Simon to help us continue our vital work."

From running your local 5K to skydiving, and cycling from London to Brighton to walking the Great Wall of China, Pancreatic Cancer Action has a number of ways you can take part in a fun fundraising activity. To find out more, please visit http://pancreaticcanceraction.org/support-us/fundraise/ or call 0303 040 1770

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