

Energetic Essex lady takes on back to back marathons to raise thousands for chronically underfunded cancer

Thursday 3 April, 2014

Angela Stathakis of Essex will be taking on the enormous challenge of running two marathons in the space of one week for Pancreatic Cancer Action. The energetic lady will start with the Paris Marathon on the 6th of April with her brother, Spiro, followed by the London Marathon on 13th April.

Pancreatic cancer is UK's fifth biggest cancer killer, with a shockingly low 3% survival rate and currently receives only 1% of government research funding.

Angela's mum, Marie-Hélène Way Philippo, died of pancreatic cancer in June 2013, 18 months after being diagnosed. "She had been experiencing symptoms of the disease for years before her own diagnosis," Angela said. "Sadly, the cancer wasn't detected until it was too late for surgery.

"Pancreatic Cancer Action are a charity focussed on getting more people diagnosed in time for surgery, which is currently the only cure," continues Angela.

Currently only 10% of around 8,000 patients who are diagnosed each year with pancreatic cancer are eligible for surgery. This can change with greater awareness of the symptoms of pancreatic cancer.

Pancreatic Cancer Action's mission is to improve survival for the disease by getting more people diagnosed sooner – in time for surgery, as this is the only potential we have for a cure. Early diagnosis is their focus and raising awareness of the disease, its signs and symptoms is a big part of what they do.

Ali Stunt, Founder of Pancreatic Cancer Action, said: "We are delighted that Angela is giving his time to support Pancreatic Cancer Action.

"As a charity, we rely on the generosity of individuals like Angela to help us continue our vital work. Please back Angela in her astonishing fundraising efforts by visiting her fundraising page so that we can continue research into early diagnosis and raise awareness of pancreatic cancer."

Angela's fundraising page is: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-web/fundraiser/showFundraiserProfilePage.action?userUrl=AngieStathakis>

Currently 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.

From running your local 5K to skydiving, and cycling from London to Brighton to dyeing your hair purple, 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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