# Fifty Wakefield walkers take part in Three Peaks challenge in memory of Ian Brooke

**Monday 9 June, 2014**

A fifty-strong fundraising team from across Wakefield completed the 25 mile Three Peaks walk in aid of Pancreatic Cancer Action on 24th May. The walk was in memory of 44 year old Ian Brooke who died of pancreatic cancer in December only six weeks from diagnosis.
The challenge covers three of the highest peaks in the Yorkshire Dales – Pen-y-Ghent, Whernside and Ingleborough. These peaks form part of the Pennine range, and encircle the head of the valley of the River Ribble, in the Yorkshire Dales National park.
Ian, a keen walker, had actually started planning this walk before he was diagnosed and had actually only managed to convince about ten people to come along. When he lost his battle with pancreatic cancer, his friends and family wanted to do the walk as planned and more people joined in.

One of the team said: “We all wanted to be involved to raise money in memory of Ian, who was a popular man who loved walking. This is such a hard time for his family so we hope the support everyone is showing will offer some comfort to them over.

“We hope to raise a lot of money for this underfunded cancer to ensure that more people are diagnosed.”

The five-year survival rate of pancreatic cancer, the fifth deadliest cancer in the UK, is just 3%. While survival rates of many cancers have improved significantly over 40 years, this shockingly low survival rate has not changed at all.

Pancreatic Cancer Action is committed working towards earlier diagnosis. The charity is focussed on educating the public and medical community as well as funding research. They also campaign for more funding from the government into research, which currently stands at less than one per cent of all cancer researching funding.

Ali Stunt, Founder of Pancreatic Cancer Action and a rare survivor of the illness, said: “We are delighted that so many people gave their time to support Pancreatic Cancer Action. Thank you to all of Ian’s friends and families for taking part in this challenging walk.

”As a charity, we rely on the generosity of the public to help us continue our vital work. Please back them in their fundraising efforts so that we can continue research into early diagnosis and raise awareness of pancreatic cancer.”

You can visit their page here: http://ian.j.brooke.1969-2013.muchloved.com/

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