

Guildford man to conquer highest mountain in Africa to raise money for forgotten cancer

Thursday 16 January, 2014

Bobby Butcher from Guildford has taken on the difficult challenging of climbing heights of over 5500 metres while scaling Mount Kilimanjaro in March for Pancreatic Cancer Action.

Bobby, who will be joined by his friend Mark Brazil, hopes to raise £1000s for a disease that receives so little funding and attention. "My inspiration to climb Mt Kilimanjaro is my wonderful Mum, Amy, who died in November 2012 just three months after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

"I was devastated to lose my mum so shortly after diagnosis and when I learned more about pancreatic cancer, I was shocked," continues Bobby. "Only three per cent of people diagnosed survive for more than five years which is the worst survival rate of any cancer. Yet only one per cent of cancer research funding is spent on pancreatic cancer."

"This will certainly be a challenge but we hope it will raise vital funds and awareness of this grim disease. I know my Mum would have been proud of me taking this challenge on."

Mount Kilimanjaro is the highest mountain in Africa at 19,341 feet high. Bobby and Mark have chosen to take on the steeper route to the Uhuru Peak, which takes seven days. The trek will take through various ecosystems - desert savannah, tropical rainforest, volcanic rocks, tundra, right through to snow at the top.

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.

Ali Stunt, Founder of Pancreatic Cancer Action and a rare survivor of the disease, said: "We are delighted and very grateful that Bobby and Mark are giving their time to support Pancreatic Cancer Action.

"As a charity, we rely on the kindness and generosity of individuals 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."

Please visit their fundraising page: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-web/fundraiser/showFundraiserProfilePage.action?userUrl=Brazbutch&isTeam=true>

To find out more, please visit <http://pancreaticcanceraction.org/support-us/fundraise/> or call 0303 040 1770

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