

CALLING ALL WISTOW WALKERS!

The Parish Council is getting behind a Wistow Resident who is, despite the Coronavirus Pandemic, seeking to continue fund raising events in aid of NHS Cancer Charities, including Peterborough City Hospital, Addenbrookes Charitable Trust, Mind, East Anglia Children`s Hospices and many more.

Damien Whales lost his Dad Malcolm to Bowel Cancer in 2008 at the age of only 55. In 2009 he established a Registered Charity – The Malcom Whales Foundation (TMWF) <https://tmwf.co.uk/>

Since then, Damien, through the Foundation has raised a staggering £255,000 through organising sponsored walking events – predominantly in Dorset – **The Dorset Walk**.

Unfortunately, the annual **Dorset Walk** has had to be cancelled due to covid-19 and an estimated £50,000 additional funds will be lost. Damien has come up with a **Plan B** to localise the event, always **in accordance with ongoing Government Guidelines** which we appreciate is a constantly changing road map.

So the **Non- Dorset Walk**, which involves walking up to 40 miles over a flexible time period forecast to commence the week beginning **6th July** with the fun weekend walk beginning **July 10th and finish on Sunday 12th July 2020** has been launched and will be focused on local groups and Wistow in particular for starters - but there is no reason why neighbouring Villages should not be involved.

Walkers pledge £1 per mile they walk, which is donated through the charities *justgiving page* (via www.tmwf.co.uk) the Foundation will then distribute the funds across the NHS cancer wards and the other targeted charity partners – full details are provided on the links below and the TMWF Website. Essentially you can walk alone, maybe have some fun and Camp out in your Garden at night or walk with other members of your Household or a Group of up to 6 – **always in accordance with Government advice**. We are really hopeful that come July the possibilities could be wider and allow a larger community event, watch this space for future developments.

The main theme in this instance is to have fun, improve wellbeing and raise money for NHS Cancer Charities and the event is open to people of all ages – so great for the kids and maybe the dogs too! *Importantly, you do not have to walk the 40 miles... walk a distance that works for you, we are hoping for participation and enjoyment, not Iron Man participants* 😊

Progress of interest from the local community will be shared through **The Parish Council Website** and Facebook Page along with **Wistow Social Media Groups, including Neighbourhood Watch**.

Full details and future plans will be published on the TMWF links below and these are the default information sources going forward. An event will be created on the PC Facebook Page to test enthusiasm and record interest. If response is enthusiastic, then plans for the **Wistow Non-Dorset Walk** will be refined and shared in due course.

In the meantime, Damien and the MWF can be reached through their Facebook Page or themalcolmwhalesfoundation@gmail.com, Damien`s mobile number is 07730539914

Information Links

<https://tmwf.co.uk/>

<https://tmwf.co.uk/events/dorset-walk/non-dorset-walk/>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/TheMalcolmWhalesFoundation/?ref=bookmarks>

<https://www.facebook.com/events/905379149887653/>

Justgiving :

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/nondorsetwalk>