

NEIL'S INCREDIBLE JOURNEY



At the journey's end after 1152 miles



Neil with his colleagues in Colposcopy

As this photo proves, behind every good man, there's not just one but a whole team of women behind him!

Many staff were incredibly proud of their colleague Neil Compton, who took on a major cycling challenge this Summer to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Relief.

Neil, who by day is a Data Input Clerk for Colposcopy, recently cycled 1152 miles from John O'Groats to Lands End during June in just under 2 weeks. His challenge was undertaken alone averaging between 80-90 miles per day. He may have undertaken his cycle journey alone but he had a whole team of supporters back at Women's HQ who were cheering him on and making sure that staff here took part in his fund raising efforts. The Colposcopy Team lead by Amanda Sutton, held a cake sale and raffle to support Neil and in total £832.60 was raised through Neil's Just Giving page for Macmillan as well as the money raised in the Department.

Neil is no novice and belongs to a local cycling club and cycles to work every day, on taking on this particular challenge, he explained, "It was something I already wanted to do but Amanda convinced me to do it for Macmillan Cancer Relief."

I enjoyed it and it was tough, (obviously when it rained on me all day and on the knees), but I never wanted to give up."

As Neil writes on his webpage: <http://neilsjogle.weebly.com/index.html> in conclusion to his epic journey;

"So what did i think of my trip? I was quite surprised at how helpful, supportive and kind people were. I met a lot of nice people and they really helped to keep me going. So thanks to all you people out there. On my next trip i will shorten my rides so i have more time to see and do things and not have to rush so much. And why do prices for food and drink vary so much from shop to shop? I've had fantastic meals that have been good value and yet expensive meals have not always been much cop. Ohh and sheep get on your nerves after a while!"

We'll done to Neil for his amazing achievement and thank you to all those staff who supported Macmillan Cancer Relief.

Appeal benefits from big fund raising push by Birmingham Solicitors

A year of fund raising initiatives by staff from Birmingham law firm, Irwin Mitchell has provided our Tiny Babies Appeal with more than £11,000 worth of vital equipment.

Irwin Mitchell Solicitors nominated the Tiny Babies Appeal as their official charity of the year and staff at the Birmingham office set about organising fund raising events. Solicitors and legal staff based in the city centre quite literally 'threw themselves' into fund raising events, participating in a charity parachute jump, which alone raised more than £4,000. Other initiatives included supermarket bag packs, dress down days, a cake sale, and make over days at Clinique in House of Fraser. As a result, staff from Irwin Mitchell recently handed over a cheque for £11,700 to the Tiny Babies Appeal.

Toni Knott, from The Irwin Mitchell Charities Foundation commented: "We chose the Tiny Babies appeal as our official charity for 2010 after a member of staff nominated them as a deserving cause. His own baby daughter, who had been born prematurely, was treated at the hospital's neonatal unit We all felt that the appeal was a hugely deserving cause and we have had a really successful year of fundraising events, not only raising money but also awareness for the Tiny Babies Appeal, which is a truly life changing charity."



Toni Knott, Guy Forster, Pam Dehal of Irwin Mitchell and Dr Imogen Morgan

Women's progress

The newsletter for Birmingham Women's NHS Foundation Trust

SUMMER 2011

Our Promise

During July, the Trust launched our new set of customer values developed by a group of staff in consultation with colleagues, visitors and patients.

"I would like this to be the norm", was a comment made more than once to the staff group behind the Values which are now displayed on walls around the hospital. Whilst the Women's has an excellent reputation in the region, sometimes staff don't always feel valued by their colleagues, (highlighted at last years' CEO Conversations and the staff survey).

It was this surprising fact that brought together a group of people to define how we feel staff, patients and visitors should be treated and several months later, after much debate, surveying and meetings the seven values that make up the At Birmingham Women's Hospital we will can be seen on walls around the hospital.

The values, of course, are much more than colourful wall art. More than just eye candy - they serve as a reminder of the way we should behave around our hospital - day in, day out, whether you are staff, a patient or a visitor. And whilst compliments outweigh complaints there have been almost 200 complaints since April last year with about one third being about attitude or the way they were spoken to.



The group is working with staff from across the hospital to make sure that the support, training, encouragement is put in place to ensure we all try to live up to our values. Some of the ways already in the pipeline include including the Values in Performance Development Reviews, new staff contracts, colleague recognition and award schemes as well as in a series of workshops for staff that will look at behaviours and attitudes.

If you are interested in helping the Values group or have ideas about how to make them the way we do things around here, contact Steve Stanier. After all, these are your Values, so how you feel they should be brought alive is up to you.

Did you know?
The seven colours used in the design were chose by the group to represent the rainbow - a symbol of promise.