

NEWS RELEASE

Issued on behalf of Cancer Research Wales

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MARATHON EFFORT FOR CANCER RESEARCH

A BEDWAS man is preparing to run his latest marathon to help in the fight against cancer - having already run 51 marathons in his lifetime.

Phillip Morris, 53, a self employed painter and decorator, has secured a place in this year's London Marathon and is running aid of Cancer Research Wales.

Phillip, who lives in East Avenue, has been a keen runner for years, and also organises an annual charity run in Bedwas with his wife Eirwen.

He chose to run the gruelling 26 miles this year for Cancer Research Wales, after three close friends were diagnosed with cancer, and received treatment in Velindre hospital, where Cancer Research Wales has its headquarters.

The charity celebrates its 40th Anniversary this year, and is launching a 'Million Mile Challenge' to raise a million pounds to fund pioneering research in Welsh hospitals.

Some of the money will research into new anti-cancer drugs with targets to block the blood supply to tumours in prostate and breast cancers – potentially stopping the spread of cancer cells to other parts of the body.

Phillip, whose marathon runs have taken him across the country, said he has great support from the local community, and never tires of running marathons for charity.

“Everyone is very willing to help with sponsorship, and obviously the money will go to a very worthwhile cause - and I still really enjoy the training!

Maggie Hughes, fundraising director at Cancer Research Wales said: “It is only through the efforts of people like Phillip that Cancer Research Wales can continue to fund pioneering research into the treatment and understanding of cancer in Wales.”

-Ends-

Notes for editors

- Cancer Research Wales was formed by a board of trustees in 1966
- The charity's headquarters is at Velindre Hospital in Whitchurch, Cardiff
- All money raised by Cancer Research Wales is spent in Wales
- The money funds scientists and their pioneering cancer research projects around Wales
- Cancer Research Wales also funds the only dedicated cancer research library in Wales
- The charity's patrons include Nigel Walker and Huw Edwards
- The research team is headed by Professor Malcolm Mason
- Over £3 million has been raised by the charity in the last few years alone