

## NEWS RELEASE

Issued on behalf of Cancer Research Wales

Date: March 27 2006

### **IN THE PINK - A MARATHON EFFORT TO FIGHT CANCER**

HE'S a father of three and forty nine years old. So why has Gareth Petty been pounding the streets of Cowbridge in a bright pink vest?

It's all in the name of cancer research, said Gareth, who is training to run this year's London marathon in memory of his friend Nick Dobson - and raising money for Cancer Research Wales.

Nick, who owned the Farthings chain of restaurants in the centre of Cowbridge with his wife Natalie, died from a brain tumour last November, at the age of only 33.

One of Nick's final requests was that everyone was to wear pink to his funeral. A popular figure in the village, his wish came true when hundreds turned up wearing pink outfits of all kinds.

Gareth, who also lives in Cowbridge, and has three children Hywell, 16, Alys, 7, and Thomas, 5, said: "Nick's attitude to his cancer was so inspiring, he faced up to it without fear. He was a very brave man."

Natalie has been fundraising for cancer research since Nick's death, and continued the pink theme in every activity.

Gareth will be running the London Marathon in a pink vest, and is also holding a pink themed fundraising evening in aid of Cancer Research Wales next Monday (APRIL 3).

The event will be held at Bar 44 in Cowbridge - another part of the Farthings chain - with a pink dress code and auction. Gareth said: "The money raised in Nick's memory will go towards making a difference to other people who are suffering, which is what he would have wanted. I'm hoping my pink vest will stand out - I'm having 'This one's for Nick' printed on the back."

Maggie Hughes, fundraising director at Cancer Research Wales, said: "Cancer Research Wales funds pioneering research into the treatment and understanding of cancer.

"We are launching a million pound appeal this year to fund new research into anti cancer drugs, which could potentially stop breast and prostate tumours spreading to the rest of the body."

-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