

NEWS RELEASE

Issued on behalf of Cancer Research Wales

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POLICE TEAM 'BEAT' A PATH TO BRITAIN'S HIGHEST PEAKS

A TEAM of police officers will be 'beating' off the opposition this summer – as they attempt to hold on to their record as the fastest police team in the UK to complete the famous 'three peaks challenge'.

'The Specialists', a team of British Transport police officers based in XX scaled Britain's three highest mountains in a record 18 hours 59 minutes last year, and are determined to hold on to the title in 2006.

Allun Thomas, Gary Ash, Ian Farrow and John MacMillan are in training to climb Ben Nevis in Scotland, Scafell Pike in England and Wales' very own Mount Snowdon on Sunday June 18 – all in aid of local charity, Cancer Research Wales.

Also part of the determined team of six are Dave Miles and Nigel Maggs - who will perform the vital role of driving the climbers between the three peaks on the day.

Gary, who is from Broadlands in Bridgend, said: "We would really like to hold on to our trophy, because we are very proud of the achievement, but the most important part of the challenge is raising money for Cancer Research Wales.

"It's a local charity that is very close to the heart of everyone in the team. Some members of the team have friends and relatives who have been diagnosed with cancer, which spurs us on all the more to raise as much money as possible.

"John T Evans Haulage in Barry is covering our fuel costs, and Arrow Van Hire has provided us with our van – both firms are saving us hundreds of pounds which we can give directly to Cancer Research Wales."

Liz Andrews, fundraising assistant at Cancer Research Wales said: "The Specialists really are a great team, and are so enthusiastic about the challenge.

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“The money they raise will help us to fund vital research into the treatment and understanding of cancer in Welsh hospitals.

“We’ve got our fingers crossed for them!”

-Ends-

Notes For Editors:

- Cancer Research Wales was formed by a board of trustees in 1966.
- Cancer Research Wales has its headquarters at Velindre Hospital in Whitchurch, Cardiff.
- Cancer Research Wales is a separate charity from Velindre Hospital and Cancer Research UK.
- All money raised by Cancer Research Wales is spent in Wales
- The money also funds vital research projects, doctors and scientists in Welsh hospitals
- Cancer Research Wales also funds the only dedicated cancer library in Wales, at Velindre Hospital
- 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.

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