

cadia SNOWDONIA 15 CHALLENGE 2011

THE CHALLENGE

The Snowdonia 15 is one of the ultimate 24 hours challenges in the UK. The target is to summit all 15 peaks in the Snowdonia Range that are over 3000 feet high.

CHALLENGE COMPLETED

At 8am on Saturday 2nd July the team set off up the Pyg Track towards the first peak of Snowdon. The weather was great, our spirits were high, the training had gone well and the sponsorship was getting closer to the target of £10,000.



All we needed to do was walk, scramble and climb 15 peaks in the next 24 hours – we were confident.

The team members, from left to right are
Dean Clark of Green Star Cleaners
Richard Smith of UK Trade and Investment South East
Leo Hardy of Helix BD
Ruby Egu of MCR Print
Peter Thair of DPDS
Oliver Hardy of Accumen Business Law
David Shimkus of The Financial Management Centre
Paul Harvey of Concordia Health Ltd
Tom Forward of Sussex Wildlife Trust
Tim Griffiths of Hillingar Ltd
Mark Anscombe of Sussex Wildlife Trust

Snowdon was peaked 1.5 hrs later well ahead of our target time, where we posed for the Peaks Sponsor Roban. Spirits still high, everything looking good.



After Snowdon was the feared Crib Goch ridge and our next two peaks, Sponsored by Ashley Law and Jumpstart.



Garnedd Ugain - Jumpstart



Crib Goch - Ashley Law



Crib Goch Ridge

We completed the first three peaks in around 5 hours so pretty much on target and very much looking forward to a short 40 minutes break for lunch and a change of socks.

The next peak was Eldir Fawr sponsored by MCR Print. This was a 2 hour slog from the valley floor to the peak, with a total vertical of 900m. It was the hottest time of the day, the path was poor with lots of long grass. It was not fun.



Don't be fooled by the smiles we were hurting. 4 down, 11 to go.

The next 4 peaks decimated the team, the heat and constant speed we needed to maintain was taking its toll. Water and food was running low and most people had run out by the time we finished this section at 11 pm.

This meant that by the time we left the second check point at midnight 6 of the team had to drop out.

The remaining team members headed off for the final 7 peaks mentally and physically tired but very determined to complete the challenge. Once we started there was no turning back.

Walking through the night is mentally very tough but working as a team we helped each other up and over the peaks, catching breaks as and when we could.



Tom, Paul and David getting a break at 4am.

At 7am we reached the last peak Foel- Fras, which was sponsored by BA Gatwick.



Tired, emotional and elated to have finished the walk within the 24 hours.

All we needed to do now was walk 2 more hours back to the mini bus for a well-deserved bacon butty and a mug of tea.

THANKS AND WHAT WE HAVE RAISED

First of all a massive thanks to our main sponsors.

John Peel of the Sussex Community Foundation

Andrew Gold of Roban

Tracey Evans of Ashley Law Crawley

Fiona Mulliner of Jumpstart

Max Robinson of MCR Print

Alan Peever of BA Gatwick

We also want to thank everyone else who sponsored us for this challenge, every £ counted.

At the time of going to print we have raised in the region of **£9,500**, which is a fantastic effort and will be shared equally between the following Charities

Sussex Air Ambulance
The Olive Tree Cancer Support Centre
Golden Lion Children's Trust
NSPCC
Sussex Community Foundation
Sussex Wildlife Trust
The National Centre for Young People with Epilepsy (NCYPE)
Outreach 3 Way
St Catherine's Hospice
Crawley Community and Voluntary Service (CCVS)
Rocking Horse
Young Enterprise South East
Chestnut Tree

Our Just Giving web site will remain open until the End of September, so donations can still be accepted. The link below will take you to our site.

Soon to be live <http://cadiachallenge.com/index.php>

CADIA CHALLENGE 2012

We are open to suggestions and volunteers for next year's challenge, let us know what you think. We will want to improve on the £9,500, so the event will need to be interesting and hard, but maybe without so many mountains.