

Bay Hospitals Charity

Terry Ainsworth

Following acceptance as a volunteer early in 2019 I organised three sponsored walks to raise money for a fantastic cause. The first walk took place in July from Vincenzo's Coffee House in St Nicholas Arcade, Lancaster thanks to fantastic support from Vinnie (Manchester City fan), Helen, Melissa and the staff and customers.



I am pictured here with a great friend from the Royal Lancaster Infirmary (RLI), Bryan Rhodes, who is a surgeon at the RLI as well as being a Leeds United supporter. On our walk down St Georges Quay to Freeman's Wood Bryan told me all about Lancaster's past link with the slave trade, fascinating story from a man who loves researching history and talking football. Jim Bentley (Everton) and the players at Morecambe FC generously contributed £150 to our efforts. Jim and the players always support me whenever I raise money for charity, top men.

The August walk started at the Toll House Inn where once again I received excellent support from the manager, Joe Ruddock (Aston Villa), and his staff including Alex (Castleford Tigers), James (Everton), Nick and Caitlin. We walked along the Canal towards Stodday and joining us was our local Member of Parliament, Cat Smith, with husband Ben and baby Elijah (Eli) plus Dave Allison (Bury), and Sheila as well as Hannah Chandisingh from the charity office. Cat Smith was so supportive of our fund raising efforts and volunteered to help out anytime especially at weekends when she is not in London at the Palace of Westminster.



Outside the Toll House, Sheila, Dave, Terry, Cat and Ben with Eli. Hannah took the photograph.

Fast forward to October and the third walk was at Lancaster University where we wandered through the beautiful grounds after sampling a drink at Costa Coffee in the square who incidentally give us magnificent support through manager Zoe and her team. The photograph shows myself with 3rd year students Molly (Norwich City) and Lucy who supported the charity wholeheartedly while proudly wearing their T-Shirts.



Suitably fortified in Costa Coffee, Lucy left and Molly right.

It was fantastic to meet and talk to all the special people who helped me along the way to raise almost £2,500 at the last count. See you all again in 2020.