



Press release

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Determined Pat to take on charity challenge

A determined grandmother is gearing up to take on a colossal challenge this summer by walking 120-miles in just 10 days to raise money for the charity which cared for her husband before his death.

Pat Rennie, who lives in Holton, will trek the Suffolk Coastal Path from Lowestoft to Felixstowe and the Sandlings Walk from Ipswich to Southwold, in memory of Bud, her husband of 54 years who passed away in June following a brave battle with cancer.

As well as honouring Bud's memory and marking the anniversary of his death, Pat will also be raising funds for Halesworth Community Nursing Care Fund (HCNCF), which provided vital support to allow him to remain at home in the last few weeks of his life.

Supported by members of her family, she will begin her trek on 19 June and hopes to finish within 10 days. To make the achievement even greater, Pat will be taking on the challenge just days after celebrating her 75th birthday.

"To me and my family, Bud was our rock," said Pat. "He had a quirky sense of humour and even in those last weeks could make me smile. He was truly a lovely and remarkable man and will always be my hero.

"I decided to take on this challenge to honour Bud's memory and as a way of thanking people for their incredible support. Finishing the walk would be a real achievement for me as I will recently have celebrated my 75th birthday. It's also likely to be an emotional few days, as it will give my family and myself the chance to share our memories of a wonderful man and reminisce about the happy times we spent together.

"HCNCF made such a difference to us by providing the specialist equipment and additional nursing support to allow Bud to remain in the comfort of his own home, where he was at his happiest, in the last weeks of his life. I hope that by raising as much money as I can for the charity, other people will also be able to benefit from the same exceptional level of care which helped us so much."

Dr Kevin Maclusky, chairman of HCNCF, said: "We are really pleased that we were able to help Bud to remain at home during his illness and are incredibly grateful to Pat for taking on this challenge to raise funds for our charity.

"We wish her all the best for the walk and look forward to congratulating her on her achievement afterwards."

To sponsor Pat, visit <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/patrennie1>

Ends

Halesworth Community Nursing Care Fund is a local charity (charity number 1155419) which was set up more than 25 years ago to support people with life-limiting illnesses who wish to die in the comfort and security of their own homes.

It works alongside the NHS and social services to provide extra equipment and 24 hour care in the last days of life along with emotional, physical and practical support at the time when people need it the most.

For more information, please visit www.halesworthhealth.org/nursing-care-fund, 'like' us on Facebook at "information and support centre fundraising campaign" or follow us on Twitter @Suffolk_ISC

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