

GIBBO, BUSTER AND DAVE WALKED FROM WEMBLEY TO CARDIFF FOR HEROES

3 Royal Navy sailors have just completed a sponsored walk from Wembley to Cardiff. They walked the 166 miles in 6 days and carried with them the match ball for the Wales V England Football fixture on the 26th March. PO Andy "Gibbo" Gibbs is currently serving at the NATO HQ in Northwood, PO "Buster" Brown is teaching Link 16 at MWS Collingwood and WO2 Dave Chandler is serving at SFM in the dockyard in Portsmouth.



The lads were seen off on their way from Wembley by Nancy Dell 'olio, Peta Todd and Maurice Chambers the Essex cricketer.

Earlier on that day we had taken delivery of our support vehicle, a top of the range Ford Galaxy courtesy of Essex Auto Group who ensured we would not be missed on the roads with some excellent sign writing adorning the vehicle .

The day before we had been collecting around Waterloo, Baker St and Paddington and we raised over £750 which gave us a boost before we set off.

The weather was a lot better than expected and we only got wet once, however it did last for 8 hours, on the first day between Wembley and Henley. The rest of the walk saw us in shorts and t-shirts enjoying some beautiful scenery and also some very busy roads along our route.

The generosity of everyone we saw made us very proud of what we were doing, landlords and landladies of public houses made us incredibly welcome in the evenings.

Reaching Cardiff happened at the same time as we passed the £10 000 mark which was an amazing.

On Friday we met with the Welsh team and Gary Speed presented us with a signed Wales Shirt and Sir Trevor Brooking presented us with an England shirt.



Friday was made even better when some of the England players came off the pitch after training and stopped for photographs with us and took time to sign our walking t-shirts.



The coup was to get photographs of Fabio Capello and Stuart Pearce in Hero Bands.



Saturday started with a live interview on Sky Sports News before making our way to the ground to present the ball to the referee and to stand with Miss Wales whilst she belted out the Anthems. This followed a lap of honour around the pitch with the boxer Nathan Cleverly who was very nice guy and very supportive of what we had done.

After leaving the pitch we posed for a photo with Miss Wales and then made our way to our seats and watched an England victory before heading back out to the pubs to raise more money for Heroes.

This event could not of been possible without the kind and generous support we have received from our sponsors: Liberty Commodities, Pride of Paddington, Wetherspoon Baker St, Henley on Thames and Newport, The Holiday Inn in Cardiff and Swindon, The Holiday Inn Express in Cheltenham, Hotel 55 in Ealing, The chequers hotel in Newbury, Essex Auto Group, www.denieseyapp.co.uk www.design4print.org, www.clubsports.co.uk and Towergate Wilson who covered our Liability Insurance.

It is not too late to donate log on at www.bmycharity.com/wembleytocardiff2011 and help us to crack the £15000 target. We only need £2000 more and we can achieve our aim.