

Media Release

24 November 2010

KILIMANJARO CLIMB RAISES £12,500 POUNDS FOR YORKHILL CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

Alan Hewitt, Motherwell College Estates Manager is back at sea level after successfully climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. He scaled the 5,895m (19,341ft) mountain recently and raised a remarkable £12,500 for Yorkhill Children's Foundation. He'd set a target of £3,000 but because of the generosity of College colleagues and suppliers, friends, family, Cambuslang Golf Club, a quiz night and a West Highland Way hike, he has raised more than four times that.

Alan, (49), from Strathaven took 4½ days to reach the summit. The trek to the top began at 1 o'clock in the morning, and after a climbing for more than 7 hours, he reached Uhuru Peak – the tallest point on Africa's highest mountain.

Having climbed the equivalent of six Ben Lomonds, Alan described his experience as 'quite amazing'. He said: "It was so rewarding to have made it up to the summit and succeeded in what I'd set out to do for Yorkhill Children's Foundation. It was great to be able to wave the Foundation flag at the summit.

"Not everyone who attempts to get to the summit succeeds - usually altitude sickness takes its toll. I did have a few 'wobbly minutes' on the way back down, but because of the medical back-up supplied by Discover Adventure, who specialise in fundraising challenges like this, I was able to finish the climb on my own two feet.

"I'd like to thank everyone who supported me, financially and with encouragement and best wishes. It was all greatly appreciated."

David Welch, Head of Fundraising, Marketing and Communications at Yorkhill Children's Foundation added: "Everyone at Yorkhill Children's Foundation would like to thank and congratulate Alan on an amazing achievement and we are all delighted that he has managed to raise so much money – another fantastic achievement of which Alan should be very proud.

“Such a generous donation will go a long way to supporting the charity which funds medical equipment and projects invaluable to the treatment, care, physical and mental well being of sick children and babies at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children at Yorkhill in Glasgow and at other related facilities throughout NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.”

EDITOR'S NOTES

Yorkhill Children's Foundation provides enhanced medical equipment and resources which benefit sick children and babies who are treated at Yorkhill Hospital and within NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde. These can include innovative medical equipment, improvements in child and family facilities and paediatric research and training.

Support from the YCF includes –

- making the children smile with ‘Clowndoctors’
- establishing a ‘Medicinema’ – the first cinema in the UK in a children’s hospital
- providing a specially adapted video screen, able to show a favourite film, attached to an MRI scanner. This helps children deal with the noise and/or long periods when they must lie still.

Yorkhill Hospital has a world-wide reputation, in the medical world, as a centre of excellence. The Foundation backs the excellent work done there by also providing research and development grants for start-up projects, Fellowships and PhDs.

For further information please contact David Welch on 0141 201 0458

www.yorkhillchildrensfoundation.org

For more information on **Discover Adventure**, click on www.discoveradventure.com

Motherwell College moved to a new campus at Ravenscraig in July 2009. More than 20,000 students and 500+ staff continue to take advantage of the high quality education programmes the College offers in the new 21st century £70 million facilities.

For further information on Motherwell College click on www.motherwell.co.uk

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Picture Details



Alan Hewitt, Motherwell College, Uhuru Pea, Mount Kilimanjaro - ahewittkilipeakoct10.jpg



Alan Hewitt, Motherwell College, ascent of Mount Kilimanjaro - ahewittkiliclimboct10.jpg

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