


portsmouth.co.uk Gateway to Portsmouth and The Solent The News



Home insurance that's twice as nice

Your community In Brief

Your community

Ale's well that ends well for festival

A REAL ale festival where every brew was chosen only after being tasted and checked by organisers ha... [more »](#)

Meet Parveen, just one quake victim learning thanks to you

THIS is eight-year-old Parveen.... [more »](#)

Globetrotting route to fitness

Harlem Globetrotter basketball legend Alan Cunningham put pupils through their paces during tough ex... [more »](#)

Victory joins Big Brew Up

Special tea parties are being held across the world, and HMS Victory will be the host venue in Ports... [more »](#)

Pint-sized barmaid pulls cash for charity

You wouldn't normally expect to find a five-year-old pulling pints behind the bar.... [more »](#)

Twin town residents don't want to know

Twinning signs welcoming visitors to towns are to be scrapped across a borough – because residents d... [more »](#)

Posties take on a marathon round

Husband and wife posties Ray and Joan Oliver will be swapping their daily delivery routes to pound t... [more »](#)

Adventurer aiming for Pole position

He's spent all his life working in front of a computer screen, sifting through complex financial reports.

But now John Wilton-Davies is about to undertake one of the most gruelling and dangerous challenges known to man.

The 44-year-old is going to walk unaided to the South Pole – a feat that only eight people have ever achieved.

The former Gosport schoolboy will have to manoeuvre his way over 650 miles of ice and climb over 9,000ft in freezing temperatures.

And he will have to do it all hauling 310lb of kit, food and equipment with him.

The business consultant will spend his nights in a small, snow-battered tent, drinking coffee laced with butter to provide the calories needed for such a testing trek.

After selling a flat for £170,000, the father-of-two realised he had the money and if he didn't do it now, he never would.

Mr Wilton-Davies said: 'I've never done anything like this before and I thought, "if I'm ever going to do anything very physical then it'll have to be soon or I'll be too old, and I've just sold the flat, so why not blow the cash in one?"

'I'm going to do it and that's it and I don't want to come back and want to do something else like this, so I picked the most extreme thing I possibly could.

'It's probably as hard-going as you can get; it's going to be like doing two marathons a day for about 60 days – my wife is still apprehensive about the idea.'

The adventurer has been training hard in preparation for two months of fighting his way through snow storms and blizzards.

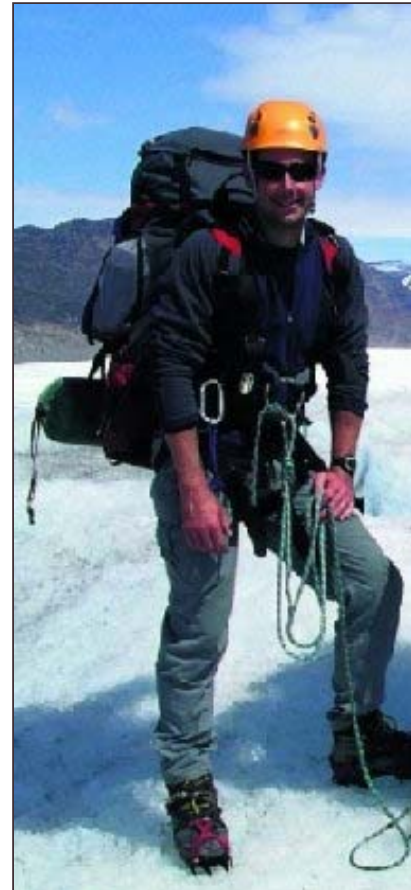
He will leave behind his stockbroker wife, Michele, 34, and set off on his mission in November.

'I've been hauling large sacks around fields – I fill them with gravel and pull them round fields.' he said.

'And I've been doing interval running too, where you run at a high intensity then slow down. I do it in the gym and out on the roads; it depends on the weather, and whether I'm baby-sitting the kids.'

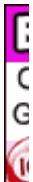
rob.dabrowski@thenews.co.uk

07 September 2006



John Wilton-Davies in his expedition gear

Onl
Cor
Top
Por
Far
Gos
Hav
Wa
Yo



[More Your community](#)

[Search Our News Archive](#)