

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Seven marathons in seven days: Army sergeant marches for veterans' charity

An Army sergeant and his friend are preparing to hike seven marathons in seven days for Royal Star & Garter.

Sgt Greg Smith and Pete Seabrook's epic 190-mile challenge will take in the charity's three Homes, in Solihull, Surbiton and High Wycombe, where they will meet residents and staff.

Known as The Charity Adventurers, the pair from High Wycombe are aiming to raise £1,500 for Royal Star & Garter, which provides loving, compassionate care to veterans and their partners living with disability or dementia.



Sgt Greg Smith beside an Apache helicopter

Greg, 36, joined the Army 13 years ago and works with Apache helicopters in the Army Air Corps.

He learned about Royal Star & Garter in 2019 while fundraising for The Charity Adventurers' first challenge, and was instantly drawn to the work it does with veterans. Greg, who has been on operational tours in countries including Afghanistan and Libya, said: "I looked at what Royal

Star & Garter does for veterans, and how it cares for them physically and mentally, and I thought it was a really nice charity that does amazing work."

His desire to raise money for the charity grew further when his mother Angela started working as a nurse at the High Wycombe Home.

The Charity Adventurers then visited the High Wycombe Home, where they were blown away by the care and facilities on offer. Greg said: "We were given a tour and it was phenomenal. We thought if we could help in any way it would be amazing."



Sgt Smith joined the Army 13 years ago



Care with courage

The pair plan to be waved off by residents from the Solihull Home on Saturday 14 March and follow the Grand Union Canal to London, where they will stop off at the Surbiton Home and spend time with veterans there. They will then follow the Thames towards the charity's High Wycombe Home, where they aim to arrive on Friday 20 March, to a heroes' welcome.



They will walk a minimum of a marathon each day, and plan to cover three or four miles every hour to complete the challenge on time. They will spend nights either camping in a tent or in B&Bs.

Pete Seabrook and Sgt Greg Smith will cover 190 miles over seven days

Pete is looking forward to the hikes, but with some trepidation. He said: "I'm not sure how easy this is going to be for me. I'm not used to putting that

sort of mileage in on my feet every day. I think it's going to be more of a struggle and challenge for me than it is for Greg!"

To sponsor The Charity Adventurers, go to their fundraising page at: <u>https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-</u> <u>display/showROFundraiserPage?userUrl=thecharityadventurers&pageUrl=2#</u>

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About Royal Star & Garter

Our Charity provides loving, compassionate care to veterans and their partners living with disability or dementia.



Care with courage

Twitter: @starandgarter Facebook: facebook.com/starandgarter Website: <u>www.starandgarter.org</u>



Royal Star & Garter is a member of the National Care Forum