

Adventurous challenges for our champions



FOOTBALL: The County in the Community team



CHALLENGE: Luke Degilbert, right, who is taking part in a charity sponsored walk with his County in the Community colleagues on October 15



THE WRONG BRIDGE: Rachel Cook in front of Middlesbrough's Transporter Bridge



KICK: Luke Degilbert in training

Our charity champions are taking on a sponsored walk and a abseil from the iconic Transporter Bridge.
By Jo Barnes

Luke Degilbert

An autistic man who volunteers at Newport County AFC home games has taken on the challenge of a sponsored walk in aid of the County in the Community group. Luke Degilbert, who is 25 and lives in Newport, will be one of the group who are undertaking the 10 mile walk from Kimberley Park, Newport to Cwmbran, via Fourteen Locks. They are representing We Wear The Shirt and expect the walk to take about six hours.

Luke said: "I volunteer on a match day with County Community at Rodney Parade where I help out with the guard of honour, the match day visit and the half time kick about for the youngsters on the match day visit. I also play for County in the Community, which is a mental health group, and train on a Thursday."
Luke has been sent good luck messages from footballers including former Manchester United player Erik Nevland, Matt Piper, who used to play for Leicester, and Mark Fish, formerly



ICONIC: Transporter Bridge, Newport. Picture: South Wales Argus Camera Club member Mark Condidc

of Charlton.
If you would like to support Luke and his colleagues on the his charity walk go to www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/wtss.

Abseil

Would you drive the best part of 300 miles to fling yourself off a bridge and make £200 for charity? Well that's exactly what a 28-year-old Middlesbrough woman did

only she didn't mean to as she mixed up her home town's bridge with that of the city of Newport and set off on their completely unexpected road trip to South Wales.
Rachel completed her jump and returned to the north east of England, not only having ticked off an item from her a bucket list but also having raised some £200 for the hospice.
Rachel said: "I was quite nervous as I get a bit squeamish even at the top of escalators but once I was



BRAVE: Rachel Cook, who travelled from the Redcar to take part in a Transporter Bridge abseil

doing it, it was fantastic."
That was eight years ago and until Covid-19 reared its ugly head again, plucky people closer to home were being invited to fill up the few remaining places for this year's Newport Transporter Bridge abseil, which was due to take place early next month.
Transporter Bridge abseil organiser Kris Broome, of St David's Hospice Care, said: "Sadly the pandemic has put paid to yet another of our fund raising activities but all is not lost as we

have re-scheduled the abseil for Saturday, February 27, 2021.
"We're not expecting Rachel to make a return trip south this time but who knows with the extra time for people to have a look at the event we may attract more people to fling themselves off Newport's majestic Transporter Bridge to raise funds for the hospice."
There are currently 20 places left for the February abseil.
And event T-shirts are available only to people who raise more than £160.

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