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On your bike

Two building surveyors have undertaken the ride of their life in a charity challenge to help people in Coventry who are coping with a progressive life limiting illness.

Whitefriars Housing Group employees Terry McDonnell and Alan Pratt returned last week from a mammoth 600km cycle across Thailand and Cambodia.

The intrepid duo, who have a combined aged of more than 110 years, have raised more than £17,500 for Myton Hospices who are building a new hospice in Coventry. More than £5 million is required for the 20-bed facility.

Terry and Alan were inspired to complete the sponsored bike ride having lost close relatives to cancer and witnessing at first-hand the care provided by the hospice.

Despite the odd scrape, which saw Terry and his bike take an unexpected trip down an embankment, for which he required medical treatment, the duo's intensive training around the roads of Coventry and Warwickshire paid off and they completed the journey successfully.

Thanking those who donated the cash to help them towards their impressive total, Alan said: "I did this to help the hospice raise much needed funds. My sister died in Myton Hospice in Warwick in 2006 and I wanted a way to show my appreciation for the exceptional care so freely given by the nurses and staff."

Terry said: "Everyone knows someone who has been touched by cancer. Coventry is the largest city in Britain without its own hospice and we wanted to help change this by raising as much as possible towards the project.

"The people in Cambodia were incredibly friendly and kept us going throughout the trip. Although the heat was pretty intensive and it was hard work, the amount we have raised made it all worth it."

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“Whitefriars, its suppliers, family and friends have really responded to our challenge and we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their generous support.”

Whitefriars has fully supported the pair’s effort and preparation, including securing generous donations from its suppliers and partners.

Anyone wanting to boost Terry and Alan’s charity total can contact them by emailing alan.pratt@whitefriarshousing.co.uk or by calling 024 7676 7185.

Ends

**For further information please contact Michelle Hallmark at The Bridge Group
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