



Sellafield Ltd

Sellafield News

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Sellafield workers take up the challenge – in memory of ‘Macca’

A GROUP of Sellafield workers are taking up the gruelling three peaks challenge in memory of a friend and former colleague.

Ian MacDonald worked on the Sellafield site for over 30 years, both for BNFL as was and as a contractor, until his sudden and unexpected death from a heart attack in February, at the age of 51.

Now a team of his friends from his hometown, Egremont, are taking on the epic three peaks challenge, which involves climbing the highest mountains in England, Scotland and Wales. These are Scafell Pike, Ben Nevis and Snowdon respectively.

Sellafield Ltd worker Mark Jacques, one of the organisers of the event, said a team of 28 had signed up to tackle the walk on June 27, including Ian's son James.

"We just wanted to pay tribute to a person who was a great friend. His death has left a hole in all of our lives and it came as a total shock, as Macca was so full of energy and life.

"It is obviously going to be pretty tough, but I think we'll be able to do it. Training is going well so far but our group has members of all ages, both male and female, with some who have walked a lot and others who have never done anything like this before."

The group are hoping to raise at least £4,000 for the British Heart Foundation, and anyone can sponsor them by visiting www.justgiving/maccascragrats.

Micheal Hall, another Sellafield worker who is helping to organise the event, added: "Macca was one of those people who everyone knew, especially as he had worked on site since 1977. I'm sure there will be a few people keen to sponsor what we are doing. I'm really looking forward to it now, I think the challenge will be fantastic."

A fund raising concert will be held at Egremont Rugby League Club on June 21st, with the aptly named band Head for the Hills providing the entertainment. For more details on that event or tickets contact Michael Hall.



New research to study the effects of nuclear working

As part of ongoing research into the health effects of exposure to radiation, a new study is being carried out to investigate lung cancer risk and leukaemia risk among nuclear workers exposed to internally deposited radionuclides.

The study, being part funded by the European Union is being carried out by the International Agency for Research on Cancer, IARC.

The study will investigate in detail the risk of lung cancer and leukaemia in relation to internal exposure to uranium and plutonium among workers in the European nuclear industry.

It is a multi-national case control study involving data from workers in France, Belgium and the UK.

In the UK, AWE, UKAEA, Sellafield Ltd, LLWR Ltd and Springfields Fuels Ltd are part of the study, which means workers and former workers who have ever worked at Sellafield or Springfields are to be included in the research.

Information will be collected from industry records on employment, radiation exposure, smoking and medical x-rays (from occupational health records,) by data collection teams under the direction of occupational health physicians.

Full ethical approval for the work has been obtained from the relevant medical committees and will be carried out under the normal requirements of medical confidentiality to which all medical and statistical personnel are bound to conform.

No approach will be made to any individual for information, and in carrying out the study and reporting the results, confidentiality and anonymity will be preserved.

However, it is recognised that individuals may not wish to have their records examined.

Therefore any radiation workers who have been monitored for internal radionuclides (via biological sampling, whole body monitoring, air sampling etc.) have the option to opt out of the study.

If you are such a worker and you do not wish your information to be used in this study, please write to Dr. David Macgregor, Chief Medical Officer, B405, Sellafield, Seascale, Cumbria, CA20 1PG.

In your letter it is important that you quote your full name, date of birth, national insurance number and contact telephone number. Your letter should be marked personal in confidence and should arrive before 30th June 2008.

An acknowledgement will be sent.

Training exercise could mean siren is sounded – no need for alarm

There will be a Sellafield Site Emergency Training Exercise on Thursday 8th May 2008. The exercise **may** involve sounding the site siren, which may be heard outside the site perimeter fence for the first time since arrangements changed.

No action need be taken by anyone off site on hearing the siren. We apologise to local residents for any inconvenience that may be caused.

For many years the arrangements have been that the site siren would only be sounded when a Sellafield emergency has occurred. This is an incident on site that has or is likely to affect members of the public off site.

It is the most serious incident on the site and would require members of the public in the vicinity to take urgent action to protect themselves.

However from 1st May, the siren will also be sounded at site incident in order to improve the protection of the workforce.

This is a lower category of emergency which does not require any immediate action from the public.

The result of this change means that in future, in the unlikely event of the siren being sounded, people living near the site upon hearing the siren will need to find out if they are required to take any immediate action to protect themselves.

To help do this a number of things have been put in place.

The most accessible is a free phone number which will give real time information concerning the current status at the site. It can be rung at anytime and will explain why the siren has been sounded. The number is 0808 909 8090, and can be called from any phone at any time.

In the event of a sounding of the siren a website has been established which will give details of why it has been sounded and what if any action needs to be taken.

The website is www.cumbriaalert.info

Households within a 6km radius of the site have been sent a new, updated information pack giving them more details of the new emergency arrangements.

Guided in the right direction

St Bees Guides will soon have a new badge to proudly display on their neckerchiefs.

The guides held a competition for its members to come up with a badge to be worn on their neckerchiefs, after young leader Ruth Taylor attend a Jamboree in Amsterdam earlier this year and discovered that most other guide groups already had a club badge.

She came back to the UK and set the challenge to the youngsters to design a badge of their own.

After applying to the Cumbria County Foundation, who gave them £140, the guides enlisted the help of Lakes Collage art tutor Shona Jones, who came in and worked with the guides on their designs.



Shona said: "They have all done very well, and have produced really creative ideas."

Copeland Mayor Anne Faichney judged the contest, along with David Andrews from the Cumbria Community Foundation.

Mrs Faichney said: "I think the designs that the girls have come up with show that they take a real pride in the village, they obviously care about it very much and enjoy living here."

The competition was won by Keren Rudd, who came up with a fantastic design, using the letter G as an outline and adding things around the edges that made her proud of St Bees, such as a flower to represent the village's success in Cumbria in Bloom.

Her prize was an MP3 player, provided by Sellafield Ltd. The runner up was Georgiana Oldham, and Sylvia Wadsworth and Courtney Deakin were highly commended.

The guides take girls from the ages of 10 to 14 and they currently have four vacancies.

Sellafield Ltd's John 'proud' of his crime fighting charity role

THROUGH his role as Vice-Chair of Cumbria Crimestoppers, Sellafield Ltd's Dr John Sidney recently attended a Crimestoppers reception evening to celebrate the organisation's 20 year anniversary.

Held at the Mansion House in London, over 300 volunteer board members were invited to the event, where guests included founder of Crimestoppers, Lord Ashcroft.

"Crimestoppers is one of the most effective ways of helping communities tackle crime and I'm delighted that we are being recognised in this way. I am proud to contribute to the success of such an important charity" said John.

"During the past 20 years we have received nearly 96000 calls resulting in over 80,000 arrests and charges."

Nationally, 17 arrests per day are made as a result of anonymous calls, and contrary to popular belief, Crimestoppers is not part of the Police - is an independent charity. Anonymity is guaranteed for anyone reporting a crime, even if a reward is claimed.

Last year Sellafield Ltd showed its support the charity by contributing £5,000 toward funding its television campaign.

The Crimestoppers number is 0800 555 111

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