

A LONG WALK TO WALES

Former Gütersloh soldier aims to walk more than 840km in aid of military charity

A FORMER gunner is set to trek more than 840km through four countries for a good cause.

Andy Mills, who belongs to the Army Veterans Motorcycle Club in Germany, plans to walk from their clubhouse in Avenwede, Gütersloh, to Anglesey Race Circuit in Wales in time for the Race of Remembrance – organised by Forces' charity Mission Motorsport.

The former WO1 left the military in 2012; at the time he served with HQ 102 Log Bde in

by Ben Crowley

Princess Royal Barracks in Gütersloh. Before that he served 18 years with 26 Regiment RA in Mansergh Barracks, Gütersloh.

He is starting the ambitious walk on October 27 to raise funds for Mission Motorsport, the charity that helped him out.

Andy said: "Mission Motorsport along with Army Vets helped me out during a rough patch. I had a really bad time about a year and a half ago, including four months in therapy and these people all helped me out in my hour of need."

● Continued on Page 2



● Andy Mills, fourth from right, with members of the Mission Motorsport charity at the Nürburgring, Germany



● Andy Mills during his time in Iraq in 2008

WALKING THE DISTANCE

● Continued from front page

Andy said: "Mission Motorsport is run by two ex-military personnel. They look after all veterans – those who have been wounded physically or mentally and basically they use motor racing as a form of therapy.

"They get the guys doing everything. They do the mechanical side, the organisational side and they do the driving side.

"One of the guys – an ex-RAF soldier who only has one arm – has taken part in the Paralympics and now wants to be a racing driver."

The route is around 841 kilometers long and Andy has given himself two weeks to complete the challenging task.

JOURNEY

Andy explained: "I have done lots of walking, lots of it. I have worked out how far I can walk in an hour so that's why I have given myself two weeks to complete the journey – plus I only have two weeks of annual leave left to do it in.

"I have just moved back to Hannover. Before I was living in the middle of nowhere, in a undulating countryside, with ups and downs – perfect for training.

"My first few days are going to be in north-west Germany so that's the same. Then I hit Holland and that's just flat, which is ideal. But the last section of the trip, in Wales, will take me round the North side of the Snowdonia national park which isn't flat at all."

As for the route, Andy used his initiative to find the best way possible: "To be honest I plugged it into Google maps and it gave me a route. That's the one I am going to take.

"I got the address from the clubhouse in Germany and then the ferry port in Holland, the second part then from Harwich to Anglesey race circuit."

You can keep up with progress and donate to Andy's cause by going to his Facebook page *A Memorial Meander*.

If you would like to know more about the Army veterans Motorcycle Club you can visit their website at www.av-mc.org

To see what Mission Motorsport do and the help they give to veterans you can visit their website at www.missionmotorsport.org.

The Race of Remembrance is held on November 9-12. For more details go to www.raceofremembrance.com

Andy's official sponsor for the walk is soteriahealthandsafety.com



● Andy, centre, with members of the Army veterans Motorcycle Club in front of the 20 Armd Bde memorial in Sennelager