

Media Release
For immediate release
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Mark Grew Walks Ten for Marie Curie Cancer Care, supported by HomeServe.

Mark Grew, former West Bromwich Albion player, will be taking part in a sunset stroll this evening for Marie Curie Cancer Care.

Mark will be joining hundreds of other walkers taking part in the charity's Walk Ten event at Shugborough Estate, Staffordshire, for an evening of sunset strolling, picnicking and entertainment.

Walk Shugborough Estate is one of a series of unique twilight 10k walks supported by HomeServe. As part of HomeServe's new sponsorship with West Bromwich Albion, Mark is attending the event to lend his support to HomeServe's charity partner, Marie Curie.

Debbie Rowley, Community Fundraiser for Marie Curie Cancer Care said: "We're delighted that Mark will be joining us this evening to support the work of Marie Curie Nurses. Marie Curie Nurses often work through the night providing expert care and support to people with cancer and other terminal illnesses – completely free of charge."

The walk will begin at 6pm with a 10k walk around Shugborough Estate, Staffordshire. After the walk finishes there will be time to settle down with a picnic and enjoy the entertainment, before gathering at 10pm to celebrate that Marie Curie Nurse's all around the UK are beginning their overnight shifts in patient's homes. The charity hopes the 12 walks will attract around 6,300 people in total and raise over £600,000.

This walk is part of a series of 12 walks, supported by HomeServe, the national home emergencies and repairs expert, all beginning at 6pm and taking place during August and September. Registration cost £10 (children go free) but everyone is asked to commit to raise as much as possible- £100 pays for five hours of nursing care, and £180 pays for a full night's shift in a patient's home.

For more information about your nearest Walk Ten go to www.mariecurie.org.uk/walkten or call 08700 340 040

To get help from the Marie Curie Nursing Service, talk to your GP, district nurse or discharge nurse.

ENDS

For further information including images, contact:

Walk Ten for Marie Curie Cancer Care, supported by HomeServe, the national home emergencies and repairs expert is taking place at 12 venues across the UK;

- **Shugborough Estate, Staffordshire** **27th August**
- **Bolton Abbey, North Yorkshire** **29th August**
- **Stormont Estate, Belfast** **3rd September**
- **Beaulieu House, Hampshire** **4th September**
- **Beaufort Castle, Inverness** **4th September**
- **Boughton House, Northampton** **4th September**
- **Christ Church College, Oxford,** **11th September**

Notes to editors

Marie Curie Cancer Care is one of the UK's largest charities. Employing more than 2,700 nurses, doctors and other healthcare professionals, it expects to provide care to around 29,000 terminally ill patients in the community and in its hospices this year and is the largest provider of hospice beds outside the NHS.

Funding

Around 70 per cent of the charity's income comes from the generous support of thousands of individuals, membership organisations and businesses, with the balance of our funds coming from the NHS.

Marie Curie Nurses

The charity is best known for its network of Marie Curie Nurses working in the community to provide end-of-life care, totally free for patients in their own homes.

Research

The charity has two centres for palliative care research, The Marie Curie Palliative Care Research Unit at University College London and The Marie Curie Palliative Care Institute in Liverpool.

It also funds seven fundamental scientific research groups which investigate the causes and treatments of cancer. This research was previously carried out at the Marie Curie Research Institute in Oxted, Surrey. The programmes are now located in universities around the country, and will receive funding from the charity until 2012.

Supporting the choice to die at home

Research shows around 65 per cent of people would like to die at home if they had a terminal illness, with a sizeable minority opting for hospice care. However, more than 50 per cent of cancer deaths still occur in hospital, the place people say they would least like to be.

HomeServe

HomeServe is the national home emergency and repairs expert. Every minute a HomeServe engineer comes to the rescue of a British household. HomeServe offers insurance cover for plumbing, drains, electrical wiring and gas central heating. A new tradesmen service also gives customers on demand access to vetted and qualified tradesmen to carry out numerous jobs around the home. HomeServe is proud to be supporting Marie Curie Cancer Care and has committed to raise £1 million for the charity over the next three years. In addition to traditional fundraising, HomeServe is also in a unique position to help patients in the home. Utilising their network of tradesmen and engineers, HomeServe will undertake emergency and repair work in patient's homes to provide support to them during their illness.

To find out more about the partnership visit homeserve.com/walkten



Working together to care for patients and their homes

Marie Curie Cancer Care and HomeServe are registered charities in England and Wales. HomeServe is a registered company in England and Wales.