



# Redwood Times

## March of the Day March Edition



**2024  
DARBY & STEWART'S  
MARCH  
OF THE DAY**  
THE FOOTBALL COMMUNITY ATTACKING  
MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE IN SUPPORT OF  
THE DARBY RIMMER MND FOUNDATION  
[www.redwoodevents.co.uk](http://www.redwoodevents.co.uk)

Included in this Newsletter ;-

- Introducing Team Johnrose
- Stage Starting Points
- Thank You Altrincham FC
- Event Banners
- The Yeovil Perspective
- Download your Mapbooks
- Fundraising Update



**DONATE HERE**



### WARMING UP

Over the weekend of the walk, the women's Manchester derby takes place. The Manchester City Women will warm up in these shirts modelled on the other March of the Day t-shirts designed by White Lodge Group.

On the back, there will be a text donation code on the back. Anyone wanting to support the walk will be able to donate by text sending **DRMND10** or **DRMND20** to the number **70085**.

The players and staff of Manchester City Women's team are also looking to join the walk on Sunday. A group of up to 40 of them will be joining the walk for the last couple of stages.



## INTRODUCING TEAM JOHNROSE

Nadine Johnrose , who joins the walk at Bolton with many of the friends and family of her and husband Lenny, the former Bury and Burnley player, tells the story of why she is joining March of the Day.

*“When Len was first diagnosed March 13th, 2017 it was confirmation of what we had suspected for about 12 months. There are many ways to describe the impact it had on us. Hit by a fast moving steam roller probably sums it up the best. He flew into a downward spiral. Without the support of the people from the MNDA and Royal Preston Hospital I’m not sure where we would be. They threw so much support at us at every step of the way. We began to realise how under funded research was and how few people had actually heard of it. Len decided he had to try and make a difference. He believed with the backing of the FA something could be done and made plans to visit clubs with a power point presentation. Then COVID hit. For us it meant we spent valuable time together which we wouldn’t normally have done. But, his visits stopped. By the time restrictions were lifted he had progressed too much and he stopped the club visits. He firmly believed with the backing of bigger organisations we could raise much needed awareness.*

*The amazing Rob Burrow and Kevin Sinfield got the rugby world behind them and launched a massive appeal with so much hard work and determination raising an amazing amount of money. Their fundraising has allowed the MNDA to finally put information broadcasts on the tv. Again, amazing.*

*Last September Stephen messaged me to ask if I would like to be involved in a charity walk across two days. He wanted to have one of the groups named after Len. Of course I said yes, and now here we are. I’m incredibly honoured to be part of this March of the Day and will be joined our two children, Len’s brothers, nephews and friends. Our challenge starts at Bolton fc and ends at Bury fc, where he had the most amazing time, and met the most amazing people. I’m doing this in memory of my love, and for everyone living with MND. Let’s find a cure!!”*



## STAGE STARTING POINTS

This is a list of locations where all the stages start and end. There are so many people joining us at different points throughout the route that we need to make sure that everyone knows the exact points to meet.

Stage	Name	Location Description
1	Bradford City	Football Stadium by Valley Parade
2	Pudsey	Cemetery Road, Pudsey by the gates of Pudsey Cemetery
3	Leeds United	Football Stadium by Lowfields Road
4	Birstall	Starbucks at Birstal Retail Park on Gelderd Road
5	Roberttown	New Inn car park on Roberttown Lane
6	Huddersfield Town	Football Stadium car park off Bradley Mills Road
7	Salendine Nook	Salendine Shopping Centre on New Hey Road
8	Pole Moor	Lower Royal George Inn (formerly the Jack'O'Mitre pub)
9	Saddleworth Moor	Marsden View Car Park at the New Hey Road / Saddleworth Road Junction
10	Denshaw	Truck stop lay-by on the right on Oldham Road as road bends to the right
11	Oldham Athletic	Football Stadium on Sheepfoot Lane
12	FC United	Football Stadium car park on Lightbowne Road
13	Manchester City	Academy Football Stadium on Alan Turing Way
14	Northenden	Boxx2Boxx Coffee - 375 Palatine Road
15	Altrincham FC	Football Stadium on Moss Lane
16	Sale	Junction of Washway Road and Roebuck Lane
17	Manchester United	Football Stadium on Sir Matt Busby Way
18	Salford City	Football Stadium on Moor Lane
19	Linnysshaw	Bus stop on A6 just before the M60
20	Four Lane Ends	Hulton Arms pub car park
21	Bolton Wanderers	Football Stadium on Burnden Way
22	Queens Park	By the gates to Queens Park on Chorley New Road opposite Bedford Street
23	Bradley Fold	Junction with Bury New Road and Bradley Fold Road
24	Bury	Football Stadium on Gigg Lane
25	Jericho	By the turning for the Tack Lea Farm Shop near the Waggon pub
26	Rochdale	Football Stadium car park off Sandy Lane
27	Facit	Lay-by on left of Market Street by the big rocks
28	Bacup	Junction of Burnley Road and Bacup Old Road
29	Burnley	Football Stadium main entrance on Harry Potts Way
30	Hapton	Agra Restaurant Car Park
31	Accrington Stanley	Football Stadium car park off Tom Finney Way
32	Intack	Old Mother Redcap Hotel on Blackburn Road
33	Blackburn Rovers	Football Stadium car park off Nuttal Street
34	Beardwood	Junction with Mire Ash Brow and Preston New Road
35	Samlesbury	Esso Garage on Preston New Road opposite Samlesbury Hotel
36	Preston North End	Football Stadium car park off Sir Tom Finney Way
37	Bamber Bridge	Junction of Station Road and Church Road by Subway
38	Charnock Green	Bowling Green Pub on Preston Road
39	Standish	Aldi Car Park on Preston Road in Standish
40	Wigan Athletic	Football Stadium car park off Loire Drive
41	Billinge	Billinge Library on Main Street
42	Windle Island	Starbucks on East Lancs Road
43	Knowsley	Last lay-by on westbound carriageway of East Lancs road before B5202 junction
44	Showcase Cinemas	Cinema on East Lancs Road
45	Everton	Football Stadium car park off Goodison Road
46	Liverpool	97 Avenue by the Main Stand

## THANK YOU ALTRINCHAM FC

On Tuesday March 12, a group of the **March of the Day** walkers attended the match between Altrincham and York City to pay tribute to their former centre back Mark Maddox, who lost his battle with Motor Neurone Disease last year. Indeed many of Marks family and friends joined us at the J Davidson Stadium.

Both teams warmed up in bespoke March of the Day t-shirts sponsored by Southern and Redfern Industrial Solutions Ltd and they joined our walkers in a big team photo before the game.

At half time we walker around the pitch with our banner thanking the supporters for their support. We had the chance to speak to those in the Sponsors Lounge and the messages of support were plentiful.

It was clear how much love they had for Mark here. The attendance for the evening was 1554 including about 200 fans from York. Throughout the game we collected money for the Darby Rimmer MND Foundation and this totalled over £580.

Huge thanks to Simon Dow and Alex Birch for arranging this and congratulations to Altrincham on their 6-1 victory.





## EVENT BANNERS

Its fair to say that we didn't start this event with the expectation that we would need two banners. Such has then the monumental support for this event, we have been forced to have two banners made in order to get so many sponsors logos in place. We will break out these banners at regular intervals, usually at the grounds, for photographs all along the walk.

The banners let people see what we are doing and who this is for. Its great publicity for our sponsors and celebrates the fact that this is backed by the Professional Footballers' Association.

One benefit of us having two banners is that both Stephen and Marcus get to keep one afterwards.

## [DOWNLOAD YOUR MAP BOOKS HERE](#)

We have documented the route instructions in create detail. We will endeavour to hand out instructions to every team of walkers at the start of the journey. We have reviewed the number of teams on each stage and hope to have a set of maps for all. You can make sure that you bring your own instructions. For that reason, we have made them downloadable from the Redwood Events website.

Click on the links below to download your Mapbook. Print it or story it on your phone. It always pays to have extra copies.

**BRADFORD TO HUDDERSFIELD**

**HUDDERSFIELD TO MAN CITY**

**MAN CITY TO SALFORD**

**SALFORD TO BURY**

**BURY TO BURNLEY**

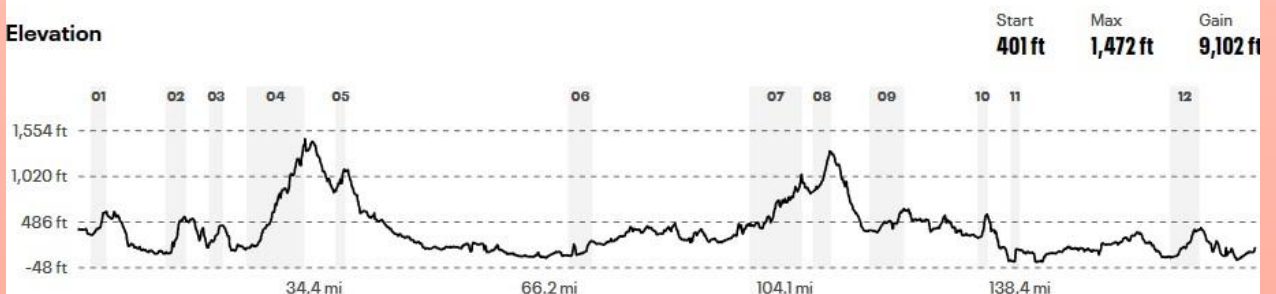
**BURNLEY TO PRESTON**

**PRESTON TO WIGAN**

**WIGAN TO LIVERPOOL**



### Elevation



## HOW WILL THIS WORK

Its fair to say that there are a lot of people taking part in **March of the Day** at certain points throughout the walk. We will have to guard against there being huge crowds of people blocking pavements so we will make sure that groups are broken down where possible into groups of no more that 6-8.

The timings here are for the core team. We are going to look to ensure that the core team sticks as close as possible to these timings. So what does that mean to open walkers.

Where the numbers are large, it is our intention to start some groups off before the open walkers reach their destination and some after. This keeps us as close as possible to the timings. If there are any changes to these timings, we will shart them on Twitter under #MarchOfTheDay and in our Facebook group [here](#).

So please try to arrive 20-30 minutes before the departure time on the char below. If you are starting from Bradford City, yopu may want to arrive a 8.00-8.15am. There will be a lot going on and Bradford are opening concession stands so walkers can buy teas, coffees and breakfast sandwiches.

### IMPORTANT NOTE

All groups of walkers have selected routes and distances they feel they can complete. They will walk it at their own speed. It's a personal fundraising challenge team have selected to complete.

The Core Team will work to its timetable and the Support team is there to support them. If teams finish some time after the main team, they have still completed their challenge even if no one is there to welcome them in.

We hope everyone will stay close but the aim is for everyone to complete their own team challenges.

Stage	From	To	Miles	Start Time	Start Day	End Time	End Day
1	Bradford City	Pudsey	4.66	9.00	Fri	10.24	Fri
2	Pudsey	Leeds United	4.97	10.24	Fri	11.53	Fri
3	Leeds United	Birstall	4.36	12.03	Fri	13.22	Fri
4	Birstall	Roberttown	4.07	13.22	Fri	14.35	Fri
5	Roberttown	Huddersfield Town	4.49	14.35	Fri	15.56	Fri
6	Huddersfield Town	Salendine Nook	3.34	16.06	Fri	17.06	Fri
7	Salendine Nook	Pole Moor	3.00	17.06	Fri	18.00	Fri
8	Pole Moor	Saddleworth Moor	3.48	18.00	Fri	19.03	Fri
9	Saddleworth Moor	Denshaw	4.92	19.03	Fri	20.32	Fri
10	Denshaw	Oldham Athletic	4.63	20.32	Fri	21.55	Fri
11	Oldham Athletic	FC United	4.21	10.05	Fri	23.21	Fri
12	FC United	Manchester City	2.97	23.31	Fri	0.28	Sat
13	Manchester City	Northenden	6.55	0.38	Sat	2.39	Sat
14	Northenden	Altrincham	4.62	2.39	Sat	4.02	Sat
15	Altrincham	Sale	3.45	4.12	Sat	5.14	Sat
16	Sale	Manchester United	3.43	5.14	Sat	6.16	Sat
17	Manchester United	Salford City	4.42	6.26	Sat	7.46	Sat
18	Salford City	Linnysshaw	4.80	7.56	Sat	9.22	Sat
19	Linnysshaw	Four Lane Ends	4.39	9.22	Sat	10.41	Sat
20	Four Lane Ends	Bolton Wanderers	4.75	10.41	Sat	12.07	Sat
21	Bolton Wanderers	Queens Park	3.95	12.30	Sat	13.41	Sat
22	Queens Park	Bradley Fold	3.85	13.41	Sat	14.50	Sat
23	Bradley Fold	Bury	3.71	14.50	Sat	15.57	Sat
24	Bury	Jericho	3.06	16.07	Sat	17.02	Sat
25	Jericho	Rochdale	3.14	17.02	Sat	17.59	Sat
26	Rochdale	Facit	4.57	18.09	Sat	19.31	Sat
27	Facit	Bacup	5.50	19.31	Sat	21.10	Sat
28	Bacup	Burnley	4.65	21.10	Sat	22.34	Sat
29	Burnley	Hapton	3.84	22.44	Sat	23.53	Sat
30	Hapton	Accrington Stanley	3.19	23.53	Sat	0.50	Sat
31	Accrington Stanley	Intack	3.36	1.00	Sun	2.00	Sun
32	Intack	Blackburn Rovers	3.23	2.00	Sun	2.58	Sun
33	Blackburn Rovers	Beardwood	3.71	3.08	Sun	4.15	Sun
34	Beardwood	Samlesbury	2.82	4.15	Sun	5.06	Sun
35	Samlesbury	Preston North End	3.89	5.06	Sun	6.16	Sun
36	Preston North End	Bamber Bridge	4.06	6.26	Sun	7.39	Sun
37	Bamber Bridge	Charnock Green	5.46	7.39	Sun	9.17	Sun
38	Charnock Green	Standish	4.51	9.17	Sun	10.38	Sun
39	Standish	Wigan Athletic	4.30	10.38	Sun	11.51	Sun
40	Wigan Athletic	Billinge	4.34	12.01	Sun	13.19	Sun
41	Billinge	Windle Island	3.74	13.19	Sun	14.26	Sun
42	Windle Island	Knowsley	2.93	14.26	Sun	15.19	Sun
43	Knowsley	Showcase Cinemas	3.08	15.19	Sun	16.14	Sun
44	Showcase Cinemas	Everton	2.74	16.14	Sun	17.03	Sun
45	Everton	Liverpool	0.77	17.16	Sun	17.30	Sun



## MARCUS – THE YEOVIL TOWN PERSPECTIVE

Marcus has been a much loved and respected part of the Yeovil Town family since he first joined the club back in 2006. He very quickly became a fans favourite due to his stylish attacking play, vision on the field and desire to win. Marcus was one of Yeovil Towns biggest ever signings, when he joined the club permanently in January 2006, but his humble attitude to his past considerable success and standing in the game, very quickly endeared him to everyone associated with the club.



Marcus achieved “Yeovil Legend” status after his equalizing goal at Nottingham’s City ground which helped the club reach Wembley for the first time in an unlikely win against Nottingham Forest in 2007. His amazing goal and celebration will live with us forever. Supporters and staff were delighted when he decided to rejoin us as part of the coaching staff in 2022 and he is key to developing the players we bring to the club.

All of us at Yeovil Town, both supporters and officials are amazed, but not surprised as to the way Marcus is confronting his challenge following his diagnosis. He is an inspiration to us all, and we are immensely proud of him and are privileged to be able to support him, his wife Louise, and his chosen charity the Darby Rimmer Foundation.

## FUNDRAISING

If you haven't yet set up your team's Fundraising page, the instructions below will explain how to do this. We have an overall Event Fundraising page. Teams can then set up and personalise their own page under this.

This will allow us to see the overall total raised by the event in one place

### Instructions

1. Go to the link <http://www.justgiving.com/team/marchoftheday?invite=true>
2. Click **Accept**
3. Click **Create your own Fundraising Page**
4. Click **Describe your own Event**
5. Add in the following details
  - a. Event type – **A personal walk**
  - b. Event name – **March of the Day**
  - c. Event Date – **22.03.2024**
  - d. Then Click **Continue**
6. On the Fundraising settings screen, add in the following details
  - a. Your fundraising target – **add a figure equivalent to £100 per person on the team or the combined teams if doing one page to cover a number of teams**
  - b. Your fundraising page link – **give yourself a team name and your page will be named as this**
  - c. Stay in touch – **Make your own opt in selection**
  - d. Then Click **Continue**
7. On the Gift Aid page – **Make your appropriate selections (probably no, no, tick and tick)**
8. click **Create your Page**
9. Click **Personalise your Page**
10. Update your page details
  - a. Set an appropriate page title – **usually including a team name**
  - b. Add in a page summary to **describe your motivation for taking part**
  - c. Personalise the story – **Add in all the names of those in your team and a personal message on what has motivated your walk. Don't forget to thank potential sponsors in advance**
  - d. Click **Save under each box you change**
11. Once complete, click **View in the top left to see your page**

### Important Note

If you have already created your donation page but not linked it to the main page, you can still do it.

1. Log into your JustGiving Account
2. Click the link above
3. Click 'Connect your Fundraising Page' and follow the instructions

### Get a QR Code for your Page

- Log into your account and into your donation page
- Click 'Edit Page'
- Click 'Share' on the left of the page
- Click the QR box on the right of 6 boxes
- Make a copy of the **QR code** and use this as well as the URL to send to sponsors

## SUPPORT FROM ALL AROUND

We have said it many times before but the support we have been given by clubs around the country has been amazing. This is the message that Salford City put out this week.



The screenshot shows a social media post from 'foundation92'. At the top left is the 'F92' logo. The main text reads: 'ONLY ONE WEEK TO GO STEPHEN DARBY'S STORY'. Below this is a quote: '“AFTER PLAYING PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL SINCE THE AGE OF 17, ON THE 12TH SEPTEMBER 2018, I WAS FORCED TO RETIRE AT THE AGE OF 29 AFTER BEING GIVEN THE DIAGNOSIS OF MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE AT THE TIME OF MY DIAGNOSIS, I WAS STILL PLAYING AT BOLTON WANDERERS AND TRAINING EVERY DAY. OVER THE COURSE OF THE LAST 2 AND A HALF YEARS, SYMPTOMS HAVE BEEN PROGRESSING SLOWLY. I HAVE WEAKNESS IN BOTH HANDS AND TWITCHING IN MY ARMS, LEGS, CHEST AND TONGUE. STARTING THE FOUNDATION WAS A WAY OF TURNING SOMETHING SO DEVASTATING INTO SOMETHING POSITIVE.”'. At the bottom left are logos for 'DARBY RIMMER MND FOUNDATION', 'Professional Footballers' Association', and 'F92'. At the bottom right is a QR code labeled 'DONATE:'. The right side of the screenshot shows a photo of Stephen Darby in a blue Salford City training kit with 'FRANKING SENSE' and 'macron' logos.

## FUNDRAISING UPDATE

This is our fundraising position as of March 17. We were originally targeting £50,000 but passed that now. So our target doubled.

- Number of ex-pro footballers - 67
- Overall number of walker teams - 155
- Overall number of open walkers - 706
- Total Number of walkers - 802
- Clubs sponsoring players - 30
- Company Sponsors - 49

### OVERALL MONEY DONATED

£66,331

### GIFT AID

£10,777

**TOTAL - £77,108**

**DONATE  
HERE**



Jamie Hoyland, Dr Tom Adler and Marty Royal on a walk from Bury FC to Burnley FC on March 15. Jamie was originally a Core Team member until work meant that he wasn't to be available on the weekend of the walk. Marty is a Core Team member who joined the walk and Tom is the Founder of Bide, Jamie's sponsor.

## KEEPING UP WITH THE PROGRESS OF THE EVENT

In the build up to the event, this is how you keep up with progress

### **Via our Facebook Group**

We have a long-standing Darby Rimmer Redwood Events Facebook Group. This is probably the most reliable as photos and updates will appear regularly through the walk. You can find our group [here](#).

### **Via Twitter**

Updates will also be added to Twitter. Search for the hashtag **#RoadsForRimmer** or the accounts **@darbyrimmermnd** and **@Redsmail** for these updates

### **Via Instagram**

Updates will also be added to Instagram. Search for accounts **@darbyrimmermnd**, **@Teamstewart254** and **@Redsmail** for these updates



From the Leeds United v Millwall programme on Sunday March 17