



KILIMANJARO

footsteps into funds for



I have just fulfilled a long-held ambition and climbed Mount Kilimanjaro. Striding up 5,895m (that's almost 20,000 feet in old money) was strenuous and gruelling to say the least, but watching the sunrise and standing atop Africa was worth it. And what will make it truly awesome will be the opportunity to convert my footsteps into funds for ***Save the Children***.

Of course you don't just walk up the world's highest free-standing mountain. Altitude acclimatisation demanded an eight day trek overall. Starting out early on Monday 22nd February at the gates of the National Park in the Lemosho Forest we arrived at our final pre-summit campsite on Saturday 27th. Then the hard climb really started. By moonlight, and the glowing snake of head-torches, we began the final ascent at midnight; completing the 1,200m climb to Stella Point after sunrise. By ten o'clock we had reached the Uhuru summit for the *awe*, before the *shock* of the gruelling 2,000m descent to our final camp. Fifteen hours of continuous hiking. Like Chris Moyles, I got a little help from my friends; eleven of us in the group successfully summited.

Why ***Save the Children***? Because it works in over 50 countries - including the UK - helping improve the lives of children... through education, health, tackling hunger and child protection. It also responds to emergencies. For instance, it has already provided shelter, clean water and medical assistance to children in Haiti. Visit <http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/> to find out more about the work of the charity...

As I personally funded the entire cost of the trip, every penny pledged will go to ***Save the Children***. PSL Consulting has pump-primed the fund with £500; so I'm hoping you will help take the total well into four figures... A donation of £6 will buy water for 100 street children to take a shower for a day in Mongolia, £25 will buy 40 hens for a household in Ethiopia and £55 will buy a tent for a family who has lost everything in an emergency.

Giving is simple. Let me know if and how much you'd like to pledge; then send your donation to me or direct to Lucy Mouldsdales, Events Fundraising Officer. Her address is: Save The Children UK, 1 St John's Lane, Farringdon, London EC1M 4AR. Please make your cheque payable to "***Save the Children***" and mark it "***Dave's Kilimanjaro Climb***" on the reverse. And don't forget ***Gift Aid*** *

Thanks for your support.

Dave

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