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## Industry walking group takes on Peak District challenge

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♦ EVENTS/NEWS by CLARE NICHOLLS on JANUARY 15, 2020

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The UK catering equipment industry's regular walking group team is planning its next charity challenge.

Led by James Connolly of Celltherm Coldrooms and Nick Archer of Archer Catering Services, the group will be walking up Kinder Scout in the Peak District.

The event will again seek to raise much needed funds for Hospitality in Action, a charity which assists members of the hospitality industry who have fallen on hard times, suffered bereavement and are in need of their support. The team will head up Kinder Scout on Friday 21 February, leaving Edale Village at 9:30am after a bacon sandwich and a tea/coffee.

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The hike will re-enact the 'Mass Trespass' back in 1932 where the Ramblers Group had its beginnings. This walk was the initial act of defiance against aristocratic landowners which culminated in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and opened up swathes of wild land to walkers, ramblers and the general public without fear of prosecution.

Archer said of the event: "The walk is about 8.5 miles and will be over 2,200 feet high. It should take us about 4-5 hours but there is no time limit and the team welcome walkers of all ages and abilities. We wait for everyone and there's no rush, but please come prepared."

Basing the team in Glossop for an overnight stay after the walk and holding the walk on a Friday gives industry bosses an opportunity to give their staff a day off to attend the walk or organise their own team building day within this event.

Connolly commented: "These series of walks are very much about the health and wellbeing of our industry. There's no mandatory fee and no commitment to raise funds but the team are asking for donations to the fundraising page <a href="here">here</a>."

The last walk up Blencathra in the Lake District last September proved a success, and the chief executive of CESA (soon to be the Foodservice Equipment Association), Keith Warren, has given the walking group his organisation's full support.

He said: "I am delighted with this initiative that is focusing on our industry's mental health and wellbeing. The Foodservice Equipment Association is delighted to get behind this brilliant initiative and we are actively encouraging our members to get involved, in fact I'll be popping along myself in February, having enjoyed last year's walk."

These series of walks have drawn wide-ranging attendance from not just manufacturers but kitchen houses, distributors, foodservice consultants and even competitors pledging their



support. Offers of support have been pledged from companies including Celltherm Coldrooms, Falcon Foodservice, Archers Catering Systems, Blue Seal and Essential Supplies.

Anyone wanting to join the group on their day out are asked to email Connolly or Archer on <a href="mailto:james@celltherm.co.uk">james@celltherm.co.uk</a> or <a href="mailto:nick@archercateringsystems.com">nick@archercateringsystems.com</a> for further information. The group have also started a LinkedIn page for those wishing to keep in touch with future challenges and events. Click <a href="mailto:here">here</a> to visit the page and request to join.