

Press Release

19 June 2009

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TRAIN DRIVER HITS £100,000 CHARITY TARGET

CrossCountry Driver Stephen Parker, founder of the Dartmoor Challenge Group, has now raised an incredible total of £100,007.33 through his 19-year long charity work.

The Dartmoor Challenge Group annually organise a 30-mile charity hike over the 368 sq mile Dartmoor area - the largest and wildest area of open country in the south of England.

Stephen, 53, formed the group in 1991 to raise money to help children who suffer from cancer and has steadily built up to the £100,000 mark since then.

Princetown-based Stephen said: "It's fantastic that we've managed to reach the £100,000 landmark. So much work and commitment has come from so many people over the past 19 years and I'm proud to be part of it. The £100,000 has been split between various south west-based charities over the years and we've been lucky to see the benefits that money has brought cancer sufferers whilst also seeing investment into facilities."

The charities Stephen's Group have supported since 1991 are:

- **Clic Sargent** – a national cancer charity that cares for children and young people
- **Derriford Children's Cancer Service (DCCS)** – a Plymouth-based Children's cancer service
- **St Luke's Hospice** – an award-winning Plymouth-based Hospice providing care to hundreds of people each year in Devon and Cornwall
- **MacMillan Cancer Support** – a national charity providing support, advice and expert information to those affected by cancer

A photograph is attached of Stephen.

ENDS

Please find notes to Editors, CrossCountry facts and figures below.
For more information feel free to contact us on 0121 2006115 or by email to
communications@crosscountrytrains.co.uk

Notes to editors

CrossCountry started operating on 11 November 2007. The franchise, which is the most extensive in the UK, will run until 31 March 2016. For further information on CrossCountry services and future franchise plans log on to www.crosscountrytrains.co.uk

Arriva is one of the largest private sector providers of passenger transport in Europe, employing more than 43,500 people (including share of associate companies) and providing more than one billion passenger journeys every year.

Arriva provides transport services including buses, trains, commuter coaches and water buses, and operates in 12 European countries: Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden and the UK.

CrossCountry facts and figures:

STATIONS SERVED: 118

ROUTE MILES: 1,654

WEEKDAY SERVICES: 293

PASSENGERS CARRIED: Over 30 million passenger journeys a year anticipated

ANNUAL TRAIN MILEAGE: Approximately 16 million

EMPLOYEES: Approximately 1,700

LONGEST TRAIN SERVICE: 08.20 Aberdeen to Penzance (774 miles)