Hi Everyone - May 2024 update

I’ve finished: 4,006 miles from the Thames Barrier to Westminster - round the long way!

Lots of marshes and river estuaries in South Essex, but the path was quite flat, and apart from a few rainy days the weather was quite reasonable. After Southend, I was gradually walking through more and more built up areas, though I’m not sure exactly when I passed from Essex into London. I’m sure Dagenham used to be in Essex, but now I find it’s part of the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham!

I’m very glad that I planned for the daily mileage to be shorter over the last few days, most especially on the last day, when several friends and family - including my two grandsons, both born since I started this walk - joined me along the Thames Path from Greenwich to Westminster.

There we got a great reception at the Cardinal Hume Centre.

Now I’m gradually “coming down” from the high, and getting my life back to normal, although as many of you will be aware, the Walk has been a life-changing event for me.

I’m going to try to write a book, but no promises – it’s not something I’ve done before! But then, neither was the Walk, so we’ll see**.** I’m also planning a party, so if you haven’t yet got anything booked for the week beginning 17th June, hold off for another few days!

You’ve managed to comfortably beat my fundraising target – the total is over £29,500 at the moment, but I’ll leave the JustGiving page open until at least the end of the month, so that if anyone was waiting to donate until I had completed the task, you’ve still got a chance. To reach £30,000 would be fantastic…

Huge thanks are due to more people than I can name individually here, but whether you have donated, provided accommodation, made my days by our talks on the path, or supported me with your likes and comments on Facebook, it would have been so much less of an experience for me without you. I love you all!

Brendan

**Link to Composite map:** [https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1m5pHQ9Ek8cTAEAr3aL-gIVswJPVf00A&usp=sharing](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com%2Fmaps%2Fd%2Fedit%3Fmid%3D1m5pHQ9Ek8cTAEAr3aL-gIVswJPVf00A%26usp%3Dsharing&data=05%7C02%7Cesher%40abdiocese.org.uk%7Cc1ccc8ae82454739d61908dc79db2b81%7C2bf5dbc217ef4efca1c9ab2dc4edefd0%7C0%7C0%7C638519229810022661%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=DKA31p6sg%2FFeAgGYvQ9ccEbx2w8rHclOu30Sn5no05c%3D&reserved=0)