

The Queens Arms
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Pub owner swaps country lanes for Great Wall of China



Jeanette Reid will be heading for the Great Wall of China

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Pub landlady Jeanette Reid is swapping green country lanes for the Great Wall of China in a charity challenge this month.

Jeanette, co-owner of the Queens Arms at Corton Denham, has already raised more than £5,000 for the NSPCC. And she has lost six stone in weight through walking and training in preparation.

She took the first step back in January when she decided, at a Weight Watchers meeting, to move her countryside ramblings up a gear and take on the massive challenge of a Great Wall walk.

Jeanette will have to trek for six to eight hours a day in China covering between 10km and 22km depending on the gradient and deal with her problem with vertigo.

So she and her husband and pub co-owner, Gordon Reid, began to make the most of the countryside walking routes around Corton Denham and mapped out four routes of different lengths and terrain. Guests inspired by the views from the Queens Arms windows have been enjoying the walks too.

Jeanette said: "The support I've received from our diners and guests has

been overwhelming.

"I'm delighted to have raised so much money for a cause so close to my heart.

"All the quiz nights, raffles, coffee mornings and auctions have paid off and now only the final challenge awaits in Beijing.

"I've been walking at least 15,000 steps per day so feel in great shape to take on the Great Wall."

She will have to cope with a peanut allergy in a country where peanut oil is widely used in cooking but said her challenges pale into insignificance when set against the hardships faced by children supported by the NSPCC.

Jeanette will be taking a few home comforts to China including one of head chef Ben Abercrombie's trademark pork pies and Queen's Arms homemade jam.

People can go online to www.justgiving.com/Jeanette-Reid3 to sponsor her trek.

Jeanette and Gordon have owned the Queens Arms for six years and won many awards including Taste of the West, two AA Rosettes and CAMRA's Cider Pub of the Year award.