

Anna's high wire act set to 'pylon' the pounds for Macmillan

Worcester woman scales 150-foot pylon for charity

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- Daredevil climb generates £24,000 for Macmillan Cancer Support
- National Grid staff in two-year partnership to raise half a million pounds for Macmillan

Worcester daredevil Anna Pass took charity fundraising to new heights when her white-knuckle climb to the top of a 150-foot electricity pylon helped generate a whopping £24,000 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Anne, who works for National Grid's European Business Development team in Solihull, joined an intrepid band of office-based colleagues as they scaled a National Grid training pylon taller than Nelson's column.

Donations poured in for the adrenaline-fuelled fundraiser, held at National Grid's Eakring training academy in Nottinghamshire, on Thursday (4 June).

Thanks to generous colleagues, friends and family, Anna and her colleagues doubled their original charity target to more than £12,000. Now National Grid has pledged to match their efforts, with £24,000 set to be handed over to Macmillan to pay for heating grants for families affected by cancer.

Climbing pylons is a routine part of the job for National Grid's force of overhead line engineers but Anna and her workmates are more used to having their feet firmly on the ground.

Anna said: "I'll admit climbing a pylon was much harder than I thought but it was worth it to raise so much money for a fantastic charity – the view from the top wasn't too bad either! Everyone's lives are touched by cancer in some way, so it's great that National Grid supports Macmillan, which was chosen by employees as the company charity.

"I'm looking forward to our next challenge now!"

In a two-year fundraising partnership with Macmillan, National Grid staff are aiming to raise half a million pounds to fund heating grants for people living with cancer.

Full safety precautions were taken for the climb. The eight-strong team donned protective equipment before being harnessed to the training pylon, which is connected to non-live wires, and is used to train linesmen. They were accompanied by qualified National Grid engineers throughout the event.

Members of the public should never attempt to climb pylons. It is extremely dangerous as they risk death or serious injury from high voltage electricity or falls.

Ends



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Notes for editors

Notes to Editors:

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- We own and operate the electricity transmission network in England and Wales, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. We also operate, but do not own, the Scottish networks. Our networks comprise approximately 7,200 kilometres (4,474 miles) of overhead line, 1,500 kilometres (932 miles) of underground cable and 342 substations.
- We own and operate the gas National Transmission System in Great Britain, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. Our network comprises approximately 7,660 kilometres (4,760 miles) of high-pressure pipe and 618 above-ground installations.
- As Great Britain's System Operator (SO) we make sure gas and electricity is transported safely and efficiently from where it is produced to where it is consumed. From April 2019, Electricity System Operator (ESO) is a new standalone business within National Grid, legally separate from all other parts of the National Grid Group. This will provide the right environment to deliver a balanced and impartial ESO that can realise real benefits for consumers as we transition to a more decentralised, decarbonised electricity system.
- Other UK activities mainly relate to businesses operating in competitive markets outside of our core regulated businesses; including interconnectors, gas metering activities and a liquefied natural gas (LNG) importation terminal – all of which are now part of National Grid Ventures. National Grid Property is responsible for the management, clean-up and disposal of surplus sites in the UK. Most of these are former gas works.

Find out more about the energy challenge and how National Grid is helping find solutions to some of the challenges we face at <https://www.nationalgrid.com/group/news>

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