

Beating a path for charity on once in a lifetime trip

BY MATT ROBINSON

A YOUNG couple will be 'beating' a path to Peru to raise funds for the British Heart Foundation.

Whitley Wood pair Matthew Duckworth and Teri Laskowski, both 23, moved to Reading two years ago, and have both experienced the death of relatives because of heart conditions.

Ms Laskowski, an events and sales co-ordinator in Woodley, said: "I wanted to do something that truly meant something, so when somebody asked me what are you most proud of, I had an answer to give."

"I started looking at different charities and came across the Inca Trail in Peru. It was the perfect solution as it provided Matthew and me the opportunity to raise money for a charity we feel passionately about and have a fantastic experience at the same time."

"Matthew and I have both had close relatives who have died of heart conditions over the years and we both decided it would be great to raise funds to help the charity to continue to provide great support to sufferers and their families."

"Peru looks like an amazing place, it will be a challenge but something we will definitely look forward to immensely."

Mr Duckworth, a business developer in Winnersh, said: "We will be having a number of fundraising events to raise money for the charity in the coming months. Our main event will be a charity ball and auction on October 11 in

Help Peru trip pair to raise cash

Sonning.

"We have been very lucky to have collected a number of great prizes for the event including a signed cricket bat from Surrey County Cricket Club."

The pair, from Ashby Court, need to raise £6,700 before they can take part in the trek.

Ms Laskowski added: "We are aiming to raise about £4,000 for the charity in total, the remainder going towards funding the charity walk, where we join around 30 other participants to help raise more money for the charity."

The four-day trek will take the couple to the awe-inspiring Lost City of the Incas, Machu Picchu – one of the New Seven Wonders of the World.

Built around the year 1450, but abandoned 100 years later, the site was brought to worldwide attention in 1911 and was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1983.

■ If you would like to donate a prize for the auction or buy tickets for the event, email bhfperutrek@googlemail.com. Alternatively, if you would like to sponsor Matthew and Teri, visit justgiving.com/mattandteri



'PERFECT SOLUTION' – Matthew Duckworth and his girlfriend Teri Laskowski with a toy deer they plan to auction

Picture: MIKE ENGLEFIELD (Ref 82640)

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