

## Snow peaks: part 1

Everybody in the property industry is at it – climbing mountains that is, or, to be more precise, one mountain, Kilimanjaro.

In just the last year I have counted 42 property people that have had details of their heroic climb of Africa's highest mountain in aid of charity reported on this very page. The latest is Caroline Keane (pictured), assistant planner at CB Richard Ellis, who raised £1,500 for Cancer Research UK.

All very laudable, but, as my old friend Ivor French of Leighton Goldhill asks,



why is it always Kilimanjaro?

"I do not hear anything at all about the other 'climbable' mountain, Aconcagua in the Andes: 6,959 metres, the highest point in the western and southern hemispheres, on the border of Argentina and Chile," French tells me. "Ben, one of my sons aged 19, climbed it for a fundraising expedition. He had no previous climbing experience, so the average property man, or woman, should be able to do it!"

The pinnacle of mountain climbing, of course, is Everest – and Bywater Properties' founder and managing director Richard Walker and his father, Iceland

Foods' founder and chief executive Malcolm Walker, are to join a British expedition climbing it next month.

The Walkers' goals are to reach the North Col at 23,000 ft and to raise at least £1m for Alzheimer's Research UK.

Led by renowned explorer David Hempleman-Adams, the "Iceland Everest Expedition" will follow in the footsteps of Mallory and Irvine from the north side of the mountain, and aims to plant the Iceland Foods and Bywater Properties flags at the summit.

The expedition leaves on 28 March and Richard will be tweeting regularly at [twitter.com/#!/richoneverest](https://twitter.com/#!/richoneverest).

