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### A tale of tenacity

In 2001, Lilianne Donders, wife of Shell's Country Chairman for Iran, Robert Weener, marked the end of her first sponsored walk with her camels, called the 'Caravan for Cancer', with the opening of a Well-Woman Clinic in Palmyra. Lilianne walked from Damascus to Tehran with four camels, raising over US \$35,000 through sponsorship for the clinic, which provides medical support for all nomadic women in the Syrian desert around Palmyra, from Homs to Deir ez Zor.



However, Lilianne is not content to rest on her laurels. She is planning another camel trek for this year, called the 'Caravan of Hope', the goal of which is to highlight the plight of Palestinian refugees. Lilianne plans to retrace the camel caravan trade routes that brought trade goods between the Arabian Peninsula and the ancient Court of Tehran.

Lilianne and her camels will be walking from Tehran, along the length of Iran, to Bandar Abbas. From there she will take a boat to Ras Al Khaimah and walk through the United Arab Emirates southwards to Oman. Her 'Caravan of Hope' aims to raise money to build a small hospital in Jordan near the Palestine territories. Money received to date totals some US \$65,000.

For more information, contact **'Shell in the Middle East'** magazine