

# Beech Boys Atlantic News Update May 2009

During the month of June Beech Boys Atlantic is going to clock up a few miles on the country's motorway network. Firstly heading south on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> June to Falmouth for a refit of the rowing positions and then back up the M5 on 24<sup>th</sup> June to Birmingham ready for the University of Birmingham Open Days, which follow on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> June.

Beech Boys Atlantic will be on display at the Open Days and WaterAid are sending a speaker to be with us to help answer questions about WaterAid. We are sure it will make a brilliant impression and serve to tell people about the project. After this Beech Boys Atlantic will be back in Coniston and work will continue to fit her with important kit such as safety lines, navigation equipment etc. So if you are out and about on the M6 and M5 you may see her! Our thanks to Lakeland Land Rover, Torver for supplying a Land Rover for these journeys.

In early May we attended the 'Coniston Green Boat Festival'. This was all about environmentally friendly boats and associated technology. Beech Boys Atlantic attracted a great deal of interest. It was fantastic to talk to so many people about the project and for them to see the boat.

Training continues, although it has been more difficult for James, as he continues to get ready for his 'A' level exams. The last one is on the 17<sup>th</sup> June, so not long to go now! On the training front we have been using a CoolBoard. This was kindly donated to the project by a firm called CoolBoard! James met them at the Outdoor Show in Birmingham and they were interested in the row and wanted to help with our preparation. They have produced a specific training plan for us to use the CoolBoard, which will help to improve our core stability.

Our thanks to Chris McNaught who organised a fantastic fund raising lunch. This was a massive effort and raised £400 for the project, so a big 'THANK YOU' Chris and to all who helped you. We really appreciate your support in this way.

WaterAid have included a section about the row on the website in the Events section under rowing and canoeing. We are hoping we will also be featured in their magazine 'On Tap' which will go out in September.

Wilson's of Kendal – famous for Kendal Mint Cake have kindly agreed to supply us with chocolate and Kendal Mint Cake for the voyage! So more important calories to help power us along will now be included in our daily food bags!

Mike Stather and Julie Flanagan, staff at John Ruskin School, Coniston are helping us in important ways. Mike is using his expertise with design and technology to make a gimbal for the stove and to help fit the boat out. Julie has kindly said she will run in the Great North Run to raise funds for the project. More information to follow on this later in the summer.

Finally if you know of anyone who would like to own a match ball signed by the Everton football team do ask them to get in touch, as we have been given one as a donation to the row and it is up for sale. It is in a case and valued at £250-300 so we are open to offers.

Thank you for your support. You can contact us by email on:  
[BeechBoysAtlantic@gmail.com](mailto:BeechBoysAtlantic@gmail.com)

Norman and James Beech