

Beech Boys Atlantic News Update April 2009

Beech Boys Atlantic is now being stored in the Bluebird Wing of the Ruskin Museum in Coniston! Donald Campbell's Bluebird, famous for its world water speed records, is under going restoration at the moment and is due back in Coniston in 2010. As Bluebird is still being restored, the opportunity has arisen to store Beech Boys Atlantic in the Bluebird Wing of the Ruskin Museum, which is currently empty. To have access to this area is much appreciated and our thanks go to the Ruskin Museum staff and the Lake District National Park Planning Board for agreeing to this.

There has been considerable media interest in the row since the launch on 21st march. Articles in Cumbria Life Magazine, The Westmorland Gazette and NW Evening Mail have enabled the news of the row to become more widely known. ITN Border and Tyne Tees News have also featured the story of the row on their evening news programme. ITN Border and Tyne Tees are planning to return to film the 24 hour training row in June.

Derwent Water Marina have very kindly agreed to help source a good deal of the equipment we need for the boat such as ocean life jackets, safety lines, flares, deck compass, cabin vents, anchor and anchor warp, VHF radio etc. Our thanks to Dave Williamson for his support and encouragement.

Friends from Chester, Richard and Amanda George Higgins, have been passed onto us a signed match football from the Everton versus West Bromwich Albion premiership game played earlier this year. Signed by the Everton team and presented in a lovely case it is a great piece of soccer memorabilia for an Everton fan. It is valued at £250-300 so we are open to offers. If Everton should win the FA cup with these players perhaps it may be worth a bit more? Do get in touch if you are interested in making an offer by emailing us on: BeechBoysAtlantic@gmail.com

James and I enjoyed speaking to Barrow Rotary Club on 14th April. We took the boat up to Barrow for members of the Rotary Club to see it first hand. After a superb lunch we gave a slide presentation detailing our progress to date and outlining the work still to be done. It was great to have such interest and we plan to return to explain how we got on once the row has finished.

Our friend Janet Vickers from Sheffield Hallam University was staying with her students at the Raymond Priestley Centre at the end of April. Janet spent an afternoon videoing us rowing Beech Boys Atlantic on Coniston Water. It was helpful to have feedback from a World Champion Rower and to have advice on the boat set up. Thank you Janet – brilliant!

Finally, don't forget - you can support us by using Easy Search and Easy Fund Raising - see the link on our website. It doesn't cost you anything and provides additional support to the project.

Thank you for reading this and keeping in touch.

Norman and James Beech