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# Cheeky chaps in speedo's on epic 2,500 mile row coming to a town near you

As you read this article four Bournemouth based rowers have set off on their 3 month journey to circumnavigate the 2,500 mile coastline of the UK! The crew will be in their converted 27 year old surf boat "Lexi May" in aid of the Royal Marines Charitable Trust Fund and the Wessex Cancer Trust. They aim to raise a massive £100,000 to be split 50/50 between the two charities!

The 'Lexi May' was named after a young girl who touched the hearts of the whole crew. They met Lexi and her family when they were fundraising for the trip.

Sean Leddy "The family approached us and the father told us how his daughter had just been diagnosed with terminal cancer. My heart and the hearts of the whole crew went out to this brave girl and her family and we knew we had to do something for her."

The crew had been planning to auction off the opportunity to name the boat however, after meeting the family they asked the young girl and her sister if they would like to name her which they did after their first names, Lexi and May.

Mark Green added "Having watched members of my own family suffer from cancer and seeing the amazing work Wessex Cancer Trust has done to support people like Lexi and her family has inspired us to raise much needed funds to help the charity provide the best quality of support for sufferers of cancer when it is most needed."

Steen Stones a former Royal Marine explained why they chose their second charity. "I served 3 tours of Afghanistan and I saw a lot of my friends get seriously injured or not make it back. I have witnessed the amazing work the Royal Marines Charitable Trust does to support those soldiers who have had life altering injuries forced upon them and the much needed help for the families of those who didn't make it back."

The challenge will take 3 months to complete and will be the first ever attempt to row these waters in an open Australian surf boat. The crew can expect to encounter all types of weather as they tackle with some of the most unpredictable tides and weather in the world

Expedition leader Ellis Hagger said "On a daily basis we will be challenged and awed. At one moment we could be caught in the full force of Poseidon's fury, battling monstrous waves, winds and lashing rain and the next gliding along the Scottish coast in beautiful sunshine with a pod of dolphins for company. The trip will be very challenging, but knowing that our work is supporting these two fantastic charities will keep us pushing on"

If you would like to donate and follow this unique and challenging expedition to support the two chosen charities, please log onto [www.ukcharityrow2015.co.uk](http://www.ukcharityrow2015.co.uk).

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To find out more, or to arrange an interview, please contact Ellis Hagger (07825 215536) or Steen Stones (07824811865) or email [contact@UKCharityRow2015.com](mailto:contact@UKCharityRow2015.com)

**Expedition Info**

**Start Date** – 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2015 @1600

**Estimated Completion Date** – 9<sup>rd</sup> August (100 days)

**Charities** – Wessex Cancer Trust & Royal Marine Charitable Trust Fund

**Target to Raises** - £100,000

**Crew Names** (*All have given jobs up to do challenge*)

Ellis Hagger – Teacher

Sean Leddy – Teacher

Mark Green – Writer/electrician

Steen Stones – Seafront manager

Please visit [www.UKcharityrow2015.com](http://www.UKcharityrow2015.com) for further information.