

Thank you!

Arctic Challenge 2009

As most of you will know, I recently returned to work having taking part in a charity fundraiser for the Ocean Youth Trust Scotland. Twelve volunteers sailed, from Wick to the Arctic Circle and back to Peterhead.

Having no desire to set foot on a boat, being unable to swim and having a fear of the water I agreed to take part!

Over the duration of 12 days we sailed 1,950 nautical miles. For the most part of that it was 24 hour sailing with us being on watch for spells throughout the day and night.

It has to be the most challenging thing I have ever done! I was exhausted when we arrived back to Peterhead and in dire need of a wash (we had no showers for two weeks) and a good nights sleep.

I would like to thank those of my colleagues who supported me in my challenge and help me raise over £2,400, with Ian and I raising over £8,000. To date the 12 volunteers have raised in excess of £44,000!

Thank you!

Jac x

Here is a small selection of my photos!



Sailing the boat we reached a maximum speed of 14.5 knots.



We sailed on Alba Endeavour, a 72ft steel hulled Bermudan cutter rigged ocean racing yacht. She was originally built for the BT Challenge 72' class.

The boat had lots of complicated bits that we had to get to grips with!



As we went further north, the sun didn't set til about midnight.....



...and rose again at about 3am.



We crossed into the Arctic Circle at 2am on 17th July. We all went up on deck for our 'crossing the line' party. We were even allowed a small refreshment by way of a celebration.



This is us having arrived at Reine in the Lofoten Islands, off the north west coast of Norway. A truly stunning place!



Reine



We experienced all sorts of weather. Here is me getting very wet!



It was then time to dry the gear!



Me at the helm sporting some rather natty Norwegian headgear (it was really hiding my manky hair)!



It was p'ing with rain as we arrived at Peterhead.