

Team Hallin

TEAM HALLIN: GIBRALTAR SEA TRIAL 6-13th DECEMBER 2012

Team Hallin's Round GB 2013 Rowing Race team, consisting of David Hosking, Neil Ward, Julian Bellido and Stuart Chamberlayne, has just successfully conducted a week of sea-trials off Gibraltar in the Ocean Rowing Boat '*Herkules*'.



'Herkules' is owned by crew member Julian Bellido, who lives in Gibraltar, and is shown in the photo to the left. The team is grateful to Julian both for his generous hospitality over the week and for allowing us to use his excellent boat for these important set of trials.

The photo to the right shows Neil and Stuart making lunch in the rain during the first day at sea.



The first day in Gibraltar was spent sorting out the boat and equipment while the second day was taken up with safety briefings and drills for the team plus a meeting with the Port of Gibraltar Authorities going through the passage plans for the days at sea.

Having completed the preparation work, the team then spent the next two days with rowing trips around Gibraltar to practise watch changes, man-overboard procedures, anchoring and sea-anchor deployment drills as well as fire and flood exercises.

The culmination of the week was a 48-hour passage following the Northern loop of the Alboran Gyre covering over 100nms in the Mediterranean Sea. During the latter passage the Team experienced variable weather conditions [from no wind to Force 4 Westerlies] and changing sea states [from flat calm to 2m beam swells on the first night].

The final day was spent cleaning/de-storing the boat after which the crew held a debrief on the week followed by a detailed risk assessment for next year's around GB Row. The next sea-trial will be held in '*Hallin Marine 2*' in British waters next Easter. **Team Hallin wish all our sponsors and supporters a very Merry Christmas.**



Above left: Neil and Stu [having just taken over from David] sculling on the Eastern side of Gibraltar. **Above right:** Stu about to act as man overboard 'dummy' during the sea-trial.

Below left: Stu and Neil during the first night of the 48hrs passage. **Below right:** David resting below whilst waiting for his dinner [in the green packet] to cool down.

