

Paul seeks support of Limerick people

By CLODAGH O'LEARY

CASTLETROY rower Paul Gleeson, who is taking part in a 3,000 mile transatlantic race, is asking Limerick people to send him messages of support as he enters the second half of the race.

Paul and his Canadian partner Tori Holmes, have rowed over 1,500 miles since leaving La Gomera, in the Canary Islands on November 30 last.

They have encountered several difficulties in their journey, including battling a 40 foot wave which knocked Tori overboard.

Now they need the support of Limerick people to help them in their "last lap".

Twenty nine-year-old Paul wrote in his web diary: "We would like to start getting some messages from our supporters especially as we near the second half of the race or as we like to think—the last lap."

Paul said the weather had improved in the last few days.

"We intend to completely refresh ourselves, the boat and above all our mental attitude to mark the upcoming half way mark. We are going to approach the remainder of the race as a new start which we reckon will be a mental boost," he said.

The duo are aiming to raise €250,000 for a project in Zambia.

A total of 26 different teams started the race—and English Foursome, All Relative, were first to reach the finish line Antigua on January 9 last after 39 days at sea.

Paul and Tori, aboard Christina, are currently in third last position.

To send a message to Paul and Tori, log onto www.Iridium.com and click on 'send a satellite message'.

Write your 160 character message in the box provided and in the box marked 'to' complete the number 8816 by adding 31538892, then send the message. They cannot reply to messages.

Anyone who wants to support Paul and Tori's Atlantic Row for Concern can text the word row to 57252. This will give an automatic donation of €2 to the charity.



Atlantic rower Paul Gleeson and girlfriend Tori Holmes pictured in La Gomera, Canary Islands, before they set off on the 3,000 mile race

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