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Jason's world trip live on internet

BRIDPORT adventurer Jason Lewis is planning to provide live Internet coverage of his record-breaking attempt to travel round the world using only muscle power.

Already five years into his land-sea circumnavigation, Jason has now reached more than half way across the Pacific ocean.

And soon he hopes to be able to beam live messages from his 26ft wooden pedal boat Moksha.

After a break at his home in Askerswell, Jason is returning to the USA in a bid to set up the on-board technology in time for the voyage's re-start from the Gilbert Islands in the spring.

The 31-year-old adventurer is aiming to complete the first pedal boat crossing of the Pacific Ocean - some 6,000 miles.

He has already set two world record marks since the Pedal for the Planet odyssey started from the Greenwich Meridian in London, in July 1994.

By **CHRIS CARSON**

With Steve Smith, 32, from Wolverhampton, he achieved the first 4,500 mile, 111-day east-west pedal boat crossing of the Atlantic in the £26,000 boat.

After their Florida landfall, Jason took to the road and completed the first crossing of America on in-line skates.

But his arrival in San Francisco was delayed for several months by a 1995 accident in Colorado in which both his legs were broken by a car.

He then teamed up again with Steve - who had cycled across the USA - to pedal Moksha 2,200 miles from San Francisco to Hawaii, making landfall last November after two months at sea.

Then he pedalled solo for the next 2,200 miles to Tarawa in the Gilbert Islands - landing in July - after Steve left the expedition.

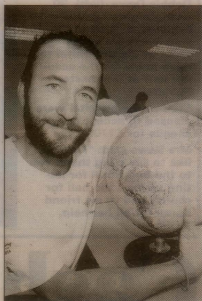
But he plans to have company again for the final two legs of the Pacific

crossing to Australia. He hopes Chris Tipper and Hugo Burnham, who helped build Moksha in Exeter, will join him on the 1,000 miles to Honiara in the Solomon Islands, and a final 1,100 miles to Cairns on the Queensland coast of Australia - with landfall due some time next August.

On his 73-day lone voyage to Tarawa, Jason confessed he was reduced to holding conversations with two Dorado fish which accompanied the craft for some of the time.

Once in Australia, Jason plans to continue the odyssey overland to the north coast, before the sea journey is resumed by kayak and Moksha to Malaysia. After an overland trek through China, Thailand, Tibet and India, the decision would then be made to continue towards Europe - or cross the Indian ocean to East Africa.

Jason planned a spectacular arrival home to complete his marathon journey - on a specially built pedal powered aircraft.



☐ **GLOBETROTTER: Intrepid Jason Lewis.**

INSIDE



Travel by
Web: Page 6