

## **22nd March - Reg Marchant's Scoot4Life Adventure Is On**

Reg Marchant will be starting his round the UK trip on the second of April. After many ups and downs Reg has finally made it happen. It has not been easy, but with the help of friends, family and many generous sponsors all the pieces are now in place.

Reg will be accompanied by his wife, Brenda, Brian Scott and Sam the dog. They will be taking a caravan towed by Reg's car, Brian's car and of course Reg's scooter. The caravan will be delivered to Reg shortly and he will be driving it to their first base, Castle Corfe in Dorset, on the first of April. The following day the scooter will arrive at the RNLI lifeboat station in Poole ready for the big send off. Reg will then depart for the next station, Swanage, and eventually a journey that will take him six months and cover five and a half thousand miles.

The Old Scholars Association has donated £100 to the cause, which is to raise money for the RNLI. If you would like to contribute please visit the Scoot4Life website (<http://www.scoot4life.co.uk>) where you can also follow his progress. Reg hopes to visit as many RNLI lifeboat stations as possible on his trip. If you can meet him on the way you will be most welcome.

## **9th April - Email from the Team**

Hi All. Well, where do we start? This is the first time we have had the internet so we thought we had better update you all. The journey to Poole went okay and we were met on the Saturday by Meridian TV and the coverage went out in the evening. We have visited 9 lifeboat stations so far and we are now near Looe. We also are going to be in the Dartmouth Chronicle and we were featured three times on the Plymouth radio, as Tony (Reg's son) has been sorting it out before we arrive at places, but raising money is still a problem, picking up small amounts here and there. We are moving the caravan every other day at the moment as its very time consuming. We cannot believe the weather so far - we managed to get the first weeks washing done okay and ironed. That's quite a challenge in itself. Sam (the dog) is okay at the moment. Tomorrow Reg is going to Fowey lifeboat station. The average scooter-work most days is about 20 miles. Well must close, have to now sort out maps for caravan sites, scooter work and towing routes for Monday while we have the internet. Bye for now Reg, Brenda and Brian xx.

## **17th April - Email from the Team**

Hi All. Just a quick update. We have done 20 lifeboat stations - missing two as Reg couldn't find Plymouth's as the area was so big and nobody could tell him where it was. He searched for quite a time then, today, Padstow's has been moved and isn't available to get to at weekends. We are eight miles out of Bude at the moment until Monday, then we move on again. Collected a bit of money today and someone actually saw us on TV so made a donation. Had TV during the week for a couple of days but no signal here and the internet only works now and again. Have managed to book the next two sites so now we're booked till after Easter. Reg still cold on scooter even on a warm day with four layers on. Well must close, from us all, bye for now.

## **23rd April - Email from the Team**

Hi All. After Bude moved a long haul to Weston Super Mare where we did Minehead, Burnham on Sea, and Weston Super Mare. Now we are in South Wales at Llanelli for five days over Easter. We have done Barry Dock through to Port Talbot. Just going to have strawberries and cream. We have a brilliant view looking over the Gower Peninsula. Had a day off today the weather has been good, but not as hot as you have all had it. Tomorrow we are over on the Gower to do two/three lifeboat stations. Still no TV signal, how annoying. Sam is still ok and is now a traveller. Nice bunch of Welsh

people on the site. They're very friendly although, saying that, all caravaners seem to be. Well we all have to have showers now so must close. Bye for now xx.

### **1st May - Email from the Team**

Hi All. Well since emailing you last we have done so many lifeboat stations; Horton and Port Eynon, The Mumbles, Burry Port, then we moved to Little Haven which was about 57 miles. We then did Angle, Tenby, Little and Broad Haven, and St. David's, which was a stunningly beautiful place. We then moved to Aberystwyth, about 74 miles, and had a couple of days off, and today we have gone backwards to Cardigan. Then Reg scootered to New Quay and then onto Aberystwyth. It took all afternoon. We have been so lucky with the weather, we can't quite believe it. It's really got windy again in the last hour making the caravan rock about.

We are managing with the cooking using my George Foreman as we are trying not to use the oven - to save the gas. Washing has been a problem at times. We had to find a laundrette on Saturday. It took ages to sort out. We have to have the ailer out in the caravan at times and need to keep squeezing by it and each other. We have to take it in turns to move. We have been told by a few people that we have been in their local papers but trying to raise our profile is hard and raising money is even harder!! We have had a good day now and again.

The reason we seem to be moving faster than we thought, is because instead of moving every other day, because it's quite difficult, we move further afield and stay longer on a site. We then go backwards and do stations and then move forward but we do miss little bits of the coast, only a few miles here and there, and manage to do all the stations. There we are often met and given coffee and tours round the station. We are moving again on Tuesday to the Snowdonia area where we have four stations to do.

Well must close now. Hope it's not too boring. From us all xx.

### **25th May - Two Emails from the Team**

Hi All. Did a really long update last night but it would not send or go into drafts and in the end was lost, found again, and lost again - so annoying! Well Reg had to give up on way to Barmouth as there were really strong, cold winds, so we picked him up and he did it the next day. On 3rd May we moved 62 miles to Porthmadog and had the rest of day off. We did shopping and found a caravan shop where we bought ourselves a digital aerial and pole, and with help managed to get a signal.

One day Reg scootered from the site to Criccieth, Pwyhelli, Abersoch and Porthdinllaen. It took all afternoon but he did it ok. We were given coffee at Pwyhelli and he took photos and was going to try and get us into the local papers. At Porthdinllaen the lifeboat station was a mile through a golf course which Brian and I drove through, watching out for golf balls etc. It was up hill and down dale and on a very narrow track. I have never felt so out of place but the scenery was stunning. After that we went back to Criccieth and watched an RNLI exercise which was quite good to watch then had coffee with the crew.

On 6th May we moved again to Talybont in the Vale of Conwy where we did shopping etc. We were now getting rain off and on, but sunny warm showers in between. The next day Reg did Conwy, and Llandudno. He went on to do Rhyl but due to a navigational error and bad weather he didn't make it. Just getting a map out was hard work with the wind and rain so he gave up and scootered back to the site.

The next day (8th) he did Rhyl ok and on to Flint where the crew had just come back from a shout and were all outside chatting. We decided to have an extra couple of days there at our own expense as Brenda's sister was coming on holiday to Betws-y-Coed on Tuesday (10th) and we met up for a meal in the evening.

On Monday (9th) we had day off to do the washing. It took three hours to find the launderette and sort out twelve 20-pence pieces to do the washing and drying. It is such a pain drying in the caravan and what doesn't dry goes on the airer and then gets in our way. Ironing on the table is also hard work. Reg tried many times to book the next two sites but we didn't have a signal on our mobiles most of the day or on the internet. It is all so time consuming and frustrating. We were planning to go to the Wirral and then on to the Blackpool area.

Bye for now Reg, Brenda and Brian xxx.

Hi All. We have travelled 125 miles to St Bees in the Lake District. We were positioned right next to the sea which was very windy and very noisy when the tide came in but was a great soothing noise to go to sleep to!! Another site with no internet and limited mobile signal.

We decided not to do Barrow as it was 58 miles away and it was raining hard and thought we wouldn't collect any money. So we went on to Workington. We arrived but couldn't find the lifeboat station at first. We then had a call from Reg who was stuck on a dual carriage way which wasn't on his map, so we had to go back and rescue him. We eventually found the lifeboat station in the pouring rain, across the docks, disused railway tracks and in between the cranes, etc. There we met Richard the mechanic who made us coffee and let us eat our lunch there. After a long chat he phoned ahead to Silloth lifeboat station. Reg scooted there and was met by eight crew who had all turned out to meet him. More coffee, and whisky later, and we were given some flags etc. The next afternoon we went to St Bees lifeboat station which was next to the caravan site, arriving just as they were carrying out an exercise. Introducing ourselves, we were given coffee once again and shown uniforms, helmets etc. and invited over to the pub later that evening.

At our own cost we had the next day off. We went to Wastwater in the lakes where Brian hadn't been before, took lots of photos and managed to contact Lynda who is joining us on Saturday.

On May 19th we left St Bees, beautiful blue skies and 15 degrees. It was the best weather for some time. We travelled 92 miles to Sandyhills which was our first Scottish site, a really lovely site which was booked for three days at a good discounted rate. Managed to text at last but still no internet!! Reg scooted from the site to Kippford. There was still a very chilly wind. We had our lunch then went on to Kirkcudbright crew room where he met crew member John (from Maidstone). After a cup of tea and an explanation from John that the actual station was 4 miles away, he got out the RNLI Landrover which they use for a shout. Reg and Brian had to be assisted in to it with the help of a stool and a shove. We drove to the station up a very bumpy track - all very isolated but a beautiful spot. We were shown around and then driven back.

On May 21st we went to Dumfries to do some food shopping and pick up Lynda from the station. Returned to the site where it poured with rain all night. We moved 63 miles to Stranraer on lovely empty roads. On the same day Reg scooted in lovely sunshine to Stranraer and Portpatrick lifeboat stations and back. That evening we had terrible windy, wet weather with strong blustery gales and a rocking caravan. Still no internet and the TV signal kept breaking up so oblivious as to how severe the weather has been. Hope to move on tomorrow weather permitting.

That's it for now folks Reg, Brenda, Brian and Lynda. xx

PS You can also follow us on Twitter at [scoot4life2011](#) but we can't always keep it up-to-date because of internet problems.

## **2nd June - Email from the Team**

23rd May. Hi All. Last night's wind was really horrendous and we were advised not to move by the site owner. So we took his advice and decided to pass some time by eating lunch out. We went to Portpatrick where the winds were worse than at the caravan site. Brian and Reg really struggled to walk and we've never known Reg take so long to get into a pub. Lynda and I were in hysterics!! Lovely meal in the pub and a very bracing walk along the seafront, took lots of photos of raging seas, getting wet and salty in the process.

The next day Lynda towed for 47 miles to a lovely site, The Walled Garden, where we spent one night at a big discount from the owner. Reg left on the scooter after lunch to go to Girvan and then we drove to collect him. No internet, no mobile signals but did loads of washing.

25th May. Reg drove off the site four miles to get a signal to phone the next site but nobody picked up the phone. We decided to move hoping for the best that we could get a site. Lynda towed to near Troon where we sat in a layby while Reg and Brian went ahead to find a site (this is the first time this has happened). They found a site in Saltcoats so we drove in on satnav. When we arrived it poured hard and we all got soaked - another first. After lunch we decided to stay an extra day as it was raining too much for Reg to scoot and because he had fallen over. We decided to sit in and we had internet so we managed to send you all two updates. After looking at the maps, we decided scooting was impossible due to dual carriage ways in all directions. We all drove to Troon where we were met by a lovely lady Carolyn and a fellow crew member Walter. They gave us coffee, they showed us around the lifeboat station and also managed to get us all onto the boat for an in-depth tour, which we all thought was wonderful. After having our sandwiches and been given a few goodies, we drove back to the site. Then Reg scooted to Largs lifeboat station.

27th May. Lynda towed the caravan 59 miles to Loch Long and as we arrived it typically rained again! We arrived to discover that they had had 120mph winds which had turned two caravans over and uprooted trees all over the place. We were staying on this site for four days to cover the bank holiday weekend. The next morning Reg scooted to Helensburgh lifeboat station but it was closed. We found Reg there cold and wet. Due to the long distance to the next station we drove to Tighnabruich and Campbeltown (95 miles). Beautiful scenery and a sunny day - couldn't believe our luck. Reg had a brief encounter with two crewmen who were very disappointed that they were unable to show us around the Lifeboat or take us out on it as it was a bank holiday and they were off to do their own thing.

Must close now Reg, Brenda, Brian and Lynda and of course Sam xxxxx

## **Excerpt from North Devon Journal 28th April**

Latest lifeboat rescues and fundraising news

Appledore lifeboat station was honoured on Sunday, April 17 by a visit from Reg Marchant and his support team consisting of his wife Brenda, lifelong friend Brian Scott, and 17-year-old Sam the dog.

Reg Marchant is taking part in Scoot4Life in which he is travelling around the coast of mainland UK on a mobility scooter to raise funds for the RNLI and the British Polio fellowship.

He set off from Poole on April 2 at 2pm and is travelling in a clockwise direction.

It is expected that the trip will take six months and he averages eight mph.

Both Brian and Reg had polio as a child and this is why Reg uses the mobility scooter and he just wants to show that those with a disability can do anything an able-bodied person can.

### **13th June - Email from the Team**

Hi All. Well lots of things have happened since last the update. Reg woke up and heard a crack in his side. This was immediately painful and it was decided it was a rib, probably as a result of the fall he had a few days earlier. We left the site with Lynda towing, 9 degrees and rain. We went on to a site near Oban, a walled garden, really nice. Reg decided not to scoot so we took him to A&E in Oban where they said just take pain killers. It rained all night and we woke to rain. We hung around doing chores for a while, but in the end Reg had to venture out. In the rain he scooted to Oban lifeboat station. There was nobody there as they were all out on a shout.

The next day Lynda towed 36 miles to a site at Fort William and even backed the caravan into position for the first time, under Reg's instructions (well done Lynda). We were under the shadow of Ben Nevis with stunning scenery all around. In the evening we drove Lynda to Fort William train station where she boarded a sleeper train home after staying with us for 13 days. It was really hot and Reg had 27 miles to do to Mallaig. Brian and Brenda stopped for sandwiches and to give Sam a stretch but then Brenda fell over onto stones - very painful! So, on arrival at Mallaig, we went straight into the chemist, buying arnica and paracetamol.

4th June. We decided to go to Isle of Skye as no other sites in the area would take dogs. So 86.5 miles later, through lovely scenery, we arrived on a really small site next to a loch, The owners manhandled the caravan onto the edge of the loch with stunning views. Later during the evening she came round with our site fees, which she gave back, and an extra £20, six fresh eggs and homemade cake. The next morning she took two loads of washing from us and got it all dried while we were out doing the Kyle of Lochalsh and Portree lifeboat stations. We collected money as well, as the sun was shining and people were about-

6th June. We left for Ullapool, a 100 mile trip, broke a few bits in the caravan because of potholes in the road - plate, glass, etc. It was a nice site next to beach where we saw ringed plovers and oyster catchers on the beach. Rain all night and windy. Two caravaners gave us £15 then we left and dropped Reg off to scooter to Lochinver. It was cold, windy and rainy, and he had 19 miles to do. When we got there the crew were not very interested - which was a first. Rain all night again, but a sunny start when we left to go on to John O' Groats; 127miles and 15 degrees for us. It was a really easy run on single-track roads with passing places in beautiful scenery. We cut across Scotland rather than take the coast road which was longer and had more single-track roads. We arrived in sunshine and had time to sit out for a change. Well must close now bedtime but still light.

Happy Birthday Sue Happy Birthday Lynda. Get Well Sally. Love Reg, Brenda, Brian and Sam xxxx.

### **22nd June - Email from the Team**

Hi All. Well we moved on from John O' Groats, after visiting Thurso and Wick stations, to Dingwall 107miles away. It was 14 degrees when we left but we arrived in lovely sunshine. There we actually managed to sit out for a couple of hours, did a load of washing and got it all dried and put away, which was a result. There were good tumble driers on the site (some are not very good and just take your money). On the 11th June we took Reg to Invergordon station to start. It was open and doing fund raising. We had coffee and bought a few bits. Reg left there to scooter to Kessock station, a long ride, whilst we did a load of shopping and went on to meet Reg. By the time he arrived he was

frozen, so we went to the coffee shop for scones and coffee, then back to site and more rain all evening.

On the 13th we journeyed to Inverness where the car went in for a service and we went to Dingwall hospital where Brenda had X-rays of her sternum (following her fall) there were no breakages but it could take eight weeks to mend - very painful. We also all managed to have haircuts which we had all wanted for a couple of weeks.

On the 14th we left the site with 87 miles to do. It was 17 degrees so we felt warmer and arrived at Macduff where had sarnies. We then drove Reg to the station but there was nobody there so he scooted on to Buckie station but there was nobody there either. It was a lovely sunny day, all day, we then returned to site and spent all evening sorting out the next site.

On the 15th it was sunny and breezy to begin. Reg left for Fraserburgh station from site and, after finishing chores, we caught up with Reg who was stopped on a hill which he couldn't get up. The scooter was stopped on the spot so we all had to push it up the hill (first time this has happened). It was a one-in-five hill. The rest of journey went okay. We met the coxswain at the station, had the usual coffee and then we were really surprised to be given a £100 cheque by him from crew funds. Reg then scooted along to Peterhead, another big port, where he eventually found the station.

On the 16th it rained all night again and half the morning. We left the site to go to St Cyrus 77 miles away. The sun came out during the journey where we met lots more traffic than we have been used to. The roads have been so quiet all through Wales and Scotland but nearing Aberdeen was a shock. We arrived okay at a lovely site with lots of flowers. After sarnies we took Reg to Aberdeen station as he wasn't going to scoot the city. There we met Callum, a mechanic, who showed us around a Severn boat - the largest.

On the 17th we met the lady of the site to pay her but she wouldn't take any money so that went into the RNLI pot. Reg scooted to Montrose station. We ate our sarnies there and were given £50 from the coxswain so we did well in the last couple of days. Next was Arbroath where photos were taken in front of the boat by crew member. We met an aunt in Arbroath for couple of hours and then returned to site. We left next day in the rain. Reg and Brian were soaked by the time we left. There were 57 miles to go and it was only 11 degrees. We arrived at Markinch to stay for two days to do three stations. It was still raining. We had no electricity for a while. We upturned the caravan to check fuses, etc. only to find later that Brian had not connected it up properly. It was a different set up than usual. Lots more washing done and dried.

Well must close now and get this sent and start the next one bye for now. Love Reg, Brenda and Brian xxx.

### **10th July - Email from the Team**

Hi All. Well we still keep getting wet and the cold weather can only get better. When we arrived at Anstruther we accidentally met the press officer. So we had a chat and he took photos which he put on the RNLI website and also the Fife Courier. It was a really lovely day and it was nice to walk around and be warm. Reg then scooted to Kinghorn, a really lovely spot, had coffee and photos and chatted to crew and then back to the caravan for dinner.

On the 20th of June we left site 11.30 with 54 miles to do, 17 degrees but no sun. It was a nice site but we only stayed one day to do two lifeboat stations. After sarnies Reg scooted to North Berwick and then onto Dunbar where the weather started changing. So we caught up with Reg and helped him put on his waterproof coat but a few minutes later it was torrential rain and he reached Dunbar

absolutely soaked through. There was nobody in the station so went straight back to site so he could shower and get out of his wet clothes. There was rain during the evening and in the early hours.

We had to pack up in the rain but there were only 34 miles to do but 13 degrees. On to Eyemouth where we sat all afternoon catching up with the diary, shopping lists and odd jobs. We went over to the club on the site. We only had one drink because it was absolutely dead with only two other people there and nobody has got any money.

Rain all night again and during the morning, windy too, but it started clearing up so Reg decided to go for it. We drove him to St Abbs, a lovely harbour, we were met by the press officer who showed us emails and press cuttings which had been sent out and were internal on the RNLI website. Reg scooted on to Eyemouth station but there was nobody there. We did a big shop and returned back to site. We decided to eat out along the front. We were the only people in the pub - dead here as well but good food. We then found out one of crew of the station was owner of pub and while we were eating we saw the lifeboat go out on a shout. When we had finished we went round to see them. They were pleased to see us and gave us the station keys so that we could go there in the morning for showers, to use the phone, etc. That was brilliant!

The next morning we got up early and went to the station for showers and a cuppa then back to site. Brian had gone to the doctors for cream for his dermatitis which had decided to flare up. Reg then left for Berwick-upon-Tweed, back to England, from site. He was two hours late for a meeting with a couple of ladies who were press officers and councillors and both had been mayors. He had got himself really lost for the first time trying to avoid dual carriageways. Anyway, he eventually made it, had coffee, chat and photos, and they gave us a £5 each. Then back to the site for dinner and emails.

On the 24th it was a sunny morning with a chilly wind. Brian had a phone call from Motability to say his MOT runs out by 28th. He wasn't aware of this and thought it was in July when his car was to have a service. We moved 49 miles to Broomhill, near Amble. It was an easy run but only 15 degrees. We arrived on site but the owner not there. However we found a signpost stuck in a hedge with RNLI on. We went into town as Reg needed another three months prescription which that took a while to sort out.

Well must close now. Love Reg, Brenda, Brian and Sam xxxxx.

(We have moved on since this update but there was no Internet and the dongle ran out.)

## **12 July - Email from the Team**

Hi All. Well it's taken a long time to be able to send you an update. The signals for internet and mobiles have been really bad. On the 25th of June we did Seahouses, Craster and Amble lifeboat stations all in one day. We didn't collect much money but the weather was lovely - so nice to feel warm.

26th June We had the day off as we had managed to do three stations the day before. The weather was hot so we went to Druridge Bay and Sam and I had a paddle. Then Reg found a poppy field so he spent ages taking photos and had a lazy day. Back to site and dinner outside which made a nice change.

27th June We had a lovely start to the day and went into Amble where we did washing and banking. Reg left from Amble and scooted to Newbiggin. We caught up with him but there was nobody at station so we had our sarnies on a bench by the beach in the sun. What a change from car parks in the rain. Reg then went on to Cullercoats. There was nobody there either. It was a lovely spot, then

he scooted on to Tynemouth – the hundredth lifeboat station! We had coffee and a chat, and watched them go out on an exercise. It was a dry day for Reg but there was a thunder storm while we were at the station.

28th June Brian was up and out by 8am to take his car to Newcastle for a service and MOT. Reg and I had to have the day off. More washing done, a meal out and a general look around. Brian phoned in the afternoon to say the car had failed the MOT and needed welding done on the exhaust. Luckily someone brought him back to site.

29th June Brian had a phone call at 8am to say that the car would be ready in a couple of hours. We started packing up the caravan and went and collected the car. We moved on 57 miles on a really hot day to Hartlepool. We did all the utilities and went and got shopping and diesel.

30th June Reg scooted to Sunderland lifeboat station but there was nobody there. He went on to Seaham where we all met up for our sarnies, then Reg scooted into Hartlepool where he met Garry and had a cuppa. Lots of photos were taken which would be going into a newspaper in a couple of days. Back to site and dinner, etc. We had some lovely photos emailed to us of Abi, our granddaughter, getting ready for the proms she looked stunning.

1st July We left site to move 45 miles to Whitby. It was a really lovely day again. We struggled to find the site and, when we did, we had a further struggle putting the caravan on site as the car started stalling. It hadn't done this since Aberystwyth. It just isn't happy reversing up a slight incline. Fortunately a man in the next caravan came out and hooked it up on his four by four and managed the job. We think the ram brake needs greasing again!!! We went into Whitby in the evening and took photos of the abbey. Reg fell over again and badly grazed his knee, otherwise he was okay though. Whitby was heaving with people.

2nd July It was a really hot day. We drove 26 miles to Redcar, a huge place with lots of people about. We found the lifeboat station where we took a few quick photos then moved on to Staithes and Runswick down a very steep hill. There was nobody there but it was a very beautiful spot with a nice harbour. We returned to site, sat out, and had dinner outside for a change.

3rd July A beautiful morning with blue skies and hot Reg scooted into Whitby. It was really packed out and we only collected a little because we had been seen in paper. We had the afternoon off and went on a steam train from Grosemont to Pickering - really boring scenery. Back at site it was still hot so we sat outside for an hour before getting dinner. We found the dongle had run out so we had to phone Tony, Reg's son, to find out what to do. Reg sorted it out the next day.

Well, must close to try and get this to you as we are running behind. Bye for now. Happy Birthday Terry and Laura xxxx. Love Reg, Brenda and Brian xxx

### **19th July – Email from the Team**

Hi All. 4th July. We were up and out earlier than usual. It was hot and sunny with 27 miles to go. It was a lovely site with kennels in a place called Hunmanby. Brian turned up late so there were three of us to push the caravan into position, which was quite a task. We went into Filey and found a launderette, where we did two loads of washing, and did a big shop to last a few more days. We returned back to the site for dinner. The internet was really bad.

5th July. Happy Birthday Terry!! We took Reg to Scarborough lifeboat station to meet the press officer. We had photos taken then Reg scooted onto Filey. Both stations actually knew we were on the way. Next Reg scooted onto Flamborough station but there was nobody there. It was a very

secluded empty beach - totally dead. We returned to site where it started raining and went on for the rest of the evening. Tony arranged for Hull Newspaper to visit us next day at Bridlington at 3pm (it was in Hull and East Riding paper yesterday) so we had a little lie in, showers, fry up and caught up with odd jobs.

6th July. We left at 1:30 to do the eight miles to Bridlington where we arrived to meet Stuart the coxswain. It was nice and sunny. We had our sarnies and coffee out in front of the station and hoped to see people as we were in the paper the day before but, as we finished coffee, the heavens opened. It was torrential for a while so not much was collected. The press turned up again for more photos which will be in The Hull Daily mail on Friday. On the way back to site we stopped at Hunmanby Gap where we walked Sam up the cliffs. It was really warm, and a lovely long sandy beach. We returned to site for a cuppa then into Filey for a meal in a pub.

7th July. We took the day off and moved on 18 miles, went out and got more toilet chemicals and a new gas bottle.

8th July. The next day we moved to Withernsea, only 26 miles, 17 degrees, sunshine and showers. Arrived okay. It was a nice easy site to put the caravan on. Reg was really happy as there was a pub along the road, just a two-minute walk. So we had our meal there in the evening (and found out we didn't have to pay for the site which was great).

9th July. A sunny start and out by 11 o'clock. Reg scooted to Withernsea lifeboat station from the site. There he had photos taken and a long chat. Brian and I had to nip to the launderette again as there was more washing to be done and dried (costing a fortune). Reg then scooted off to Humber station, 16 miles away, and was told the scooter wouldn't make it. We caught up with him in the pub car park. Someone had given him £10 as they had seen him through pub window. We had our sarnies then went on to Spurn Point to where Humber station is situated. It was a lovely area – a nature reserve. It took Reg quite a while to do the three miles along the track. It was sandy, narrow, and slow. We met the crew who knew we were coming and had the usual coffee and chat. We stayed two and a half hours and had photos taken. They were all so surprised he had made it on the scooter.

Next day the lady who owned the site came to see us and said we should go to Withernsea lifeboat station as they were having bike ride from there. Reg scooted in to Withernsea, met the mayor, who gave us a donation as also did a business man. We were then invited to the village hall for refreshments. We stayed a while then returned to site and moved caravan on another 75 miles.

Well must close now. We are still a little behind with updates due to the internet. Bye for now love, Reg, Brenda and Brian xxx.

### **27th July – Email from the Team**

Hi All. 11th July. Up and out in a lovely sunny morning, 21degrees. We went to Cleethorpes, a lovely clean place and promenade. We found the lifeboat station, chatted and had coffee. Reg left there to go on to Mablethorpe. Brian and I hung around to try and collect money but the place was dead so we drove to Mablethorpe. It was dead there as well but very nice. We had an ice cream then back to the site. I can't believe the lack of people about.

12th July. It was sunny and breezy. Reg left site and scooted to Skegness while Brian and I got fuel and did our banking. We went on to the lifeboat station where we had coffee and photos. We managed to collect a little. We shopped and cooked dinner and found out the site was free so we saved £30.

13th July. We moved 87 miles to Burnham Market where the site was okay. We had our sarnies. The TV signal and mobile reception was really bad. We drove into Wells to have a look around. It was a lovely place with lots of boats. We took a long walk with Sam along the tow path then returned to site and had dinner. We tried the Internet but it was really bad.

14th July. There was rain and wind during the night. Colin texted to say Leanne started contractions during night. Happy Birthday Laura!! We drove Reg to Hunstanton where we met the station manager who showed us around. There was a lovely sandy beach there but nobody on it. Reg went on to Wells. When we caught up with him we found the lifeboat station and stayed after coffee to watch an exercise. We returned to site for dinner. No TV - rubbish signal.

15th July. Colin texted to say Harley was born in the early hours and he sent a lovely picture on the phone. We moved to North Walsham which was only 35 miles away. After all the utilities were set up we left for Sheringham lifeboat station. It took ages to find and took lots of walking. We were given a donation then Reg left for Cromer station. We caught up with each other and chatted to mechanic there. The station was at the end of the pier - a really long walk. We got directions to Happisburgh station where Reg had to sit around for ages waiting for us. It was really hard to find and very isolated. So we did three stations and moved on as it was Reg's birthday the next day and we wanted him to have day off.

16th July. We had a lie in, in the morning. Reg opened his birthday cards in bed. He hadn't expected so many (people had done them in advance). When Jim arrived from Edenbridge to see us at 9am, he came loaded with goodies and then took us out for lunch. We had a lovely roast - the first one for 15 weeks. In the afternoon, after Jim had left, we had lots of birthday texts and emails to answer.

Well must close now. Love from Reg, Brenda, Brian and Sam xx.

### **6th August – Email from the Team**

Hi All. 17th July. We moved on to Wrentham 43 miles away. When we arrived it was hot and sunny for a while so we did some washing. It then rained hard so we had to put the airer in the shower. The TV reception was terrible but the mobiles were not as bad.

18th July. The rain during night was really noisy but it was dry in the morning. We left site to go to Great Yarmouth where we found the lifeboat station. We had a look around then left for Lowestoft station. It started raining hard for a while and we returned went to site.

19th July. Reg scootered from site to Southwold station whilst Brian and I spent two hours in the launderette - so boring. After that came Aldeburgh where we found station and some crew. It was a really nice area. Back to site for dinner.

20th July. We moved to Thorpe-le-Soken near Clacton. It was a nice easy run, 56 miles. TV was brilliant but the mobiles were bad. We drove to Harwich station, met two crew and chatted to the lady in the shop. Reg then left for Walton and Frinton. He found the station at the end of pier and the crew room elsewhere. He had photos taken and was told they might appear in the local papers. He then scootered on to Clacton along the prom. It didn't take long but it was dead there and no money was collected.

16 weeks away today. I tried to book a hair appointment but they were all booked up. We drove to Colchester then dropped Reg off with nine miles to go. We couldn't do it any other way because of road system. He went on to West Mersea station. Brian and I arrived first and sat in a café then Reg turned up. A couple of men were looking at scooter and we discovered that they were crew. They

phoned the station officer who arrived on his bike, took photos and showed us around. He was very pleased to see us. It was raining hard all night and difficult to sleep.

The next day we went to Little Bromley where we met Lynda, Simon and Eloise for lunch. They were on the way back from Norwich after their daughter's graduation. They kindly treated us all to lunch and it was nice to catch up.

24th July. We were up and out with 48 miles to go to Burnham-on-Crouch. It was lovely and warm. On arrival we did all the utilities. Brian left to go to London to collect his road tax and stayed until the following evening. Meanwhile Reg and I did all the shopping, washing, etc. and looked around.

26th July. Reg left site earlyish in a chilly wind to scooter to Burnham-on-Crouch station. There was nobody there then on to Southend station. We managed to collect some money for a change. We went onto the pier and visited the shop but there were no crew around.

27th July. We travelled on to Ramsgate, a 97-mile journey, and into Kent at last. It was a lovely site but expensive. It started to drizzle so we got the computer out. The signal was ok so we caught up with things. I have now learnt how to upload my video clips onto You Tube. We went for a look round and sussed out the lifeboat station.

28th July. We got up and went into town and booked a hair appointment. We then went on to Sheerness station which was in the docks. Luckily we had phoned ahead as we had to fill in forms and wear a one day pass. We couldn't take any photos except of the station itself. We met Robin, the coxswain, had coffee and ate our lunch there. He gave us £20. We found out that Sam shouldn't have been in car (we didn't know) because of rabies. Onto travelled on to Whitstable which was really hot. We waited around for Reg to arrive when we noticed Adrian Edmonson walk by with a film crew. After filming we were going to approach him but he had disappeared.

29th July. Reg scootered from site to Margate. He met a few of the crew and went on the boat he then left for Ramsgate. We had our lunch there and went on to Walmer station where they were waiting. They gave us £15.

30th July. We drove Reg to Walmer from where he set off for Dover. We arrived first. There were a few people around as it was an open day. Reg turned up at 12 o'clock so we all had a cuppa and photos were taken. We left and were just on the move when Tony and Laura and dogs turned up - what a lovely surprise! We returned to Ramsgate to get my hair done whilst Brian and Reg tried to collect money. It was very hot. We spent a couple of hours in the pub garden which was very nice.

31st July. Ann and Ray came today. They spent all day and the evening with us, out and about taking photos.

Well will close now. I've caught up to end of the month but probably won't be able to send more for a few days. See you soon Reg, Brenda, Brian and Sam xx.

### **11th August – The final email from the Team**

Hi All. 1st August. We left the site at Ramsgate and drove 55 miles to Peasmarsh, to camp behind The Cock Inn, which was handy. Meridian TV phoned to say they were going to meet us the next day (Tony arranged this). In the evening we went to Tenterden to do shopping and on to Ann and Ray's for dinner and showers.

2nd August. We were up early and out to Littlestone station when Meridian phoned and cancelled due to two murders in the area. There was nobody at the station so we went on to Dungeness

station where we waited for Reg. On arrival we met the coxswain and had a chat about an experimental jet boat they had there. We then moved on to Rye station which was closed. Ann, Ray and Ray's mum and dad turned up with our washing and money which they had collected for us. We returned to site and had our meal in the pub.

3rd August. Moved 28 miles to Stonecross Nursery near Pevensey Bay. It was really hot. On arrival we chatted to the site owner who very generously gave us our site fees back. In the evening we went to see our friend Jenny who used to run The King and Queen in Edenbridge.

4th August. It was raining hard when we woke. We left site and dropped Reg off to do Hastings station. It was still raining hard when he arrived and he was soaked through. He couldn't believe it. There was Ann, three of her daughters, about eight children, one husband and Ann's neighbour who is nearly 93. They were all cheering him on, all soaked. We went into the station where they showed the children the boat and made hot drinks. Reg then scooted on to Sovereign Harbour where Eastbourne lifeboat is stationed and had coffee and a chat with coxswain.

5th August. It was a nice and sunny hot morning. We dropped Reg off at Sovereign Harbour and he scooted to Newhaven station, quite a long way. We were surprised by Tony and Laura turning up. We had a quick chat then all went to Brighton Marina and waited for Reg to arrive. We went into a pub for a drink, and then looked around the station. Back to site in the evening where Ann and Win came and collected all my washing to do for me.

6th August. We moved on 54 miles to Birdham through really bad traffic. It took us ages to get there then it started raining so we got on the computer and managed to do a few things. We went into Chichester and did shopping.

7th August. We phoned Brenda's dad to wish him a Happy Birthday and Maddox (grandson) who is two. We then had a fry up and did washing, etc. all morning and took the afternoon off, walking along Chichester canal and generally relaxing. In the evening we went to see Reg cousin at Bosham Harbour.

8th August. We drove Reg to Shoreham station had a look round then left for Littlehampton. It was a lovely day again but windy. Ann, Ray Win and Carol turned up with my washing and we all walked along to the station, had a drink and walked back. We had a meal and a catch up in a restaurant.

9th August. We went to Selsey station, had a look around and chatted with the coxswain. Reg then scooted to Hayling Island station. It took him nearly four hours. We were met there by Dee and the station master. They were pleased to see us and gave us a booklet on the station. We then travelled to Portsmouth. We had to go mostly in the car because of the road system. We took lots of photos at Portsmouth and had coffee there. We didn't leave until 7.30 in the evening and it was still warm.

10th August. We moved to near Milford on Sea to do the last four stations. It was sunny but windy. We went for drive around and into Christchurch.

11th August. We woke to rain so we decided to do Calshot, Lymington and Mudeford the following day as better weather was forecast. We plan to finish the day after (Saturday 13th) back at Poole station where we started from originally. We hoped to get to Poole station around two o'clock and then onto RNLI HQ. Hopefully we would also be allowed to look around the college.

This is our last update! We hope it gets through as the signal is bad again. Hope we haven't bored you. See you all soon. Love Reg, Brenda, Brian and of course Sam xx.

### **7th September - The final final email from the Team**

Hi All. Here is the very last update. Reg arrived at Poole Bridge lifeboat station to be greeted by the coxswain and crew, and the local newspaper. After a hot cuppa Reg was presented with a knitted RNLI man and a Poole RNLI clock. Lots of photos later we all walked to the RNLI college where we were met by loud cheers from friends, family and Meridian who filmed and interviewed us. After a couple of glasses of champagne, we went into the college where we had a guided tour and a talk, followed by sandwiches and a drink. What a fantastic day it was and a brilliant way to end the project.

The next day Brian went home leaving us to have a couple of days on our own to visit friends and look around the area. We arrived home on the 17th and only now feel we are straight.

We would like to thank everyone who helped in any way with the project. To date we have raised £4,600 and rising.

Best Regards Reg, Brenda, Brian and Sam. xx

### **3rd January 2012 - Email from Brenda and Reg**

Just to inform you that we will be handing over a cheque for £5000.00 to the RNLI on Saturday the 7th of January from Scoot4Life at Hastings lifeboat station.