

World Record breaker ends another record breaking adventure at the RAF Museum

SAILING world record holder Mike Perham is attempting to become the youngest person to circumnavigate the world by land, sea and air – and he's well on his way to achieving it.

Monday 3rd December

The adventurous 20 year old hit the headlines in 2009 when he became the youngest person to sail around the world.

Today Mike has completed the second leg of his record-breaking attempt in a Spaceship – a specially adapted Toyota Previa. Mike will come home to a welcome party at the Royal Air Force Museum in London where he will speak about his trip and announced the third part of his record attempt – to fly around the globe.

Mike's epic drive took him through 20 countries from the UK through Europe, Russia, China, Laos, Singapore, Australia, New Zealand, through the USA and back onto British soil.

The explorer from **Potters Bar**, Hertfordshire, made special stop-offs in six countries, including Thailand, China and New Zealand, where international aid relief charity ShelterBox has responded in the aftermath of a disaster. Mike hopes to raise at least £1 for every mile for ShelterBox.

Mike said: "I'm really pleased to be on my way home and I'm looking forward to seeing family and friends – and to having a cup of English tea. It has been an amazing and, at times, a challenging trip. The Spaceship was my home for 155 days and it's stood the test of time on tricky terrain, especially through southern China."

During his drive through China, Mike visited the Sichuan Province where ShelterBox responded to a 7.9-magnitude earthquake on 12 May 2008.

Mike said: "I was fortunate enough to meet one of the beneficiaries of a ShelterBox whose home had been destroyed in the earthquake. It's not hard to see that the aid sent out by ShelterBox made a huge difference for those in need."

John Morley, head of Spaceships Campervans UK & Europe said: "After an epic 23,000 mile trip in one of our campervans, we're delighted to welcome Mike back to the UK. Just like our customers, he will have returned from his adventure with some amazing stories. Our aim as a company has always been to help adventurous travellers get off the beaten track and create their own experiences. Mike has certainly led the way here."

ShelterBox general manager Tim Bunting said: "We are over the moon that Mike has undertaken this epic drive in aid of ShelterBox. We arranged for Mike to visit the sites of six of our previous deployments along the way in the Ukraine, China, Thailand, Australia, New Zealand and the USA. Mike was able to meet with

volunteers and had the chance to talk with those affected by the disaster and ultimately helped ShelterBox – the spread of the countries Mike has driven through is staggering and we are very happy we have been able to engage Mike in real examples of our work along the way. His ambition, commitment and determination to complete this incredible trip is phenomenal.”

Ends

NOTES TO EDITORS

Contact Laura Dale, Mike Perham Big Drive Press Officer for images or more information on [07799 895 156](tel:07799895156) or email info@paperandinkpr.co.uk

High resolution photos are also available to download here <http://www.flickr.com/photos/77335679@N04/>

- Spaceships are like a good car to drive with more useful features than a large UK campervan rental. Compact, fuel-efficient and easy to drive - Spaceships really are an all in one solution for a campervan hire in the UK and Europe. For more information on Spaceships Campervans go to www.spaceshipsrentals.tv
- ShelterBox is an international disaster relief charity that provides emergency shelter and life-saving supplies to families around the world who are affected by disasters. Since 2000 ShelterBox have responded to earthquakes, floods, volcanoes, tsunamis, hurricanes, landslides, typhoons and conflict, delivering lifesaving aid to families across the globe at a time when they need it the most.

ShelterBox aims to help the areas where the need is greatest by providing shelter, warmth, comfort and dignity to families in the immediate aftermath of a disaster. Each big, green ShelterBox is tailored to every disaster but typically contains a disaster relief tent for an extended family, blankets, water purification and storage equipment, cooking utensils, a stove, a basic tool kit, a children's activity pack and other vital items. For all the latest information on ShelterBox's work around the world, including ways you can help, please visit www.shelterbox.org

RAF museum notes to Editors:

- Royal Air Force Museum London, Grahame Park Way, London, NW9 5LL
- Open daily from 10am
- Admission to the Royal Air Force Museum is free of charge.
- RAF Museum London images & logo available at: <http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/research/media-vault.aspx>
- For further information and all media enquiries please contact Ajay Srivastava on 020 8358 6410 or email ajay@rafmuseum.org
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