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Jason takes to water in boat made of bottle tops



Jason Embleton in his boat made from bottle tops

Jason Embleton has just taken to the River Cam - in a boat made of 10,000 milk bottle tops.

He has spent the past three years creating a little boat, and to cap it all, he has paddled along the River Cam in it to raise hundreds of pounds for a charity in Cambridge.

Jason, 39, from Histon, who is married with a young child, works as a project manager for the Medical Research Council in Cambridge. He is a supporter of the WRVS, which has a shop at Addenbrooke's Hospital – and he decided to do something to raise money for the charity.

Jason said: "Ever since I was a little boy I've wanted to make my own boat, and so I came up with the idea of making one, and then doing a sponsored paddle.

"The idea I had was to collect milk bottle caps and use them to make the body of the boat. The tops can be melted in a saucepan into a liquid, and can then be moulded into panels, which fit together inside a casing.

"The WRVS collected all the bottle caps for me, and I've spent about three years building the boat, in the garage.

"I wanted to recycle material as part of the project and tried many different types of waste products. I settled on milk carton caps because they can be melted into a spreadable goo that can be re-melted and re-shaped."

Jason launched the vessel at the weekend, and completed a four-mile, four-hour sponsored trip along the river, from Jesus Green all the way to

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Waterbeach.

He said: "It was a bit of a journey, and not without its problems. I had to lift the boat out of the water to negotiate Baile's Bite lock, and the boat got damaged. I had also been worried about being attacked by swans, and sure enough one had a go at me, but eventually backed off."

So far, he has raised £500, and said: "My next challenge is to build Mark II of the boat – a bigger version."

Can you beat Jason? Tell us about your crazy inventions. Post a comment below or email newsdesk@cambridge-news.co.uk

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carol bull now we know who the running man is! well done jason

21/06/2011 08:23

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Ilivere Good charity project Jason Thanks for reminding us of the volunteers at the WRVS shop and charity, they do a very good job at Addenbrookes.

13/06/2011 22:24

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Anna well done Jason,what a great idea

13/06/2011 18:07

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Mr Mathmos I have a great idea, how about a bus that runs on concrete tracks and will take a little while to build, it may have lots of problems with the contractors building it but best of all it might costs millions upon millions of pounds, any takers. It may even lose millions of pounds due to the novelty value wearing a little thin.

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