



Beth Barnes & Triple Crown
Open Water Swimmer Jim Barber

PRESS RELEASE

Cobra Kayaks Partners w/Beth Barnes Open Water Swimming Kayak Support Specialist

Gardena, CA, USA – Beth Barnes and Cobra Kayaks have joined together to promote the vital role that kayak support provides to Open Water Swimmers.

Beth Barnes, a 53 year old, mother of 2, after taking up kayaking in May 2010, has provided kayak support during the summer of 2010, to 12 swimmers in their quest to cross the San Pedro Channel. Known in open water swimming circles as the “Catalina Crossing”, a grueling 21 mile swim that begins at midnight from the Isthmus on Catalina Island, and with much perseverance, some luck and steady kayak support, finishes at up to 15 hours or more and lands at the Terreneia Cove on the Palos Verdes Peninsula. The Catalina Crossing is recognized as one of the 3 Jewels of the Triple Crown of Open Water Swimming which also includes the Manhattan Island Marathon Swim and the English Channel.

Ms. Barnes’ has paddled many different types of kayaks during her crossings. Her kayak of choice for supporting her open water swimmers is the Cobra Escape. At a length of just 11’3”, 31” wide and weighting less than 50 lbs, Beth describes her experience with her Cobra Escape as *“I’ve used different kayaks but found the Cobra Escape to be far superior in handling and durability”*. She has also commented, *“it is really light so I can handle it myself, very steady especially when I need to get through the surf to launch, and easy to maneuver so my swimmers always know I am here, but never in the way.”* Expert ocean kayakers are equally amazed at not only Beth’s advanced paddling skills but her use of a short, recreational, sit-on-top, roto-molded plastic kayak for such an extensive and potentially dangerous 21 mile journey across the open ocean.

You can read more about Beth Barnes, her future paddling challenges and the support she provides for open water swimmers on her web site, www.ikayak4u.com. To see the complete line of Cobra Kayak recreational, fishing, training and touring kayaks, please visit www.cobrakayaks.com.

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