News Release

For Immediate Release

24th July 2019

**MDL raises over £6,000 for RNLI, as BMW i8 wins Big Bay ECO Challenge**

On Sunday 21st July 2019 MDL’s Torquay Marina hosted the Big Bay ECO Challenge, an exciting eco-powered race from Brixham to Torquay Marina featuring five competitors.

Driven by an anonymous white helmet clad racing driver, the BMW i8 came in first, followed by cyclist Tom Wills from Sunseeker.  Third place went to Tom Bills aboard the Bavaria yacht and the Schiller Bike powered by Lee Constable, a semi-professional cyclist, was fourth. Last, but not least, was Sean White from WeSUP on his stand-up paddleboard.

The five were competing to raise awareness of greener ways to travel and to raise money for the RNLI. Overall the challenge raised over £6,000 for the lifesaving charity.

This friendly, but rather competitive, race started from the RNLI lifeboat station at Brixham at 10.30 with the competitors heading across and, in the case of the BMW i8, around Torbay. Throngs of spectators watched the challenge from various points around the bay with many taking to the water to have a ringside seat.

“I would like to thank everyone who supported the challenge; the fantastic sponsors who donated such wonderful prizes, the competitors who made the competition so enjoyable to watch and also the staff at the marina who help make events like these run as smoothly possible,” says Mike Smith, Manager of Torquay Marina. “It was a really fun way to drive home an important message, about using eco-friendly modes of transport.”

See more online at [https://www.bigbayecochallenge.co.uk](http://webdefence.global.blackspider.com/urlwrap/?q=AXicY3BmUOxlYFDuZ2Aoyqk0Ms7SKy4q08tNzMxJzs8rKcrP0UvOz2WoMPNzDvR0djcwNjS3tGAI0gvOSCwqcMhNyclNLMrMSywGqtIrzWbIKCkpKLbS1y8vL9dLykxPSqxMTc5PzkjMyUnNS0-FKmJgeFfHwAAA9nUnRQ&Z) or find out about Torquay Marina at [www.torquaymarina.co.uk](http://www.torquaymarina.co.uk)

**ENDS**

**Notes for editors:**

**Image attached**: Winner receiving award

1. **MDL Marinas**

* MDL Marinas is the UK’s leading marina and water-based leisure provider and one of Europe’s largest marina groups, offering members over 120 destinations to cruise to in the UK, France, Italy and Spain through Freedom Berthing. Currently MDL Marinas manage 18 UK marinas, 1 in Italy and 1 in Spain.
* MDL Marinas is proud to be landlords to over 500 marine business companies, with over 260 staff delivering the unique MDL experience to all members, guests and commercial partners.
* The company also advises on worldwide marina developments including Europe and China.
* For more information visit www.mdlmarinas.co.uk

**MAA**

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