

Eco pair's epic run aims to set new world record

by **ELLEN BEARDMORE**
News Reporter

TWO ecologists are bidding to become the first couple to run the length of South America - to raise cash for environmental charities.

Katharine Lowri and husband David, both University of Sheffield alumni, will begin their year-long epic journey on July 27.

The committed conservationists aim to raise money for BirdLife International and Conservacion Patagonica, to buy and conserve threatened habitats in South America.

The distance of the expedition, over 5,000 miles, will be the equivalent of running over 200 marathons in a year.

They will face a freezing Patagonian winter, gale force winds in the Argentine Pampas and steaming heat in the Amazon rainforest.

They will pull their expedition gear in a specially-designed trailer made of recycled materials.

Katharine, who could also become the first woman to run the length of the country, said: "We hope that through sweat, tears and determination, we'll open a portal into the last wilds of South America and rekindle people's passion for running and our amazing natural world.

"It's not too late to protect the world's remaining unspoilt ecosystems, but time is running out."

Through online media at www.5000mileproject.org the

couple also want to connect people from around the world to South America's wildlife.



Bid: David and Katharine Lowri.





In training: David and Katharine Lowri will run more than 5,000 miles through tough terrain.

