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TWO student petrol heads from Beaconsfield are dressing up as Batman and Robin and racing across Europe in a Volvo to raise money for the Teenage Cancer Trust. Crime-fighting duo Sam Perry and Tom Openshaw are taking part in the Student Gumball Rally and will be driving 1,500 miles from Dover to Croatia, passing through France, Germany, the Czech Republic and Hungary, in their clapped out old banger. Sam, 23, who has just finished a four-year degree in event management at Leeds Metropolitan University, said: "Tom and I have always been into doing strange things like this." "We've done quite a few random road trips. I can always rely on Tom. "We're both really into our cars and we saw it on the internet and entered it. We have always got involved in these ridiculous things. My family sort of despair of me." The rules for the six-day rally state that teams must drive a car with an engine no bigger than two litres. But Tom and Sam went shopping by colour as they wanted their car to be eye-catching by dressing it up. Their original plan was to go as Starsky and Hutch but they had difficulty finding a suitable red car. It was when they spotted a black Volvo 340 for sale on eBay in Norfolk that they came up with the idea of going as Batman and Robin. And so the 1.7 litre rust bucket was transformed into the caped crusader's batmobile and the lads will be travelling under the name Team Gotham Racing. Tom, also 23, who is in his final year at Birmingham University studying commerce and Spanish, is going as Robin. He said: "We did paper, scissors, stone and I lost, that's why I've got to wear the yellow Y-fronts over my costume - I definitely got the short straw. We're going to stick out quite a bit." The boys are not too worried about their motor conking out on the way, having both had a history of owning Volvos. Tom added: "We've always had crap cars." "If it breaks down, it was only 70 quid. We'll get an Easy Jet flight back. "As long as it's nothing major we should be able to bodge it together to get back." More than 500 students from ten countries are taking part in this year's rally, with £1,000 prize money up for grabs for the winners. But this is no ordinary race and the winners are rewarded on team spirit, rather than who gets across the finishing line fastest. Sam said: "It's not about who's first. It's more to do with getting involved, helping people out that have broken down. It should be a good laugh."