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'Students to sell rally car for charity'

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Driving ambition led a trio to enter one of the world's most famous car events for charity. Alex Lawrence, from Meadowbank, Great Coates, Alan Gladding, a computer student at Huddersfield University, originally from Rothwell and Karl Pearman, a chemical engineering student at Hull University, originally from Immingham, competed against 150 other teams in the student Gumball Rally. The trip covered over 3,000 miles from Dover to Croatia, in Eastern Europe, and back again. The former Franklin college students were on the road for a total of nine days, often driving for up to 12 hours at a time, dividing the driving responsibilities between them. Their efforts raised an estimated £2,000 for the Teenage Cancer Trust and the When You Wish Upon A Star foundation. And now, the three 20-year-olds are hoping to raise even more by selling the car they used. The 03 registered Toyota Avensis was a replacement for a Mercedes that had been donated to them. Unfortunately, the trio were unable to insure the more expensive car and traded it in. And while Alex jokingly admits to having added a few miles to the Avensis' clock, he is hoping the chance to contribute money to a worthy cause will encourage potential buyers to bid for it. The computer student, who is currently based at the Scarborough campus of Hull University, said: "We did more than 3,000 miles on the trip. The car has done 43,000." Taking part in the rally was a worthwhile experience. Karl, from Immingham, added: "The race was good - a lot of fun." "I would do it again, but it was quite exhausting." Anyone interested in making an offer for the Toyota Avensis should call Karl Pearman on 07877 262506. Details of the two charities are on www.teenagecancertrust.org and www.whenyouwishuponastar.org.uk