

New Wheelyboats spring into action!



Lady Mary Holborow and Echo Centre members take Siblyback Lake's brand new Wheelyboat on its maiden voyage.



Patrick and Warren Veale and Wheelyboat Trust Director, Andy Beadsley, ready for a day's trout fishing on Somerset's Clatworthy Reservoir.

Fermoy & District Anglers' new Mk III on the River Blackwater. The boat is used by disabled people for pleasure trips and salmon fishing.

FIVE NEW Mk III Wheelyboats have been launched this spring at venues in England, Wales and Ireland. The new boats are located at Siblyback Lake (Liskeard), Clatworthy Reservoir (Taunton), Sutton Bingham Reservoir (Yeovil), Staylitttle Outdoor Centre (Llyn Clywedog) and the River Blackwater (Fermoy). These boats provide disabled people with access to a wide variety of activities including nature watching, pleasure boating and angling. The Mk III, developed by the Trust last year, is its most versatile Wheelyboat to date.

More than a hundred guests joined the Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall,



Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall pops the bubbly at Sutton Bingham.

Lady Mary Holborow, for the launch of Siblyback's new Wheelyboat. The boat's principal users will be from the Echo Centre in Liskeard, a day centre for disabled people, which raised the majority of funds to purchase the boat. They will use it for activity days on the lake with their accessible sailing dinghy.

Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall charmed guests at the launch of the Sutton Bingham Wheelyboat with a story of how his father helped him catch a mackerel in Richmond Park when he was six! He has been hooked ever since.

Fermoy's Mk III was purchased after some spectacular fundraising events, most notably a 255ft bungee jump over the river by Glenda Powell.



Wheelyboat competition

SPONSORED BY Corus Tubes, the Wheelyboat Rainbow Reel-In Competition runs at Eyebrook Trout Fishery until 1st October. It is open to all Wheelyboat users (disabled anglers and their companions) and offers some fantastic prizes. The heaviest bag overall wins a £400 tackle voucher and the heaviest rainbow overall wins a £200 tackle voucher. There is also the chance to win two 'out of the hat' £50 vouchers simply by entering. Prizes for the heaviest bag and rainbow each month are also up for grabs, sponsored by Stuart Illsley from Rutland Fishing. Eyebrook Trout Fishery sets the standard for disabled-accessible fisheries—a warm welcome, excellent facilities and first class fishing is guaranteed. The Wheelyboat Rainbow Reel-In is the icing on the cake for disabled anglers at Eyebrook and an opportunity simply not to be missed. Entry costs just £2.

Welcome new Trustees

THE TRUST is delighted to announce that five new Trustees have joined the Board following the retirement of three Trustees earlier this year. The Trust is very sad to lose Anthea Mallett, Chris Bywater and Greg McGregor but is immensely grateful to them for their hard work and years of service.

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees in June, Trust Chairman, Anthony Duckworth-Chad, welcomed the new Trustees. The Trust is aiming to broaden the appeal of the Wheelyboat and help more disabled people access a wider range of waterborne activities. It is therefore about to undergo a significant period of development and he felt sure that the new Trustees possessed the skills and influence to help bring this about. The new Trustees are Elizabeth Macdonald-Buchanan, George West, Charles van Straubensee, Adrian Scrope and Alistair Scott.

Wheelyboats For All

IN ORDER for the Trust to expand its influence, broaden the appeal of the Wheelyboat and encourage wider usage, it needs to develop relationships with other organisations within the disability sector and publicise the availability and potential use of the boats to disabled people across a wider range of ages and interests.

Contact has been made with other disability organisations with whom there is some synergy and the feedback has been very positive. All will be communicating the role of Wheelyboats in their various publications and some have expressed an interest in their members benefiting from the use of boats at their own locations

The Wheelyboats For All project goes from strength to strength. It is the most important development in the Trust's history and is on course to deliver its general aims of broadening the use and availability of Wheelyboats.



Rachel Dewhurst, ambassador for children's charity Whizz-Kidz, boards the Sutton Bingham Wheelyboat for its maiden voyage.

Alan Faulkner Memorial Award 2007

THIS YEAR'S award will be presented at the CLA Game Fair in July to the game fishery that provides disabled anglers with the most outstanding service, facilities, opportunities and access. Nominations are now being sought for fisheries to join the elite group of winners including last year's, the Lake of Menteith. The award is generously sponsored by Suzuki Marine and one of their 4hp outboards is the prize to the winning fishery. Nomination forms are available on the website, www.wheelyboats.org, or from John Hood, tel 01383 881476. If you feel your favourite game fishery deserves recognition for the efforts it makes to accommodate disabled anglers, do please nominate them. Everyone nominating a fishery will be entered into a draw for a £50 Sportfish voucher.

*Please donate,
it's very easy.....*

The excellent work we undertake is funded entirely by voluntary donations. Enclosed are two Gift Aid forms—one for one-off donations and the other for regular donations. Gifts of any amount are hugely appreciated but if you can afford a regular monthly or quarterly donation by standing order it would make such a difference. Forms are also available on the website—www.wheelyboats.org.

Many thanks indeed!

New Wheelyboat model will revolutionise disabled angling

THIS YEAR will see the design and launch of a stillwater version of the Tweed Wheelyboat which was developed by the Trust last year. The stillwater version will be an important addition to the Wheelyboat fleet and will help the Trust in its aims of creating a portfolio of different craft that meet the needs of a broad range of users and activities, rather than making do with a one-size-fits-all solution. The stillwater model will be a dedicated angling boat for use on larger waters such as reservoirs and lochs.

While standard Wheelyboats have proved invaluable at providing access to disabled anglers for the past 22 years, their design has always been a compromise between performance and accessibility, with accessibility being the major component. The stillwater model will retain 100% of the performance of a purpose-built angling boat while enabling disabled anglers to board easily and safely from a pontoon. The boat's deck will be level throughout and the angler can sit at the bow or stern and take the helm if he wishes. It will easily accommodate two wheelchair users. The boat will be based on Jim Coulam's 16' reservoir boat which has a broad and stable 6' beam. Extra ballast will be added to the keel to increase stability even further. The boat will provide a safe and stable platform for disabled anglers; it will be easy to use and, very importantly, it will look and perform like all the other boats in the fleet. Standard Wheelyboats differ in size and shape to the rest of a fishery's fleet and, as a result, some disabled anglers feel conspicuous when using them. Not only will the stillwater model be identical to other boats, it can be used by anyone, disabled or not, thus appealing to fisheries as a genuinely dual-purpose craft. The new boat should be in production by the autumn.

We would like to express our enormous thanks to the following for their recent generous support:

Henry Smith Charity, CLA Charitable Trust, Inchcape Foundation, Misses Barrie Charitable Trust, Trustees of the SK Ismay Will Trust, Scobell Charitable Trust, Chapman Charitable Trust, Late Mrs Francis Crabtree Charitable Trust, Lynn Foundation, Essex Mason Trust, Mary Webb Trust, MacCabe Charitable Trust, Chigboro Fisheries, Muriel Woellwarth Trust, Lockwood Flyfishers, Wessex Water, Piers Blewitt and Great Portland Estates plc, Dr HCI Bywater, Mrs D Pulman, Mr R Bomford, Mrs M McCabe, Mr & Mrs P Beadsley, Mr R Prince, Mrs A Moubray, Mr C van Straubenzee, Mr A Major, Mr G Binks, Dr TH Birkbeck, Mr I Askew, Mr N Furlong, Mr & Mrs Leach, Mrs R Small and all contributors to last autumn's Waterwheels appeal.

THE WHEELYBOAT TRUST

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