

Anniversary Year Success

THE WHEELYBOAT Trust's 25th anniversary year in 2010 proved an especially busy one with projects getting under way and Wheelyboats being launched all over the UK and Ireland. A particular highlight was the development and launch of a new model, the Mk IV, in partnership with Bristol Sailability. Other notable achievements were the six



Coulam 16 Wheelyboats and five Mk III Wheelyboats launched along with five older Wheelyboats that were refurbished and found new homes.

The momentum has carried on into 2011 and new projects continue to develop, including two new Mk IVs. One of these will be operated by Thorney Island's Army Welfare Service in and around Chichester Harbour and will directly benefit injured and disabled service personnel.

Wheelyboats Supplied 2010/11

SINCE THE last issue of Waterwheels the following Wheelyboats have been supplied:

Mk IVs

Bristol Sailability, Bristol Docks—**P**, 0117 968 8244

Mk IIIs

- Tamar Lakes, Bude—**C P N**, 01288 321712
- Rudyard Lake, Leek—**C P N**, 01538 306280
- Leitrim APD, Co Leitrim—**C T S P N**, 00 353 719 651000
- East Park Lake, Hull—**P N**, 01482 331966
- The Waterside, Rollesby Broad—**C P N**, 01493 740531

Coulam 16 Wheelyboats

- Blithfield Reservoir, Rugeley—**T**, 01283 840284
- Grafham Water, St Neots—**T**, 01480 810531
- Hanningfield Reservoir, Wickford—**T C**, 01268 712815
- Bewl Water, Tunbridge Wells—**T**, 01892 890352
- Farmoor Reservoir, Oxford—**T**, 07747 640707
- Kielder Water—**T**, 0845 155 0236

Refurbished Wheelyboats

- Elinor Trout Fishery, Kettering (Mk I)—**T**, 01832 720786
- Butterstone Loch, Dunkeld (Mk I)—**T**, 01350 724238
- Upton Warren OEC, Bromsgrove (Mk II)—**P N**, 01527 861426
- Norwich Pike Anglers, River Yare (Mk II)—**C**, 07776 221959
- Craufurd Trout Fishery, Fenwick (Mk I)—**T**, 01560 600569

Key: Fishing **T** (trout), **S** (salmon), **St** (sea-trout), **C** (coarse),
Sea (sea), **P** - pleasure boating, **N** - bird/nature watching

Currently under construction is a Mk III for the Tees Wheelyboats Club—a club set up specifically to operate their own Wheelyboat on the River Tees at Stockton. We have been able to help them raise the funds to acquire their much needed boat.

None of what we have achieved would have been possible without the support and generosity of our donors, either for individual projects or for help with our day to day running costs. Our tremendous thanks go to you all!



New Wheelyboat Model for Bristol Sailability



IN OCTOBER 2010, Bristol MP Dawn Primorolo formally launched the first Mk IV wheelchair accessible Wheelyboat. Named 'Aiming High' after its principal sponsor, the new Wheelyboat is providing disabled people of all ages, and children in particular, with hassle-free and independent access to waterborne activities provided by Bristol Sailability in Bristol Docks and further afield on the River Avon and its estuary.

The new Wheelyboat is the result of a joint venture between Bristol Sailability and The Wheelyboat Trust. Its launch was the culmination of a year's hard work in which the two charities worked together to identify, fundraise, purchase and equip a suitable craft for the needs of Bristol Sailability and the disabled people they help. In addition, the project's successful outcome has identified and evaluated a larger, more versatile wheelchair accessible craft than The Wheelyboat Trust previously had available in its portfolio of Wheelyboat models. Being the largest Wheelyboat

to date, the Mk IV will help the Trust facilitate similar projects and thus provide more opportunities for disabled people to participate in waterborne activities alongside and on equal terms with their able-bodied counterparts. Already new projects are being developed on the River Fowey estuary and in Chichester Harbour.

Thanks to their new boat, Bristol Sailability can now include disabled people in every level of activity and instruction available at their site, a goal their previous fleet of boats was unable to attain. For example, as well as being wheelchair accessible, the Mk IV Wheelyboat is specially designed to be wheelchair operable so disabled people can helm the boat themselves. This opens up a whole new area of experience, even for those with the most severe disabilities.

The project was funded thanks to the generosity of Bristol City Council's Aiming High Team, The Starfish Trust, The Boshier-Hinton Foundation, The Scobell Charitable Trust, The Alchemy Foundation, John Lewis Community Fund and The Lloyd Robinson Family Charitable Trust. Bristol Sailability and The Wheelyboat Trust are immensely grateful to all the donors for their tremendous generosity and support.



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Bristol Sailability is a West of England Schools Sailing Association run activity centre based in Bristol Docks and affiliated to the Royal Yachting Association's charitable arm for disabled people, Sailability. It organises and runs activities and courses that enable disabled people to experience the thrill and adventure of dinghy sailing, power boating and pleasure boating. For more information contact Steve Evans on 0117 968 8244 or 07747 714856.

Peter Harrison Foundation Funded Wheelyboats

A GRANT from The Peter Harrison Foundation is helping disabled anglers access some of the UK's biggest and best trout fisheries. Five out of the six Coulam 16 Wheelyboats funded by the grant have so far been supplied. They have gone to Hanningfield Reservoir (picture below), Grafham Water, Kielder Water, Blithfield Reservoir (picture right) and Farmoor Reservoir. The sixth venue is currently being recruited. The grant funded 50% of the cost of each C16Wbt effectively bringing its price down to the same as that for a standard Coulam 16.

The C16Wbt is a purpose-built fishing boat ingeniously modified for wheelchair access. It is based on Jim Coulam's popular '15' and '16' reservoir fishing boats and is boarded via



L to r: Perry Woolner (Essex & Suffolk Water) and Andy Beadsley

a ramp onto a hydraulic platform that lowers the angler to deck level. Compared to other Wheelyboat models, the C16Wbt looks and performs like the rest of a fishery's fleet and is proving popular with disabled anglers who are keen to fish on the same terms as everybody else. Rutland Water took delivery of the first one in 2008 since when eleven more have been supplied.

The grant was made from The Peter Harrison Foundation's 'opportunities through sport' programme which supports projects that help disabled people participate in sport and thus fulfil their potential and develop other personal and life skills. Given the right opportunities, angling is an activity in which most disabled people can participate very effectively (see back page). We are very grateful to the Foundation for their tremendous support.



L to r: Andy Beadsley (Wheelyboat Trust), Jim Coulam (boatbuilder), Danny Peet (Wheelyboat Trust) and Graham Wood (South Staffs Water)

Countryside Mobility South West



COUNTRYSIDE MOBILITY South West (CMSW) is a Natural England funded project that aims to encourage more people to enjoy the outdoors. It is part of Natural England's 'Access

to Nature' scheme funded by the Big Lottery Fund and is aimed particularly at people who face social exclusion or lack the ability to get out and about and enjoy natural places. The project supplies and helps fund off-road Tramper mobility scooters and wheelchair accessible Wheelyboats to a wide range of visitor attractions in the region. CMSW provides independence and freedom for people with limited mobility and allows them access to new areas of the countryside on their own, in organised groups or with friends and family. The first of the project's planned four Wheelyboats was launched at Tamar Lakes near Bude in April.

Tamar Lakes is run by South West Lakes Trust and their new Wheelyboat will mainly be used for pleasure boating and nature watching. CMSW provided 50% of the funding and the Environment Agency donated the balance. Three more Wheelyboat venues have been recruited—Maunsel Lock Canal Centre on the Bridgewater & Taunton Canal, Haven Banks Outdoor Education Centre on the Exeter Canal and Wareham Boat Hire on the River Frome in Wareham. CMSW has £15,000 set aside for these three Wheelyboats and fundraising has commenced for the balance. It is hoped the new boats will be on the water by spring 2012.

The south west is the busiest region for Wheelyboats with a multi-purpose role. There are 14 now in place between Dorset and Cornwall. For a full list go to www.wheelyboats.org. For more information: CMSW—www.countryside-mobility.org, 01392 456522; Tamar Lakes—www.swlakestrust.org.uk, 01288 321712.



Peter Bartlett MBE (Patron, South West Lakes Trust) and Andy Beadsley launch Tamar Lakes' new Mk III Wheelyboat funded by the Countryside Mobility South West project and the Environment Agency

Mk III Wheelyboat Launched on the Broads

ROLLESBY BROAD'S Mk III Wheelyboat was launched in June by Belinda Minors, owner of the Broads' newest attraction, The Waterside, where it is based. The new Wheelyboat has been fitted with a drive-from-wheelchair console and Cruise 2 electric outboard from Torqeedo. Power comes from two 200 amp gel batteries permanently installed on board



L to r: John Arnold (Torqeedo UK), Andy Beadsley, Simon Daniels and John Ash (Broads Authority Sustainable Development Fund) and Belinda Minors (The Waterside)



which easily provide eight hours cruising time between charges.

The Wheelyboat will operate alongside The Waterside's fleet of hire and trip boats and will provide disabled people with organised outings as well as self-operated hire. There is an abundance of wildlife to spot and, for disabled anglers, the coarse fishing is excellent.

The Waterside funded 50% of the project's costs which was matched by grants raised by The Wheelyboat Trust. Enormous thanks go to The Scotshill Trust, Broads Authority Sustainable Development Fund and The Dixie Rose Findlay Charitable Trust for their generous support.

For more information about The Waterside and their new

Wheelyboat visit www.thewatersiderollesby.co.uk or telephone 01493 740531.

Alan Faulkner Memorial Award 2010

MANY CONGRATULATIONS to Jason Foster and his team at Toft Newton Trout Fishery for winning the annual Alan Faulkner Memorial Award for the game fishery that provides disabled anglers with the most outstanding service, opportunities, facilities and access. The award was presented by Bernard Cribbins at the CLA Game Fair held last year at Ragley Hall. Jason's prize was a 4hp outboard generously provided by the award's sponsors, Suzuki GB.



L to r: Mark Beeley (Suzuki GB), Bernard Cribbins (now OBE!), Michael Evans, Jason Foster and Andy Beadsley

Important note to fisheries: changes to the Alan Faulkner Memorial Award nomination process from 2012. From next year fishery managers will be invited to nominate their own fishery. This will help ensure that all fisheries providing a first class service to disabled anglers will be considered for the award by the judges.

Wheelyboats Coming Soon

Mk IVs

Churchtown, River Fowey Estuary
Army Welfare Service, Thorney Island

Mk IIIs

Tees Wheelyboats Club, River Tees
Creggan Country Park, Derry
Maunsel Lock Canal Centre, Bridgewater
Wareham Boat Hire, River Frome
Haven Banks Outdoor Education Centre, Exeter
Randers Natureschool, Denmark
Feildes Fun, Hertfordshire

Coulam 16 Wheelyboats

Hanningfield Reservoir
Final Peter Harrison Foundation funded boat (venue tbc)

More Wheelyboat Launches.....

Venue: Rudyard Lake, Leek, Staffordshire
Model: Mk III
Activities: Pleasure boating, nature watching, coarse fishing
Grants: Awards For All
Staffordshire Community Foundation
Rudyard Lake League of Friends
Contact: Ray Perry
01538 306280
www.rudyardlake.com



Venue: Bewl Water, Tunbridge Wells, Kent
Model: Coulam 16 Wheelyboat
Activities: Trout Fishing
Grants: Environment Agency
Sussex Community Foundation
Southern Water Services Ltd
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust
Ian Askew Charitable Trust
Raymond & Blanche Lawson Charitable Trust
Loseley & Guildway Charitable Trust
Contact: Howard MacKenzie
01892 890352
www.bewlwater.co.uk

Venue: Lough Carrigavantry, Tramore, Co Waterford
Model: Coulam 16 Wheelyboat
Activities: Trout fishing
Grants: Waterford Leader Partnership
Southern Regional Fisheries Board
Inland Fisheries Ireland
Contact: David Tantrum
00 353 51 421766
www.waterfordflyfishing.com



Venue: River Shannon, Mohill, Co Leitrim
Model: Mk III
Activities: Coarse fishing, game fishing, pleasure boating, nature watching
Grants: Leitrim Integrated Development Co Ltd
The Minister, Department of Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs
The European Union
Contact: Rosaleen Kielty
00 353 719 651000
www.rinnshannon.com

Subsidised Tweed Salmon Fishing

THE WHEELYBOAT Trust is inviting applications from disabled anglers to take part in subsidised salmon fishing packages on the River Tweed. Each package will be for two or three days salmon fishing on middle and lower beats between May and August and includes B&B accommodation, use of a Tweed Wheelyboat and boatman, tackle hire and tuition. The aim of the scheme is to demonstrate to disabled anglers the ready availability and accessibility of salmon fishing on the UK's finest salmon river in the spring and summer and to promote the use of the river's two purpose-built wheelchair accessible Wheelyboats. The scheme is aimed specifically at those disabled anglers, especially wheelchair users, who would only be able to fish the river by using a Wheelyboat. It is open to novice and experienced anglers alike. To find out more and to register an interest please contact Andy Beadsley by phone (01798 342222) or e-mail (wheelyboattrust@btconnect.com).

Danny Peet Excels at Chew



BRISTOL WATER'S Chew Valley Lake is renowned for its trout fishing but anglers are increasingly turning their attention to its pike. Some mighty specimens are being caught not least Wheelyboat



Trustee Danny Peet's latest - a whopping 31½lbs. Danny and his chum Ricky Varley, both wheelchair users, fly fish for pike from Chew's Mk III Wheelyboat. It is a relatively young sport compared to fly fishing for trout and Danny and Ricky are pioneering new flies and tactics. As the photos show, they are clearly on the right track! Contact Bob Handford, Chew's fishery manager, for further information and to book the Wheelyboat. Telephone 01275 332339.



PLEASE DONATE—IT'S VERY EASY...

Our work is entirely reliant on income from donations, we receive no statutory funding. Enclosed is a Gift Aid form for single or regular donations, or donations can be made online at www.justgiving.com/wheelyboattrust or from our website, www.wheelyboats.org. We welcome legacies, so please remember us when writing your will. Members of clubs/societies/fisheries—please nominate us as your charity to support. If everyone who receives a newsletter made a donation of just £25, it would cover the cost of supplying Wheelyboats for an entire year!

THE WHEELYBOAT TRUST

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