

From David Walker Chairman Wheels on Water Disability Sailing Group



Wheels On Water

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On behalf of the Wheels on Water (WOW) committee I would like to welcome you to WOW sailing group. WOW has been established since 2007 working out of the Mount Batten Centre providing sailing opportunities for young adults with disabilities throughout the Plymouth and surrounding areas.

WOW are affiliated with the Royal Yachting Association (RYA) as part of their Disability Sailing Association. WOW ethos is "Sailing For All," where we can offer sailing for everyone who would like to get out on the water and enjoy the sport of sailing. The group meet for sailing on Wednesday nights Quarter to 6 (1745) at the Mount Batten Centre and more information can be found on our web site www.wowsailing.co.uk.

We utilise the facilities of the Mount Batten Centre for Instructors and Risk Assessment and you can be assured that all Instructors are fully qualified and the safety of all involved on and off the water is paramount to the clubs committee. For this to be maintained we do ask that parents/carers are involved with getting their ward on and off the water and for the first few sessions to sail with their young adult so that their safety is not compromised.

As a parent of a child with a disability I am also keen that opportunity is given to the extended family to join in as gives an outlet that they have not tried and a sport that they can achieve in with their disabled child. Many parents/carers find once they get onto the water that sailing is a rewarding experience and can see the "Grin Factor" that it gives to their ward.

The club sail HAWK 20 Keel boats and also sail ACCESS 303 Disability Sailing Dinghies which are extremely safe and give the opportunities for all to participate regardless of disability. Cost of a session is £2.50 per persons who go on the water, which is heavily subsidised by grants. This includes the use of the Mount Batten Centre, Buoyancy Aids/Waterproofs and time on the water. Due that sailing is determined by the weather we ask that those who have expressed an interest in attending phone the Mount Batten Centre on from 4 O Clock PM (1600) to make sure that the session is running.

Sailing is a great activity for those with a disability as everyone can do something within a craft and being on the water give some independence that they may not have on the land. Enjoyment within a safe and understanding environment is what WOW is about and I hope to see you at the next sailing session. If there are any further questions then please e-mail www.wowsailing.co.uk.

Dave Walker
Chair
WOW