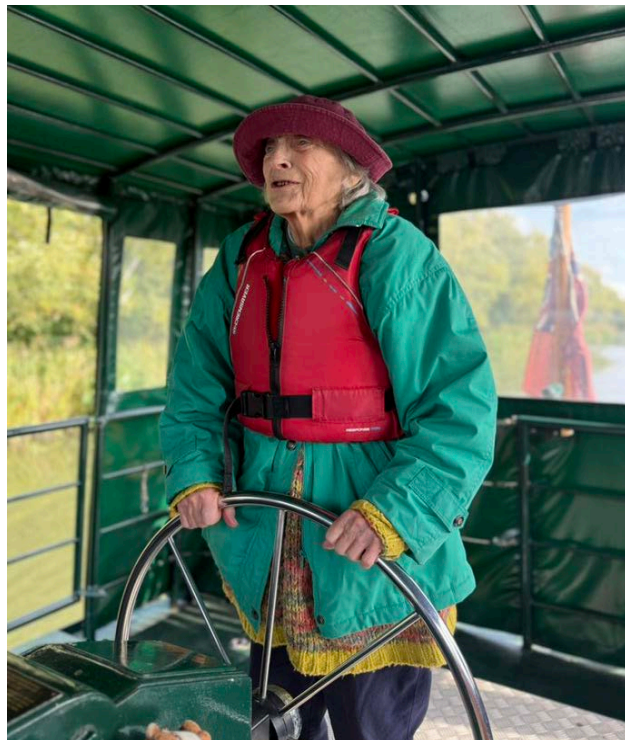




Willow Trust News

Freedom for disabled people on the water



THE WILLOW TRUST

Fun and Freedom Afloat for children and adults with disabilities and serious illnesses

Each year up to 7,000 disabled and seriously ill children and adults with their carers spend a day on board our two fully wheelchair accessible broad beamed boats on the beautiful Gloucester – Sharpness Canal.

Both boats were purpose built for the Willow Trust and give disabled children and adults a day of freedom they never dreamt possible. The days bring inspiration and help build confidence, proving the joy and benefits of boating are available to everyone.

Our guests come from all over Gloucestershire and beyond.

The days are completely free of charge.

The Willow Trust is totally self-funding, dependent on the kindness of people like you to make this possible. Could you help us or maybe sponsor a day for a guest?



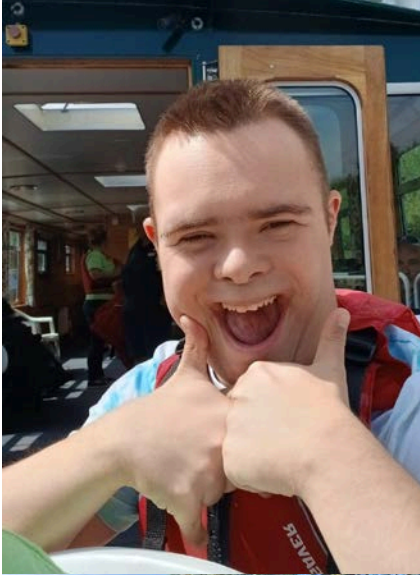
Registered Charity No 328386

Our 35th season has come to a close and what a fun & fabulous time on the water it has been!



Both Spirit of Freedom II and Leonard Matchan have been full each day of our 35th season and bookings are already coming in for next year.





In other news

Our skipper, Buzz, completed his sponsored 2-mile Serpentine Swim in 1:50:51



In 2026 he will be taking on the London Marathon in aid of the Willow Trust. Training has already started.

Our Annual Sponsored Walk took place in September, and our wonderful walkers raised over £1,000.

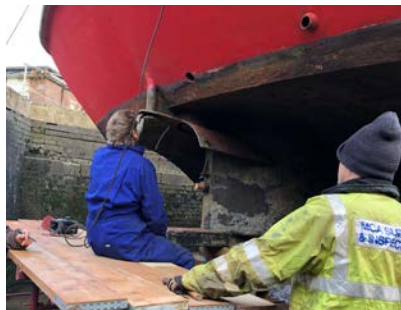
We look forward to next year's.



Our Saturday Coffee Cruises will be back again in 2026.

Planning for the winter and 2026

Spirit of Freedom II went straight into drydock at the end of the season, where the Maritime & Coastguard Agency undertook her out-of-water survey.



Both boats are worked on each winter by our skippers, Buzz and John, with endless help from volunteer skippers, Nick and Mike.

The in-water surveys will take place in January, after which they receive their passenger certificates in time for Season 36.

We look forward to welcoming our new volunteers for a coffee meeting early in 2026 in advance of annual Crew Training which will take place during February and March 2026 for the Willow Trust's 80-strong team of volunteers.

Our grateful thanks are extended to

all of our supporters in 2025 – Friends of the Willow Trust, Grant Making Trusts, the Coventry Building Society in Dursley, The Wheatsheaf Inn of Oaksey, Dursley Lions, Cotswold Tyndale Rotary, Inner Wheel of Gloucester, Wotton Country Dancers, St Nicholas Church of Hardwick, Slimbridge PCC, Richmond Villages for their cake sale, Andersons Waste Management, England's Glory Ladies' Morris, the Harry Browns of Bristol, Something Different for our volunteers' clothing, our anonymous donors, our regular givers, our groups, our sponsored walkers, our coffee cruisers, many individuals, too numerous to name here, and last but by no means least our wonderful volunteers, without whom we could not operate The Willow Trust's days out.

FRIENDS OF THE WILLOW TRUST

*Please help us to continue to provide a therapeutic day out,
free of charge, for thousands of children and adults with
disabilities and serious illnesses*

You will also receive a yearly Newsletter and details of forthcoming events

Simply complete the following form and send it to:

The Willow Trust, 11A Whiteway Court, Cirencester GL7 7BA

or email it to: rory@willowtrust.org

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**I/We wish to become a Friend of the Willow Trust with a
subscription of a minimum of £5, £10, £15, £20 per month**

Gift Aid ☐ Please tick if you would like us to receive Gift Aid on all your donations. If you are a UK taxpayer we can reclaim 25p for every £1 you donate. This is at NO extra cost to you. Please fill in your details below:

Name: Date:

Address:

.....

Email: Tel No:

Please return this form to The Willow Trust (address above) & we will send it to your Bank/Building Society. Please date 1st payment at least 3 weeks after signing

To:

..... (Your bank name and address)

Please pay CAF Bank (Sort Code 40-52-40) **the sum of £.....** to be credited to

The Willow Trust (Account Number 00002721) at **monthly/yearly*** intervals,

commencing until further notice

Your Account#: Your Sort Code:

Signature: Date:

PLEASE SUPPORT THE WILLOW TRUST


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GIFT AID: please tick if you would like us to receive Gift Aid on all your donations. If you are a UK taxpayer, we can claim 25p for every £1 you donate. This is at **NO** extra cost to you.

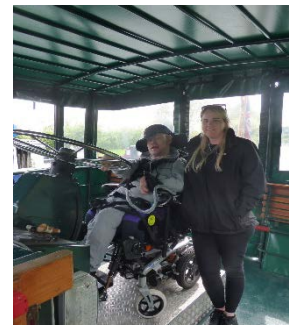
I wish to make a donation of £

(Please make your cheque payable to The Willow Trust)

Name: Date:

Address:

Email: Tel:



Alternatively, please donate via our QR code.



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NB: this will be anonymous. Please let us know so we can acknowledge your kindness.



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