



Freedom for disabled people on the water

# The Willow Trust

A Day on the Water  
Full of Fun and Freedom



# 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**

# Some of the fundraising events at the Willow Trust this year



The wonderful Harry Browns of Bristol entertained us once again with their beautiful harmonies and terrible jokes.



Buzz took on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and final event of the London Classics, crossing the finish line at the London Marathon in 6:40:13.

Rav took on another challenge, this time completing a 100-mile static cycle ride just days before having a full ankle replacement.



Coffee Cruises 2026 have been a great success with our supporters enjoying a tranquil 2-hour cruise on the canal.

## Still to come this year...



**The Wide Valley Singers in Concert at Dowty Sports & Social Club on Saturday 26 September at 7.30pm**

## And in 2027...

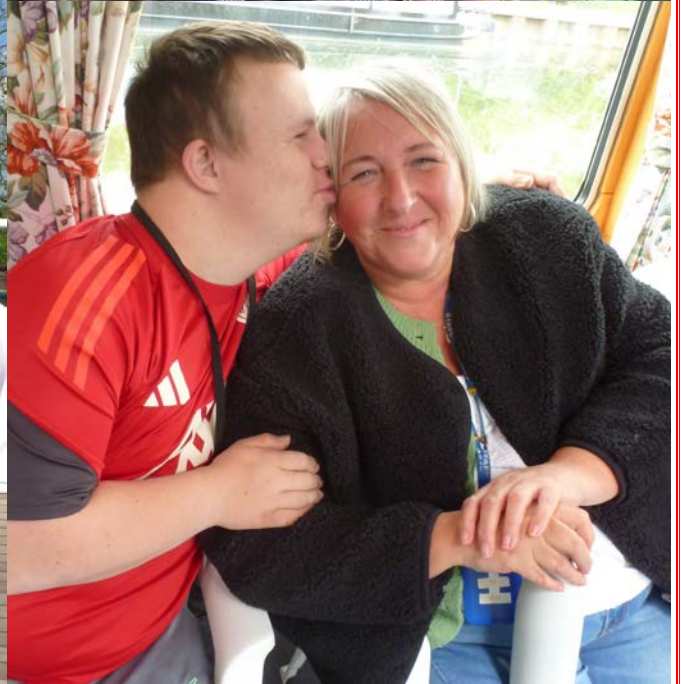
**The Harry Browns of Bristol**



**Willow Trust Coffee Cruises**



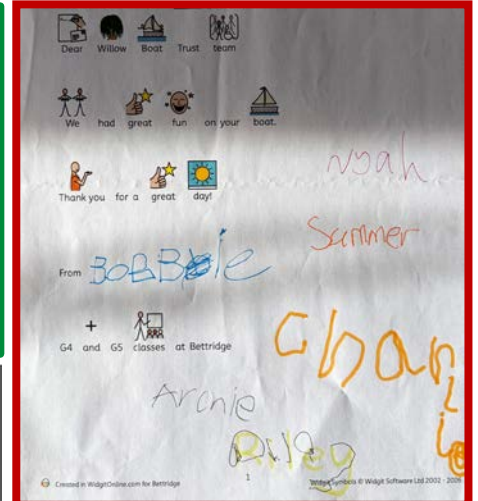
# Our 36<sup>th</sup> Season is in full swing!





Everyone is still buzzing from the enjoyment of it; we all enjoyed our time away from everyday life and its stresses and friendships were deepened. Thanks for the warm welcome & valuable work you do.

Thank you again for making it such a memorable day. Please pass on our thanks to everyone.



Buzz and his team of volunteers made us feel incredibly welcome from the moment we arrived. For those who had the opportunity to join Buzz at the helm and even steer the boat, the experience was truly unforgettable. The joy and excitement on their faces was priceless, and it created memories that will be cherished for a long time to come.

I just wanted to pass on a huge thank you to you and your fabulous team. We all had a fantastic time on Thursday, and the weather was just perfect as well.



Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Thank you again for everything.



Our families had an amazing day. It was truly magical. Your volunteers were fantastic and so supportive.

The day gave our families the chance to make special memories that are not always possible.

Your kindness, understanding and attention to everyone's needs made it a lovely and relaxing experience.

# THANK YOU FROM US TO YOU!

Our 94-strong team of volunteers, without whom the Willow Trust could not operate. Your commitment, hard work, care, kindness and sense of fun mean a happy day out for so many people who may never have believed a day on the water would be possible.

Berkeley & District Skittles League

Rotary Club of Cotswold Tyndale

The Friends of the Willow Trust

Our Annual Sponsored Walkers

Andersons Waste Management

England's Glory Ladies' Morris

Matilda the Christmas Bug

The Harry Browns of Bristol

Richard Ravn-Listowski

Inner Wheel of Gloucester

Something Different

Caerglow Ladies' Probus

Our wonderful guests  
of all ages, who come  
aboard with so much  
joy, enthusiasm and  
anticipation, making  
the day a delight for  
everybody.

Vale Strings  
& Singers

Wide Valley  
Singers

Grant Making Trusts

Coventry BS, Dursley

Our Coffee Cruisers

Royal Edward Lodge

Bosworth Estates

Three Shires Lodge

Many Individuals

Electron-IT

Kim Ward &  
her students

Your Legacies & Donations in  
Memory of your loved ones

Donations  
from our  
Guests

Our full-time Skippers - Buzz & John - and our volunteer Skippers - Carl, Mike & Nick - all of whom look after Spirit of Freedom II and Leonard Matchan throughout the year, offering a warm welcome to our guests and volunteers, ensuring the day out runs seamlessly.

# 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](mailto:rory@willowtrust.org)**

✂-----

**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 1<sup>st</sup> payment at least 3 weeks after signing**

To: .....

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

Please pay NatWest Bank (Sort Code 60-09-02) **the sum of £.....** to be credited to

The Willow Trust (Account Number 36662518) at **monthly/yearly\*** intervals,

commencing ..... until further notice

Your Account#: ..... Your Sort Code: .....

Signature: ..... Date: .....

# PLEASE SUPPORT THE WILLOW TRUST



**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 at NO extra cost to you.

**I wish to make a donation of £ .....**

If you are donating by cheque, please make it payable to The Willow Trust.

If you prefer to donate by bank transfer, you will find our NatWest bank details overleaf.

Name: .....

Date: .....

Address: .....

Email: .....

Tel: .....



**Alternatively, please donate via our QR code.**



The Willow Trust  
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Cirencester GL7 7BA

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E: [admin@willowtrust.org](mailto:admin@willowtrust.org)

[www.willowtrust.org](http://www.willowtrust.org)



Freedom for disabled people on the water

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

Thank you to Facsim, Cirencester  
[www.facsim.co.uk](http://www.facsim.co.uk) for our printing

