

'No Dis....'

Sportability

Taking the 'dis' out of disability

Winter Edition 2008/9

The Summer that Rocked!

No, we're not talking about the weather, but the fantastic programme of events in 2008. This saw Sportability move into more areas, with more events, reaching more people than ever before.

*More than that, we had a fabulous fund-raising season with not only our home-grown golf tournaments, but a very successful appeals campaign. This helped to fund the enlarged programme that we were able to offer **free of charge!***

New star region was **Dorset & Hants**, where Tim Worner and his highly amusing side-kick, Martin Hadley, took us indoors in January for canoe training, then out to sea on the Knoticat.



Out past Old Harry Rocks, Dorset

And throughout the summer there was archery, quad-biking, rifle shooting, clay-pigeon shooting, river canoeing and carriage driving.

And there was more to come with indoor shooting and scuba diving in the Autumn.

But the big new one was microlight flying, which drew people from all over the UK.



Microlight flights over Wiltshire
[See inside story]



Bristol & Gloucestershire got a real boost with Chris & Jane Selway as our Area Organisers.

Again we featured the old favourites of quad-biking, falconry, archery and gliding. But Chris also got us into Bristol Sailability for some days on the water. And he brought his Blokart along as an extra activity to the gliding day.



Chris and his tandem mean-machine
[also see inside story]

Surrey was again organised by Head Office and the great team at Priory events, with multi-sports days of quad-biking, archery and shooting. Sailing days were with our mates at Sailability on the serene Frensham Pond.

The **Midlands** had its usual full programme. Sailing took place at two lake locations. Area organiser, Jane Tindle found us a new venue for our quad-biking, archery and laser clay-pigeon shooting.

Add in rifle and pistol shooting, falconry and canoeing and you get the picture.

Gordon Tindle (Jane's husband) has supported Sportability for years, but now he's actively involved and is running a series of lakeside fishing events.

Meantime, Jane's working on, ten-pin bowling, gliding and go-karting.

East Anglia saw big Joe Ramsay hosting the quads and clays. Plus sailing near Ipswich. And there's the prospect of off-shore sailing for 2009!

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An Outdoor Kinda Girl

We're delighted to announce that TV presenter and broadcaster, **Julia Bradbury**, has also endorsed the Sportability ethos.

Julia says: In many of the challenges that I have undertaken both as a broadcaster and in my private life I have been taken well outside of my comfort zone. In fact it would be true to say that I have at times been terrified.

I therefore can't imagine how it could be for someone with a disability, and particularly paralysis, to undertake equally challenging pursuits and activities.

What I can imagine is the tremendous exhilaration and thrill, and I guess the sense of achievement, that comes with overcoming those fears, accepting the challenge and ultimately succeeding.

The work that Sportability does, providing opportunities for people with paralysis to participate in sports and other challenging events, to get out of the wheelchair and grab back that adrenalin rush, is nothing short of amazing. The credo of taking the 'dis' out of disability is so empowering.

You have my best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely, Julia Bradbury



Photo credit: Thanks to Skyworks, producers of Wainwright's Walks.

The Sportability Experience changes lives. For the better!

www.sportability.org.uk