

Event « Regatta for the Disabled (R4D)

Human



Regatta for the Disabled (R4D) returns to Phyllis Court for its sixth successive annual event on Saturday, September 5th.

This inclusive, family-friendly event runs from 10am to 4pm in The Paddock with a wealth of activities, including free leisurely boat trips on the specially adapted Rivertime, which has wheelchair access.

Lucy Walton of Twyford is one of the founders of R4D. She explained: "In 2009 friend and I were at Henley Royal Regatta discussing the fact that our children, who have disabilities, would never get to experience participating in this sort of event. We took it upon ourselves, along with a group of very willing volunteers, to put on an event that would give disabled people access to boating on the Thames and provide a great day out for their friends and family, in the beautiful setting of Phyllis Court. "My partner John and I between us have five children, four of whom have varying degrees of learning disabilities and R4D gives them the opportunity to go on the river. The event has the attraction of Dragon Boat racing and

our kids are able to be part of that and every year have entered a team, which my daughter is captain of. They love it and there's nothing else like this around."

The Regatta for the Disabled event is supported by local sponsors in particular Shanley Charitable Trust, who give very generously. Lucy (*pictured above, along with her family*) adds: "In addition we offer free boat trips which are fully accessible, a climbing wall (fully accessible) and lots of other land attractions, music, food and drink. At £5 entrance fee and free for carers, it is also a bargain. "This charity is very close to my heart, having been part of it from the very beginning. Watching it grow over the last few years has been a joy and privilege. Our family thoroughly enjoy the Regatta. I encourage everyone to come. It is a great family day out!"

● Visit www.regattaforthedisabled.org



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