



**Royal
celebrations at
Queen Mary
reservoir.**

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Queen Mary Sailability is based at our Queen Mary reservoir near Heathrow airport. The charity first opened its doors in 1997 and offers hundreds of disabled adults and children the opportunity to enjoy watersports. HRH Princess Anne visited in June to celebrate Sailability's 20th anniversary.

Sailability at Queen Mary Reservoir.

Royal Yachting Association (RYA) Sailability is a charity which offers thousands of disabled children across the country the chance to enjoy watersports like sailing. The charity works out of 178 locations across the country, including Queen Mary Sailing Club.

Sailability caters for those who have physical, sensory and learning disabilities, and meets regularly from April to October. We're delighted to be able to let this charity use our reservoir, helping it thrive and continue its important service.



Cutting a ceremonial birthday cake.



Unveiling a commemorative plaque.

A Royal visit.

During this 20th anniversary visit, HRH Princess Anne was shown around the reservoir and met some of the charity's volunteers and members.

Talks and demonstrations were held to explain the importance of the charity and the services it offers, and Princess Anne cut a ceremonial birthday cake and unveiled a commemorative plaque.

The Princess Royal is president of the Royal Yachting Association which helps to run Sailability, and she presented a certificate to Janet Horsfield, who finished second in a global race last year. She was also introduced to Paralympians Alexandra Rickham and Mike Browne.

Finally, a naming ceremony was held for 'Zingaroo', the club's new Drascombe Longboat, which has been modified for access by wheelchair users.

“Twenty years on, RYA Sailability continues to encourage and support people with disabilities to take up sailing and boating.

Many go on to enjoy sailing on a regular basis, and we hope the new boat will help more people, like Alexandra and Mike, to make it to the absolute top level in our sport.”

- Alan Woolford, chairman of the Queen Mary Sailability club.

- For more information, visit www.queenmary.org.uk

