



**The Queen's Award  
for Voluntary Service**

*The MBE for volunteer groups*

## **Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire presents prestigious Award from Queen to local volunteer group**

The Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire, Dame Mary Fagan DCVO JP, attended a special ceremony in Blashford on Friday 26 October 2012 to present New Forest District Sailability with The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2012 on behalf of Her Majesty The Queen.

The prestigious UK National Honour is the MBE for groups of volunteers who work in their local community for the benefit of others. It sets the national benchmark for excellence in volunteering, with the work of those awarded judged to be of the highest standard.

The group was bestowed with an exclusive commemorative crystal alongside a certificate signed by The Queen, in recognition of their outstanding contribution. Group representatives also attended a celebratory Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace earlier in the Summer.

Dame Mary said, 'It is a great pleasure to present this Award on behalf of Her Majesty The Queen to New Forest & District Sailability whose members work so hard to provide opportunities and state of the art equipment for disabled sailors.'

The New Forest District Sailability chairman, Eric Blyth, said he was very proud and honoured to receive the award on behalf of all its members. It was a great achievement for the club and thanked everyone for their hard work and effort to make the club a great success.

The group was one of 112 across the country to receive the Honour for 2012. Twenty four groups from Hampshire have won The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service since it was created by Her Majesty to mark the occasion of her Golden Jubilee in 2002.

For details of all this year's Award winners and information on how to nominate a group, visit [www.direct.00v.uk/qavs](http://www.direct.00v.uk/qavs).