



Charity No. 1105212  
[www.newforestsailability.co.uk](http://www.newforestsailability.co.uk)

June 2012

### **New Forest & District Sailability Receive a Donation from the Bournemouth Gilbert & Sullivan Society**

New Forest & District Sailability ("NFDS") were delighted and honored to receive a donation of £750 from the Bournemouth Gilbert & Sullivan Operatic Society (BG&S) recently.

BG&S raise funds through their main G&S show in the autumn and throughout the year at concerts and recitals. The amounts raised goes to support local charities and NFDS were grateful recipients of one of the two donations in 2012.

NFDS provides sailing for people of all disabilities at its host club, Spinnaker Sailing Club in Ringwood. Most sailors are taken out with volunteers in double handed boats, which are specially made for disabled sailing, although some disabled sailors can sail – and race – the boats by themselves.

Eric Blyth, the Chairman of NFDS, said "I am extremely grateful to BG&S for this donation. Apart from minimal subscriptions and sailing fees, we are reliant on donations from supporters of our charity. We are now in our 11<sup>th</sup> year of providing sailing for disabled people and we started with second hand boats. Our ambition is to replace one boat each year and as these cost around £6,000 to put on the water, a donation of this size is a great start to a replacement boat for the 2013 season. "

He went on to say "We hope that the BG&S society members will suggest a name for the new boat and we will be putting signage on the boat to acknowledge the sponsorship. We are not sure whether there is a suitable song to launch the boat, but if there is we trust BG&S will be there to sing and spray the traditional sparkling wine!"

NFDS is a RYA Sailability Centre of Excellence and recently won the 2012 Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

Picture shows Eric, in the wheelchair, receiving the donation from Neil Winkley, Chairman, of BG&S.



New volunteers are always welcome. Please contact Eric Blyth on 02380 867438, or visit the NFDS website

[www.newforestsailability.co.uk](http://www.newforestsailability.co.uk).

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