

WHEELY GREAT IDEA

Alan Kallagher, the Senior Warden of Vulcan Lodge No. 4510 embarked on a personal mission to bring a Wheelyboat to the Tees after experiencing the frustration and exclusion of being unable to enjoy time on the water after an accident in 2001 left him in a wheelchair.

Alan is a member of the Tees River Users Group who are supporting the campaign to buy a Wheelyboat for the Tees. They celebrated the recent Take to the Tees Festival in August 2009 by bringing one of the vessels to the river for the first time to gauge public support.

The Wheelyboat is specifically designed to give wheelchair users and the less mobile freedom on the water.

Stockton Borough Council's corporate director Paul Dobson was among the festival-goers who gave the vessel a try and offered support to the campaign.

He said: "The council is right behind the work to bring a Wheelyboat to the Tees and we are lending our support to help raise funds, trial the vessel and find somewhere for it to be kept.



Alan is in the front of the boat on the right hand side.