



Aquila Newsletter



Pevensey Bay Sailing Club

Old Martello Road Pevensey Bay East Sussex BN24 6DX

April 2021

Commodore's Communiqué

David Boniface 
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Danger time!

It was great to get back out on the water on Sunday afternoon, 10 knots of breeze, sun shining, sailing with my daughter, hip working, no pain!

Sailing the Spitfire as fast as we could for a short experimental blast across the Bay. I guess we all have some negative thoughts when we have a surgical procedure "will I ever be able to do that again??" Well I proved that I could, BUT now it that danger time, I can do it but I mustn't overdo it (at least for a while!).

I reckon that this is a bit like us coming out of the Covid restrictions. As restrictions are lifted we suddenly realise that we are able to do things again, things we have missed, we can play sport, we can meet others outside in a small group, we can visit our relatives in their gardens, we can visit pubs and cafés to eat and drink alfresco, and so on. BUT we are collectively in the danger time that I see myself in with my hip. We can do it but we mustn't overdo it!!

We therefore need to continue to be vigilant with our behaviour. Please follow the Covid guidelines while at the Club and be considerate of others.

As it warms up I look forward to seeing more of you at the Club and on the water. The Club gets into full swing in May, starting with the Open Day, followed by all the sailing school sessions starting up on Saturday and Tuesday and Thursday evenings and of course our club racing series continuing.

You may have seen in the local press that Bay View Caravan and Camping site has been acquired by Park Holidays and there are a lot of rumours going around about what this may mean for us. We have actually heard nothing beyond the fact that the previous owners of Bay View were installing static caravans. This has now been done and we wait to see what their next move will be.

Try not to have too many negative thoughts about it, it may actually benefit us, you never know!

A lot of hard work has gone on at the club over the last few weeks, which is mentioned in the Rear's report and so I won't repeat this, but I will say a big thank you to all those who have helped and I will remind those who haven't contributed that there is still a lot of work to do. Obviously very little has been done over the last year and we have a lot of catching up to do.

An observation about our weather. Where has our so-called prevailing wind gone?! Historically the prevailing wind comes from a south west to westerly direction which means the Club is protected from the worst sea state, with the wind blowing off the land. As I write this we are in the middle of an extended period of sunny, but chilly weather, with stiff and often very cold easterly breeze. Fairly warm if you are sheltered from the wind but very cold on the beach and on the water. And the slightly on-shore wind can cause a significant shore break which can cause launch and recovery problems. From memory, this seems to have been the pattern of the last few years and so I hope we don't have to start talking about our prevailing wind from the east!

See you on the water.

Dave



Membership Secretary

Duncan Tanner 
membership@pbbc.org.uk

Firstly a big thank you to all those who helped at the working party. The boat park and grounds look much better for it.

Several people have asked me how and when they can buy one of the abandoned boats. Not yet is the answer. We need to leave them there a "reasonable time" just in case someone who hardly ever comes to the club turns up one day and says "why is my boat moved". Just moving it is one thing, but to find it had been sold would be a different kettle of fish, so we have to wait a few months. At some point in the summer, we will probably have a "sealed bid auction". This will be well advertised in advance so don't worry about missing it.

We have had well over a 100 people renew their memberships, which represents a good proportion of the membership. However, there are a few who are still yet to renew, even though you have been at the club. You know who you are. I will be sending chasers shortly, but in order to save me a job, if you haven't renewed yet, this month would be a good time to.

On the 1st May we have our annual spring taster day. This is an ideal opportunity to bring a friend or work colleague along to the club and give them a go sailing. Ask around your friends and see who might like to give it a go.

I type this on a Sunday evening, having just had a very pleasant sail. The sea is notably warmer than it was a few weeks ago and it is set to get warmer still over the coming weeks. After the sail, Tina was serving fresh homemade rolls and wraps, I am told that the cake was particularly good although I didn't try that myself.

So in summary, the sea is getting warmer, the weather should continue to improve and there is food being served after the racing. What is there not to like?

Pevensey Bay SC would like to extend a very warm welcome to the following new or re-joining members. It's great to see some of the young members from the past coming back to us. We hope that you have a fantastic time at the Club.

See you on the water,
Duncan

Ian Davidson

Brian and Sandra Lindon

Lewis Humphries and Izzy Knight

Jo Webber

Nicki Powell

Michael and Elizabeth Ganley

Harry Pearson and Lily Green

Laura Durham



Sarah Pullen

Nikki Webber

Things I have learnt since joining PBSC Executive Committee

Just how much everyone on the Executive Committee and beyond has been doing behind the scenes while the Club has been closed.

It's incredible!!

Getting the Wet Bar into usable condition, from dealing with leaks and damp to providing a sink and worktops, re-organising the Boathouse, plumbing hot water to the shower on the beach, making a new wooden shed for the lawn mower, sorting the alarm, organising the boat park, obtaining grants, planning sailing and social events and much more.

The range of skills there are in the Club which combine to make things happen.

Just how much there is to do to make the Club tick!!!

Things I learnt on the Outside Work Party

It's fun even in the cold & wet!

It's a great way to meet members you don't yet know, & catch up with those you do.

The diversity of plants around the field. Brambles, well loads of them & hopefully less of them now, violets, primroses & bluebells in flower, buddlejas, daffodils & some unexpected blue hyacinth.

It really makes you want to start sailing again, even when you are not even sure you can remember how to rig your boat again.



About seventeen years ago I went to my first sailing competition: not as a sailor, but as a spectator.

Keen to impress my new boyfriend, I had volunteered to feed him and his team racing team-mates and had spent days preparing an extravagant hamper of homemade pate, and inedible flapjacks.

Despite the quality of the food, I was invited back, and spent the next thirteen or so years following Chris around sailing events – including our honeymoon to the musto skiff worlds, still mainly in the role of chief snacktician (to be fair, there were trips to places like Monaco to make up for the weeks in Weymouth).

It took the arrival of our twins in 2017 to prompt us to try sailing together as a way of spending some time as a couple (with granny kindly taking on the role of babysitter in chief).

We'd previously borrowed Chris's sister's RS200 and found it fun, so opted to buy our own: in late 2017, I became the proud owner of Flambouyant, and Chris took on the arduous task of trying to coach his wife into an acceptable crew.

I am enjoying the challenge of learning a new skill. I am still completely baffled by the difference between a run and a beat, and have no clue why sailors insist on calling ropes sheets, but I think I now know which rope to pull at most of the critical moments (strictly in the front of the boat only). Perhaps most importantly, Chris doesn't seem quite so frustrated by my total incompetence so often – though that may be due to his increased patience as much as any improvement in my sailing abilities. Perhaps all those Sundays at PBSC are paying off.

I'm really looking forward to meeting more members over the course of this year – hopefully my first one with the club fully open and with the children old enough for us to sail a bit more often!

Thank you to everyone at the club for making me and my family so welcome

Nikki Webber



Sailing School Principal

Karen Hilder 
pbsctrainingadmin@pbsc.org.uk

It doesn't seem possible that we are just about to start another year of sail training, introducing children of all ages to this activity that we all enjoy so much and helping others to improve their boat handling skills.

RYA TRAINING

There will be 2 separate adult **Level 1** courses running:

1. Two Saturdays: **22nd May & 5th June**
2. Five Tuesday evenings from the **4th May**

We will then have a **Level 2** courses starting:

1. Tuesday evenings from the **15th June**

It's worth noting that in order to be able to hire a club boat you do need to have passed the Level 2 course.

If you have a friend or family member who would like to do either a **Level 1** or **Level 2** course, please do get them to contact me

before the 1st May.

Level 3, Seamanship skills, Race training and Free sailing

We will also return on Thursday evenings for the popular sailing sessions to include, Level 3, Seamanship skills, Race training and Free sailing. If you are looking to come down to any of the training on a Thursday please get in touch so that the right instructor cover is in place.

OnBoard will be starting on the **8th May** and several Saturdays throughout the season with something for children from 4 to 18 years old.



We have the less experienced sailors from 10am until 1pm with the older, more experienced teenagers from 2pm until 5pm.

New on a Saturday morning is the relaunch of the Penguins for our littlest members - this will be lots of fun and games for them and parents!

The sailing school is looking to be busy!

I would like to say, at the beginning of this year, a **big thanks** not only to the instructors who always do a great job, Justin looking after the club boats, Goff and Ken the powerboats and the parents who step up every Saturday to enable the Cadet sessions to run, **but to every member** as well.

Any help with the training you can offer will be greatly appreciated. And please, if you see a new trainee **say hi** and show them what a great bunch we are.

Many thanks, Karen

From the Rear

There's been plenty of activity around the club over the last few weeks. Many thanks to all those that have contributed to the various ongoing projects and the boat park clearance.

When you next get to the club you may notice a neater boat park, or maybe the bow of your prize dinghy sticking out the skip.

Matt Fowler has very kindly installed hot water to the outside showers and improved the water feed to the external hose taps. Adrian and John have been busy with the pressure hose and sandpaper. Decking and tables look ready for another season.

Goff (& friends) continue to plug away at the wet bar refurbishment and we hope to have this complete next month.

There are still plenty of jobs to complete including the rewiring of the perimeter fence. If you are able to offer your assistance it's still needed. As the weather warms up we also need to paint the building and build a new mower store.

Andrew

Safeguarding

SEE IT

REPORT IT

STOP IT

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

(Statutory guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' 2018)



At the Last AGM I handed over two years of secretarial duties to Sarah, but still decided to remain on the committee.

Despite feeling a bit redundant, I volunteered to take on the role of Welfare Officer - this means making sure the safety of children is firmly embedded within the club. This is a new area for me, but I have covered some mandatory safeguarding training within my role as a nurse in the NHS, and because of this, I have an enhanced DBS check which covers children.

I have completed two online training sessions with the RYA one of which is the Safe and Fun Safeguarding Awareness Certificate. I am now registered with the RYA safeguarding Team and able to contact them with any concerns or queries. As you can probably imagine, there is a lot of information to take in but they have been very reassuring to newcomers to the role. So as first point of contact for any safeguarding concerns or queries please email me at

Lyn.brocklehurst@hotmail.co.uk

I am at the club most weekends throughout the summer months and sail an Enterprise with the large blue sails. The club safeguarding policy is situated on the left as you go in the front door, all concerns will be treated in strict confidence. Hope to see you all on the water very soon

Lyn



Sailing Report



In just a couple of weeks' time we'll be officially welcoming our junior members back to the beach at Pevensey! That's not to say that in the meantime they've all been high and dry.

A number are already competing in the Spring series on a Sunday, with **Michael Tanner** currently sitting in 4th place in his Laser after 4 races. Keep it up Michael, it's good to see the youngsters giving the oldies a run for their money!!

Away from Pevensey, a group of our younger juniors have been brushing up on their Cadet Class sailing skills over at our neighbours NSSC on Piddinghoe Pond.

Ella Hebron and **Chris Corke** have been providing the coaching, and the children have progressed from improving their tacking technique through to starting to fly the spinnakers.

The training sessions are concluded each week with the hotly contested Pond Power Series. A bit of "fun" racing that has already seen one protest within the fleet and one protest against the race committee!!!

Turning our attention back to Pevensey, and a reminder to all that our Saturday sailing schedule is looking like this in 2021.

Saturday mornings 10am>1pm OnBoard session for our Sharks (8>15+ years old) -

Saturday mornings from 11am>1pm Pevensey Penguins (4>7 years old)

Saturday Afternoons from 2pm Pevensey Youth Squad (typically 15>18 years old)

To register your child for any of the above sessions and to be added to the group's WhatsApps please email me cadets@pbsc.org.uk

Saturday Social Sailing > Saturday's aren't just for the kids.

This year we are encouraging those who are feeling a little rusty or just keen to give racing a go for the first time the opportunity to sail on a Saturday afternoon in a fun and informal environment.

Or if you fancy a change of scenery from our own glorious bay, why not join in on the Ice Cream Cruise to Eastbourne on the **22nd May**. Weather permitting the fleet will leave the beach at about noon with safety boat cover for your piece of mind.

See you all out on the water,

James Allerton





ILCA (aka Lasers) Masters National Championships

Friday 9th 2020 / Sunday 11th July 2021



Just a reminder that we are hosting the prestigious National Championships, which is fast looming.

We have been having monthly zoom meetings with the ILCA organising committee. The PBSC organising team has included Matt Fowler, Gordon Bishop, Dick Holttum, Dave Boniface, & James Allerton. They will be providing a race officer, jury boat, protest committee chair (will be remote), we provide the rest.

The Masters group is for those aged 33 and above, and you will see Pevensey's own Neil Peters often at the forefront of the regional and national fleets for this active group.

As always will need please help on the beach, the galley, the bar, car parking and traffic direction, and on the safety and committee boats. Will be hopefully receiving safety boat support from our friends at Eastbourne Sovereign Sailing club, Bexhill Sailing Club and Hastings Sailing Club.

We'll be shortly be looking ask people to volunteer for slots over the Friday to Sunday period, previous experience suggests the more people we have the better – there is always plenty to do.

We are also keen to have the club looking in tip top condition, and we are hoping to paint the outside walls, and make sure the inside is as smart as possible.

More to follow next month.

Regards

Adrian

If you want to join the event you can do it here:

<https://portal.ilca.uk/event/ilca-masters-nationals-2021-PBSC>





social news

With May 17th looming, the next step to lock down freedom, I find my mind wandering to the possibilities of social events at the club.

Last year during the summer of 2020 we still managed to get a modified Sea week (**Beach Week**) running where sailing activities went ahead as much as possible and we were treated to some glorious sunshine but little wind. While the club was off limits apart from use of the toilets, we all mucked in, camped on the green, showered on the beach and either ordered in or cooked by campfire. It was a relaxing and fun week and a great relief after the first lockdown.

I'm hoping we can restart the social season with the May 29th/30th **Beach Weekender** currently pending in the clubs' social calendar, but to do this we will still need to have some restrictions. The clubs changing rooms will be functioning but on a limited basis, the inside showers will be off limits, however thanks to Matt we now have a luxury HOT outside shower. The bar will be closed upstairs but with the great efforts of Goff & Ken hopefully the new wet bar will be operational serving snacks & drinks on the patio for alfresco dining. We may even be getting the fantastic feasts from (Fr)Ed to return. (sorry Ed, I liked the alliteration!)

The sailing will consist of what is on the club calendar –

Saturday- Sharks 10-13:00 Penguins 11-13:00, PBSC Youth Squad + race training for all 14:00

Social Sailing and Safety boat training 14:00

Evening Social – chilling by the fire with your beer or competing in some friendly garden pub games.

Sunday- Ladies bowl 1-4 alongside Spring series 21,22, 23 & 24, Free sailing, paddle boarding or kayaking – get out on the water.

Evening Social – more chilling by the fire with your G&T

To allow planning - **are you interested** ? We need firm numbers to see if there is any interest or if we have too much interest to comply with covid restrictions.

Let me know using social@PBSC.org.uk

The next event will hopefully be the **Beer & Wine Tasting** on the 12th June which will help your bar committee decide on what to stock behind the bar. We'll still be outside eating and drinking alfresco and there will be an alfresco food option to help line those stomachs.

What's your favourite tippie after a hard-won race or multiple dips in the brine? What has the bar not had in the past you'd like to see, what are the old faithful's that you'd be lost without?

Currently the stock room is empty due to those brave souls who helped drink all the out-of-date stock during the first lockdown – your club salutes you!

This gives us the perfect opportunity to stock what you want, be it alcohol free beer & wine, craft ales, new and old-world wines, or artisan gins.

Let me know using social@PBSC.org.uk

With all the great work carried out by the working parties over the last few weeks our pile of firewood has grown to include a few old boats so what's not used during the **Beach Weekender** will go to the bonfire on the **Summer Solstice BBQ**. With this potentially being a celebration of the end of lockdown restrictions Leslie has promised a liquid 'Pyrotechnic Punch On The Patio' to compliment the bonfire & left-over pyrotechnics from last year.