



Aquila Newsletter



Pevensey Bay Sailing Club

Old Martello Road Pevensey Bay East Sussex BN24 6DX

October 2021

Commodore's Communique

David Boniface 
Commodore@pbsc.org.uk

Well the sailing season is near done! As I write this there are two more weekends of sailing in the calendar before we embark on the Brass Monkey's Series which should take us through to mid-December. Unfortunately this series is even more reliant on the weather than our summer sailing. The residual energy stored up in the sea by autumn storms, often far away, can create large swells which make launching from the beach pretty difficult, even in moderate breezes. But, having said that, we can remember years when we sailed the majority of weekends, so fingers crossed and do come and join us if you fancy a quick winter's sail.

I've got to the age where I hear myself thinking "Where did that year go??" It seems such a short time since we were planning this year. If you do, however, sail through our winter series there are only a couple of months without "on the water" activities (unless you are one of the really hardy ones who then venture on to inland waters) before we start again at the end of March. The Club doesn't come to a standstill during this period however, as we have the important Lay Up Supper at the end of November (a "must do" occasion as far as I'm concerned), the AGM in December (a slightly less attractive occasion) and the Christmas Dinner. Throughout the winter the Committees will be planning and preparing for next year and indeed the sailing program is already well under way.

Some of you may have noticed that we have a new (second hand) container to the east of the Clubhouse. This is a lot bigger than the one it replaced and will increase our storage capacity considerably. The plan is to use one end for building, maintenance and gardening equipment and materials, with the other end being fitted out to store sailing related equipment such as racing/training marks (buoys), warps and anchors. This will in turn enable us to offer more storage to members in the container on our east most boundary, for paddleboards, windsurfing equipment and sails.

This is where I get onto your bit! Throughout the Winter we run working parties where we need your help. There are numerous things that need to be done to keep the grounds, building and equipment in good order, and many of these can be done by most of you.



Things like filling pot holes in the road, repairing the fence, cutting back undergrowth, racking out container, painting containers, cleaning, tidying and decorating the Clubhouse, club boat maintenance, the list goes on! So please, please come and help as often as you can. We will send out emails when specific working parties are being organised, but there are often things you can do if you just turn up.





Membership Secretary

Duncan Tanner 
membership@pbbc.org.uk

Membership Report.

Hello Everyone. Where has the season gone? I was just getting into summer and now we are almost in November.

Goff has taken over management of the boat park from me, as I simply did not have the time to keep on top of it. Goff has some great ideas and I know he has already contacted some people to confirm what boats they have and where they have them. Please can you contact Goff if you intend to move your boat or want to keep another boat at the club.

I will not be sending out hard copy membership renewal forms this year, unless you specifically request one. I will send out 2022 renewal forms by e-mail in due course and they will also be available to download from the website. There will also be blank hard copy paper forms in the race box filing cabinet from January. If anyone requests I send one through the post, I will do, but sending them out to everyone is very time consuming (&costly) and only a hand-full of people used the forms I sent out last year.

We discussed the 2022 membership fees at the last committee meeting and I expect these to be voted through at the next committee meeting. While I cannot give too much away until it has been approved by the committee we are likely to have a small increase in subscription rates, which is less than the current rate of inflation. This is always a delicate balance. Despite Covid still being with us, we have implemented a full season this year, with a healthy increase in membership. We appreciate that for some people, times are hard and there is uncertainty in the future. However, the running costs of the club, whether energy bills, or simply the costs of buying the services and materials we require (everything from outboard servicing to waste collection) is steadily increasing. It simply would not be sustainable to have no increase at all, and indeed there has been a small increase for at least every year that I have been a member.

Not directly a membership matter, but most of you will have noticed the Merlin Rocket in the boat park that has not been used for the two years it has been there. The Owner is no longer a member and has tried to sell the boat, without success. He has now asked whether any member would like to acquire it for free. Otherwise he will dispose of it. I had a sneaky look under the cover and while it clearly requires a lot of TLC, it is far too good for fire wood. If anyone is interested, let me know and I will put you in touch.

Duncan





Junior Sailing Report

James Allerton

vice.commodore@pbsc.org.uk



Wow, where did that season go to? After the ups and downs of 2020, the 2021 season feels like it's flown by.

Following a hugely successful open day in May, we started the year with a bumper 31 cadet or youth sailors actively taking part in our Saturday sessions. Supported by 10 or more younger Penguins who could be found bobbing around in the shallows on surfboards with their parents.

The season got off to a somewhat false start with some dreadful weather postponing our first session. The weather didn't improve for the second session, so the boathouse was cleared of RIBs, a couple of Tera's were jury-rigged and we ran covid safe land drills whilst the wind and persistent rain whistled through the open shutter doors.

This disappointing start didn't dampen the children's enthusiasm. They returned week on week throughout the season accompanied by an equally enthusiastic and helpful group of parents who have assisted brilliantly with boats on the beach and in ribs throughout the season. Thankfully, the weather was kind to us for the rest of the sessions and we saw our ranks swollen further with a new influx of children over the summer.

Last weekend it felt like winter had arrived early and we were going to end the season as we'd started, with a washout. In the middle of rigging, the rain descended and the wind blew in, soaking everyone to the skin and sending them scurrying to the clubhouse for cups of tea and slices of cake. Thankfully it was just a passing squall and by 11:30 the boats were out on the water and enjoying a breezy and somewhat lumpy late-season sail.

All our sailors have progressed tremendously throughout this year from the complete beginners to the older teenagers. Some of the older group are now successfully racing amongst the main fleet on a Sunday, and travelling to open meetings to compete. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the older teenagers who have helped with the Saturday morning sessions this year. They have shown commitment, enthusiasm and are fantastic role models to our younger youth sailors. We'd like to welcome all members along to the Halloween party and prize-giving next weekend, where we will be celebrating the success of all our sailors.



One final huge thanks goes to Karen Hilder who this year is stepping down as our sailing school principal and leader of Saturday morning kids sailing. For the past 5 years, Karen has volunteered her time running the Saturday sessions which under her watch have gone from strength to strength. On a personal note, I have really enjoyed working with Karen and will miss our Thursday lunchtime planning sessions.

We're looking forwards to an exciting 2022 season where we'll be welcoming some of our penguins off the beach, onto the water and into the boats! If you would like to assist in the administration side of any of our youth sailing groups, please send me an email to vice.commodore@pbsc.org.uk

Sailing – Closed season courses

As we approach the end of a busy season we start to worry about how we're going to fill those empty weekends without having to resort to the dreaded DIY jobs that we've been putting off over the summer. Well fear not, we have a number of exciting and informative sessions scheduled for the closed season this year.

- VHF Radio Course - This is currently fully booked.
- Safety Boat Refresher - Rigging, launching and looking after the boats.
- OOD Training - A refresher session on how to run a successful club race, suitable for seasoned OODs newbies alike.
- Course Setting - A refresher session for Rib helms and crews to set the perfect club racecourse.
- Introduction to Racing Rules - An accessible introduction to rules of the road and racing rules.

Dates are currently being finalised so keep your eyes on the Facebook page and the club website for confirmation of when these events will run. If there are any other subjects you would like to learn more about or indeed feel you have some knowledge that you are happy to share with the wider membership then please don't hesitate to email me at vice.commodore@pbsc.org.uk

Information re safety boats

For the attention of all power boat helms and crews

A must read!

Unfortunately one of the engines on the small Ribs has overheated, causing the cooling water pump to seize and consequently causing damage to the cylinder bores. This was probably caused during the run up before going afloat or by the flushing after being used, but we will never actually know for sure. To prevent any further damage in future we need all the safety boat teams to use the same method which is described below.

- Only use the muffs on the water intakes at the bottom of the leg, in front of the propeller.
- Turn on the water and ensure there is a good fit, allowing for a good flow of water.
- Start the engine and immediately check for a good flow of water from the tell-tail.
- If there is no water from the tell-tale, stop the engine immediately and refit the muffs before trying again.
- Only run the engine for 1-2 minutes and stay in close attendance throughout the process.
- If the tell-tale stops flowing or you have to leave the engine, stop the engine.
- Using this method, the engine should never be left unattended.

Any question on this procedure, seek advise from Committee Member or Instructor for clarification.

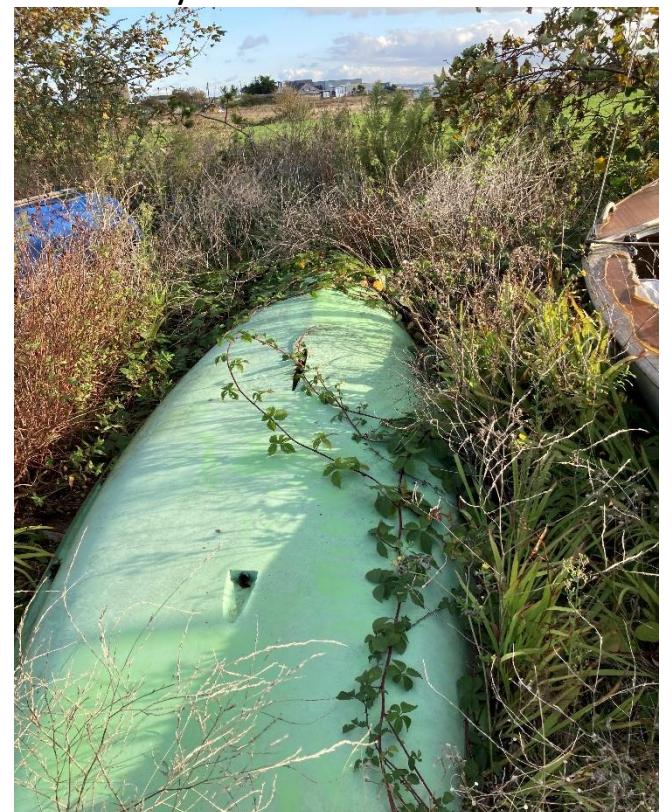
Boat Park

We continue to work on sorting this out with Duncan spending many hours a year or so ago, only to be halted by the Covid restrictions. He has handed this responsibility on to Goff Brooks, who writes later in this Aquila. The point I would like to make is that the upkeep of the bit of land that your boat is on, is your responsibility. This includes keeping it rubbish and litter free, the control of the brambles and weed growing around your boat, and it is not for the storage of unused items.



Last year Phil Leyland and a group of helpers put in many hours work trying to rid the area west of the lawn, of brambles. These have fought back, as nature does, and so there needs to be continued efforts by boat owners to keep these at bay.

We are very short of free boat pitches at the moment and it was suggested earlier in the year that any boats left unrigged and untouched (this includes being entangled in brambles) would be considered unused, unwanted and we would move them to free up more pitches. With the active membership increasing we cannot store boats that are not sailed and people will have to find somewhere else to store them. We will be enforcing this more rigorously over this winter and so we would appreciate your help in sorting out the boat park.



Part of the winter tidy up will be to empty the members container (the furthest west), clean out, repair, tidy up and reallocate racks, and so if you have equipment in there please be prepared to move it out for a while so this can be done. We will of course let you know when this will happen and it would be very useful if you could come and help.

Boat Park

Planning from Goff

Largely due to the success of the 2021 Open Days, membership of the club has increased significantly this year. While this is great news for the club and it's members, it has undoubtedly created pressure on an already crowded boat park – with spare spaces being scarce.

The club is therefore in the process of undertaking an audit of the boat park, using our current records as a start point. The main objectives will be to:

- Confirm spare spaces and identify new ones
- Identify abandoned boats
- Complete any information gaps we have e.g. boat type and description, ownership etc
- Identify which boats do not have an identification label. We will be using different labels next year which will be year specific and will be placed on the stern/transom of boats by the club as and when boat park fees are paid.

Goff Brooks (of the 'Bosun Brothers') now has responsibility for the organisation of the boat park. He is undertaking the audit and, where clarification is required, will be contacting members (initially by email) for further information. We expect the audit to be complete in the next few weeks.

The audit will enable us to not only identify spare spaces, but also create additional spaces and, hopefully, some storage facility for SUP's and kayaks. It will also help us to plan boat park facilities for the future."

Goff Brooks

Care with the "garden" please

Over the last twenty years or so the Club has put in significant amount of time and effort to create the grassed area, which seems to have been well received on so many occasions. Part of this plan was to create a screen and wind break for this area with the planting of trees and shrubs on the side of the prevailing wind. This is an ongoing process as we try to propagate plants that can provide the shelter required, while standing up to the harsh environment. We appeal to everyone to avoid damaging the young plants. A mast carelessly laid in the bushes could easily destroy a young tree hidden there. Thanks for your understanding.



A gardener planting Buddleia, Sycamore and bulbs supplied by Tim and Paula



A young conifer, just about getting established. Can you spot it?

Winter Cadet training

A great opportunity for our younger sailors to develop their skills over the winter



Next spring we will be hosting a Cadet Class open meeting at Pevensey Bay on the 23rd and 24th April. To help get ready for this event there will be training on offer with Ella Hebron over at Piddinghoe pond in Newhaven on Saturday mornings throughout the winter.

Calendar of Events

30-Oct 21 Transport boats to Piddinghoe set up. Come along at 1130 – 1200 to see us.

Piddinghoe Series 1 – 06th Nov > 11th Dec

06 th Nov 21	Lesson 1
13 th Nov 21	Lesson 2
20 th Nov 21	Lesson 3
27 th Nov 21	Lesson 4
04 th Dec 21	Lesson 5
11 th Dec 21	Lesson 6

Prize for Series 1 helm & crew (Sailwave Pc

----- Christmas Break -----

Piddinghoe Series 2 – 08th Jan > 26th Mar

08 th Jan 22	Lesson 7
15 th Jan 22	Lesson 8
22 nd Jan 22	Lesson 9
29 th Jan 22	Lesson 10
05 th Feb 22	Lesson 11
19 th Feb 22	Lesson 12
05 th Mar 22	Lesson 13
12 th Mar 22	Lesson 14
26 th Mar 22	Lesson 15

Prize for Series 2 helm & crew (Sailwave Point)

We would like to complete 6 sessions in the 2nd series and anticipate that a number of these planned sessions will be lost to inclement weather or conditions.

Typical Itinerary

- 10:00 Rig boats & change into sailing gear
- 10:45 Briefing
- 11:00 On water activities
- 11:30 > 12:00 Racing – (2 scheduled races more if conditions permit)
- 13:00 Boats packed away

Winter Cadet training Continued



Cadets on
Piddinghoe pond

----- Return to Pevensey Bay -----

Pevensey Series 3 – 02nd Apr > 16th Apr

- 02nd Apr 22** Sea Racing 1100hr Start, 1000hr at club for Rigging & briefing
09th Apr 22 Sea Racing 1100hr Start, 1000hr at club for Rigging & briefing
16th Apr 22 Sea Racing 1100hr Start, 1000hr at club for Rigging & briefing (Prize for Series 3)

23 & 24-Apr 22 Cadet Open at Pevensey Bay SC Gold Silver & Regatta fleet racing

Other Cadet events for the calendar could be beneficial to the experience

- 12-Feb 22 Itchenor Southern Area cadet training 12 & 13 February.
26-Feb 22 no Lesson Dinghy Exhibition at Farnborough – try the Cadet simulator.
19-Mar 22 One day event at Frensham Pond

To get the most out of this training it is best to form a helm and crew team, that are happy to work together. Teams can be trialled as initial partnerships may not always work. The teams are dependant on each other to turn up regularly. Of course things happen, illness, transport problems, just communicate and the problem can be fixed.

Being honest we probably haven't got the time or quality of boats to get you to the Worlds in Australia in December 2022, but if you stick with it the Club has the experience and can draw on World Champion resources to get you there in the coming years. We have been there before and can do it again.

Anyone interested in the training should let Roger McAll know or come along to Piddinghoe Pond at 1130 -1200 on Saturday 30th October when we will set up boats for the following week.

There is no charge for the course we have a limited number of boats available, if you have your own boat it will help.

Roger

rogermcall@compserve.com

07703378273

A new members report

Emma and Max Start Sailing

It began with suggestions and phrases here and there; "Pevensey Sailing Club is THE best place by far..." ; "Nine years old is the perfect time to learn..." "You could learn too..."

Alison and I attend a taster day after an invitation from the lovely Sarah. We are signed up!

Tuesday Evenings

What a lovely group of people! It began with our patient instructor, David Bracey, getting us to know each other by finding out what we liked for breakfast, and went on to clearly explain all the theory in manageable chunks. Drills tacking and gybing on dry land first (with lots more helpful advice to be had from the other instructors) and home to watch the Youtube videos, and then the shock that it was inevitable we were all to fall in sea when we finally got out! I didn't keep a journal of our sessions, but I do know we had bad luck with the weather - too rough/no wind at all. It was a great plus that we were able to get a few extra sessions after the course had finished to make up them up. Many thanks to all our wonderful instructors.

My highlight was going out in a Pico on my own for the first time on the sea. Really exhilarating and delighted to get round the course first time!

Saturday Mornings

Max has had a great first year sailing. It is the first time he has found something he loves to do. Early on, his idea of a good session was capsizing, but now he's enjoying the sailing part more and making friends. James and Karen have been incredible teachers. I particularly like their version of 'What jobs do the crew have'? answered by the hearty shouts from the Cadets: "They take the blame!"

Sea Week

Arriving with our tents to a field of Lynn's keep-fitters, we quickly slink past and pitch up. Max receives valuable advice about not keeping food in the tent.

Every day was great fun and the children had plenty planned, then being left to play in the water and be themselves. Evenings were relaxed and entertaining, the bar flowing with new cocktail creations.

The sail to Pevensey for ice-creams was lovely, and I was on Remus for the first time. Great sea conditions and so no dramas except for one boat needing a boy rescuing - Max!

We miss the last day as we have a wedding to attend, we are both gutted - advice to new members: keep the diary clear.

I am finding now as I return to club on Saturdays that I still get that holiday feeling from Sea Week...

We live in a world of green at the Christmas Tree Farm, and I am originally from Jersey, where I was always aware of where the tide was. My brother lives on a sailing boat. My partner and I met crewing with the wonderful Jubilee Sailing Trust on a voyage aboard the Tall Ship Lord Nelson. I feel like I have been re-connected with the sea after 30 years of not quite knowing what was missing.

Emma Laurens



Events

Cooden Cruise – Saturday 18th September



Clear blue skies, a sparkling sea, warm sun and a bit of breeze set up the perfect afternoon's cruise from the club to Cooden Beach. Following a comprehensive briefing from Adrian covering all aspects of the cruise, the weather forecast, safety arrangements and potential hazards, ending with "Cooden is over there", the fleet took off.

There was a good turnout for the cruise with a wide range of boats - 2000s, Visions, Lasers, Albacore, Feva, a Zest and a Dart amongst others, and Kellie. There were some new faces to the club who were all very welcome, along with more seasoned campaigners. Launching through a sizeable shore break made for some exciting getaways. We were still shaking down our new (to us) Laser 2, but we finally got afloat in time to get a perfect view of the action from the back of the fleet, the pursuit was on.

A tight reach and one or two tacks got us all to Cooden in a very pleasant and civilised fashion. The landing party was spearheaded by Kellie captained by Ant and armed to the teeth with small people – the sight of the invading armada was enough to have Cooden locals rushing to call up the Border Force, until they realised that we came in peace (and not from France).

With all the boats lifted ashore, the ice cream shop by the station enjoyed their second best takings of the year (probably, since the last time PBSC called in), and there was time for a little celebrity spotting of her Majesty's Official Opposition Party, lunching at the Hotel.

After soaking up some sun, the fleet made a dash for it, escaping on the falling tide over the soon to be exposed rocks off the beach.

Just as the tactical compasses were all set to West, the breeze fell away. The fleet then scattered in search of wind. Some stuck with route 1 (the bar and BBQ were calling), some looked for a lift close into shore while others went further out in search of breeze. This put a few extra nautical miles on the ribs as they diligently patrolled the expanded track back like trusty border collies on some nautical round of *One man and his dog!*

The wind picked up a little to push us all over the finish line of what had been something of a feet up, rolling run home. It was a great, lazy, late summer afternoon's sail.

Thank you to all for making it such a fun trip, to Adrian for setting it up and of course the teams on the ribs, and in Kellie that made it all possible.

Ash & Rozzie Scarff



News from our travelling RS200 teams

Four years ago, Chris bought me my first boat: an RS200, called (by her previous owners) Flambuoyant. In 2018, we dipped our toes in the RS200 circuit with a couple of local events. In 2019, we even made it to the Nationals, but 2021 was the first year we've made it to more than a handful of events. Thanks to the rather epic childcare provided by Granny, we have been able to take Flambuoyant to a number of the South East circuit events, to the Nationals, and most recently, to the Inland Championships. Happily at many of these events, we haven't been on our own: Matt and Lyn have been side by side with us in the boat parks (and often in the results).

Last weekend, we prioritised fuel for sailing (clearly more important than the school run), and we all headed to Grafham for the Inland Championships. After six races over two days, some really windy conditions, a minor head injury (mine, having not hoisted the kite sufficiently quickly) and in our case, two capsizes, we finished equal on points: two Pevensey boats in the top 11 felt like a very respectable showing (Hayling Island was the only other club to have two boats in the top 10).

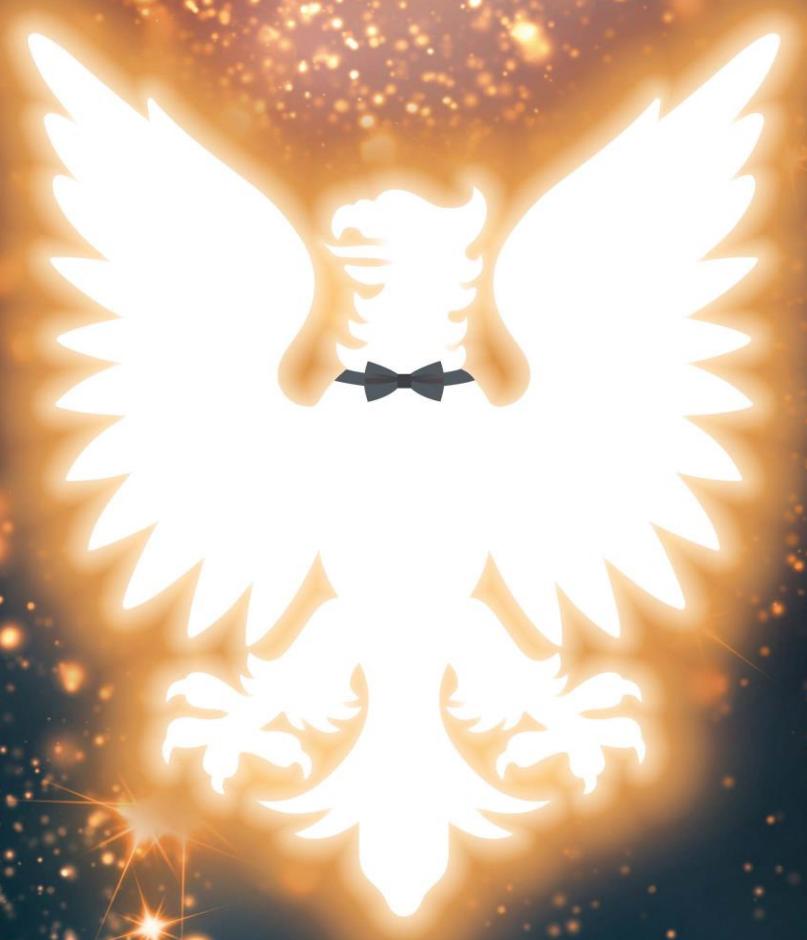
We still have two South East Area Series events to go: at Island Barn and Frensham Pond, before the end of season regatta at Rutland in November. The latter is the final event of the National Tour: it would be great to finish the season with two Pevensey boats in the top seven, as we are currently lying, though it might be a bit of a challenge given the quality of the fleet!



Well done to Chris and Nicki Webber and Matt Fowler and Lynne Ratcliffe



Social news



PEVENSEY BAY SAILING CLUB

LAYING UP SUPPER

HYDRO HOTEL

Saturday 27th November 6.30 - 12pm

Formal evening attire or lounge suits | party frocks

£38 Adults | £30 Cadets

social news



PEVENSEY BAY

Halloween

cadets

Party

30th October 6 - 11.30pm

buffet • awards • fancy dress • games

Adults £7 kids £5

Social news



PBSC BONFIRE PARTY

A PARTY UNDER A THOUSAND STARS

**SATURDAY
6th NOVEMBER**

Buffet of Soup, jacket spud's &
fixings, sausages & onions,
French sticks, salads & sides.

Buffet £7 Adults/£5 kids
6pm – 11:30pm

<https://forms.gle/KgnqXqsjvkmmBmQY6>
social@pbsc.org.uk

Galley

Caterer Required

As you know Tina has done a fantastic job keeping us fed throughout most of the sailing season, often stepping in when the caterer we had organised was unable to fulfil the commitment. In addition to this she has not taken any personal payment for her efforts, ploughing all her taking back into the Club. For her efforts we are extremely grateful.

Unfortunately Tina is unable to continue running the galley next year and so the ExCom is having to consider alternatives. In the past we have had a series of professional caterers take on the contract, but it is clearly very seasonal work and completely reliant on the weather and as such not a commercially attractive proposition. At the height of the season the galley can be extremely busy, but on wet and windy days takings can be very slim. There is opportunity to build up a regular clientele.

Ideally we need someone who would look on this as a bit of a hobby which earns them some extra money; excellent pay on good days but poor on others. Perhaps someone who is in early retirement. Perhaps someone who only works part time, but they would need to be available Saturday and Sunday throughout the sailing season. To be honest it couldn't be a sailor as the galley needs to be open whenever we sail.

If you know of anyone that would be suitable for this post please point them in direction of the Commodore.

Email commodore@pbsc.org.uk

There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have.