AQUILANEWSLETTER

march 23

CALENDAR INCLUDED MARCH to JUNE

COASTAL MANAGEMENT SCHEME

A brief note to the members on what will be happening.

WEBCOLLECT

Memberships, training, and social event bookings and payments will now be available through WebCollect.



COMMODORE COMMUNIQUE DAVID BONIFACE

commodore@pbsc.org.uk



Welcome to the start of the sailing season!.....Well nearly.

If everything has gone to plan we should be offering the first programmed race day this weekend.

A little early for some maybe, but I'm always surprised at how good conditions can be this time of year ... but it can also be very cold!! My annual suggestion is to start sailing early and the summer will seem much longer!

As you will see when you get down to the Club, there has been a lot of work going on around the grounds and clubhouse with a lot of tidying up. The grounds have been cleared of a lot of bramble and rubbish, with plants, shrubs and small trees planted in an attempt to enhance the area. The club has invested a fair bit of time, effort and money in the attempt to create a natural barrier around the plot. Unfortunately all this work can be quickly undermined by careless and thoughtless action. I have seen small trees snapped off by masts laid through the bushes, boats tied to the trunks of small tree. masts laying on fences and rubbish dumped in the undergrowth. Please help to look after the Club, being particularly careful not to damage the vulnerable new plants.



While on the "be careful" theme, you will have noticed that the road to the Club had been repaired recently and looked quite good for a short time. Unfortunately the recent heavy rain didn't allow the repairs to settle in and harden and consequently many of the holes are reappearing. The damage is exacerbated of course by traffic, and particularly by people driving fast through all the puddles / holes. The hydraulic pressure caused by vehicle tyres in water filled holes is enormous, and consequently very destructive, so please try to avoid the puddles and drive slowly. We can see already that the road will need more work once the weather warms up.

I think most of you are aware that we have been sorting out the boat / trailer park over the last year or so. This is a long and arduous process, but very necessary to ensure that we are not storing unused, unwanted and obsolete equipment. This process will continue through this season and we will include the member's container. I have asked before and will ask again that everyone storing equipment in the container clearly labels the equipment and please, if the equipment, boat or trailer is no longer used, remove it from the club.

Over the last couple of months, a huge number of man hours have been contributed to the club in the process of maintaining the standards of our facilities and in many cases, improving things. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved. As we keep saying everything is done on a purely volunteer basis and we need every member to do their bit. If you haven't contributed there will be many opportunities throughout the summer to get involved, so don't be shy!

I hope you all have a fantastic summer of sailing.

VICE COMMODORE GARY PEARSON

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We are now close to the season starting, the mornings and evening are getting lighter the grey cells (the few I have) within that void between my ears are starting to suggest that we will soon be back on the water. Now is the time to start the "offerings" to the sailing gods to insure we have good weather and wind for the on coming sailing season, although that has never worked for me.

A big thank you to those members that have participated in the working parties to get the Club ready for the season, as always very much appreciated. Please pat yourselves on your back, job well done. The Brothers Brooks have been verv busy over the closed season restoring everything, especially the rib trailers. Don't stand still too long otherwise you might find them grinding off your rusty bits and painting you with a protective coating! A big thank you to them both - Ken and Goff (and all those involved in the process) - who would have thought that you would be working harder in your retirement, than when you were in full time employment.

Justin has done another excellent job on the Sailing calendar with plenty for all to enjoy throughout the year. Please note that duties are available for you to volunteer your services on dates and roles that you are comfortable with. Please do so before the press gang begins to allocate these duties for you - time is running out and the gang is getting closer.

James has worked his magic with regards to the training and cadet programme, again plenty to enjoy there ... fun times ahead. Especially pleased to see cadet activities outside the club being organised by the parents, especially Ash and Jackie. The club has not had that before to my knowledge and that is great to see ... we done all.

Thank you also to the power boat team organising refresher days and training, will be attending myself so I know which way to face whilst steering.

So everything looks in order for the new season, see you at the club.

Pevensey Bay to Eastbourne - Coastal Management Scheme

I was recently asked to attend a meeting of the Pevensey Bay to Eastbourne Coastal Management Scheme to represent PBSC's interests, a brief note to the membership on what will be happening.

Essentially there will be 3 phases:

Phase 1: Extend the existing contact to maintain the beach until 2027. A funding application submitted to Government March 2023 - this is not expected to be denied.

Phase 2: Use the time between now and 2027 to design a more robust sea defence solution that will deal with rising sea levels and climate change (more regular and intense storms). This will include:

- Tender and appoint a marine civil contractor to commence by 2027.
- Public and Government consultation to be undertaken during this period.
- Initial design options presented by December 2027
- The design options are being developed currently and will form the preparation for Phase 3.

Phase 3: Following on from Phase 2 the design will be extended to provide a 100 year solution and implemented at some time in the future. This could be some 20 to 30 years in the future.

Funding: The Government has allocated £5 Billion nationally to flood defence. Pevensey Bay is rated as a high risk area with a population at threat of flooding in the order of 100,000. So we will see the movement of the beach continuing for the near future until 2027, thereafter more robust sea defences will start to be installed. This is where we do have the opportunity to contribute as a well established regular user of the beach. The Environment Agency are currently designing several different sea defence designs, these will be tabled shortly to the public for consultation. PBSC will have a representative attending and contributing in these meetings to protect our interests.

African and South American hardwoods will not be used so that will leave us with stone and concrete. I suspect the former and I would not be surprised if the original plan (some 25 years ago now) of using granite rocks to form 6 or so large break waters projecting out into the sea down across Pevensey and Normans Bay. To deal with the rising sea levels a sea wall might also be constructed, but that is just my best guess at this stage.

Please see the Coastal Management Scheme Spring Newsletter overleaf for your reference.

NEWSLETTER: SPRING 2023

Welcome to the Pevensey Bay to Eastbourne Coastal Management scheme newsletter. This project covers the flood and coastal erosion risk from Holywell in Eastbourne through to Cooden Beach.

Delivery of the Pevensey Bay to Eastbourne coastal management scheme

This work will take three main strands:

- A **short-term 'interim' project** from 2025 will continue to provide flood risk management to the project area while allowing time for the more complex strands to be developed.
- Phase 1 will be the start of the short-medium term works and will build upon the existing flood defence methods, with some localised construction activities.
 We expect this phase to run for approximately 10 20 years.
 - The **100-year programme of works** will allow for various choices in the future as climate change progresses and newer technologies evolve. This programme will be delivered following the end of phase 1 works and into the future, to manage the frontage in its entirety.

Environmental Update

We are working on a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to identify how we can make improvements to the environment whilst minimising negative impacts. We expect this work to be available for review in the winter.

We are also looking at how we can merge landscape improvements into the design of the flood risk solutions and aim to have these designs ready for review alongside the SEA.

Marine habitats may help to reduce flood and erosion risk by reducing wave power, whilst also improving biodiversity and absorbing carbon. We are therefore working with partners to understand the different forms of marine habitat that may be suitable for this area of coastline.

Working with Schools

In December, we held a workshop with over 60 secondary school students from the Coastal Schools Partnership in East Sussex.

The students learned about the scheme and today's coastal challenges. They then took part in a flood risk planning activity, where they considered all possible options to decide which flood risk solution would be best for their allocated zone.

Students then had the opportunity to discuss the activity and their choices with parents at the end of the day.

Our post-workshop survey showed that 100% of respondents felt they better understood the impact of rising sea levels and how we can protect against this.

For more information about this work, please see our website: www.pevenseyandeastbournecoast.co.uk



Promoting the Project

We have installed 3 gabion display units along Eastbourne seafront to share project information and to increase community and visitor awareness of the scheme. Our project posters have also been displayed in bus stops and community centres within the project area, and our logo can be seen on several lamppost banners in Eastbourne.

The success of this engagement will be evaluated by monitoring the number of visits to the website through the QR codes on the posters. This data will also help us to plan and shape how we communicate with stakeholders for future engagement events.



Beach management works – an update from Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd

It's been a particularly busy winter season with lots of activity and machinery on the beach. There are two parts to the maintenance regime:



Restoring defences after storms – achieved by pushing shingle back up the beach or by short distance recycling using dumpers.

Trying to minimise the amount of shingle moving along the frontage, whilst collecting shingle from the eastern end of the frontage and moving it west so it can begin to gradually drift east once again.

We have had relatively few storms over the winter. This has allowed us to move more shingle than usual from Cooden to Sovereign Harbour to ensure that shingle remains in the right locations. We have also had the dredger 'Sospan Dau' visit the harbour to recharge shingle onto the beach.



How to get involved

Since 2021 the project team have been meeting with members of the Pevensey Bay and Normans Bay community and we are seeking to work with other residents and organisations to begin forming further local stakeholder groups. If you would like to learn more, please email us: <u>PevenseyandEastbourneCoast@environment-agency.gov.uk</u>

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REAR COMMODORE GOFF BROOKS

rearcommodore@pbsc.org.uk



House

So far this year we've held four weekend working parties, the first two focussing on tidying up the grounds (removing brambles etc) and repairing the drive. The third dealt largely with swapping over the trailers for the large Ribs so that renovation work can start on the second trailer, and with installing the timber framework to clad the roof of the container next to the east boundary.

The fourth working party on the weekend just gone we focussed on cladding the container roof; painting the external walls of the clubhouse; sanding and oiling the patio/terrace furniture; painting the kerbstones around the car park area; undertaking some planting around the perimeter and a myriad of smaller tasks.

It's really encouraging that so many volunteers are helping with the working parties – hopefully this will continue through March!

Boat park

All space markers have now been installed, with additional permanent spaces created in the northwest corner of the park. These markers (in rows Y and Z) will be numbered in the next week or so. I am in the process of reconciling boat park information with renewals. This process usually highlights data issues – where these are identified I'll be emailing the relevant member to resolve the issue. The aim is to ensure that boat park information will reconcile with the data being built on the new Web Collect system, and eventually be integrated with it.

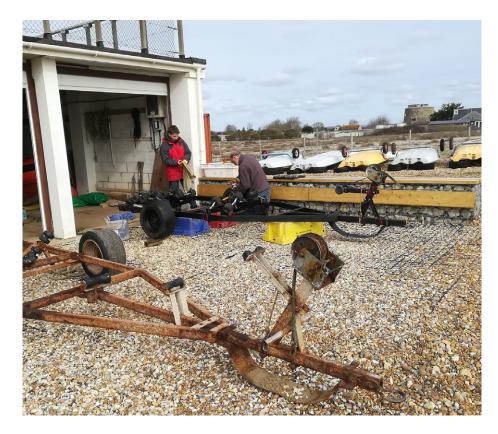
The reconciliation process may also identify potentially abandoned boats and additional free spaces. The former will, as with last year, be subject to the abandoned boats process and be potentially sold or disposed of.

In last month's Aquila, I asked that all owners of trailers at the back of the park ensure that their trailer(s) be indelibly marked with their name by the end of March. As at the time of writing (16th March) I can see little evidence of this having been done. Any trailers not so marked by the end of March will be moved to the east fence and made subject to the 'abandoned trailers' process.

Boundary planting

The group established to undertake the boundary planting project (led by Sarah Pullen) has undertaken a lot of research to find trees and shrubs appropriate to the environment i.e shingle ground, arid conditions, strong winds etc. Some shrubs have been purchased and planted. and some holm oaks have been transplanted from the adjoining land onto our land by the east boundary (with the subsequent permission of the manager of Grey Towers Holiday Park). However, sourcing of additional trees has proved to be difficult, due disease controls (e.g. ash dieback) and the restrictions on importing trees. Sarah and Co. have now identified a suitable supplier and will hopefully be purchasing a few more trees next week.

The next issue to address as regards the planting is to establish some sort of maintenance routine e.g watering, pruning etc – we're hoping that there will be some green-fingered people within the club's membership willing to help with that – if so, please let Sarah know!



SAILING SECRETARY JUSTIN POLLARD

sailingsecretary@pbsc.org.uk



I write this sitting on the sofa, thinking about the sailing season ahead. I've not sailed this winter, but I think I've succeeded in getting under Sarah's feet sufficiently that she'll be glad when my sailing resumes.

So, it kicks off in about a week's time on **Sunday 26th March with the Warm-Up Trophy**. I saw Adrian Peckham polishing the underside of his Blaze last weekend, let's have a big turn out, so Adrian must work hard if he's going to retain the Golden Hot Water Bottle.

The following weekend sees the start of the Spring Series. You will recall I mentioned at the AGM that I planned to change the DNC penalty. This is going ahead, if you DNF, or DNS, then you will receive a number of boats in the day's fleet +1, as usual. If you are unable to turn up, or choose not to go afloat, then you will receive a number of boats in the day's fleet +2. I think it is worth distinguishing between those who are unable to attend from those who fail to finish, but I do not think they should be overly penalised. A number of sailors sail more than one boat in a season or use different sized sails. Under the old system the DNC penalty was getting very high and the discards couldn't really address this. The sailing Instructions will be amended to reflect this change, in time for the start of the Spring Season.

Racing will start at 10:30am each Sunday, so please be on the water and at the start line for the 10:25 five minute warning. I would ask the OOD, Timekeeper and Safety Boat Helm & Crew arrive at the club in plenty of time to get the safety boats and course set up in time for the programmed start. If you are the Timekeeper, please do not arrive just before race start, you can really help the OOD setting up the course. Likewise with the Safety Boat Crew, please do not leave fuelling and setting the boats up to the Helm. Finally, please make a concerted effort to avoid delayed starts.

Sunday racing will be three races back-to-back, the course and race duration will be set by the day's OOD, however we will aim to be finished by about 1:30 - 2:00 pm. This will give the opportunity for a bit of afternoon free sailing or a social in the clubhouse.

Easter falls at the beginning of April this year, we will be having Bank Holiday Series racing on Good Friday 7th April, and again on Bank Holiday Monday 10th April. These will be two back-to-back races starting at 10:30am and then a further two backto-back races from 1:30pm.

Easter Saturday will be 'Fun' East Egg Races and free sailing, if you remember last year, sailors had to collect a chocolate Easter Egg, each lap. Start time will be more relaxed, probably about 11:00am.

Easter Sunday, is the East Egg Race, separate from the Bank Holiday series, but also two back-to-back races starting at 10:30am and then two back-to-back races from 1:30pm. This will give some competitive sailing to members who are unable to attend on the Bank Holidays.

There are a number of duties unfilled, including safety boat for the Warm-Up trophy. Remember at the end of March, we will start allocating duties to members who have not already chosen dates for themselves. You are asked to volunteer for three duties each, if everyone does their share, that should be enough. If you can't put your hand on your heart and say you did your allocation last year, then please do so this year. As Sailing Secretary, I have already put myself down for four!

The Club's Open Day is on Saturday 29th April, hopefully we'll have another Aquila before then but if not, please support the open day, it's an opportunity to showcase our lovely club and pressgang new members. Please volunteer to take guests out on test sails or help on the beach. It's a lot of hard work but with lots of volunteers, it massively reduces the work, and of course there's the evening BBQ afterwards.

The sailing calendar is already on the website, it is dynamic and may change, so please keep an eye on it from time to time. I include elsewhere in this months Aquila the first three months calendar in list form.

I have updated the Sailwave computer with the 2023 PY handicap and provide the lists in the emailed copy of this month's Aquila. I note I must sail even harder if I'm going to beat the Laser Radials. I have laminated copies of the Race Box instructions and put them a folder in the Race Box, along with plenty of Sign-On Sheets and Lap Charts. Finally, I repeat my offer of help learning the Race Box equipment and Sailwave.

See you on the 26th to take the Golden Hot Water Bottle away from Adrian.





Portsmouth Number List 2023

The RYA Portsmouth Yardstick Scheme has enabled boats of different classes to race competitively against each other for over 70 years. The list below is the national base list from which clubs can take a starting point for this season's dinghy racing based off the returns from the RYA Affiliated clubs. Clubs using the PN list should be aware that the list is based on the typical performance of each boat across a variety of clubs and locations. The RYA actively encourages clubs to adjust handicaps at a local level where classes are either under or over performing compared to the number being used.

Experimental numbers are based on fewer returns and are to be used as a guide for clubs to allocate as a starting number before reviewing and adjusting where necessary. The list of experimental Portsmouth Numbers is based on data received via PY Online. The Limited Data List with classes no longer published on the main PY List is available on the RYA website: https://www.rya.org.uk/racing/technical/handicap-systems/portsmouth-yardstick

RYA PN LIST - Dinghy						
Class Name	No. of	Rig	Spinnaker	Number	Change	Notes
420	2	S	C	1100	-5	
2000	2	S	A	1114	0	
29ER	2	S	A	897	-6	
505	2	S	С	900	-3	
ALBACORE	2	S	0	1037	-3	
ALTO	2	S	A	921	-	
B14	2	S	A	858		
BLAZE	1	U	0	1033	0	
BRITISH MOTH		U	0		5	
	1	0	U	1165	5	
BYTE CII	1	U	0	1135	0	CLUBS TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN CI
COMET	1	U	0	1210	0	
COMET TRIO (MK I)	2	s	А	1096	-8	CLUBS TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN MKI AND MKII RIGS ON RETURNS
COMET TRIO (MK II)	2	S	A	1052	0	CLUBS TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN MKI
CONTENDER	1	U	0	969	0	
DEVOTI D-ONE	1	U	A	948	0	
DEVOTI D-ZERO	1	U	0	1029	0	
ENTERPRISE	2	S	0	1126	4	
EUROPE	1	U	0	1141	0	
FINN	1	U	0	1049	0	
FIREBALL	2	S	C	952	0	
FIREFLY	2	S	0	1174	2	
FLYING FIFTEEN	2	S	C	1021	0	Clubs to distinguish between Classic and silver
GP14	2	S	С	1133	3	
GRADUATE	2	S	0	1133	-12	
HADRON H2	1	U	0	1038	-12	
		-			4	
HORNET	2	S	С	959		
ICON	2	S	0	976	-	
ILCA 4 / Laser 4.7	1	U	0	1210	2	Previously recorded as Laser 4.7
ILCA 6 / Laser Radial	1	U	0	1150	3	Previously recorded as Laser Radial
ILCA 7 / Laser	1	U	0	1101	1	Previously recorded as Laser
К1	1	S	0	1070	6	
K6	2	S	A	919	0	
KESTREL	2	S	С	1038	0	
LARK	2	S	С	1065	-8	
LIGHTNING 368	1	U	0	1160	-2	
MEGABYTE	1	U	0	1072	-4	
MERLIN-ROCKET	2	S	С	980	0	CLUBS SHOULD REFER TO
MIRACLE	2	S	С	1194	0	
MIRROR (D/H)	2	s	С	1387	-3	CLUBS TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN S/H AND D/H AND USE OF SPINNAKER ON RETURNS
MIRROR (S/H)	1	S	0	1377	-3	CLUBS TO DISTINGUISH
MUSTO SKIFF	1	U	A	845	-4	
NATIONAL 12	2	S	0	1064	0	CLUBS TO DISTINGUISH CLASSICS ON
ОК	1	U	0	1104	0	
OPTIMIST	1	U	0	1635	-7	
OSPREY	2	S	C	934	4	
PHANTOM	1	U	0	1002	-2	
ROOSTER 8.1	1	U	0	1035	-10	
				1		
RS 100 8.4	1	U	А	1002	-2	CLUBS TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN 8.4 & 10.2 ON RETURNS
RS 100 8.4 RS 200	1	U S	A	1002 1046	-2 0	

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY DAVE WATSON

membership@pbsc.org.uk



YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU The club relies almost totally on our membership annual subscriptions to run and finance the club throughout the year, to pay for insurance policies, maintenance of club facilities i.e. safety boat's, safety boat fuel, racing marks, replacement sailing school equipment, the electric and water for the showers, club house cleaning, council and refuse charges, electricity, building maintenance etc. and so the list goes on.

The club membership runs from 1st January to 31st December of each year; however, the club is lenient in allowing payment up to 31st March each year without incurring the joining fee of £50. Consequently, if you wish to renew your 2023 membership without the additional £50 joining fee, you will need to have deposited and club bank account cleared your annual subscription by 31st March 2023. Thereafter subscriptions will incur the joining fee.

From previous Aquila's, the club is now using WebCollect to maintain membership database and finance thereof, in using WebCollect you can currently pay by BACS, Cheque, GoCardless or the Zettle portal within the club house. You are also able to pay for various club activities through WebCollect such Social Events like Curry Nights, BBQ's, sailing school training etc. If you have issues with using WebCollect then please contact either Justin Pollard, Sailing Secretary sailingsecretary@pbsc.org.uk or myself membership@pbsc.org.uk

WebCollect: Login to our member area or sign up your club

If you have an existing WebCollect account then you can sign in using your existing login details, if you have not used WebCollect previously, then you will need to create a login which is easy to undertake, just follow the prompts. A few members have had issues with their email address not being recognised, in which case contact me and I can force WebCollect to create you an account.

For those of you that joined through one of the Open days in 2022, you have membership subscription valid until 31st December 2023 and do not need to do anything yet. Those of you that have already renewed, thank you.

SAILING SCHOOL PRINCIPAL JAMES ALLERTON

pbsctrainingadmin@pbsc.org.uk



With the season fast approaching us, places can now be booked on

all our courses. I have emailed those who expressed an interest in courses last year but missed out due to availability. If you want to book a place on the following courses, please email pbsctrainignadmin@ pbsc.org.uk. All courses operate on a first-come, first-served basis, so book soon to avoid disappointment.

RYA PowerBoat Level 2 15th and 16th April The two-day Powerboat Training Course covers all aspects of powerboating and provides the skills and background knowledge required to be a competent Powerboat driver. It is the basis of the International Certificate of Competence and, notably, a requirement for anyone wishing to drive the club's RIBs. The cost is £65, which includes a certificate for those who complete the course.

RYA PowerBoat Level 2

W.O.W - 13th and 14th May As per the above course, however, this course is open to members who prefer to complete training in an allfemale student group. It is worth noting that all instructors, however, will be male.

Level 1 - Tuesday evenings from 9th May until the 13th June. Starting at 6pm and finishing at 10pm

Level 2 - Tuesday evenings from 20th June until the 25th July. Starting at 6pm and finishing at 10pm

The availability of our RYA sailing courses is strictly limited. Don't wait until after the open day to try and book, as last year spaces were taken.

LIFE'S A BEACH

So much friendship and fun in the PBSC Cadets, it was looking like a long winter, they were missing each other's company.... Until they started finding winter activities to do together.

One very wet January evening saw an adventure to the Eastbourne Ice Rink. The venue was magical and watching the greetings it was plain to see that the children were so pleased to see each other. Once the skates were on and they got on the ice some were fast, some were slow, some could twirl and some just got round stopping themselves with the barriers. There was some sitting down on the job. So many wobbly moments but the shrieks and laughter could be heard above the music.

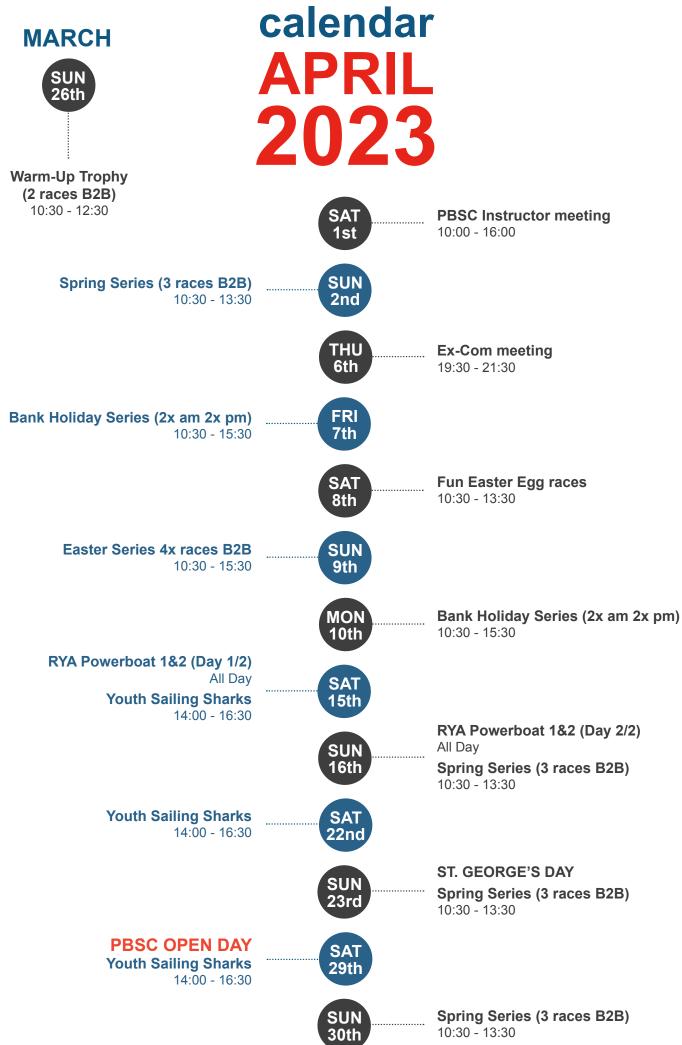
Something completely different for the next meet up – Ninja Arena Eastbourne. Aged from 7 to 40 something, the kids bounced, chased, balanced, climbed and laughed, occasionally appearing, bright pink and hot gasping for a drink of water.

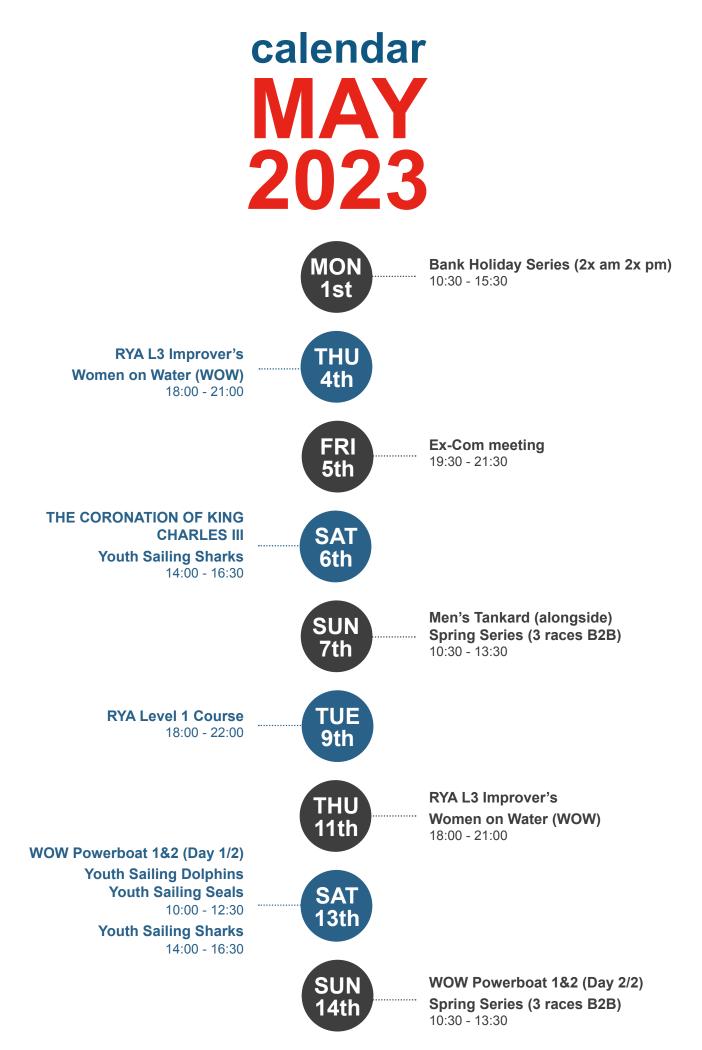
And finally (unless we sneak one more in before sailing starts up

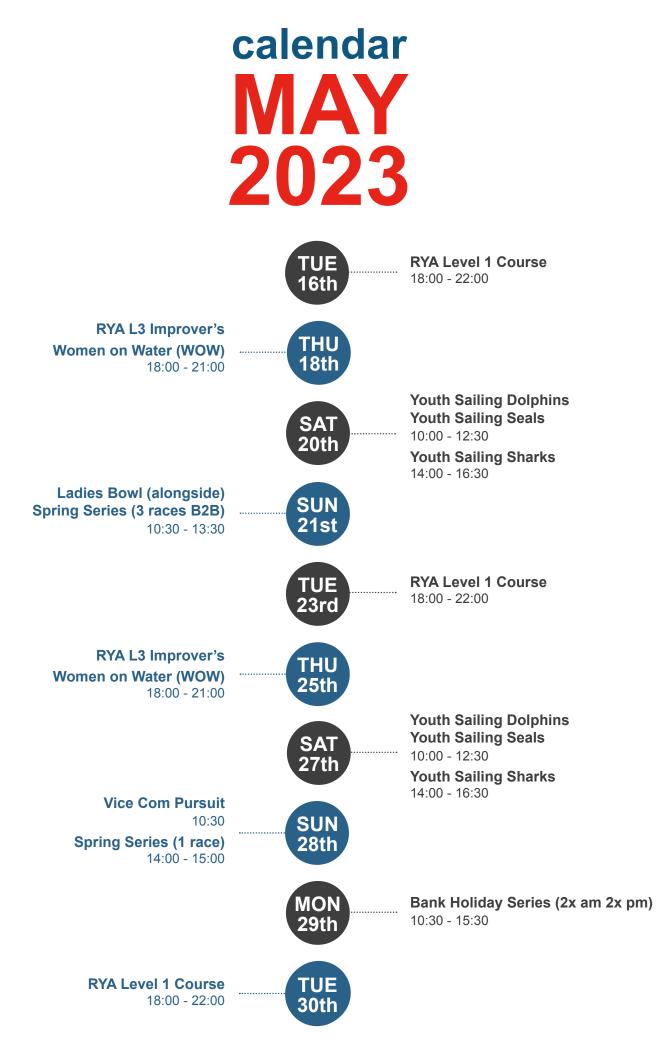
again) Freedom Leisure in Hailsham for bowling. There were 30 bowlers, lots of competition, boys v girls, husbands v wives, children v adults and between the lanes but it's safe to say the children's scores were higher than many of the parents. After the game finished there was a short walk to Rustico for pizza. It was quite noisy for a while as the fire alarm went off, after a few minutes it was clear that they needed some help turning it off. Luckily for them Ant was in the building and was rewarded with a very large bottle of beer on the house for turning it off for them using his dark arts.

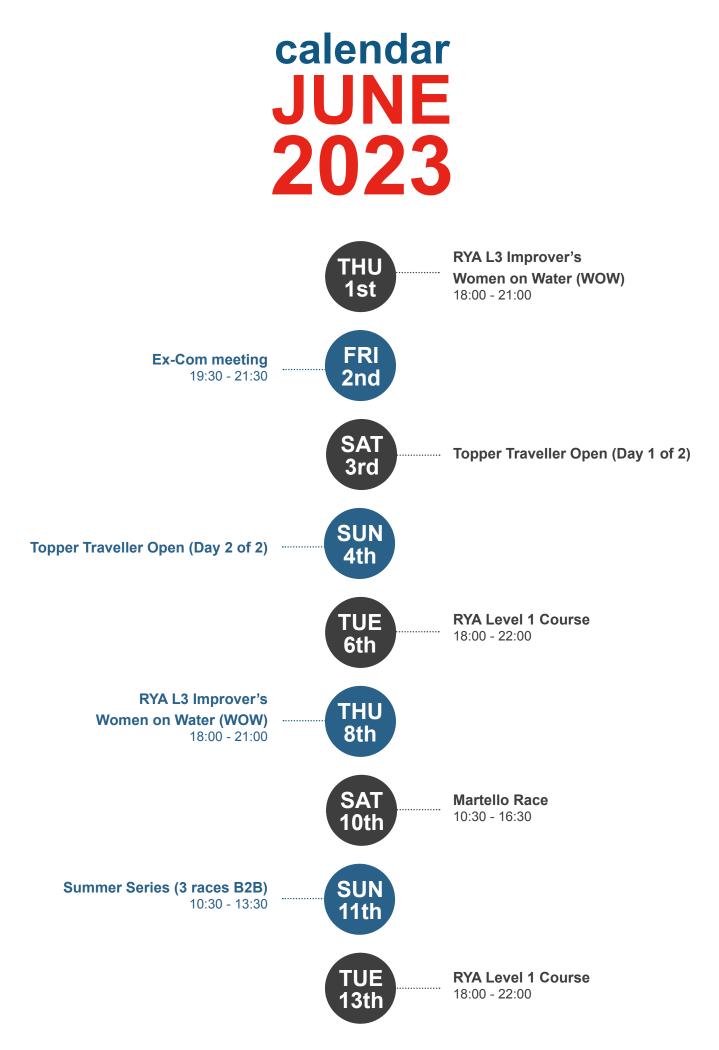
An amazing bunch of youngsters! Looking forward to seeing them all back in boats in the very near future.













HOW I BECAME A MEMBER OF PEVENSEY BAY SAILING CLUB IN 1957 By Ivor Pollard

In July 1957 I was living in Tunbridge Wells Kent, and decided to take a ride on my motorbike to Brighton. While walking along the promenade past the Brighton Sailing Club, I saw a broom hanging from one of the dinghy's masts, so I asked the chap there what the broom was doing up the mast. The man replied, "that means the boat is for sale".

Anyway, the man told me the dinghy was a fifteen foot 'Wildcat' and one of the club members was selling it for seventy-five pounds. After saying goodbye, I decided to continue my bike ride, to Eastbourne. There were lots of dinghies sailing, so I stopped to watch them. As they came ashore, I noticed one of the dinghies was exactly the same sort of boat as the one for sale in Brighton. When it came to the shore and the two crew jumped out, I said to them "I've just seen a boat like this for sail at Brighton Sailing Club". We got chatting and they asked if I was interested in buying the Wildcat. I said, "I don't know, I've never sailed a dinghy". I told them how much it was, and they said to me "if you're interested in it, we can go to Brighton and see if it's worth the money.

The two men said they were from Pevensey Bay Sailing Club, and they were sailing in the Eastbourne Regatta. They said if I wanted, I could follow them back to Pevensey Bay and they would show me their sailing club, at Pevensey Bay. The two men were Gordon Beard and Wally (Walter) Upton. They sailed back to Pevensey Bay and I rode my motorbike, I watched them come ashore in Gordon's Wildcat and they took me up the beach and showed me the clubhouse. Wally Upton said, I only live just down the road in Coast Road, come and have a cup of tea. So I followed Wally to his house, met his daughter Christine and he told me all about the Pevensey Bay Sailing Club. Wally said, "If you're interested in buying that dinghy, Gordon and I will go and have a look at it this week for you." I accepted the offer and the following weekend I went back to the Pevensey Bay Sailing Club and Wally told me the dinghy in Brighton was a nice boat and a good buy. As I say, I hadn't ever sailed a dingy before, but I thought it would make a good new hobby, so I went and paid for the boat and the following



Wally Upton's Enterprise #830 & Ivor Pollard's Wildcat #28 Painting by Ivor's father E. Pollard



Ivor Pollard's Enterprise #1741 1959

weekend Wally and Gordon trailered Wildcat #286 back to Pevensey Bay for me. I became a member of the Pevensey Bay Sailing Club and moved to the village the following year.

Michael Goodge took me out in my new boat and guite literally showed me the ropes. I wasn't very good, but anyway we had a little sail in it and then we came back to the shore. Michael then said "there's not much wind, take it off and have a go by yourself, which I did. How long did I last? about five minutes I suppose, until I capsized. Having taken a swim and then righted the boat, my wool jump had stretched and now hung down below my knees. After a few weeks I got the hang of it and enjoyed sailing the Wildcat every weekend.

Pevensey Bay Sailing Club was formed by Gordon Beard, George Goodge, Les Dibley, Peter Stubley and Bill Philips when they moved away from the Eastbourne Sailing Club (at Splash Point) and set up their own club in the village. At the time Wally Upton was a member of the Artisan Sailing Club (now Buzz). On hearing a new sailing club was going to be formed in Pevensey Bay, Wally left the Artisan Sailing Club and become another of Pevensey Bay Sailing Club's founding members, along with Tom McAll.

George Gooch put up the money to build the clubhouse and it was built by local builder Percy Holter. Wally Upton being a local plumber, did the plumbing in the clubhouse. The building was constructed in the style of a bungalow. Inside it was the sailing club but it was built in such a way that if the club no longer wanted it, it could easily be converted into a residential bungalow.

I had the Wildcat for a couple of years or so, then I fancied an Enterprises. They were a up and coming class and numbers #1 and #2 were being loaned around the sailing clubs, PBSC got to test sail #2. Gordon Beard and Wally Upton decided to build their own Enterprises, they bought all the timber and build them from scratch. They he had to make all the frames by hand and the mast had to be made from two lengths of timber, grooved out and glues together. Wally's Enterprise was sail number #820. Bob Holter and I decided to

build Enterprises the following winter, but we chose to buy kits and we built them in the garage behind the sailing club. In 1959 I sailed my Enterprise #1741 in the Martello Race with Wally's daughter Christine Upton, she was also a member of PBSC and had sailed the Martello Race in a National (12), some years earlier in 1957. In October 1959 Christine and I got married.

I sailed my Enterprise for a couple of years and even sailed it out to the Royal Sovereign lightship. I took newspapers and a cake Chris had baked with me, the lightship crew lowered a net down for me to put the newspapers and cake into.

In 1961 I fancied a National because there was already guite a few in the club. I went to the Chippindale factory in Fareham where you could buy part built National 12s. They built the hull, frame and fitted the thwart, then I trailered it back to Pevensey Bay, were I fitted the deck and finished it off. The National was a lovely boat, with all varnished timber. I sailed the Martello once more, this time in the National and went in several ice-cream cruises to Alice's shop in Normans Bay. At that time Pevensey Bay Sailing Club sailed to both Eastbourne and Bexhill for their annual regattas. Sailing was a full one with club racing on Saturday afternoons, Sunday mornings and Sunday afternoons. In the mid 60's I moved on to other hobbies so wasn't part of the club when it moved to the Crumbles. I stopped sailing dinghies until the early 1970's when I bought a Mirror dinghy off my brother-in-law and resumed sailing, from the beach in Pevensey Bay.

Now in my 90's, it's fair to say my sailing days are over, save for a trip out crewing my son Justin's Laser Stratos in 2019. Christine and I are members of Pevensey Bay Sailing Club again though, albeit just social members, but now it's the turn of my son Justin and grandson Matthew to be active sailing members of the Pevensey Bay Sailing Club.

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