

AQUILA **NEWSLETTER**

APRIL
23

**PBSC
OPEN DAY**

**Saturday 29th
April**

OPEN MEETINGS

Topper Open Meeting
Saturday 3rd & Sunday
- 4th June

Federation Cup
Saturday 1st &
Sunday 2nd July

**PLANT
PROJECT**

The planting of the East
boundary is now completed,
many thanks to all who have
helped with the project.



COMMODORE COMMUNIQUE

DAVID BONIFACE

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Weather! Well we do live on the British Isles, what do you expect?

It hasn't really been that inspiring to get out on the water yet; well not for me and a good number of our members. A number of people have said to me that they haven't even prepared their boat as it's been too cold and wet on the beach to spend the time doing the necessary work. Of course we have had the hardy, hard core sailors who will sail in any conditions, sailing most weeks. We have run racing most weekends, with small fleets, but I expect most of you are waiting for the weather to warm up.

A couple of weeks ago we had what we have classified as a "Near Miss" on the beach after sailing. As the big safety boat was being winched up the steep part of the beach the winch in the boathouse jumped out of gear, allowing the heavily laden boat to run backwards down the beach.

Fortunately no one was directly behind the boat, but Adrian needed to show his athletic prowess, by leaping out of the way, narrowly avoiding being run over. The beach really is our danger zone and I am sure that we have had far more injuries of people stood firmly on the beach, than out at sea.

So please be warned;

- Do not walk or stand behind any safety boat while it is being winched up the beach.
- When pulling the boats down the beach, stay outside the ropes and avoid getting in front of the boat.
- Always ensure the winch cable is attached to the trailer when moving the large boats down the beach.
- Only use the low gear on the big winch and do not change gear while in use.

We are in the process of upgrading the big winch in the boathouse which should create a more user friend, safer and efficient system.

Inspired by our very own Round Britain hero (lunatic?) Neil Peters (alias Stick Daring) we were visited by another sailor aiming to sail solo, unsupported, around the British Isle in a Laser. What is it with these guys? At least have a boat with a bed in it with a few home comforts!! Anyway Andrew Hill-Smith set off on his voyage a week or so ago and landed at the Club on the 16th April for an overnight stop. I am pleased to say that Andrew was delighted with the warm reception and help he received when he beached his boat so thanks to all involved.

He set off the following day in misty conditions with very little wind, despite advice that he would make very little headway against a strong tide. His response was "what else would I do and I have a paddle!!" We pushed him out in to the mist just as the breeze began to show and he quickly disappeared from view.

Andrew is doing this for charity and he has a website, <https://www.laseraroundtheuk3.uk/> He has a tracker on board so you can follow his progress. I am sure that all at PBSC, wish him the best of luck.

We continually get sent guidance from the RYA regarding various topical subjects. As a very small club we are unable to fulfil all the requirements and advice we receive, but we do our best to move with the times, implementing as many of the initiative as our limited resources allow. One of the recent set of advisory documents is regarding "Safeguarding" which we have mentioned in previous Aquila's. Following the receipt of this document we have decided to ban the use of mobile phones in the changing room. Most phones have very good cameras and so to avoid any possibility of anyone taking inappropriate images the use of phones in the changing rooms has to be banned. If you see anyone using a phone in these areas please remind them of the requirement.

The Club is going to supply secure storage for mobile phones, wallets and keys so that these items can be store securely while members are sailing.

We have the Open Day this coming Saturday, 29th April. Everyone should have received an email from us on 11th April with an invitation for you to use. If you didn't receive this could you double check that you didn't miss it or have it spammed. If you still didn't receive the email please let us know.

See you on the water, very soon I hope!



VICE COMMODORE GARY PEARSON

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The season is now well underway, we just need the weather to be kind to us, a little warmth and sunshine would not go amiss.

We have the Topper open and Martello fast approaching and the club will need the support of it's members to fulfil the roles, to make these events run smoothly, so please support the club where and when you can.

A quick word about duties, we have now allocated the duties for the season and I must apologise that this has been done later than usual.

It is difficult to allocate duties when we do not know the membership until the end of March and we are already into the sailing season. However, it is now done and I am sure not to the satisfaction of everyone. Not being aware of every members other activities through out the coming year we have to randomly allocate a date for you. Which is why we do request that members volunteer their duties as early as possible. We have tried to allocate no more than 3 duties per person, unfortunately that is the number of duties required to be filled for the membership that the club currently has. Mistakes and clashes with your diaries will have been made, but please do not shoot the messenger and rearrange/ swap duties with other members as necessary.

For next season we would propose to have these duties allocated much earlier, at least the first half of the year to try to reduce the issues we have almost every year regarding duties.

To go sailing we rely on the support and good nature of its members to fill these duties, most do, and some more than others do their fair share; we need to thank those that do.

We are gearing up for the Federation Meeting and behind the scenes

arranging a meeting with the Federation Clubs to discuss the event. For those not aware the Federation Clubs along the South Coast going from West to East (the prevailing wind direction) are, Newhaven and Seaford, Eastbourne & Sovereign, ourselves, Bexhill, Hastings & St Leonards, and Rye Harbour Sailing Club. The annual inter club racing trophy is always a highlight of the sailing calendar with a long history of rivalry.

We are trying to get as many competitors from our own and other clubs as possible to make this a big weekend event with the Junior Federation on the Saturday 1st July followed by the Federation on the Sunday. Our facilities, more than other clubs allow for on site parking and camping and we are hoping to make this a big family event for all including a BBQ Saturday evening.

Your club needs your support and regardless if you are a racer or not, it would be great to see you on the water supporting PBSC. I was reminded recently that we have had 120 boats on the water at PBSC in past years, now that would be an achievement if we were to better that.



REAR COMMODORE GOFF BROOKS

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House

Despite a lot of poor weather since the last Aquila, work has continued on various tasks around the club.

The planting project (led very successfully by Sarah Pullen) has almost been completed – all that now remains is to plant a further five trees (already purchased) along the East fence when the weather allows.

The cladding of the container roofs has progressed, with the cladding

panels having been installed on the container adjacent to the East fence and timber framework for the cladding having been completed on the second container. Dave Vercoe has finished installing light and power to the 'House' container and work will shortly start on fitting it out with shelving etc.

The clubhouse external walls have been painted and the grounds generally tidied up.

Now that the sailing season has started, it is likely that work on the various house tasks around the club will be undertaken during the week, rather than via working parties.

Boat park

We have now completed the installation of the boat space markers and painting the space numbers on them (thanks John!). In the process a number of new spaces have been created by extending Row Z along the back fence – although these are now full with the boats of new members!

Over the last two or three months I have been asking members (via email, our website, Facebook and

Aquila) with trailers at the back of the park to ensure that their trailers are clearly and indelibly marked with the owners name(s), preferably with paint or an embossed label. This was to be done by the end of March 2023, at which point any trailers not marked with the owners name(s) would be moved to the East fence and subject to the abandoned trollies process. Be aware that, where I put white labels with bearing the owners name on some trailers last year, in some cases the names have weathered away, so the trailer cannot be identified to an owner.

As of today (Saturday 15th April) about half of the trailers still have no owner's names on them, so I have started moving them to the East fence. The club got a reasonable amount of money from the sale/scrapping of unclaimed trailers last year, so PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOUR TRAILER IS CLEARLY AND INDELIBLY MARKED WITH YOUR NAME(S).

If you have any queries please contact me by email at rear.commodore@pbsc.org.uk.

PLANTING PROJECT

The planting of the East boundary is now completed. We have a few pine trees of varying size and type planted along the East boundary and will see which ones do best on the site, introducing others at a later date. You might wonder why they are not staked up to the hilt, but the advice has been, 2ft down, and less is more (staking). They will have the summer to get their roots established before facing the challenge of next winter's gales. These are in addition to the holm oaks and shrubs already planted.

On the wild side, there is a colony of tiny blue grape hyacinths flowering now and thriving at the further end of the East boundary. I am not sure whether these are special ones which have been planted intentionally, but been stunted by the growing conditions, or wild ones, which seems less likely as they are rare. I didn't know there was a wild grape hyacinth until I looked it up this week, and they are found on the East coast. Are there any botanists around who could tell us?

Wild or not, we need to take care underfoot with trees, plants and flowers growing around the site, and are lucky to have some plants specific to our coastal site. All need protecting.

Many thanks to all who have helped with the project.

Sarah Pullen



PROJECT MANAGER

ADRIAN PECKHAM

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OPEN MEETINGS

We have two meetings coming up:

Topper Open Meeting Saturday 3rd & Sunday - 4th June

We are expecting 30-40 visiting competitors for a two day event including a Saturday night social.

We hope for a good showing from our own youth sailors and there will be prizes for the top placed PBSC sailors.

Federation Cup Saturday 1st & Sunday 2nd July

This is the annual interclub regatta of the East Sussex Coastal Federation. The Federation consists of dinghy clubs of Newhaven and Seaford, Eastbourne Sovereign, Pevensey Bay, Bexhill, Hastings and Rye. The regatta is hosted by a different club each year on a rotating basis. Last year Eastbourne hosted (and won it) and this year it is our turn to host.. and hopefully win!

On Saturday 1st July we will hold the Junior Federation Cup - for all sailors aged 18 and under with the Adult Federation cup sailed on the Sunday. On the Saturday night we will host a BBQ social for all.



Event volunteers – both events

As always we'll need volunteers for these events, in the clubhouse serving food and staffing the bar, on the beach launching and recovering dinghies on the safety and committee boats. If you are able to help in any of the roles in the dates above please email adrian.peckhampbosc@gmail.com



SAILING SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

JAMES ALLERTON

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RYA OnBoard Instructor Development Day

On Sunday, 16th April, Ross Malloy, the Queen Mary Principal, came to Pevensey to help upskill some of our Dinghy and Assistant Instructors/Helpers.

An informative day was spent reviewing new OnBoard resource materials, planning onshore activities and role-playing briefing and debriefing sessions.

It was a fun and enlightening day that helped to blow away the winter cobwebs in preparation for the return of our youth sailors in May.

Thank you to Ant Mechan, Chris Corke, Peter Harwin, Saul Harwin, and Rozzie Scarff, who gave up their Sunday sailing to attend.

RYA Level 2 Power Boat

Congratulations to Amiee Pearson, Ben Smith, Claire Holloway, and Matt Pollard, who all passed their RYA Powerboat level 2 after a weekend on the water in fabulous conditions under the instruction of Nick, Dave and Gordon. Our next course, which is fully booked, runs over the weekend of 13th/14th May. If you missed out this year, be sure to book early onto next year's courses, as places for these are strictly limited.

Adult Sailing Courses

At the time of writing our adult sailing courses start in just over two weeks time. If you are wanting to participate we recommend that you sign up before the open day as places are limited and we'd like to give existing club members the opportunity to book prior to new members.



EASTER WEEKEND AT PBSC

Thank you so much to everyone who helped run the activities at the club over the Easter weekend: there really was something for the whole family.

On Good Friday, Chris and I took the RS200 out for its inaugural 2023 outing. Having spent the winter in the RS400 it was a nice surprise to find the other side of the boat a lot closer than I had become used to - not that there was much opportunity for hiking in the morning, with two races in very little wind at times. Avoiding the patches with no wind at all seemed to be the key! by the afternoon, the sea breeze had filled in properly, and it was lovely to get out in a decent wind in the spring sunshine and get in two more Bank Holiday series races.

On Easter Saturday the twins were delighted by the appearance of the Easter Bunny - and even more delighted by the trail of chocolate left around the boat park. The afternoon's races were a great opportunity for Bertie and Evie to try helming their Tera for the first time - apparently turning forwards whilst tacking and taking the tiller behind your back is quite tricky. Well done to Nancy, Andy and Fin, and Keith for taking the top three spots for the afternoon's races, and for showing the twins how to race (and ensure you get the highest number of eggs from the rib).

Easter Sunday was a much chillier affair - I have to admit to mentally planning for another day of sailing in the sun, so the sea mist was a bit of a disappointment. Despite the inclement weather, we still managed to get in four races, though I think it was pretty tricky for the race box to work out who was where at times! Bertie and Evie spent the day's

racing as Titty and Roger, sailing Swallow, though I've I suspicion that our Xenon is rather more of a plastic bathtub than the original might have been. Thank you to everyone who stepped in last minute to provide OOD, timekeeper and rescue cover.

To round off the weekend, despite it being a bit breezy and rainy on Monday, Chris and I took the 200 out for a quick blast. We've let ourselves down a bit on the circuit on windy days, so it's definitely an area where we know I need to get more experience. It was great to get out at our home club to build my confidence in bigger waves and a bit more wind. Again, thank you to everyone who stayed to make sure we didn't sink!

Nicki



FOR SALE

SOLO 4152

Gosling wooden hull in very good condition.

Little used and dry stored each winter.

Cumulus rig.

2 North SM8 sails, 1 new and unused, 1 little used and in good condition.

2 complete rudder assemblies, 1 fixed and unused, 1 lifting, both with rudder bags.

Gimbal compass fitted.

Righting lines.

Halyard, mainsheet and all control lines in good condition.

Toe strap padding needs replacing.

Very slight paint damage to port hull above chime.

Over boom top cover (new) with deep sides and under cover virtually unused.

Combination trailer / trolley in good condition with spare wheel.

Trailer board pintle hung with mast support and lighting cable.

Gosling build certificate Oct 1997 and Class Certificate of Measurement (last 2002).

Fully race rigged and ready to sail immediately.

£1950 open to offers.

Pevensey Bay SC, East Sussex, BN24 6DX

Tony Richards: 07899 792306 | tony.richards51@yahoo.co.uk



Martello Race Saturday 10th June

Currently we do not have any crews for the Martello Race on Saturday 10th June. We will need all 4 ribs on the water for this event and therefore we will need 4 experienced helms and 4 fit and able crews. Without the safety cover the race cannot run and we will have to cancel the race.

Please, if you are available and not wanting to sail then volunteer your services, by contacting either

Justin Pollard

sailingsecretary@pbsc.org.uk

Gary Pearson

vice.commodore@pbsc.org.uk

Eastbourne & Sovereign Sailing Club have kindly offered a safety boat as additional cover.



CLUB MERCHANDISE

OUR NEW CLUB WEAR RANGE!

Please follow the links on the website, facebook page or www.pevenseybaysailingclub.stitchprint.co.uk where you can order from a range of T-shirts, Polo shirts, and Hoodies.



www.pevenseybaysailingclub.stitchprint.co.uk