

# AQUILA NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER

23

**CADETS  
HALLOWEEN  
PARTY**

**28th October**

**YOUTH SAILING  
CADET CUP**

Entries from our more experienced Sharks to those in Seals & Dolphins many of whom were racing for the very first time.

**Progress  
on coastal  
defences from  
meeting in  
September.**



# COMMODORE COMMUNIQUE

**DAVID BONIFACE**

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After two consecutive Sunday race days called off due to fairly strong winds and a big shore break there is a tendency to think "oh no, here we go again!" having experienced similar conditions earlier in the season. Let's hope the wind gods are kinder to us through the autumn.

Fortunately Saturdays haven't suffered from the same ailment and our younger sailors, have sailed every weekend since returning to the water after the summer break, with lovely sailing conditions and excellent "beach days." It was great to see so many cadets taking to the water once the conditions allowed us to run the Cadet Cup. Well done to everyone who took part. I won't say any more as there is a write up later in this Aquila.

As always it's been pretty busy over the summer period, with Summer Camp attracting approximate 50 members and Seaweed being very well attended as always. Both these events are being covered later in this Aquila but I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those that helped to make these activities possible. Both these events were somewhat curtailed by breezy conditions but everyone seemed to have had a good time. These are fantastic opportunities to improve your sailing by doing something

different both on and off the water, long may it last.

The Sailing School had its annual inspection by the RYA last weekend and passed with flying colours. The inspection went very well, with only a few minor points to correct before the next inspection. The inspector was very complimentary about our club and what a fantastic set up we have. Well done to James and thanks to everyone who contributed to the inspection both beforehand and on the day. A great team effort.

A couple of week ago we had the second Open Day of the year and we attracted in the region of forty visitors. We are unsure as to how many of these people will actually join us, but we have already had

a number sign up and more were saying that they would join next year.

These Open Days are essential to the success of the Club as they ensure a continued supply of new members. Over the last few years PBSC has continued to grow which is contrary to the national trend of declining numbers. A big thank you to all members who supported the day and also those who invited friends along.

This time of year I usually say don't pack up your boats too early as there is often some great sailing to be had in the autumn months, this year I'm not as confident as the weather has not been playing ball! Do try to get some late season sailing though, the water will feel really warm!



## SAILING SCHOOL

It's been a busy few months in the sailing school.

Congratulations to all those students who have completed their levels 1 and 2. The course traditionally finishes in June, but the bad weather earlier this year meant extra dates had to be found in September to complete the course. A big thank you to all the instructors who contributed to running these courses.

## DAY SKIPPER THEORY TRAINING

During three Saturdays in November this year, we will be running **RYA Day Skipper theory training** with an external instructor. If you are interested in completing this course, please email [training@pbpsc.org.uk](mailto:training@pbpsc.org.uk). The six places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. If this is a popular course, then we will look to run another in the new year.



## VICE COMMODORE GARY PEARSON

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Now that we are moving toward the Autumn it is time to reflect on the season, what worked, what can be improved and preparation for next season.

We do require Committee members as there are several roles that

require filling, so those with the appetite to get involved to assist and have a say in the running of the club, we would appreciate your support.

Please contact a member of the committee to express an interest. Something that has been raised by members both experienced and those dipping their toes in the water is for us to provide some training for the roles in the duties roster. Therefore, we are looking into running some workshops, pre season in February / March 2024 on Officer of the Day, setting courses, time keeping, sail-wave, etc.

The carrot of beer / prosecco and pizza (I know... what a combo!) to entice you all out of your winter hibernation for a bit of learning is being dangled on a stick. It would be very useful for the membership to let us know what you would like from this and what you would like us to cover, so that we can tailor the days to your requirements.

The sailing committee is also seeking a new and youth member such that they have a voice on how things are done, also please raise an interest or we will be bringing in the press gang. Please note that all are welcome to volunteer for such roles on either the Executive or Sailing Committee, all are welcome.

Discussing with Justin at the weekend that we will shortly be putting out a survey of the Sunday racing format to get feedback from the racers what they preferred, i.e. 3 races back to back or 2 races a.m. / 2 races p.m. Please join in on these surveys so that we can follow the format the majority prefer.

Thank you all for your support.

Opens for 2024 are still being discussed however we can confirm that we have a Blaze Open September 2024, the Southern Championships. A weekend event with anticipated 30 number boats. There is a trial run for the Blaze Association with the view of PBSC holding the National Championships in 2025... so a good time to get a Blaze... if you were considering a class change.

It has been a couple of Aquila's since we have given an update on the progress on coastal defences, so here are my notes from the last meeting on the 11th September:



### EXISTING PFI COASTAL DEFENCE CONTRACT WITH PCDL

- There is currently a dispute between the Environment Agency and PCDL contractor over finances which has reached the arbitration stage, but as yet is not resolved.
- The PCDL contractor has advised the EA that they have no appetite to extend the existing contract to 2027, at least until the current dispute is resolved.
- This leaves the beach maintenance from 2025 to 2027 currently without a contractor. EA to resolve the dispute and come to an agreement to extend the existing PFI contract or appoint a new contractor under a new contract.
- This has been raised as a major concern by the PBCCG group and they have advise the local MP.
- Huw Merriman our local member of Parliament has written a letter to the Secretary of State bringing their attention to the situation regarding the appointment of a civil's contractor to extend the sea defence works to 2027. As yet no response from the Secretary of State and the EA confirmed that this letter has yet not been officially received.
- EA's point of view is that the Huw Merriman letter is fair and reasonable with a statement of fact and requiring a solution as soon as possible, requesting written confirmation from the SoS that the finances and contractor will be in place by May 2025.

## PHASE 1 UPDATE

- Phase 1, i.e. the first has 10 years of the 100 year plan is most likely to be installed much quicker than the 10 years allocated.
- The beach profiling will be maintained by the Phase 1 civil's contractor whilst the construction works are being installed.
- Project management interim programme has been drafted and released for review internally in the EA and will be distributed to the PBCCG shortly.
- The Longlist Options of design solutions has been issued.
- These will be weighted by a complicated system of effectiveness, environmental impact, cost, carbon emission, etc. and the most appropriate 3 of 4 solutions will be issued to the PBCCG at the next meeting on the 13th November.
- The short list of solutions and the document on how the consultants have come to that list by a weighting system will be issued at the same time.

		Longlist Option
Grey Options	Onshore	Rock revetment (overtopping or toe protection)
		Timber revetment
		Rock gabions
		Frontline embankment
		Strengthening works of existing defences
		Rock groynes (straight or fishtail)
		Timber groynes
		Beach nourishment
		New terminal rock groynes
		New terminal timber groynes
		Optimisation of beach recycling / nourishment
		Repair works to existing 1no. outfall currently in poor condition
	Offshore	Beach prisms
		Floating breakwater
Blue - Green Options	Onshore	Land management (dune / vegetation creation and protection)
		Beach stabilisation (i.e. planting dead trees in shingle)
		Natural roll back (use remaining residual life of existing coastal defences/structures)
	Inland	Do nothing
	Offshore	Natural and Nature-Based Features (NNBF; this will not be a standalone option)
Other	Inland	Property flood resilience

Options Removed from Longlist
Concrete revetment (stepped or sloped)
Frontline sea wall
Cliff stabilisation
Frontline resilience / landscaping
Setback flood wall
Setback embankment
Inland regeneration
Offshore breakwater
Nearshore breakwater
Nearshore island
Man made reef (i.e. tyres, shipping containers, cars etc)
Offshore windfarm or tidal / wave energy devices
Forced roll back (removal of existing coastal defences / structures)
Marshland creation
Open outfalls - intertidal habitat creation

## MY NOTES:

- We discussed the likely short list as follows: Rock gabion's, strengthening existing defences, Rock groynes, timber groynes (softwood), beach nourishment, and optimisation of beach recycling / nourishment. To be confirmed on the 13th November.
- The design for phase 1 is likely to consist of a number option from the short list of solutions depending on the location along the 9 miles of beach front from Sovereign Harbour arm to Cooden.
- Still very much believe the EA are on top of the design work for the Phase 1 solution and on programme.
- The short term issue and concern is the dispute with PCDL as at the moment we do not have a contractor to maintain the beach from May 2025 up to when the Phase 1 contractor commences.

I still have a my money on the design that was submitted and suggested some 25 years back as being the preferred solution, but only time will tell.. oh... what was that I hear you all shout. Y shaped rock groynes... about 6 or 7 spaced along the bay. More to follow after November's meeting.

# SAILING SECRETARY

**JUSTIN POLLARD**

sailingsecretary@pbsc.org.uk



It has been a busy summer of sailing this year with a successful Sail Camp, Sea Week and the end of summer Open Day. During the season several trophy races were cancelled due to constant strong winds, however we are managing to get them rescheduled.

The rescheduled Ladies Bowl was held on Sunday 1st October, alongside the Autumn Series. It's difficult to decide how best to schedule the Ladies bowl and Men's Tankard events, should they be run together, as standalone events or run alongside the longer series races? If run as standalone events, they preclude the opposite sex from racing, this particularly effects single hander dinghies. If run on the same day, they stop mixed sex crews from both racing. If separated but run alongside longer series racing, they again interfere with mixed sex crews. Let me know what you think is the lesser evil and we'll take your views onboard.

The Club Championship is scheduled for 7th & 8th October, there will be two back-to-back races on Saturday, starting at 1300hrs. There will be four races on Sunday, two starting from 10.30hrs and two from 1.30hrs.

After several attempts, we have successfully run the Cadet Cup, albeit only managing to get one day on the water, congratulations to Frazer

Mechan for coming 1st, Will Scarff 2nd and Ben 3rd.

The Cock 'O' Bay was won by Dave Boniface & Emma Depper, Michael Green 2nd and Peter White & Dick Holtum 3rd.

The Summer Series has ended, with John Austin coming 1st, Peter White & Dick Holtum 2nd and Tim Humphries & Paula Bayntun 3rd.

The Bank holiday Series has also finished, Chris & Nicki Webber coming 1st, Matt Pollard & Rozzie Scarff 2nd and Michael & Sophie Green 3rd.

The Autumn Series is now underway, with the first three races running alongside the Conventional/ Asymmetric Trophy. Congratulations to Tim Humphries & Paula Bayntun for coming 1st, Peter White & Dick Holtum 2nd and Michael Green 3rd.

By the time you read this month's aquila, we will have just had our September Ice-Cream Cruise, the final cruise of the season is on Saturday 21st October, although by then a hot chocolate may be more appealing.

Sunday 17th September was the Bart's Bash and to be honest it crept up on me, leaving me no time to arrange anything specific. As it turned out, it was too windy to sail anyway. The Barts Bash raises funds for the Andrew Simpson Foundation, to quote from their website *"Bart's Bash is the flagship annual event of the Andrew Simpson Foundation, inspired by Olympic Gold and Silver medallist Andrew 'Bart' Simpson MBE who passionately believed that everyone should have the chance to try sailing and enjoy the many benefits that it brings."* Next year we will make sure it is scheduled back into our sailing calendar as a standalone event.

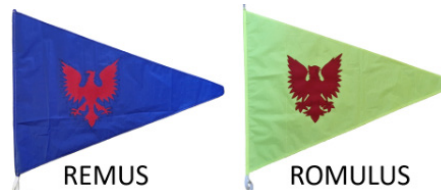




Vice commodore Gary Pearson has been very busy negotiating next year's open events. These include the ILCA Nationals in March (exact date to be confirmed) and the Blaze Class Association (Southern) on 14 & 15 September. Both are likely to be big events that will need considerable assistance from the membership. The benefits to PBSC include class sailing for our own ILCA and Blaze members, building our event management skills, which in turn improves our own

club racing. Hosting big events also provides significant funds to the club's accounts, which helps fund future club development. Keep these dates free to sail or volunteer, more details will be published as we received them.

Finally, I have fitted new PBSC Pennants to the tornado ribs, Remus and Romulus. This is to help identify them on the water. I have made laminated cards identifying Remus with a blue pennant and Romulus with



REMUS

ROMULUS

a yellow pennant, the cards can be found in the yellow Race Management folder in the race box. As always, if you have any suggestion on how to improve club racing, please do get in touch.

## SAIL CAMP 2023

Those that attended Sail Camp this year would have noticed a couple of changes from previous years. Firstly, Roger Humphries is taking a well-earned break from managing the campsite and sailing activities. Secondly, we had additional safety boat support in the shape of the club's small Orange Rib 'Nimbus'.

For everyone who stepped in to cover the numerous tasks previously undertaken by Roger, I say a big thank you. The greatest thanks has to go to Roger, who seemed to make it look so effortless. It truly was an eyeopener, just how much work Roger did all by himself. Jackie and Gary Kinch kindly agreed to sort out the harbour licences, deal with the finances and liaise with the Cobnor Estate Manager. Gary Brocklehurst brought the Orange Rib to camp and kept the fuel tanks topped up. Richard Thomas kindly transported the rib's launching trolley, perched high on his camper van.

Each day we had a different OOD, responsible for choosing the day's destination and sailing times, and Safety Boat crewing up Kelly and Orange Rib. Thank you to everyone who took on these roles.

It was a mixed bag when it came to the wind, there was a couple of days blown out by strong winds, but that didn't dampen spirits and most

people got out sailing, most days. We had good weather to kick off the week. Saturday 29th August gave clear skies and of course Tim was straight out on his windsurf board.



For some Sunday was a not a day to brave the wind, those that did, enjoyed an early bath. A late afternoon pint in Bosham, to test Kelly's engine of course, soon put Pat to sleep.





Monday 31st we stayed inland and sailed up to Dell Quay (Tim's favourite pub) for an early lunch at The Crown & Anchor, supported by Kelly and Orange Rib. Then afternoon tea at Chichester Marina.

Tuesday we had a spirited sail to Emsworth, the town without public benches, followed by afternoon tea at Hayling Island Sailing Club and a visit to East Head.

Wednesday 2nd was another blow out day with strong winds and an incredible storm surge. The water at Bosham rose so high it literally started coming up through the floor of The Anchor Bleu pub.

Wednesday evening Phil ferried us all over to The Ship at Ichenor, for dinner, There Tim and Richard preyed to the God of Moules. Many thanks to Lee Potterton for booking the room and food orders.

Thursday 3rd we sailed to East Head, then up to the Sail Shack Café by Northney Marina. I had to turn back before I even got as far as the Emsworth inlet, the tide was so strong my little Mirror couldn't keep up with the faster boats. Later the wind dropped right off, making it a very slow sail back to Camp. I was grateful I had turned back and had a head start.

Friday 4th was another visit to Hayling Island Sailing Club before sailing all the way back to Dell Quay for an afternoon pint.

Camp was very successful again this year with enjoyable days sailing, lots of socialising and friendship building. With Sail Camp getting more popular each year, we will have to review how we manage the increasing numbers. Early in the new year we will hold a meeting for anybody who plans to be attend Camp next summer, we will discuss what worked this year and what didn't, with a view to shaping future Sail Camps. What everyone agrees on, is that Sail Camp is important to our members and should continue for many years to come.







# YOUTH SAILING CADET CUP 2023

The youth sailing competition for the 2023 Cadet Cup finally took place on Saturday 2nd September. After 3 attempts earlier in the year were blown off due to high winds, racing finally got under way in light airs and glorious sunshine, but with challenging tides.

There was a good turnout for the Cup with 20 competitors in a mixed fleet of 14 boats ranging from single handed Teras, Toppers and Laser radials, and double handed Picos and RS Fevas. The cup was decided over 3 back-to-back races. It was fantastic to see entries from all the youth sailing groups from our more

experienced Sharks to those in the Seals and Dolphins many of whom were racing for the very first time.

Conditions were challenging for race 1 with light winds and a rising tide catching many boats out at the start line. Races 2 and 3 saw the breeze fill in and with the tide slackening off, resulted in some very close racing across the fleet.

First and second place was a shootout between Fraser Mehan and Will Scarff in Laser Radials, with the lead changing as upwind and downwind sailing skills came to the fore. Fraser took the honours and the

cup with 2 wins and a second place with Will in second place overall with 1 win and 2 second places.

Close behind was a tussle between the 3 toppers of Ben Allitt, Oscar Plant and Max Collins with placings changing frequently lap by lap and race by race. Ben finally came out on top to secure third place in the Cup overall.

Oscar and Max finished 4th and 6th respectively after they were split on corrected time by the first placed double hander sailed by Jess Allitt and Poppy Anderson who finished 5th overall.

A special well done to all those who raced for the first time. We are already looking forward to next year to see even more competitors on the water, when the weather conditions might hopefully be more favourable to enable the cup to return to its normal 2 day format.



# SAILING THE NATIONALS IN OUR NEW RS400

This year, Chris and I were lucky enough to borrow a friend's RS400 to try out over the winter at Bough Beech. It's a step up in terms of size from the RS200 we normally sail, and it took a bit of getting used to: we spent some time upside down and going past marks with the spinnaker still up during the first couple of sails! Despite the early challenges, we decided that we liked sailing her and opted to buy our own boat, with the goal of going to the Nationals in early August.

Iffy Shifty arrived in May from Eastbourne Sailing Club, which gave us three months to figure out how to sail her as quickly as possible! An outing to an open meeting at Hayling Island quickly made us realise that our biggest challenge would be

finding settings that worked for us despite us weighing in at a combined 130kg, some 20kg lighter than the usual range for the boat. Thankfully the fleet is extremely friendly, and lots of people were keen to advise us on tweaks that might help. A second open meeting in early July at Arun saw us finish mid-fleet as we struggled with the pace of the front five boats: our settings still weren't optimised, and our processes around the boat still needed work.

Arriving at Mounts Bay at the end of July, we had no expectations of where we might end up in the fleet: we knew if it was windy we'd struggle upwind as we'd just be giving away too much power on the weightier crews (despite having upped our weight to 135kg!).

Again reflecting the openness of the fleet, there was a fantastic briefing pre-event from last year's winning boat: some top tips around set up made a huge difference in how we thought about rig tension and sail shape.

Happily for us, despite some scary forecasts in the lead up to the event, day 1 actually brought middling winds with a big sea left over from the previous week's storms. The conditions suited us, and we managed to finish the day third: my best ever result in a regatta this size. We were delighted. Unfortunately, the forecast bigger winds did then come through with a tough second day for us meaning we dropped down the fleet. Day three was abandoned - it was sufficiently windy to blow boats over the boat park, so definitely the right call! The following day's winds remained pretty feisty, with only half the fleet finishing the third race of the day and a number of breakages and injuries. We were pleased to still be sitting in 8th at the end of the day, but no longer had a buffer between us and the chasing pack.

Day five still felt pretty breezy whilst sitting in the boat park: I was praying the forecast was right and we might see it drop off over the course of the day. Whilst race 9 was still full-hiking conditions, the final race saw the wind abate a bit. Whilst we were still hiking, others weren't which meant we could be competitive again. A 7th in that race meant we finished 8th overall, a much better finish than we might have hoped pre-event.

It's been a massive learning curve this year, getting to grips with a new boat. As always, the support at PBSC in getting out on the water, especially when conditions have been less than pleasant, has been amazing.

Thank you to all the beach and rescue crews who've been there to make sure we and our boat got back in one piece.



Nikki and Chris



# Hallowcadets oween

Party

28th october 6 - 11.30pm

buffet • awards • fancy dress • games

Adults £9.50 kids £5



# Halloween cadets party

On October 28th, we will celebrate our Cadets achievements through the year & Halloween. (Thought to be the one night of the year when ghosts, witches, and fairies are especially active).

We will have one of our usual Autumnal buffet spreads to feed the PBSC horde, play lots of daft Halloween games and generally celebrate another great year of sailing for the Cadets.

There will be a Cadet Cup prizegiving and other awards for notable achievements or bloopers through the year, accompanied with prizes for best Cadet and adult fancy dress.

## WHY IS HALLOWEEN CELEBRATED?

The easy answer to this question is that no one really knows the origins of Halloween.

What we do know for sure is that Halloween is on the eve of a major Catholic festival, All Saints (1st November) and the eve of the pagan Celtic festival known as Samhain. The three days between 31st October and 2nd November see pagan and Christian celebrations intertwined in a fascinating way and is a perfect example of superstition struggling with religious belief.

Currently, it is widely thought that Halloween originated as a pagan Celtic festival of the dead, related to the Irish and Scottish Samhain.

Why do we celebrate Halloween? – It's just good fun.

**Apple Bobbing** – an old Roman tradition honouring the dead through the Goddess Pomona, Goddess of trees and fruit, they were the first to combine this festival with Samhain.

**Fire** – Very important to the Celts, they used to light bonfires to scare away evil spirits, IF we ask our grown-ups nicely, we could get them all to bring some scrap timber and have them build a bonfire on the beach, this will help scare away all the witches and ghosts (and let Pat let off some fireworks!)

**Piñata** – while not strictly Halloween, it's commonly used in Mexican festivals and celebrations, we'll have once again this year for everyone to have a bash at and then share the rewards.



Halloween 2022



# SEA WEEK

Sea Week was again a huge success... with the field full of tents and campervans from the Friday before, creating a PBSC village on the green ready for an action-packed week!

The week kicked off with a slightly breezy Topper Wars on the Monday, with the older kids enjoying being on the water and the younger ones (with some help from the parents) in the club house building their own sails.

Tuesday was everyone's favourite 'Pirate Day'. This day brought beautiful blue skies and calm waters, so everyone got out on the water to enjoy the day.

The rest of the week included an ice-cream cruise, with the ice-cream being served at the club by some dodgy looking pirates! And an Airbourne Armada where the sailing conditions weren't really on our side so the majority of us either got

there by foot, car or bike ... thank you to Eastbourne Sailing Club for welcoming us over for lunch.

There was also evening Topper Racing, the Sprint Race from the club to ESSC and back, a movie night, fish and chips, a pizza van, a surfing the waves competition and much more...

By the time the following weekend was upon us, nobody wanted to be the first to go home, and with the weather being so great, honestly where else would you rather be than on the beach, in the sea or sailing on a boat!!





# Pevensey Bay Sailing Club

## Laying Up Supper

We would love you to join us celebrating 2023



25~11~2023  
6:00pm-12:00pm

Three Course Banquet  
Prize Giving & Raffle  
Music & Dancing

Ain't no Party like a PBSC Party!

HYDRO HOTEL

Formal Evening Attire, Lounge Suits & Party Frocks

Adults £40    Cadets £30

# CLUB MERCHANDISE

## OUR NEW CLUB WEAR RANGE!

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



[www.pevenseybaysailingclub.stitchprint.co.uk](http://www.pevenseybaysailingclub.stitchprint.co.uk)