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TELLTALES

The Journal of Priory Sailing Club
Autumn Edition: October 2014

PSC web-site at <http://www.priorysc.org.uk>

Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Priory-Sailing-Club-PSC/272809039438137>

Photo Gallery at <http://www.priorysc.org.uk/gallery/index.php/>

Dates for your Diary

Sun 26th Oct	Last Sunday afternoon buccaneers of the year
Sat 1st Nov on	Winter restrictions apply at PSC; sailing on Sat, Sun & Bank Hols only
Sat 1st Nov	Lay-up BBQ at the club, starting at 18.00
Sun 9th Nov	Remembrance Sunday (Racing Starts at 10.00, minutes' silence at 11.00)
Sun 16th Nov	Lunch 13.00 followed by PSC AGM and Prize giving in Clubhouse at 14.00

Deadline for next Telltales Sun 14th Dec

Farewell from the Taylors

The Taylor family want to say goodbye and a huge thank you the club. Thank you to all you lovely people who have coached our kids, rigged their sails, rescued them from different ends of the lake, fed us, organised social events, encouraged, laughed with, and generally got cold and wet with our family. WE WILL MISS YOU SO MUCH!

We are all off to Malawi. The lake there is fantastic for sailing but is full of parasites, crocs and hippos so we won't be letting the children loose. However if you want to brave it keep in touch and come and visit. We love visitors.

Love from David, Andrea, Emily, Jack and Nathan



A Big thank you and a Big request – Volunteer Needed

Many thanks go to Karen Powell who for the last 5 years has been the Sailing Course Administrator for Priory Sailing Club. Karen has done a fantastic job taking enquiries, doing the bookings and administration for the RYA Start Sailing or Windsurfing training courses that we offer at Priory. However after 5 years Karen has now decided to step down and we now need another volunteer to fill this vital role.

So what does a Sailing Course Administrator do? Well often they are the first point of contact for somebody wanting to start sailing or start windsurfing; enquiries come in from a variety of sources members recommendations, the web site, our details on other web sites (RYA, Team Beds & Luton) etc. Sometimes there are questions to answer about the course, collating of booking forms, collection of money from participants, sending out the books needed for the course, collating the register of participants, informing the Sailing Clubs' RYA Principal and the Commodore that we have a course with participants.

Last year we ran 7 courses and at times, especially just before the start of each course it can be quite busy.

So what can we offer? Well, you will be part of a fantastic team at Priory offering quality sailing courses. The feedback that we get from participants has always been very positive. You will get great support from the team and any training where necessary to enable you to do this very vital piece of volunteering.

If you are interested then please drop a quick email to Tim Hewett, Priory Sailing Club Commodore (commodore@priorisc.org.uk) or please feel free to have a word with him or Brian Stanbridge at the Club.

Brian Stanbridge, PSC RYA Principal



Commodore's Column October 2014

So another busy summer at PSC draws to a close! Once again our club has had a full programme of events – read all about them in the following pages. As always a big thank you to all of the many members who have worked so hard this summer to make these various events the success that they have so clearly been.

Indeed the club continues to be well supported by a large group of willing volunteers, without whom our club would not be able to function. Rescue boats are driven, food is prepared, groups are coached, weed cleared, equipment maintained, and committee decisions are taken. If you would like to get involved as a volunteer please don't hesitate to contact any committee member.

Our recent involvement in Bart's Bash, an international mass participation sailing event, proved to be well supported at PSC, indeed it was

one of our busiest Sunday afternoons of the summer with forty boats on the water. It was great to see so many of our club members joining in the fun together. The team at BB headquarters are currently still struggling to process all the results!



You will remember that we recently were awarded a grant from Sport England to enable us to buy an additional safety boat to support the club's activities. See William's article on this below. They should be in service by the end of the year.

This year we have run several RYA Powerboat Level 2 courses for our members. This training, offered free to adult members, helps us maintain a volunteer rescue boat service at the club. If you would like to join the team that provides this rescue cover, and would like to undertake the training, please let me know.

As the end of October approaches please note that our Winter Restrictions come into force on 1st November, meaning that we can only sail at weekends and only on the northern half of our lake. New members might like to know that these restrictions are part of our lease agreement and are in place as Priory is an important over wintering site for some wildfowl. There is not an OOD on duty at weekends during the winter season, so if you wish to access club boats you will need to sail on Sunday mornings.

Many of us do continue to sail at weekends throughout the winter, but if you are planning to pack your boat up for the season do make sure that your cover is firmly attached and I would recommend that you do not leave your sails in your boat – they might get nibbled or nested in!

To mark the end of our summer season we will be holding a Winter Lay Up BBQ on Saturday 1st November, starting at 6.00pm. Last year members attending brought a few fireworks along to share under the careful management of Tim Girvan. There may also be opportunity see just how bright marine distress flares are!

We are in the planning stages for our calendar for next year. As always, please don't hesitate to pass on your ideas for club events, or suggestions for developments, to any committee member in person, or by email to me (commodore@priorsyc.org.uk). Your committee would be particularly interested to hear your ideas regarding potential club social events.

I hope you will be able to join us at the club's AGM and prize giving event on 16th November; lunch is at 13.00 with our meeting starting at 14.00.



Tim Hewett, Commodore, Laser

PSC Awarded £10,000 Grant

Fantastic news for the club it has won a Sports England grant of £10,000 to provide an additional rescue rib to enhance our rescue and support potential on the lake.

Over this year, there have been several occasions where our rescue and support arrangement has been really compromised by the 'oldnest' in our existing power boats as they sometimes breakdown and one is falling apart.

The club has decided, after some excellent negotiations by Neil Papworth, to buy 2 new ribs and sell off the old blue, Honda powered rib, so we will provide 3 modern support craft for the club.



These are going to be Humber Assault 4.3m ribs with 40 hp Suzuki engines. One will have yellow tubes and the other to have orange tubes to tell them easily apart.

These are slightly beamier than our existing ribs, so it will be a tighter fit in the garage and we will need to store one outside. They are also slightly heavier, so more help will be needed to haul them up the slipway.

I do not recall how old our existing ribs are, but it is great news that we can now offer new

replacements and provide a much better safety cover than ever before.

Please keep your eyes open for these new deliveries in November.

William Armitage



Junior Dinghy Week, August 11-15

On day one there were 60 capsized GP14s in Northern Ireland. At Priory Sailing Club the 2014 Junior Dinghy Week started with over 100 capsizes on the first day! There were always two safety boats on the water, sometimes three. One junior caught an ankle in a Topper toe-strap during a capsize and this resulted in a sprained ankle and a day off sailing – this also happened to another junior later in the week so instructors please take time to explain how to use the toe-straps safely!

The principle of the course was that every junior would have sailed in each type of boat by the end of the week, and would have learned the basics of racing. The dinghies used were aft- and centre- main Toppers, Picos, Herons, Wanderers and of course the much-admired Omegas. No-one feared capsizing after the first day; in fact at times it was a capsizing master class in how to do it and how not to do it.

Neil Papworth somehow managed to give a serious sailing lecture each morning and to teach three teenagers enough to pass the RYA Power Boat Level 2 course. Congratulations to Hannah Currell, Antonia Illingworth and Florence Papworth.

James Papworth, Guy Davis and David Stephenson were the team leaders, and their enthusiasm and dedication to sharing their sailing ability and knowledge was outstanding. Peter Faulkner, Sue Baker, Dick



Knowles, Carla Barberio and Tony Ogborn were busy making sure everything was safe and reasonably sensible throughout the week. Dick also spent time teaching trapezing and spinnaker sailing and everyone had the chance to have a go.

At the end of the week all the juniors had completed the RYA Stage 3 in single-handed dinghies, RYA Stage 4 in double-handed dinghies and RYA Start Racing syllabuses as well as learning the seven different ways to capsize.

Tony Ogborn, Heron 10,300

Heron Nationals 2014

*Held at Priory Sailing Club, Bedford,
6th September 2014*



The weather forecast was for a calm

and misty start to the day and in the event force 1 was barely exceeded until late afternoon when it became warm and sunny; a force 2 of 5 mph emerged for the last race.

The first race result was

1. Dave Butler & James Coe Walton SC
2. Andy Dale & Lewis Caton Eyott SC
3. Tony Ogborn & Huw Sheppard Priory SC

This was to be Tony & Huw's best result, although they challenged for the lead in the early stages of each race.

Andy Dale and Lewis Caton emerged as the overall winners with giant and meticulously-timed roll tacks and gybes. They really deserved the Silver Heron and the trophies for winning races 2 & 3. Dave Butler and James Coe finished overall in second place, sailing a beautifully-prepared Heron 10,335 with a pale green

deck. They won the Brolga Trophy, a large silver tray originally presented by the Heron Association of Australia.

The light winds were frustrating for all but a happy and cheerful atmosphere was maintained and enhanced by a really splendid lunch and tea provided by the host club's catering team – most of the Aikman family. Caroline Bennett with crew Jim Thornett won the Lady's Trophy and Tony Ogborn and Huw won the Newton Crum Veteran's Trophy.

Three boats had an equal score of 7 points after the discard and this was correctly resolved by looking at best places in the best 2 races, and then in the excluded one. See the Racing Rules of Sailing 2012-16 for the exact rules!

Nigel and Fiona Denchfield provided an outstanding performance in Heron 2310 using a standard small jib. This boat sailed past other boats with 79% and 100% genoas in some of the lighter puffs of wind.

Only the home club entered 3 boats and so won the Fennell and Wood Silver Cup. It was the sixth time PSC had won the trophy since their first win in 2000. This hallmarked trophy has been awarded annually since 1961, when it was won by Maidstone SC.

Joe & Frances Butterworth were eventually placed 3rd overall and enjoyed a close finish in the third race when 3 boats crossed the line within a 62s window after 40mins of racing. The Butterworths won the family "Clan Trophy."

John Howard who has been sailing Herons at Priory SC for over 30 years was there to view the event, but was disappointed at the low turnout. In the past 25 herons have participated in the Nationals at Priory, so we all hope that a reinvigorated Heron Dinghy Class Association will help promote and sponsor this lovely craft for many more events and a long and exciting life. The Heron certainly seems to be better supported in Australia

(<http://www.heronsailing.com.au/>)

than in the UK at present.



Tony Ogborn, Heron 10,300

Summer Trip on the Morning Star

This August Emily and I went on an English Channel sailing trip run by the Morning Star Trust. The pride of their fleet is The Morning Star, a 62ft gaff rig ketch yacht that can set a total of nine sails. These trips are training weeks. During the week I completed my RYA Competent Crew certificate and the trip also qualified as my Duke of Edinburgh Gold Residential. I was a bit anxious as I had never been on such a large sailing boat before.

On the first day after saying good-bye to Emily's cousin's family, who'd dropped us off, I met my seven fellow crew members, the skipper and the two skipper's mates. The first mate put everyone at ease with his "jokes". After we'd handed him our bags for storage he asked "Is it valuable?", and then said "Great, I'll put it on eBay." Then he gave us an introductory briefing to the boat showing us the running rigging, the sheets, our clothing and all the safety gear.

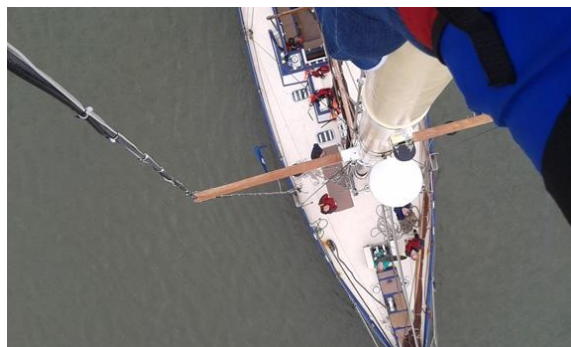


By the third day we'd learnt enough to sail the boat by ourselves, with the skipper and mates just watching. So we then held a race around some buoys, just the girls against the boys. Sadly, the boys won, but only by a couple of seconds.

Sailing between ports on one of the longer cruising trips I sat right up front on the end of the bowsprit. With the land behind us, everybody was really tired so it was very quiet, I sat there looking at just the sea spread out in front of me with the boat riding up and down on the swell. This was awesome. The next day we got up at 3 o'clock in the morning for an early start before the sun came up and we learnt about light signals on the navigation buoys. Through the morning with everyone still tired I had the helm for nearly five hours sailing the boat by myself on the same tack. We were heading for Brighton from Gosport. That was the longest day sail we did on the week.



During the week we had a good mix of work and work, such as our completely daft Pirate Day. One of the more scary aspects was when we took turns at being hoisted up to top of the main mast whilst moored out in the channel.



Overall, I would recommend a trip like this to anyone. Even if you don't think you like sailing, it is just fantastic. All the crew members were between 16 and 20 and everyone became such good friends during the trip. It is a great way to get to know some new friends. And of course at the same time as having fun, we came away with an RYA qualification.

Florence Papworth and Emily Taylor

The 2014 Racing Results

Look out for these at the PSC Prize-giving on Nov 16th! Who will be Mariner of the Year? Will Tony remain top racer as assessed by who has the highest personal handicap? Telltales will plan to list the winners in each category in the Winter Edition.

Editor's Plea

Please submit articles of interest to club members for inclusion in Telltales, as well as pictures. They can be short or long. Both wind-surfing and dinghy sailing pieces welcomed obviously. You might consider:

- Opinion pieces or hints and tips articles
- Reports from going to open meetings
- Sailing holiday reports, any other sailing experiences
- Information on club members, current and former

Feel free to make other suggestions to make Telltales as relevant, informative and entertaining as possible. Telltales is much enlivened by some sailing related pictures, so please help by submitting your pictures to the current Editor (milldick@btinternet.com) with a bit of text to say what is going on in the picture, who, where etc, or else post onto the Photo Gallery (see link on p1).

Telltales comes out quarterly; please submit anything by early Dec for this, via myself (milldick@btinternet.com, Mill House, Mill Lane, Langford Beds SG18 9LZ) or any PSC committee member, and by email, hand-written note, phone call, carrier pigeon, whatever!

Dick Knowles (Editor, Vago XD 669)

Ask us the big questions

We'll take care of the small details



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