

Priory Sailing Club

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

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TELLTALES

The Journal of Priory Sailing Club
Winter Edition: December 2017

Warning - sailing can seriously enhance your children's development

Reflections of a Topper parent

It's that time of year when we reflect on the year just gone, and look forward to the new one. Since Sonia and Tim decided they wanted to sail competitively our lives have completely changed – four boats now occupy our driveway (and parents are banned from sailing in them, lest we damage them), the smell of wet neoprene pervades the house, stairway is now a spinnaker drying facility, holidays are reserved for championships, we are on first name terms with the staff in virtually every premier inn and weekends consist of long drives at night followed by cooking pasta in the car park in a vain attempt to resolve the calorie deficit of six hours of full on racing.

Oh, the glamour of sailing!

On the other hand, few experiences can compare with the development opportunities presented through sailing. Jockeying for position on the start line, or defending actions in a protest hearing hone communication and assertiveness. Dealing with a broken kicker in the middle of a race 2 miles out to sea ensures resourcefulness and self-sufficiency. Applying for sponsorship is remarkably similar to applying for a job. Dealing with failure – an important life skill many adults have not developed – comes automatically through the fickleness of the sport.

But the ultimate reason for supporting their passion can be found in the huge smiles they wear after a good, hard, race.

Thank you Priory SC for giving them a great start and being so supportive!

Jeannette and Andy Evans



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Dates for your Diary

- Boxing Day informal sailing + mince pies from 11am
- New Years Day racing and lunch from 11am
- 17th-18th Feb—Working party weekend, from 10:00h both days
- 10th March—Shore working party from 10am with lunch
- 30th March—Winter Restrictions lifted



Commodore's Column

Welcome to our new look Telltales! Dan and Lucy Perry have taken over as editors and are bringing their publishing skills to our club's newsletter. Many thanks go to retiring editor Dick Knowles who has been doing a great job producing Telltales for over five years.

Our well attended AGM last month celebrated the club's and its members' achievements over the last year, thanks to everyone who came, for those who were unable to attend here is a brief summary of my report.

Dick Knowles, who recently stood down as PSC Commodore was thanked for his input over the last year. His resignation was due to family and work commitments. He will continue in his much valued coaching and mentoring roles.

Another busy year of sailing activity on our lake with training, racing and recreational sailing all being supported.

Training –

- ◇ We have continued to offer training to members in all disciplines and also to offer courses to members of the public to promote our sport and our club including courses for local schools, an RYA Level 2 Course for members and PB2 training for 6 new power boat drivers along with refresher sessions for our current drivers.

“Bart’s Bash had 48 boats on the start line and 65 participants = top 25 in the World. £275 raised. Live music. Quite a day!”

PSC Committee 2018

At the AGM in November the committee changed slightly. Please see the details of your 2017/18 committee below:

Commodore—Tim Hewett
Vice Commodore—Tim Girvan
Rear Commodore—Dan Perry
Treasurer—William Armitage
Membership Secretary - Tony Ogborn
Secretary—Sue Baker
RYA Principle—Neil Papworth

Member—Toby Chinn
Member—Pascale Hewett
Member—Brian Stanbridge
Member—Kevin Guard
Member—Jeremy Evans

Junior Rep—Vicky Murfin

(At the AGM there were no nominations for Vice Commodore. Tim Girvan was co-opted by the committee at their December meeting)

- ◇ We remain a recognised RYA Teaching Establishment and continue to hold RYA On Board and RYA Champion Club status in recognition of the quality and quantity of our training programmes.
- ◇ We have been awarded Team 15 status and will be launching this windsurfing initiative in the spring.
- ◇ Five members completed a Start Windsurfing Instructor course to enable them to support the club's windsurfing activity.
- ◇ Three members undertook courses to become Senior Instructors to support the training activities of the club.
- ◇ Extra-large Pirate groups run this year to accommodate demand. Junior Dinghy Week was once again a highlight of the summer holiday period.
- ◇ Saturday morning Mentoring continued to provide support – some members progressing through Level 2 others trying new boats and developing new skills. Also Windsurfing coaching sessions were run for club members on Saturday mornings.
- ◇ Adult RYA Level 1 Courses were run for members of the public many of whom subsequently joined our club.

Racing –

- ◇ Well supported Sunday morning series – regular Juniors (one of whom won a series, and was placed 2nd in another series).
- ◇ Lazy Sunday racing continues to be popular.
- ◇ New racers introduced to Sunday morning racing with the support of mentors.
- ◇ Congratulations to Sonia Evans, Timmy Evans and Jobbie Evans who all continue to be in RYA training squads.
- ◇ Sonia and Timmy attended Topper World Champs.

Plans for next year –

- ◇ Programme of social and training activities.
- ◇ H15s into service.
- ◇ Dinghy Instructor Course.
- ◇ Progress grant application for building extension.
- ◇ Presence at Bedford River festival.
- ◇ Boat storage remains a challenge!



Tim Hewett presenting at the AGM in November

Recreation –

- ◇ Mid week and weekend sailors making the most of our resource. Wednesday evening club night busy – well fed sailors!
- ◇ Lay up BBQ with fireworks well supported – eighty members in attendance.
- ◇ Successful Sport England bid (£10k). Three new Hartley 15s on order to replace club Wanderers.
- ◇ Two new junior windsurfing boards.
- ◇ Topper ‘workhorse’ fleet upgraded with new sails.
- ◇ Bank renovation – westernmost bank now completed.
- ◇ Three Open Days were held this year. A great team effort to promote our sport and club. Efforts to recruit new members and course participants were successful.
- ◇ Heron Open event held.
- ◇ Bart’s Bash with 48 boats on the start line and 65 participants, = top 25 in the World. £275 raised. Live music. Quite a day!
- ◇ Raids this year to Norfolk Broads. A great experience for all – repeat next year. Further afield?
- ◇ Some members tried ‘big boat’ sailing. East coast adventures, Solent racing and Croatian cruising.

The busy and successful past year has been made possible thanks to the hard work, expertise and commitment of our many volunteers. The Vice Commodore thanked everyone for their continued support of Priory Sailing Club.

Other business at the AGM included a report from our treasurer, Colin Kitchin, who was able to report that the club’s finances are in good order and as such no increases in our club’s membership fees were proposed for 2018.

Elections were held to fill the vacant positions on your club’s committee, thanks to everyone who put themselves forward for election. Details of this year’s committee, along with contact details for committee members, are listed on page 2.

Following the AGM we held our annual prize giving event, many congratulations to all prize winners – details of who won what are over the page.

Since the AGM activity on the water has been somewhat reduced with the introduction of our winter restrictions, but there is a group who still regularly sail on Sunday mornings, although the recent snow did significantly curtail activity last week!

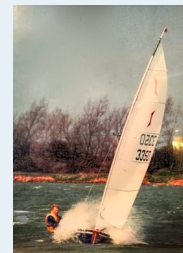
Your new committee is busy planning ahead for next year. The calendar looks very full for 2018 with our normal full schedule of races, social sailing events and training courses. As always, please pass on your ideas for club events, or suggestions for developments to any committee member or by email to me (commodore@priorysc.org.uk). Your committee would be particularly interested to hear your ideas for potential club social events.

I’d like to take this opportunity to wish all Priory Sailing Club members a very Happy Christmas. Here’s to a happy, healthy and windy 2018!
Best wishes.
Tim Hewett

Charity Cup Race 2017

Every year before the AGM lunch our PSC members have the opportunity to take part in the Charity Cup Race in a bid to win the Martin Lambert Cup

The Martin Lambert Cup was presented to the club by Tim Girvan who ran the first event, in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.



Martin Lambert was Solo Inland champion 1986 and Phantom National Champion 1989. He was an inspiration to many sailors, including Tim G.

Each year the race is held in honor of a chosen charity. The 2017 race charity was for the Medical Detection Dogs.

Medical Detection Dogs trains dogs to detect the odour of human disease. It is at the forefront of the research into the fight against cancer and helping people with life-threatening diseases

The winner of the cup for 2017 was Dick Knowles... WELL DONE DICK

If you would like to run the 2018 race for your chosen charity please speak to a committee member



Duty Man

In 2017 PSC embraced the 21st century and left some of our paper based rotas behind... enter Duty Man!

The system was used last year to manage the Safety Boat and Race Officer duty rotas.

The electronic based system seemed to work well with a lot less 'no shows' for these duties and an easy 'couple of clicks' system online to request swaps.

PSC Committee Member, Pascale Hewett, did a sterling job of administering the software last year and is doing this again for us this year (Please make sure she has your current email address or you will miss out on your notifications).

Your committee is considering using the system for additional club rotas next year, we'll keep you informed!

If you had any trouble with the system last year, or simply didn't understand something, please speak to Pascale (or any member of the committee) who will be more than happy to help.

PSC Safety Boat Team

Would you like to join the team of members who will be providing Safety Boat cover for our club activities next summer?

Training is provided (RYA Level 2 Powerboat course) in return for a place on the Safety Boat rota, which entails volunteering for up to six sessions through the year.

If you would like to join the team, and would like to undertake the training, please let me know.

Tim Hewett
(commodore@priorisc.org.uk)



Annual Prize Giving Winners 2017

Most Outstanding Non-Sailing Contribution

Colin Kitchen (PSC Treasurer)

Olympic Series

Paul Williams (Laser)

Spring & Olympic Novice & Novice of the Year

Steve Dyson (Laser 2)

Summer Series

Andi Riley (Laser)

Summer Pursuit

Tim Girvan (Laser)

Autumn Novice

Jeremy Evans (Wayfarer)

Spring Series, 1st Adult Laser and Mariner of the Year

Jonathan Powell (Laser)

Lady Mariner of the Year

Pascale Hewett (Laser)

Most Improved Adult sailor

Carole O'Hara (Pico)

Summer Novice and Most Improved Junior

Joby Evans

Robin Steffens Shield, 1st Junior in Icicle Series, Autumn Series winner

Ben Richards (Topper)

Laser Youth Challenge

Huw Sheppard (Laser)

Most determined Junior

Alexander Parsons & Philip Parson (Heron/ Topper)

Icicle Series 2017

Andy Leach & Bernard Thirkett (Wayfarer)

Winter Mariner of the Season 2016-17

Jonathan Powell (Laser)

U13 winner (new trophy)

Tim Evans (Topper)

U17 of the Year

Sonia Evans (Topper)

Mark Roe Trophy for Junior Club Member of the Year

Vicki Murfin, Assistant Instructor

RYA Dinghy Show—3rd to 4th March 2018

The RYA Dinghy Show presented by Suzuki in association with Yachts & Yachting and Gill is taking place at Alexandra Palace, London on the **03-04 March 2018**. The world's only show dedicated exclusively to dinghies!

Whether you're a racer or a cruiser, getting back into a boat or just getting started, this unique show has something for everyone.

You'll find all the latest gear from top sailing brands plus hundreds of dinghies from beginner boats to the latest in high performance design. There's also training centres, sailing clubs, class associations, boat builders, holiday companies as well as the interactive features and demos to inspire sailors of all ages.

Don't miss the exclusive talks and coaching sessions from the experts plus plenty of activities to entertain the whole family.

For all the latest news and information visit www.dinghyshow.org.uk or follow on Facebook www.facebook.com/ryadinghyshow or on twitter @dinghyshow



The only show in the world dedicated to dinghy sailing - 03-04 March 2018, Alexandra Palace, London

Adventures on the high seas!

On a cold weekend at the end of September a 'lads weekend' was well under way in the Solent. 6 of our very own members took part in some big boat sailing aboard Longbow, William Armitage's 40ft wooden yacht built in the 1970's for the Admirals Cup.

Amongst all the fun of home made cider and singing along to Tim Girvin's guitar playing till the early hours they also had a very important job to do.... Win the John Lewis Regatta Cup.

So did our boys do Priory Sailing Club proud?

That they did, not only finishing 1st in the first race but also securing a 2nd in the second race making them 1st overall!



"There was one very memorable moment from the 2nd race... It was during a very long downwind leg to the furthest mark from the start/finish line. We had our head sail poled out using the spinnaker pole and with Tim Hewett at the helm we were surfing the waves in a 20+ knot blow. All this would have been fine had we of been the only boat on the water but unbeknown to us Island Sailing club race control had sent us to the same downwind mark as a racing fleet of super fast J109's. They had their massive spinnakers flying and were all converging on the same mark as us at the same time, on the same tack! This was a hairy time for William the skipper and Tim the helm as we were the windward boat which of course meant we had to give way, that said, for the rest of the crew it was an amazing sight to behold. After a few tense moments we played it safe, took the pole down, rounded the mark and watched the super fast J109's sail past as we hardened up and went on to win the race by no more than a few seconds."

Dan Perry

Well done to William Armitage, Tim Hewett, Jeremy Evans, Tim Girvin, Dan Perry and Jim McCray



Priory Sailing Club

The Priory Water Sports Centre is shared by Priory Sailing Club and Bedfordshire Canoeists Association. There is a grassy foreshore, parking space for dinghies, undercover storage for boards, a beach, slipway, bank and a jetty which provide excellent launching for all craft. The clubhouse has changing rooms, showers and a self-catering kitchen upstairs and a disabled toilet and shower facility on the ground floor. There is a "Wet Training Room" also on the ground floor which is used for briefings, a muster point for groups and is convenient for those members who are wet from sailing and need to get out of a cold winter wind for a few moments before going out on the water again. Dogs are permitted in the grounds as long as they are on leads and under control.

Editors Note

Many thanks to the contributors to this issue.

Please submit articles of interest for inclusion in future 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 with a bit of text to say what is going on in the picture, who, where etc,.

Telltales comes out quarterly so please submit anything for the next edition by Sunday March 25th, to myself (dan.audi.bedford@gmail.com, 24 Pennard Close, Great Denham, Bedford, MK40 4RP) or any PSC committee member, and by email, hand-written note, phone call, carrier pigeon, whatever!

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