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TELLTALES

The Journal of Priory Sailing Club

Spring Edition: April 2016

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: It's all kicking off at PSC!

- Sun 24th April** First Lazy Sunday racing of 2016 starting at 1400h; then last Sunday of each month to Sept
- Sat 7th May** Saturday morning sailing mentoring and Windsurfing Workshops start & run through to July at least
- BH Monday 2nd May** Junior Regatta, 1400 start
- Weds 4th May** Wednesdays on the Water start & run through to Sept: safety cover and experienced help late afternoon to ~1900
- 21st/ 22nd May** PSC Open Days 1000-1600 both days: help giving the public taster sessions welcomed!
- BH Monday 30th May** Bank Holiday BBQ at the club from 1600
- Sun 5th June** RNLi Regatta starting at 1100

Deadline for next Telltales 7th July

Commodore's Column

Once again this winter we did not have to cancel any sailing because our lake was frozen! The hardy PSC members who do sail



year round did have several gales to contend with however, some very exciting sailing has been had. The warmer weather recently has brought many of you back to Priory to get on the water or simply to prepare your boat for its 2016 adventures, and it's been good to catch up.

As the season gets underway we will continue to offer you opportunities to get on the water and to develop your skills and experience. For our Junior sailors Buccaneers started Sunday before last, Advanced Pirates started on 16th April and Beginner Pirates on 28th May.

Training for adult members is also available, with Saturday morning dinghy sessions adopting a mentoring approach that could lead to a RYA Level 2 award; these sessions will start in May. Saturday mornings will

also be the time slot for our popular Windsurfing Workshops, again starting in May. Open to all, during these sessions our instructors will help you develop your windsurfing skills. We are also training another group of powerboat drivers this month who will complete an RYA PB2 course which will qualify them to join our Safety Boat rota. If you are interested in joining the next group please do let me know.



Because all of this training is delivered by the clubs hard working volunteer coaches and instructors there is no cost to members for any of this tuition. If you would like to help on any of these sessions please do contact me.

As you probably know we also run Start Sailing and Start Windsurfing courses for non-members, indeed a significant number of our members joined the club as a result of learning to sail on one of our courses. If any of your friends, neighbours or work colleagues would like to learn to sail please introduce them to PSC.

Other important dates in May are the 21st & 22nd when we will be running our annual Open Weekend to offer 'come and try it' sessions to members of our community. Please note the dates – we'll need lots of help to make the weekend a success and of course I hope that you will also be able to help promote the event.

We are currently awaiting the outcome of a planning application to build an extension to the clubhouse; a grant application will follow if our planning application is passed!

Our recent 'Great British Bacon Off', as it became known, proved to be very popular. Your commodore demonstrated his mastery of a frying pan and produced many, many bacon rolls on Sport Relief weekend and our generous members raised £90.

Our two recent evening events were well supported. Five teams enjoyed an excellent quiz evening provided by our resident quizmaster, Neil Papworth, who once again did an exceptional job of preparing and delivering an entertaining challenge. Thirty members also attended our Racing Rules workshop where the sometimes complex ISAF rules of sailing were explained in terms we could all understand!

A new event at PSC this summer will be an overnight twelve hour race. Building on the success of our night time sail back in November we are planning a team event that will see us racing through the night. More details will be available soon, but please put the date in your diary now – Saturday 18th June.

Looking further ahead, this year's Bart's Bash will be on Sunday 18th September, another date that definitely should be in your diary!



Our well supported working party weekend and subsequent maintenance work means that our club is in good shape for the season ahead, it looks like it's going to be busy, do come and join in.

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@priorysc.org.uk). Your committee would be particularly interested to hear your ideas regarding potential club social events.

Hope to see you on the water soon!

Tim Hewett, Commodore, Laser

The All Fools Race 2016

Saturday 2nd April saw the Annual All Fools Race. There was keen competition beforehand between Jonathan Powell and Tony Ogborn as the winners shield has catapulted between the two racers for the last 5 years. Sue Baker race officer for the event organised two pursuit races assisted by Peter Bell and Andrew Evans on safety boat. It was lovely to see such a mixture of boats and ages on the water. With fifteen boats from Herons to Oppies, and Wanderers to Lasers a great afternoons racing was enjoyed by young and old alike.

Jonathan triumphed in the end winning both races and bringing the trophy home again. Sonya Evans was 2nd and top Junior, the birthday boy Tim Girvan was 3rd and Rupert Keep 4th.

Tony had organised pens and a finger of chocolate for every competitor. The afternoon was rounded off by a hearty tea of Jacket Potatoes and Apple Crumble and custard superbly supplied by Jeannette Evans and Maxine Hopton, who were grateful for all the washing up help they received!

Thank you to all the helpers who made this FANTASTIC afternoon happen, demonstrating once again this is what Priory does best!

Karen Powell, Committee Member

Martin Lambert Charity Cup 2015

Firstly, please let me apologise for the delay in writing in about the fantastic event held at Priory Sailing Club on November 15th 2015.



The morning was overcast and chilly, with a *stiff breeze*, about 24 mph gusting up to 45 mph! I was hoping for sunshine. However, the weather didn't deter the enthusiastic and philanthropic racers at Priory Sailing Club; the first race having 12 entries.

The gusts rolling in over the trees proved challenging, both for the sailors and the rescue crews, who were kept very busy at both ends of the lake, in all we had six retirements. The first race was won by David Stephenson, who beat Owen Hewett and Tim Hewett into 2nd and 3rd.



In view of the number of retirements in the first race, I was pleasantly surprised to see that we had an even bigger fleet of 13 boats for the second.

The weather eased marginally, and most sailors managed to complete the course, with only two retirements. Owen Hewett came in first, followed by Tim Hewett and David Stephenson.

The overall result

- 1st Owen Hewett
- 2nd David Stephenson
- 3rd Tim Hewett

Thank you and well done to all who took part, we managed to raise a fantastic **£ 148.00** for **Macmillan Nurses**. I would especially like to thank the rescue teams who worked so hard, and Priory Sailing Club for hosting the event.

Next year, The Martin Lambert Charity Cup will support another charity, so we will be asking for your suggestions nearer the time.

Tim G, Race Organiser, Laser

What Are Priory Pirates?

Priory Pirates has been developing over the last 20 years and was probably started by PSC members Jenny Ross and Barbara Ansell. The scheme is designed to encourage young people aged 7 to 14 to learn to sail in a safe, supervised environment with a parent present nearby or on the balcony.

The usual course is for five Saturday afternoons called Beginner Pirates:

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|-----------|-----------|---|
| Year 1 | Aged 7 | First starts in sailing Optimists – one or two per boat |
| Year 2 | Aged 8 | Repeat the Optimist course with more confidence as an experienced pirate |
| Year 3 on | Aged 9-14 | Learn to sail a Topper single-handed and to recover from a capsize.
Attend the Advanced Pirates course and progress to RYA Stage 2. This |

course is held twice a year in April & May and later in July & August.



PSC Buccaneers is held on Sunday afternoons for sailors who can recover from a capsize and want to learn to race and gain RYA Stage 3 and Start Racing qualifications.

Junior Dinghy Week is held in August for Buccaneers who want a chance to use the two-handed boats and achieve Stage 4, which can include the use of the spinnaker and trapeze.

There are more details and dates on the PSC web-site, or call Tony Ogborn to book a place: 01234 708010.

Tony Ogborn, Heron



The PSC Sailing Ladder

The PSC Sailing Ladder is located in the clubroom upstairs. Climb the ladder step by step or in large jumps. The normal way to climb the ladder is to challenge a person above you sailing the same boat & rig. However, if you are too shy to issue the challenge before the race just inform them afterwards and put yourself above them on the ladder by swapping the cards.

There can be several sections on the ladder. Initially these are

Topper U13 small sail

Topper U17 full sail

Pico All ages

But feel free to suggest another class. I have put in some names and cards into the ladder to start it off. All suggestions and disputes to me.

Tony Ogborn, Heron

Improving your dinghy sailing in 2016: a Reminder

If you're keen to improve on your sailing in 2016, here are some options:

- **Talk to club and committee members** at the club: they will be happy to help you.
- **Take advantage of the informal coaching** on Saturday mornings from May onwards.
- **Join in the Lazy Sunday racing on the last Sunday afternoon of each month.**
- **Join in the club racing**, which takes place every Sunday morning.



Dick Knowles Vago XD 669

Editor's Note

Many thanks to the contributors to this issue.

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 with a bit of text to say what is going on in the picture, who, where etc, or else post onto the Photo Gallery (<http://www.priorysc.org.uk/gallery/index.php/>).

Telltales comes out quarterly so please submit anything by Thurs 7th July 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 669)

Ask us the big questions

We'll take care of the small details



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