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## Ahoy!

Regrettably, we have to start this newsletter by announcing the resignation of our Commodore, Chris Wheeler.

Chris has stepped down for health reasons as well as family commitments which limits the time he has available. Therefore, he feels that he is no longer able to give the Commodore role the time it deserves.

Chris has been involved in the club in one form or another for over forty years, his dedication spans many areas, from instructing both as a Chief and Senior Instructor, helping countless young people, instructors and adults alike develop their sailing and powerboating skills to organising trips away and in recent years being the driving force behind the organisation of our new clubhouse and grounds. He also project managed a very successful dredging project in the autumn of 2020 which has greatly increased our sailing area.

His commitment to selflessly working for the benefit of the club led to national recognition in the form of a RYA Lifetime commitment award (pictured right).

Although Chris is stepping back from his Commodore role you will still see him around the club as he will remain heavily involved both with Radio Controlled yachting and with general club activity as he is retaining his other roles as Chair of the Trustees and Bosun so hopefully he will be organising, designing, building, and repairing for many years to come.

Finally, the committee would like to say a big thank you to Chris for the hard work he has put into the Commodore role of the course of this year.



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## Introducing our Vice Commodore

July Simmonds has been a member of the club since 2008.

I started being involved when my son first joined. Having run several businesses, from outside catering, teaching and helping my husband run his window cleaning business and sailing most of my life, I have found this experience useful and it has helped me to contribute to various events and open days at the club as well as schools and other organisations that have visited and used the club for their activity weeks.

Over the years I have sailed various types of boats: old fashioned Bosun and Enterprise dinghies, even a Fireball as crew once or twice and larger yachts of various sizes, across the Channel and down to Spain. I have also sailed traditional style larger boats and square-rigged ships, which have taken me to the Canaries, across the Atlantic to the Caribbean, Cuba and Bermuda. I have also been relief crew on the Sea Cadets boats, Royalist and the Power vessels, travelling around Britain, France and the Channel Islands.

I sail my own 420 dinghy when I can, and have shared it with various members of the club. Sailing at Roadford Lake, Portland, Stokes Bay and Shearwater, definitely had, some fun and have even sailed it single handed at times.



I have also been involved with various charities over the years such as the Jubilee Sailing Trust, National Association for Bikers with a Disability, Ocean Youth Sailing Trust South, School PTA's and the Club. My main involvement has been in publicising and promoting the charity and fundraising, as well as putting on events or just taking part as part of team or crew.

In 2011, I passed my PB2, and in 2018 I passed my DI which I now use to help with the Wednesday session although you may have seen me on other evenings.

In January 2021 I was asked to join the present committee as Fundraising Officer. Being late for one such meeting (on Zoom at the time) I was voted in as Vice Commodore. I hope I can help run the club and make it success as have many who have previously held this position.

I enjoy seeing the progress of the children we teach and how they achieve so much.

I hope to see you out on the water at some point or at a club event.

## Activity Calendar

Day	Date	Activity
Monday	20th September	Last week of sailing
Saturdays	18th & 25th September, 2nd & 9th October	Adult Course
Saturdays	16th October, 6th & 27th	Members Free Sailing

Please note that activities may be subject to change & we will issue an updated calendar in each newsletter, along with times.

If you have any ideas for activities that you would like to have/see or help with please contact one of your committee!



## Congratulations....

.... To Thom, Ollie, Poppy, Jessica and Lily

Who, after a week of hard work at the beginning of August with their trainer Tim Cross, have all achieved their RYA Dinghy Instructor Qualifications.

The week was made up of plenty of learning and coaching along with giving demonstrations and running mock sessions with the other participants acting as students. The course was rounded off by a moderation day with Pete Muskett helping assess their progress.

We welcome them to our team of volunteer instructors and look forward to them sharing their new knowledge with our sailors and instructors alike!

Hopefully this also inspires some of our other sailors and volunteers to move into the world of instructing, please speak to Margaret if you are interested.



Left to Right

Poppy, Lily , Tim Cross, Jessica, Pete Muskett, Thom and Ollie



### Wildlife on the Lake

#### The Canada Goose

The Canada goose is a large wild goose with a black head and neck, white cheeks, white under its chin, and a brown body. It is native to the arctic and temperate regions of North America, and its migration occasionally reaches across the Atlantic to northern Europe. Canada Geese **migrate south in winter and north in summer**, but their travels may take a few detours along the way. Individuals may move several to hundreds of miles during the late spring and summer to large bodies of water where they will be safer as they moult their wing feathers.

## From Your Chief Instructor

Firstly my personal congratulations to our five new instructors.

A great achievement which I hope they will be able to put to good use for many years.

August is traditionally the time when we offer those on the waiting list a sailing experience. This year has been no exception and by the time you read this we will have had three half day sessions involving 28 youngsters. All seemed to enjoy it.

A special thank you to the volunteers who have helped me facilitate this. Without their support it cannot happen.

I am sorry to say that we are saying goodbye, for the moment, to Tom Schonfeld.

He has given us a lot of his time this year as a volunteer instructor. He so enjoyed it that he is off to do further training in the sailing world.

We shall miss his sense of fun, his organising skills and his excellent line in games.

Thank you Tom, good luck in your future career and please call back to see us if you are in the area.

Lastly there are not many weeks left in the season.

Don't panic if you are on stage 4 and still need to do double handed sailing. If you have completed everything else your senior instructor will give you an action plan for the beginning of next season and move you straight onto the seamanship stage.

The main thing is that you enjoy your sailing.

I have so far put 3 dates in the calendar for extra Saturday afternoon sailing. Nothing formal just the chance to get on time on the water.

The dates are October 16th, November 9th and 27th. 12.30 - 4.30.

I would welcome support from adult helpers on those dates. Please also get in touch if you are willing to help the upcoming adult course.

Margaret.

## Barts Bash

The Andrew Simpson Foundation will once again be running their annual Barts Bash fundraising event on Saturday 11th September.

As part of this all the boats at the Andrew Simpson Centre in Portland are available for hire or you can take your own, further details can be found [here](#)

Another chance to get in some sea sailing practice and all funds raised from the day will go to the Andrew Simpson Foundation.

## Radio Sailing—August Update

As we move into Autumn it's hard to believe how fast this year seems to be disappearing.

Our Summer series of races on Thursdays are now concluded and the results are in!

The Annual series raced on Saturdays continues until the end of the year, and the Autumn series will start on Thursday 2nd of September.

Now for the Summer series details, we sailed 80 races over 13 weeks and the total number of entries during the series was 436. The results are calculated using individual sailors best 35 finishing positions, unfortunately this will exclude some helms who did not reach the 35 race threshold.

Points are awarded in line with finishing positions, 1 point for 1st , 2 points for 2nd , 3 points for 3rd etc.

1st	Alan Brown	42 points
2nd	Chris Wheeler	62 points
3rd	Andy Allen	68 points
4th	Peter Hewitt	69 points
5th	John Thomas	98 points
6th	Geoff Pell	128 points
7th	Margaret Pell	155 points
8th	Mike Dyer	171 points

The results do not actually show how close the racing has been, very small differences on the finishing line can make a huge difference in the final tally.

Thanks to Nic Cross we have a model yachting Whatsapp group up and running, we can now keep in touch easier and get important information out to sailors if needed. Let us know if you wish to be added.

Alan Brown.

## 'Money makes the world go round.....'

LATEST NEWS ON EASY FUNDRAISING.

We now have £44 in the kitty of free money and 18 supporters.

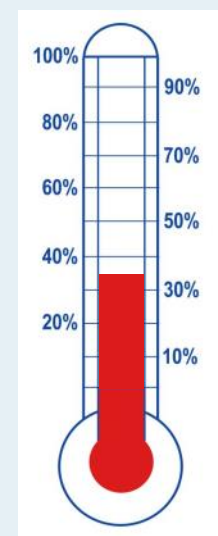
Please think of us when you do your click and collect or shop for something on numerous outlets. It all goes to something far bigger at the end of the day and is very little effort. Some places make thousands. Invite your family and friends to download the app and start shopping.....

For more information visit: <https://wwysa.org.uk/easyfundraising/>

*Have a hot shower after getting into  
your wetsuit*

It traps a layer of warm water between you and your wetsuit and be less of a cold shock when you fall in

easyfundraising target 50  
registrations



## Bosuns Locker

### Topper

Complete Topper with Launching Trolley

**Contact Wanda Corp 078112 242164**

This is your space to advertise any sailing equipment that you no longer need—it can be for sale or just donated.

We would very much appreciate that a donation is made to the club of 10% of the sale price & if there is something that is offered for free could whoever gets it make a donation to the club.

Thank you



### **West Wilts Youth Sailing Association**

Registered Charity No:1057119

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