



Ahoy!

So as we come to the end of the summer season, we reflect on the lucky time we have had . Despite all the Covid complications we have had a brilliant sailing season at the club.

We have been a bit restricted in what we can do, but personally I think it has reaped benefits all round.

We have had Peter Bone here for training the instructors , giving more inventive ideas to teach sailing whilst having fun. We have had various awards of grants that if not for Covid wouldn't have existed, and therefore we have improved our facilities.

We have bought a projector, a lot of learning aids, which have proved very useful in making the theory side of our syllabus more interesting. As well as new ideas for games and the purchase of accessories to go with this.

We have seen the teaching session days increase with the membership so we now instruct 4 days a week the Sea Scouts using one of the days.

The RC boats series has been running and these guys have also been helping with maintenance work at the club.

We have 6 adults on the adult course kindly run by Simon Brewerton and we have more volunteers to help with the running of the club and the sessions.

We have had trips away and we are just about to have a Thank You BBQ for the volunteers

All in all I think this has been a very positive year despite all the struggles with the pandemic.

We are now in the throws of planning some sessions for all the family over the winter with the run up to Christmas. We are also planning some other exciting things for the winter months.

Juley Simmonds

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Introducing our Instructors—Peter Barnes



I learnt to play the recorder when I was six and the piano when I was ten which brought me to Trowbridge as a music teacher in a special school. When I was twelve I built my first harpsichord, and this is what I do now as a living. It is very satisfying to make and

repair things myself.

I was fifty when I discovered sailing, so I have been trying to make up for lost time ever since: Adult course at WWYSA, races at Shearwater, washing up on a Tallships all the way from Plymouth to Tenerife, sailing with wheelchair users on The Jubilee Sailing Trust's Tallships, becoming a Watch leader with the Tallships Youth Trust, and all the time I was helping as an Assistant Instructor at WWYSA. If I had a big enough garage then I would like three boats: a Mirror, a Topper and a Laser. And, I would

like to live in that big house beside our lovely, new sailing club!

I love the feel of sailing and always want to try different boats. I enjoy all the amazing characters I meet when sailing and most of all I like the learning we do on Wednesday Evenings. You have all taught me so much!

A couple of years ago I went on a very wet, windy and cold training course to become a Dinghy Instructor, and in about two weeks I'm off to train as a Senior Instructor at the Andrew Simpson Centre in Reading. Wish me luck, and fingers crossed that it isn't too cold!

Have a good winter break, and see you all in the spring. Peter.



Activity Calendar

Day	Date	Activity
Saturdays	18th & 25th September, 2nd & 9th October	Adult Course
Sunday	3rd October	Volunteers BBQ
Saturdays	16th October, 6th & 27th November	Members Free Sailing
Saturday	23rd October	Work Party

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!



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Summer Sailing on Lake Bala

I came to dingy sailing quite late in life, though sailing has always been an interest, with odd days here or there on yacht and dingy sailing experiences over the years. It came to a head in 2018 when my second son took a job as a first mate with a Clipper Sailing Experience company operating out of the Hamble and he invited me out a few times to make up numbers. He has since completed his Day Skipper and powerboat certificates and has over 2500 nautical miles on his log! Anyway, this finally prompted me to do something about it, I knew about the WWYSA and I saw that the club ran adult dingy sailing courses in September/October, so I signed up and did my RYA1&2 in 2019 which was great fun. So much so I bought an Enterprise Dingy with my son, the idea being we did it up a bit and took it out together. I also signed my two youngest, Katy and Freddie, then 11 & 10, for the Sailing course in 2020, but Coronavirus hit and our plans went by the wayside.



Fast forward to 2021 and the youth sailing courses were on, so Katy and Freddie were at last able to start their sailing journey and I volunteered to help for their evening. This has been a great experience and lots of fun, seeing all the children develop over the weeks as they learn the “ropes” and gain in confidence. The chance to get out and sail myself on the odd weekend and then a great day in Portland (thank you Margaret)

helped increase my confidence too. With now four of us in the family enjoying sailing, come the summer holiday it seemed a great opportunity to see if we could sail on a different stretch of water. We happened to have booked a week away in North Wales, only 30 minutes from Lake Bala (6km x 0.8km) so after a bit of googling and a couple of phone calls, I had booked a Wayfarer and a Falmouth Bass boat for a half days sail, the only requirement that we demonstrate how to rig the boats!



With Katy and Freddie helping, I rigged the Wayfarer with little problem. I must admit to leaving the Bass boat to my son Stephen – it was gaff rigged, with a mizzen mast and he has prior experience with rigging of this type – with Katy and Freddie looking on. Once we were set, Freddie came with me and my oldest daughter on the Wayfarer and Katy went with Stephen and her other older brother on the Bass boat. There was quite an onshore breeze on the lake and we headed off on a broad reach with some speed. The water was quite choppy too, so as the prow of the wayfarer cut through the water, we – and I really mean Freddie who was manning the jib sheets – were the recipient of frequent spray. On the Bass boat, Stephen had also put Katy at the front, on the jib sheets, though perhaps because of the more leisurely sail under Stephen or the shape of the prow, they did not seem to generate as much spray! The wayfarer was definitely the faster boat and in the stiff breeze needed some care when tacking and gybing back and forward on the lake. Running with the wind back to the appreciated shore to stay within the sailing area was a short but welcome respite before again racing back out to the center section of Bala.

The confidence that Katy and Freddie showed and the knowledge they demonstrated and shared with their older siblings was great to see and no doubt down to the Monday evening training sessions being really hands on and the additional day down in Portland. It has certainly helped me and I am looking forward to spending more time on the water in 2022.



Andrew Farebrother – Monday night team

Wildlife on the Lake



The Moorhen

Recently moorhens have been spotted on the island in the middle of the lake.

Moorhens—sometimes called marsh hens—are medium-sized water birds that are members of the rail family. Most species are placed in the genus *Gallinula*, Latin for “little hen”. They are close relatives of coots. They are often referred to as gallinules.

The common moorhen lives in freshwater and brackish marshes, lakes, canals and ponds with cattails and other aquatic vegetation

From Your Chief Instructor

There is not a lot to report since the last newsletter.

I am aware that despite the shortage of wind the evenings continue to be active with games and learning.

By the time you receive this the evenings will be getting darker and the last week of sailing will have happened but there are still opportunities to sail on selected Saturday afternoons.

October 16th November 6th and November 27th from 12.30.

This includes volunteers who are welcome to sail (single handed at the moment) but also take a turn in the safety boat.

Please remember to wear plenty of clothes especially hat and gloves and a wind proof jacket as it will be considerably colder.

There will be no formal teaching but help will be on hand from the safety boats.

Thanks to Simon Brewerton the adult course is in full swing. We have a group of enthusiastic adults who have already made excellent progress. Hopefully some will offer their services as volunteers next year. A lot of our existing helpers started out on an adult course.

Looking forward to welcoming you back next year.

Margaret.

Practice everything as much as you can

Especially sailing—Given the chance take up
any opportunity you can

Radio Sailing—September Update

As I sit at the computer writing this piece for the newsletter two things occur to me.

1. Didn't I do this just a few days ago.
2. When will the wind blow.

Yes, four weeks since the last newsletter where has the time gone? And, why can't we have a good old fashioned easterly blow.

A steady force and direction would be nice, not this fickle wind we have had to endure lately. Sailing in September has been a bit frustrating at times and looking out of the window at this moment there is no wind at all, perhaps tomorrow will be better?

I guess we should not complain too much, at least we have been on the water trying to race and when not racing we drink tea and put the world to rights. The company is good so we have a laugh and a joke. And as a by-product a few jobs around the club have also been completed.

But before long, Autumn will be properly here and evenings will drawing in, we will have to wear coats and think of Christmas. But the wind although colder MIGHT be in the right direction, unhindered by the trees which have lost their foliage, a clear path straight into our sailing area where unlimited racing will take place on ideal courses. Sailors back from their holidays will swell the numbers into huge fleets. No one will run aground or miss a buoy, collide or start early. Perfect. We can only hope.

Alan Brown.

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

LATEST NEWS ON EASY FUNDRAISING.

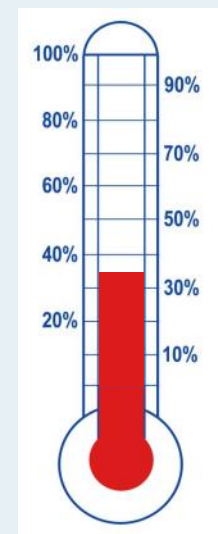
We now have **£48** in the kitty of free money and **18** supporters. Please think of us when you do your click and collect or shop for something on numerous outlets. It all goes to something far bigger at the end of the day and is very little effort. Some places make thousands. Invite your family and friends to download the app and start shopping.....

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

**We have just been awarded £500 by Westbury
Town Council**

**We would like to thank them for their continued
support of our club**

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 give a donation to the club, it would be appreciated



West Wilts Youth Sailing Association

Registered Charity No:1057119

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