

OCTOBER 2024

TELL-TALES

WWYSA NEWSLETTER



AHOY!

BY JULEY SIMMONDS, COMMODORE

The evening sailing sessions have wrapped up for the year, and what a season it's been! We've seen fantastic progress in everyone's sailing skills.

There's one more Sunday sail left this week, plus our Christmas and New Year sails to look forward to, so be sure to note those dates.

In November, we'll hold our winter working party. For those unfamiliar, this is when we come together to clean the boats, tidy the club, and tackle odd jobs around the lake. We also trim bushes and trees around the lake and the island. If you have a couple of hours to spare, any help would be greatly appreciated to get the club ready for winter. We'll host another working party in the spring to prepare for the new season. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate—and there'll be a bacon sarnie or two in the morning!

In October, some of us attended the Westbury Town Council Civic Awards Evening, where we received a £700 grant for boat and rigging maintenance. The Town Council has supported us with a grant each year for at least 20 years, and we're incredibly grateful for their continued support. Over the years, we've also had several visits from the Mayor, which has been a real honour.

Read on to catch up on all the latest news, upcoming events, and ways to get involved!



SUNDAY 17TH NOVEMBER

WINTER WORKING PARTY

Don't forget tools, a packed lunch and plenty of community spirit!

KEY DATES

NOVEMBER 2024

- 3rd – Sunday Sailing (10am-2pm)
- 9th – AI Winter Training
- 17th – Winter Working Party
- 30th - Tuition Place Confirmation Deadline

DECEMBER 2024

- 7th – Christmas Sail
- 14th – AI Winter Training

JANUARY 2025

- 4th – New Year Frostbite Sail
- 18th – AI Winter Training
- 24th – Awards Evening & AGM
- 25th – Disability Awareness Course

FEBRUARY 2025

- 15th – AI Winter Training

MARCH 2025

- 15th – AI Winter Training
- 22nd – First Aid Course



AT THE HELM

AI WINTER TRAINING PROGRAMME

Saturday 9th November 2024

ON SHORE: the RYA Method
ON WATER: tacking, gybing, roll-tacking & roll-gybing

Saturday 14th December 2024

ON SHORE: briefing & debriefing
ON WATER: tight circles drill and mark rounding

Saturday 18th January 2025

ON SHORE: ways that people learn; stages of learning
ON WATER: man overboard, coming alongside

Saturday 15th February 2025

ON SHORE: RYA EDICTS model
ON WATER: rudderless & centreboard-less sailing

Saturday 15th March 2025

ON SHORE: presentation & visual aids
ON WATER: sailing backwards, follow-my-leader



Chief Instructor's Report

BY NIGEL SILMAN

This season really seems to have flown by, once again. During the year we have reported on a number of our young volunteers completing their Dinghy Instructor training and becoming qualified.

We have also had three DI's move up to train as Senior Instructors, so this has been a very good year for developing our own instructor team as well as regularly teaching over 60 young sailors throughout the season. Well done everyone for your parts in this, it really is a team effort.

Onto the winter, a time for less on-water activity but we are not stopping. Back by popular demand is our **Winter Assistant Instructor (AI) Training Programme** after which we will have several more AI's, with any luck! This winter's programme—now slightly updated—is highlighted in the blue box to the left. These are the planned sessions – subject, of course, to weather forecast and conditions. Things might change a bit as we progress through and we will recap at the start of each session as I understand that not everyone will be able to attend every session.

If this sounds like something you would be keen to do then please drop me a line. Sessions will run from **12 noon until 3pm** on these days. Ideally you should be sailing to or have achieved Youth Stage 4 or Adult Level 3 but I am much keener that those with interest in learning more come along and join the session irrespective of current experience level. Look forward to seeing you on Saturday 9th November!

As always please do not hesitate to contact me via chiefinstructor@wvysa.org.uk should you have any other queries, questions or points to raise.



Principal's Report BY DAVID LONG

Wow what a fantastic season we have all had. It was so good to see so many of you on the lake enjoying the great outdoors. For those of you who were fortunate enough to go to Portland, I am so glad everyone got the maximum enjoyment out of those days. Closer to home, we have organised our social Sunday sailing, our Commodore's Day as well as events for the local community, schools and scouts.

Not only that we have run our regular 3 x nightly weekly sailing throughout the summer. We could not do this without our fantastic volunteers who include our instructors, the committee, adult helpers, parents and guardians who chip in on the sailing nights and not forgetting the Bosun and his team who work tirelessly in the background often without recognition. I would like to say a huge thank you to all of you. You continue to amaze me on how much you are all prepared to give to this brilliant Club.

As this year draws to a close, your committee are already planning events for the winter season and the summer programme for 2025. Keep an eye on [Facebook](#), our [website](#) and future newsletters. A few things to bring to your attention if I may. On Saturday 25th January we will be running a **Disability Awareness Course**. Again more details to follow but this will run for the whole day and is being hosted by Peter Bone from the RYA.

In 2025 several of us will need to renew our **First Aid Certification**. I will be in contact with you early in the new year. If it's approaching 3 years since you last did it, then you should be on our list! We are hoping to run the course on Saturday 22nd March. After our success at being nominated for **RYA Green Club of the Year** in 2023, the Committee have looked at the revised RYA criteria for 2024 and have put ourselves forward for the Green Blue Club of the Year. We have also nominated a few people for individual awards but are sworn to secrecy by the RYA until these are announced towards the end of the year. If we are successful, then I will update you as soon as I am able to.

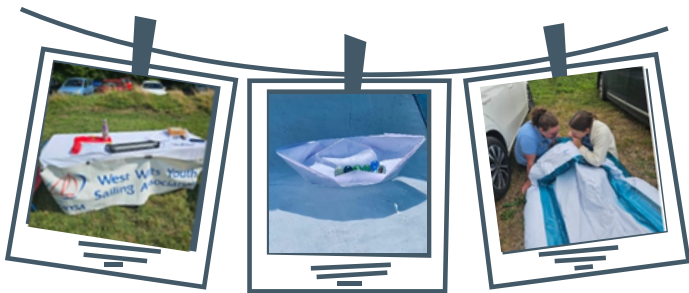
We have set up several sub committees during 2024 so we can focus our attention on some key issues. These have largely been successful and if you are interested in learning more or joining one of them, please get in touch with me in the first instance. I hope to see you soon at the Club or at our Annual Awards Evening in January.



WWYSA ANNUAL REUNION

BY CAMILLA BLAKESLEY, SECRETARY

On the 8th of September WWYSA welcomed back some of our previous members for our annual reunion. We had a lovely afternoon remembering previous trips, looking at photos, watching some excellent light wind sailing from our Sunday sailors, and enjoying some cake and sandwiches in the clubhouse. Many thanks to all who helped and attended!



ORIGAMI BOATS!

BY JULEY SIMMONDS, COMMODORE
DILTON MARSH PTA COMMUNITY DAY

On a blustery Thursday morning, Lily, Verity, and I arrived and were warmly welcomed by the organiser, Ruth Brookes Martin. We set up our stand, then, with plenty of laughs, inflated a paddling pool and filled it with water just as people began to arrive.

Over 100 people attended the event, and we had a lot of interest in our stand, where we provided paper for decorating and making origami boats. The children floated their boats in the water, adding buttons and marbles to see how far they could travel across the paddling pool.

It was a great day enjoyed by all, though we certainly felt worn out from the wind! Special thanks to Lily Swerdlow and Verity Brewerton for their dedication and help in making the day a success.





Important News and Updates

Committee Positions

It's almost time for committee positions to go up for nomination and election. Look out for an email with more info soon. The committee has been working tirelessly to support the club's growth, organise events, and keep things running smoothly. We are happy to stand in our positions for another year, but, if you're curious about joining, any committee member will be glad to chat with you about what's involved. Now's a great time to learn more about helping out!

The Awards Night

Let's get together to celebrate all the hard work and dedication put in over the past year. Cheer on our young sailors as they're awarded certificates for their achievements this season. We'll also present trophies across various categories! The AGM is an opportunity to catch up on the club's progress, special events, and plans for the coming season.

Don't forget to bring some cash as there will be club T-shirts available for purchase and other clothing items for a small donation.

See the poster at the end of the newsletter for more information about times and dates. Please be aware that some satnav systems like to send our members to the community hall next to the church in the village! Leigh Park community centre is the one next to the shops - postcode **BA13 3FN**.

TUITION PLACES - IMPORTANT DEADLINE!


Please note that tuition places do not automatically renew for next season. If you or your child/children would like to continue sailing tuition with us next year, please confirm places by emailing membership@wwysa.org.uk no later than **Saturday 30th November**.

The training sub-committee is currently reviewing options for next season's training nights, and we also have a substantial waiting list. Knowing our numbers early will greatly help us in planning, ensuring as many students as possible have the opportunity to sail.



Celebrate the Season **2024 AWARDS & AGM EVENING**

Let's wrap up the season together and look forward to all that's to come! We can't wait to see you there!


 **Friday, 27th January 2025**

 **6:30 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.**

 **Leigh Park Community Centre,
BA13 3FN**


What's in Store:

 **Certificate & Trophy
Presentations**

 **Club Updates & AGM**

 **Raffle**

 **Refreshments**

 **Club T-Shirts &
Clothing For Sale**

CELEBRATE WITH US!

