# **TELL TALES**





### **AHOY!**

What a blast this month has been! We have had the Start Racing course, part of a 2 day training session organised by Margret our Chief Instructor. We have had an Instructor training Day with Rob Howlett (RYA Regional Director), showing us how we can make your sessions more interesting and fun, at the same time learning all the things you need to know to pass your next certificate. Don't forget we now assess you on your performance and achievements over the whole season, rather than have an assessment at the end of the season. We will always try and help you in any way we can, if you are concerned about anything you need to know, then just ask.

Then we held the Jubilee Fun Day. This was well attended and everyone had a great day. The weather held out for us until we had cleared up and although it was a little cloudy, it remained warm . The water activities were enjoyed by one and all and I think a lot of you spent more time in the water than on your craft. With BBQ food and cakes , music, and just relaxing at the waterside it was definitely an event to remember in the history of our little club.

A big thank you to all involved... more in the Jubilee Article later in this newsletter. Our next exciting trip will be going to Portland to have a sea sail. I do hope you all have booked up, it is another day not to be missed.

We also, have the second Start Racing course to look forward to. Certainly, there is a lot coming up. Until next month, stay safe, have fun .

See you on the water Juley Simmonds

Commodore

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## JUBILEE FUN DAY 5TH JUNE 22

So, the weather was kind to us although there wasn't that much wind for the sailors. Lots of water craft to have a go with, although several of you decided that the water was warm enough to stay in rather than on. We had the traditional jubilee British menu with a BBQ added in and some fantastic cakes by Liz Ballinger our treasurer. We had a reunion of old and new members and the younger siblings had their chance to go out in the safety boats. Lovely to see some of the Salisbury scouts come all the way to have fun and several families enjoying the day.

Bryan Parkinson from Mercer Company Ltd, who sponsored our Electric outboard popped in for a visit and thoroughly enjoyed himself, helping to clear up and to help finish up a cake or 2.

Peter Barnes was the first to get into the water, when he misjudged getting into the Duo, easily done.....and having got slightly wet carried on with the day.

Freddie and his team won the raft racing, paddling their own constructed raft around the buoy and back.

A couple of months planning and a bit of running around. Asking a few favours and what a day!

I must thank all the volunteers who helped man the safety boats, BBQ Raft building and to SI of the day Chris Wheeler, Neil ,Liz Ballinger who helped plan the day. Peter Hewitt and his wife Sarah for the very in-depth judging of the 'recycled boat' competition, (won by Elizabeth and Teddy) and to Hugh Sturdy for the loan of his canoe and other items. Andrew Farebrother for loaning us the scouts raft building kits. I think all of you had a brilliant day and it all went really well . Thanks to everyone who stayed to clear up as we just made it before the heavens opened.

All in all, it was what the club really needed, a day to remember, thank you for all your support attending our



#### **RECYCLE BOAT COMPETITION 5TH JUNE**

With Mike and Sarah Hewitt judging it, the boat competition was on. A few really innovative ideas and strategies.

It was all going to plan when the wind change direction -as it does. Teddy's wonderful biscuit concept boat pushed Elizabeth's catamaran bottle boat along for a while before coming in second.

Great watching the race and how the brilliant ideas were put to work.

Great racing everyone guys thanks for taking part all of you.



# KNOTS AND THEIR USES

What is the purpose of a Sheet Bend?

## **Activity Calendar**

Day	Date	Activity
Saturday	9th July	Start Racing Day 2
Sunday	10th July	Portland Trip

# Top Tips—

Bring a spare change of clothes; these summer months you may get wet!

Did you know?

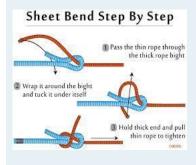
# How do sailors say 'good luck'?

The use of the expression 'Fair winds' is used to wish a person a safe journey or good fortune.





The sheet bend, or weaver's knot, is widely used by sailors for uniting two ropes of different sizes. The end of one rope is passed through a loop of the other, is passed around the loop, and under its own standing part.



#### Meet the Instructors - Rebecca Brookes

I am exactly as old as the WWYSA. I have been in and around boats from a very small child: my dad built his first boat (a Yachting Monthly) in the front drive when I was a babe in arms. We lived in Suffolk and sailed out of the River Deben, regularly visiting the local Rivers Orwell and Ore and the Dutch inland waterways. Throughout my childhood almost every summer holiday was a sailing cruise with winter weekends mostly spent building and maintaining boats. The first boat I remember clearly (from about the age 4) was a traditionally built timber



Folk boat. Then came a more ambitious project to build a 33 foot fibreglass yacht. Starting with a floppy fibre glass shell in two parts the work included casting the keel (melted in the back garden from scrap lead) fitting out the timber interior, engineering, plumbing, electrics and rigging. It also included quite a bit of upholstery, sail making and painting. As soon as it was seaworthy summer cruising trips with my family (mum, dad and older sister) recommenced and although the length of time and the British summer weather meant that a full circumnavigation of the UK continually eluded us

we travelled widely visiting the Scilly Isles, the Channel Isles and the north Brittany coast, eastwards to the Frisian Islands and through the Keil canal and north to Edinburgh and Norway. Our trip to Norway in 1982 (I was 14) was particularly memorable being 5 days at sea, taking 4 hour watches and culminating in a force 10 gale at landfall. All this was done with dead reckoning navigation and a sextant as there was no GPS on yachts in those days! We also enjoyed some trips up the river Thames to London, one timed to coincide with the Royal wedding of Charles and Diana when we took my school French exchange student, who couldn't speak English and had never sailed before. My old RYA logbook records more than 7 thousand miles at sea including about 200 night sailing hours.

My first dingy sailing experience came crewing Larks (which are quite like the Versas Duos) at the University sailing championships but after that sailing took a back seat whilst I was busy establishing a career in Architecture, starting a business and being a mum. However, the experience and knowledge of boats and sailing was not quite irrelevant to all this: I was offered a prestigious scholarship to study building conservation as a result of having practical building skills. The experience of coping with sleep deprivation, the responsibility of taking watches and managing limited resources (drinking water, fuel and food) under quite challenging circumstances has certainly helped me to cope with other challenges in my career and family life. There is no 'giving up' when you are 3 days from land on a small yacht. Falling out with your sibling is not an option when you have to share a tiny cabin with one small bag of possessions for a month. No social media or electronic entertainment was available so when we were storm bound in foreign ports there was just a pack of cards or a novel.

I returned to sailing when our children were old enough to learn independently, initially in Orford on summer sailing courses. When my parents moved from Suffolk to Somerset this became more difficult and that is when we became acquainted with our most local RYA club at WWYSA. Nic Cross encouraged me to develop my dinghy sailing skills and get qualified as a dinghy instructor.

I remain passionate about providing young people with an opportunity to learn to sail and even though the lake at Westbury is very different from the very windy, tidal and muddy east coast rivers I hope that we can open the door to an activity that provides so many skills and experiences that are becoming increasingly difficult to access.

# **Chief Instructors Report**

This continues to be a busy season with a range of extra opportunities to spend time on the water apart from your regular evening sessions.

On one Saturday many of your helpers and instructors had a day of On Board training with our RYA regional director, Rob Howlett. They spent a lot of the day perfecting their sailing skills plus learning a range of activities to make the evenings even more fun.

Nine of you attended the first of a two day Start Racing course run by Leon Ward ably assisted by Finn Caddy. During the day they learnt the best techniques for starting and rounding the windward and leeward marks. It was also noticeable how much their sailing improved during the day.

We look forward to the second day in July.

Thank you to the two volunteers who ran the safety boat on that day.

Portland is on the horizon. I have 24 names but am sure I can fit in extras if there are any late takers.

Based on last year it is a great day on the water for all levels of sailors.

Nearer the time those going will get a link to a health form that needs to be filled in and more details of the day.

We are also expecting some scout/sea scout groups in the next few months. Help from older member and volunteers is always useful.

Nearer the time you will be asked at your evening sessions.

As always many thanks to all who help to keep the club running. It would not happen without your help.

I am working on a plan to offer training during the closed season for prospective dinghy instructors and adult volunteers. Hopefully this will be funded by the RYA .

The expression of interest has been accepted bythem so we are at stage 2 of the application.

Enjoy your sailing and remember spare clothes and a towel for those capsizing moments!

Margaret



#### **News for Newsletter**

We invite all members to submit their stories, interests, or experience, anything to do with the club past and present, your experiences of being a member of the club and how it has changed your life.as articles for our newsletter.

Please submit articles to

#### **History of your**

#### **Jubilee memories**

#### Be great to hear from you

We are asking anyone with a story to tell, articles of your memories of your experiences of Jubilees of the past and how you celebrated

Anything you would like to see in thee newsletter please let us know. We are always open to ideas and influences and opinions so please do let us know.

Please submit articles to secretary@wwysa.org.uk.

### **RC Boat Report**

After 83 hard fought races we have now concluded the 2022 Spring series sailed on Thursday afternoons, I have taken the best 35 races to count for each competitor which has given us 7 sailors qualifying for a result.

1 <sup>st</sup>	Andy Allen	45 points
$2^{\text{nd}}$	Alan Brown	49 points
$3^{\text{rd}}$	Peter Hewitt	52 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	Peter Barnes	85 points
5 <sup>th</sup>	Chris Wheeler	96 points
6th	John Thomas	122 points
7th	Mike Dyer	185 points

Many thanks and well done to everyone who took part in the series, I am sorry that not all sailors made the final cut. To be in with a chance there is no substitute for consistency and competing in the maximum number of races you possibly can. The Annual series which we sail on Saturday mornings throughout the year, again is producing some very close competition. So far we have completed around 100 races so looking forward to the end of the year the qualifying number of races for a result will be quite high.

So get those model yachts out and working and join in over the rest of the year.

Alan Brown.



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

## **Easyfundraising**

## Free money!!

Each month I get notified on how much 'free' money we have in the account.

This month we have reached a total of over£126.28 now!

We greatly appreciate all of your support on this little funder and it is encouraging to see more going into the coffers.

We now have 21 supporters. A BIG thanks to all of you.



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West Wilts Youth Sailing Association

Registered Charity No:1057119

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