

# Tell Tales—Newsletter

## Ahoy!

Well, the season is well under way, and we have had up to now amazing weather to learn and practice our skills.

Would like to firstly welcome all our new members, it is so nice to have you, it helps with the Club, but also, makes us volunteers very proud to teach you. A big thank you to all the volunteers recently, with the schools, WOLT, Scouts and the evening sessions, without your dedication we wouldn't be able to function. Also, a big thanks to the RC boat team who have now modified the slip, fixed all the damaged boats and created another demo tool for our teaching, with the dry demo topper.

We have had another amazing trip to Portland, (see Margaret's report) so, successful, we have booked up for 2024.

We have had 3 schools using the Club for their activity week, again they were so pleased they have booked up 2024 already, again thanks to the people who made this happen.

We have the rest of the season to look forward to, with more Scouts and 'The Commodores Day', DI Training, SI Assessments, our Fish n Chip supper and more. Check out the calendar and put the dates in your diaries.

If you are going away and will not be able to attend one of your usual sailing nights, please can you let the Senior Instructor know.

All I can say is the season is in full swing, enjoy it and most of all have fun!

See you out on the water soon.

*Juley Simmonds*  
Commodore

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WWYSA

## Portland Trip 2023

A great day out was had by members of WWYSA at the Andrew Simpson Sailing Academy at Portland Harbour. The day started at 9.30 (although I did notice that quite a few got there in time to have a breakfast). One of the groups was allocated RS Zests and the other group Laser 2K.

The Zest sailors were introduced to roll tacking and the Laser group to spinnakers. It was a fairly windy day so the Zests fairly quickly put in reefs and the Lasers achieved a few dunkings. At one point the Lasers were going so fast that they had to call out a larger safety boat to keep up with them!

After a relaxed lunch with families sat in the sun on the terrace we returned to our boats.

This time the laser group were using an RS Venture and 2 RS Stratos. They managed to explore the whole harbour right out to the entrances. In this group I must congratulate the two young ladies, Verity and Anna, who achieved a 'no capsized day'.

The Zest group did a lot of follow my leader honing their five essential skills. They met a

dolphin and stopped at a beach to do some pebble skimming.

On returning to the shore and packing away their boats they were allowed to do some swimming and pier jumping.

The chauffeurs also had a good day either relaxing on the terrace with a constant supply of coffee or visiting Portland Bill.

The tired but happy participants then took themselves home.

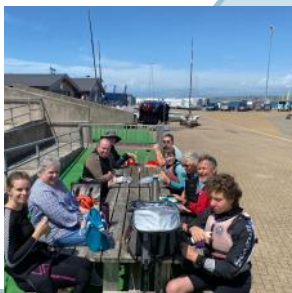
To all who came thank you for your support. I trust that the chance to sail on the sea and a wider space of water gave you a taste of the wider opportunities in the sailing world.

I have booked Portland for Sunday 7th July 2024 so please put this in your diary now.

*Charles & Rufus had a great time - we have been going for a few years now. They love to go on the open seas more freedom.*

*Margaret Pell*

*It was a great experience to sail the RS Zest boats on the sea. I enjoyed learning how to do a rolling tack and experiencing different windspeeds.—Teddy*



## Portland ... Continued

After the Portland Trip, Charles and Rufus wrote saying they have been going for a few years now. This has not put us off. Charles is working towards his Assistant Instructors certificate. Rufus is now on his stage 3. The second half of the day they went out together - this worked very well. The first half of the day Charles went out with Stanley. He has been with Westbury for about 6 weeks. Charles supported Stanley. We will do it next year too.

Charles will be 16 so will be able to do his powerboat training and various trips. Thank you to everyone that organised it and helped out.

Charles is due to go on the Prolific on the 9th August and comes back 15th August. He will set off from Brixham and sail around Channel Isles and if weather permitting France. This is with OYT South. Look out for his report on his trip in a future newsletter.

*Paula*

## A word from our Principal

Congratulations and thanks to the 8 people who attended the first aid course. The trainer, Mike enjoyed his day and has expressed his thanks to the attendees who all passed with flying colours. The next course will be ran in the early part of 2024.

By now you would have read about our trip to Portland. I personally benefited and had a great day sailing on the open water. I found muscles I did not know I had too! A brilliant day and all who attended really enjoyed themselves. Thank you to Margaret for organising. I'm already looking forward to next year.

Our Bosun's team have been working away in the background and I would like to thank all of them for their hard work. The whole team spent time repairing all of the boats and as shown below, have worked to improve the facilities at the Club too.



Our car park has been re-graveled - our thanks go out to James Wheeler, James Pearce, Steve Winter and Andrew Hewitt who made this possible.

Pete Hewitt, Chris Wheeler and Alan Brown have utilised one of the Toppers to create a dry demo Topper.

Thank you.



James Wheeler, Chris Wheeler & Pete Hewitt have filled in the slipway.

Thank you.



## Lost Property

The following property has been left at the Club and is in the Bosun's locker.

Please can you claim it if it is yours.

- ⇒ Black OS water/ beach shoes
- ⇒ RNLI blue fleece sweat shirt
- ⇒ Grey towel
- ⇒ Blue white red towel
- ⇒ ROK grey shorts blue detail
- ⇒ CC Kharky shorts
- ⇒ KO8C black small wet suit
- ⇒ Pair of GUL gloves grey n black

## For Sale

We have WWYSA navy blue Polo T-Shirts for sale. They are a bargain at £15.00. Please contact Juley if you are interested.



## Chief Instructor's Report

### Castlemead School

On Monday & Tuesday 25th & 26th June we ran two days for Castlemead Junior school with a total of 47 year 5 students across the two days. We sailed two-up in Toppers and essentially followed the RYA OnBoard syllabus for these sessions. In practice this means giving the students a brief run through on-shore of how to tack the boat, how it steers and what to do if you capsize. Once they have all had a go at dry land tacking drill, it's on to the water! We set out a square of buoys so contain the sailors, with the buoys allowing beam reaches across between two of the buoys and asked the students to try and stay in the square. In the afternoons, we played some games in the boats; these included chasing our trusty ducks around inside the square and collecting tennis balls from a bucket tied to one of the buoys

and delivering them to a safety boat. Monday afternoon was quite gusty and we took the rigs off of the boats and used paddles instead. We then had a great game of boat-ball – like football, but passing the football from boat to boat within a count of three and scoring between two buoys set out as “goalposts”. We had a great couple days with our visiting sailors and have had a few enquiries about joining the club as a result. I would like to give my thanks to all of those that volunteered help over these two days. These were: Alex Llewelyn, Lily Swerdlow, Poppy Thornton, Peter Barnes, Molly Savva, Verity Brewerton, Karen Gibson, Steve Winter & Oli Welbourn. Thank you all so much for your support, without which we would not have been able to run these days.

*Nigel*

### Five Essentials—Daggerboard & Centreboard

Following from our start along the five-essentials pathway last edition, this month we are going to consider the use of the daggerboard and centreboard as the third of our journey through the five-essentials. So, this is pretty straightforward, isn't it? Perhaps not quite as simple as one might initially think. Firstly, let us remind ourselves the function of the daggerboard or centreboard (the difference is that a daggerboard moves vertically up and down whilst a centreboard is pivoted). The dagger/centreboard is there to prevent the boat slipping sideways and making too much leeway. The closer to the wind we are sailing, the further down the dagger/centreboard needs to be. When sailing to windward (beating) then it should be all the way down to project maximum area under the hull of the boat. As we turn away from the wind (bear away) then the dagger/centreboard can be lifted up, more and more as we bear away. Once on a run, the dagger/centreboard should be at its highest of any point of sailing, but it should never be completely raised as you always need some projection in order to steer the boat. As the wind increases, however, we need to make further adjustments. When it is sufficiently windy such that you are overpowered when sailing to windward, the dagger/centreboard may be raised a little to allow a little more leeway and hence relieve the pressure from the rig, additionally as the boat speed increases it needs less dagger/centreboard to maintain a straight course. The ultimate here is with high-performance trapeze boats which plane upwind; the crew in these boats will use the centreboard or rather how much it is down to control the boat balance once the rig is powered up and maximum righting moment is being exerted by the helm and crew. Similarly, sailing down a windy run requires more dagger/centreboard down than a light wind run. The dagger/centreboard in this case helps stabilise the boat and helps prevent the death roll that some boats are really prone to. Likewise on a reach, as the wind increases and the boat starts to plane, less dagger/centreboard is needed.

Hopefully in this piece I have shown you that positioning of the dagger/centreboard is one of the vital components in controlling the boat as well as sailing it as fast as possible in a range of wind conditions.

I hope you are finding these training tips enjoyable and useful. As always please do not hesitate to contact me via [chiefinstructor@wwysa.org.uk](mailto:chiefinstructor@wwysa.org.uk) should you have any queries, questions or points to raise.

## Commodore's Day @ The Club

### 13th August—11am until 19:00

We are planning a regatta, RC Boating, racing, and free sail with your own packed lunch and bring something to cook on our BBQ later after all the sailing and chill, relax, chat and do our small quiz.

We will have 2 BBQs available to just cook your tea, and have a social time, after such an exciting day.

We have a bundle of trophies to be won , so please come on down and join in the fun.

The quiz can be individuals or teams, we have an internight competition (with a trophy for the winning night).

Be great to see you all there.

*Juley Simmonds*

#### Top Tip

Always look up when using a halliard, it may be twisted!

## Coronation Day Celebration Feedback

I am delighted to say we have had some further feedback from Kate and Maurice Jones who wrote:

*“Maurice and I had a wonderful day on Sunday and we would like to thanks you and all the other members of the sailing club for making it such a memorable day. You all worked so hard to provide a day full of fun, food and friendship—did you have something to do with the sunshine as well!!!!?*

*It certainly was a day to remember and we were delighted to see Chloe and Rosie so happy sailing with their friends—and falling in the lake!*

*Our best wishes to everyone for a great summer ahead”.*

## History of the Club - Can you help?

We are asking anyone with a story to tell, articles to offer, copies of old photos, alumni's , or anything else to do with the Club to please offer a copy.

We are planning to compile a book for the 55th year of the Club and are looking for present and past contributions to put in it.

If you have anything you can offer, please contact Juley. Thank you.

WWYSA PRESENTS OUR ANNUAL

## COMMODORES DAY

RACE, FUN, QUIZ,  
COMPETITIONS,  
BBQ

**SUNDAY 13TH AUGUST 23**

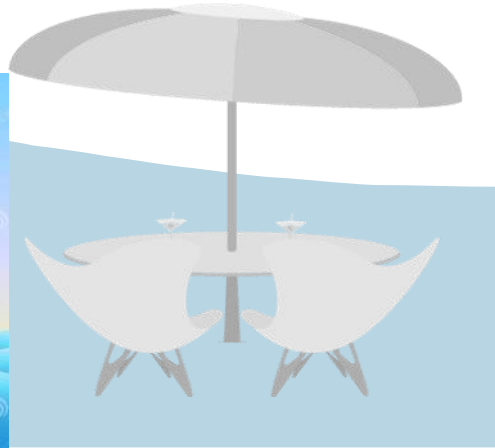
@ THE CLUB

STATION APPROACH WESTBURY

**11AM TO 7PM**

**BRING WITH YOU PACKED LUNCH, SAILING KIT AND  
YOUR OWN BBQ FOOD TO COOK ON OUR BBQ'S.**

**RACING , FREE SAILING, RC BOATING, RACES, QUIZ,  
AND LOADS MORE .....**



## Activity Calendar

*Save the dates! Please note these may change. Pencil them in your diaries and watch for updates.*

| Day       | Date              | Activity                                   |
|-----------|-------------------|--|
| Sunday    | 13th August 23    | Commodores Day                             |
| Wednesday | 16th August 23    | Westbury Town                              |
| Sunday    | 16th September 23 | Friends of WWYSA / Rowde Scouts taster day |
| Saturday  | 9th September 23  | DI Training                                |

## Fundraising

*Supporting the club is easy using apps and online shopping.*

*We're registered with Easy Fundraising*



We still have Easyfundraising and have now 22 supporters and £144.91 raised. Get the app today and help us make free money. A big thanks to everyone who is participating.

We also have received £300 grant from the ASDA Green Token Scheme. Thanks to all who took part, helping to raise this money.

One way to raise money is to ask for donations for your birthday via one of the donate apps. Why not try it?

We are still always looking of ways to fundraise so, if you have any ideas please let us know.

For more information visit: [wwysa.org.uk/easyfundraising](http://wwysa.org.uk/easyfundraising)

## News for Newsletter

We invite all members to submit their stories, interests, or experience, as articles for our newsletter.

Please submit articles to [secretary@wwysa.org.uk](mailto:secretary@wwysa.org.uk).

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## Youngest Sailor to circumnavigate globe .....

# Dutch girl, 16, becomes youngest sailor to circumnavigate globe single-handed

Laura Dekker cheered into final harbour of St Maarten but may not return to Netherlands after government resistance to trip



Laura Dekker, a 16-year-old Dutch sailor who has become the youngest person ever to circumnavigate the globe single-handed, has threatened never to return to the Netherlands because of the government's resistance to her adventures.

Dekker arrived on the Caribbean island of St Maarten on Saturday aboard her 38ft boat, Guppy, and admitted she sometimes wondered what she was doing during her voyage. She also described her battles with the Dutch authorities, who wanted to prevent her setting sail, as a frightening and traumatic experience and said she was discussing with her parents the

possibility of moving abroad, most likely to New Zealand.

When Dekker sailed into harbour at the St Maarten yacht club late on Saturday night, aged 16 years and 123 days, she was met by crowds of wellwishers and stepped on to the dock accompanied by her mother, Babs Muller, her father, Dick Dekker, and her sister and grandparents. "There were moments where I was like, 'What the hell am I doing out here?' but I never wanted to stop," she told reporters after struggling against high seas and heavy winds on the final 41 day leg from Cape Town, South Africa. "It's a dream, and I wanted to do it."



**West Wilts Youth Sailing  
Association**

Registered Charity No: 1057119

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