

Tell Tales – newsletter



AHOY! FROM YOUR COMMODORE

This month has been ‘banging’! At the beginning of the month, we held our Coronation Fun Day.

Over 70 people attended and had a great time. We had all sorts of watercraft, kayaks, small canoes, Canadian canoes, Toppers, Duos and of course JT’s lovely model boat including music in it.

We had an article in the White Horse News in Westbury area. We were kindly visited by our sponsor from Mercer Ltd, Bryan Parkinson and his Partner Karen.

The most important thing I have to say is a big Thank you to everyone who volunteered and helped to run the day. It was a truly fantastic event and we were an amazing team, your help and support was greatly appreciated.

We raced for the Coronation Trophy, won by Elliot Whittemore. We held raft races, games, and the Cake Competition. Yvonne Llewellyn won best cake, with the ‘Knot’ Cake with rose icing, Rosie Woodall won the children’s cake competition with a beautiful

Sponge decorated with a sailboat.

Mr Wheeler won the model boat competition. There were some great entrants though and all were fantastic. Thank you for all your efforts and well done to all our participants.

We must congratulate Alex Llewellyn for his power boat level 2 Certificate, and all the stage 1 students for passing.

We have the Portland Trip just around the corner. Hope you have all your tickets booked; it promises to be a great trip.

We held taster sessions for the West Lavington Scouts and Castle Mead School. We will have more news on these later in the season.

So, for now enjoy your time on the water, enjoy the weather and most importantly have fun!

See you on the water soon.

Juley Simmonds, Commodore

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NEIL WHITTEMORE - TREASURER

Hi. My name is Neil Whittemore, and I have taken on the role of Treasurer for WWYSA since December 2022, taking over the reins from Liz Ballinger our Vice Commodore, who held the fort for the past 2 years. Thank you, Liz.

I can regularly be found on the water, as I am an avid Stand Up Paddleboarder. I compete in flat water races, technical sea races, endurance challenges and white water SUPing, and later this year I am completing a 100km 2 day challenge on the River Trent.

I train on the River Avon between 2 – 3 times a week all throughout the year and yes that includes when the temperature is -5 degrees at 6:30 in the morning.

I am hoping to also compete in the Gla Gla race in January, a 14km race on Lake Annecy in amongst the French Alps. Brrrrrr!

I must add, it has been great being involved with the club for the past few years, and a great pleasure seeing the members grow in confidence, skill and height!



To see the change from that first time they step into a boat on their own, to the first capsizes and then onto racing with confidence and skill, it's just amazing!

So, how did I find myself firstly at WWYSA and secondly the Treasurer?

Well, it began on a holiday to North Wales, where to be honest, most of the activities revolved around climbing, for my two boys I hasten to add, not me. I enjoyed a leisurely stroll around South Stack Lighthouse whilst the boys climbed a 100+ foot rockface above the sea. Whilst in Caernarfon, Elliot, my youngest announced he wanted to learn to sail.

We returned home envisaging lengthy trips to and from Chew Valley, but low and behold after checking Google we found WWYSA, and yes as I assume a lot of people have said when first stumbling across WWYSA we commented “where is there a lake in Westbury?”

Anyhow, we found it, went for a taster day and so it began. Elliot took to it straight away, enjoying the freedom sailing gave him

I became a parent helper on Wednesday evenings and later on in 2018 I think, I completed the adult course, continuing to help ever since, with Elliot and me obtaining our AI certificate last year.

The Treasurer part, well, I am a qualified Management Accountant and what with Juley finding this out, she ‘persuaded’ me to take on the role.

It is slightly different to my day job and sometimes I think more work, hee hee.

I did purchase a boat, a GP14 fiberglass hull. However, following a common trend, busy lives meant we couldn't find the time to tow it to a suitable location to sail. So it got sold on, having spent 18 months on the drive. My wife even threatened to use it as a planter at one point!

Anyhow, time for me to sign off, I look forward to seeing you on a Wednesday evening or on one of the winter free sail days.

Neil



RC boats - Funday sailing



All set up for the fun day

CHIEF INSTRUCTOR'S REPORT

We had a great day at the Coronation fun day on Sunday 4th June. One of our members mentioned to me recently that they had never seen so many people here taking part in the water activities and what a joy it was.

Sailing sessions on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays continue apace and we have had quite a number of new members this season, all now getting to grips with learning to sail at the lake. We have also run a couple of taster days, with more to come and 2 weekdays with two local schools where we will be running the introductory sessions using the RYA OnBoard syllabus. If you are able to help, please let me know.

Nigel Silman, Chief Instructor

Following from our start along the five-essentials pathway last edition, this month we are going to consider balance as the second of the five-essentials.

Balance in a dinghy is the use of our weight to counter-balance the force of the wind in the rig to keep the boat upright.

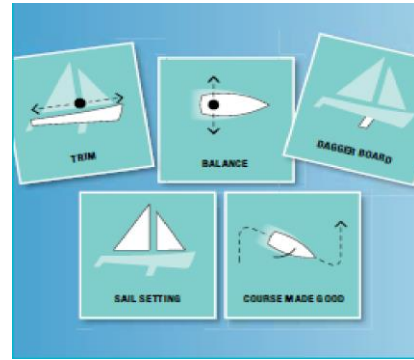
All boats, especially dinghies are designed to be sailed absolutely upright as that is when they sail fastest. When the boat heels, the top of the mast gets closer to the water, so effectively the area of sail projected to the wind lessens.

And as a boat heels, the hull is now an asymmetric shape in the water. It will try to turn into the wind. Whilst it might feel "faster" to sail along with the boat heeled over – it makes lots of noise and waves – it is actually slower. So then, how can we usefully use balance to

sail the boat better? When we want the boat to turn in a specific direction the first thing we do as learners is pull or push on the tiller to steer the boat with the rudder. By using balance we can help the boat to turn by combining rudder movement and balance.

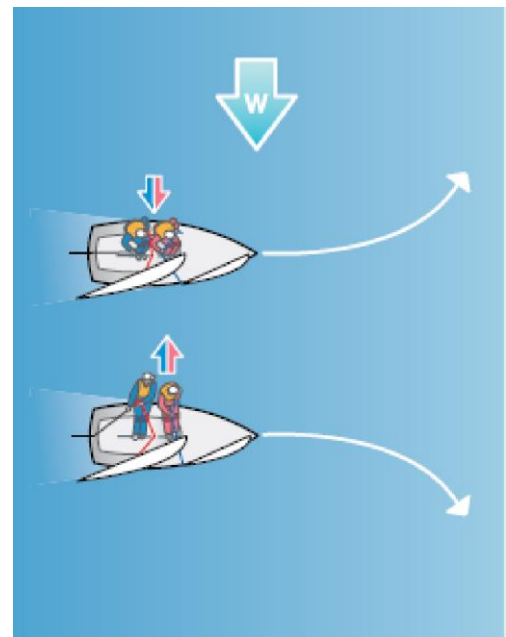
If we want the boat to tack, rather than just push the tiller away, we can allow the boat heel to increase, as that naturally turns the boat into the wind. We can add to that with a smaller tiller movement than if we just used the rudder. Similarly, to gybe the boat, we heel the boat into windward and the boat will turn away from the wind, again helped by a small rudder movement. Watch any dinghy race, and you will see the crew allow the boat to heel while tacking or gybing.

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 should you have any queries, questions or points to raise.



The balance component of the five-essentials is also one of the two key components used to sail the boat rudderless an exercise that we run with our more experienced sailors to demonstrate how to steer without a rudder.

This diagram shows the effects of balance on the turning effect on the hull as it heels either to leeward or windward.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

Monday/Tuesday 26 th 27 th June	Castlemead School
Saturday 1 st July	WWYSA First Aid Course
Thursday 6 th July	WOLT
Sunday 9 th July	Portland Trip
Monday/Tuesday 17 th /18 th July	Dilton Marsh Juniors
Sunday 13 th August	Commodore's weekend
Wednesday 16 th August	Westbury Town Council

We will be doing taster days and other training for sailing and PB2 at some point during the season.

RC BOATS UPDATE

I would like to start by welcoming our four new members, Chris, Martin, Rick and Gerald who have regularly been part of our group over the past weeks providing extra competition and words of wisdom. In fact, we have had some very good numbers racing this spring with up to twelve boats on the water at times.



Thank you to everyone who has sailed and made Thursdays and Saturdays fun (please keep sailing). The weather has not always been playing fair, we have had windless days and days where the breeze seems to be coming from all points of the compass at the same time, but generally the racing has been excellent.

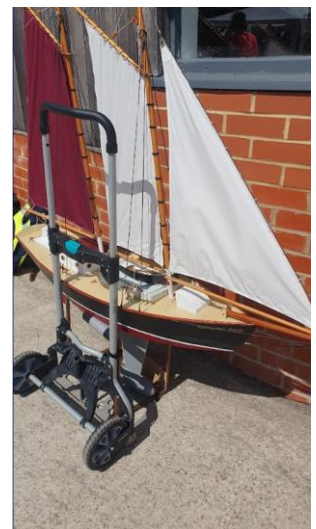
The Spring series is now complete and the Annual series on Saturdays will continue until the end of the year, we have now started the Summer series which will run until the end of August. Spring series results as follows, calculated on a minimum of 25 races completed. Apologies to those who did not make the threshold.

1st Alan Brown 25pts
2nd Pete Hewitt 41pts
3rd Martin Harris 50pts
4th Peter Barnes 73pts
5th Chris Wheeler 78pts
6th Chris Cargill 109pts
7th John Thomas 112pts
8th Gerald 121pts
9th Rick Godley 161pts

A special mention now for John Thomas, or J T as he has become known to us. J T is a very accomplished model builder (award winning RC scale aeroplanes and boats) the applause must go to him for entertaining the visitors to the recent Coronation event held at the Club. John's complex radio-controlled schooner complete with music from within is a delight to watch.

Although of advancing years, J T races with us most weeks and is a mine of information regarding models and radio gear, he is always willing to help others with their technical problems. Thank you. John.

Alan Brown.



CORONATION FUN DAY 4TH JUNE



The sun shone and there was even a reasonable breeze on the lake when we came together to celebrate the King's Coronation.

After a hectic morning of RC Boating, Sailing and Canoeing, it was time to tuck into a hearty BBQ with all the trimmings.

Thanks to JT for bringing his amazing model yacht for us, and to those who lent theirs to try out.

The cake competition was judged and tasty portions were divided up before the cakes started to melt. Congratulations to everyone who entered the competition.

In the afternoon we had our recycled boat competition, raft building relay as well as trying out SUP Paddle Boarding and windsurfing.

We had the inaugural Kings Trophy sailing race. Won by Elliott Whittemore.

We were joined by people from the Devizes Canoe Club who lent us some of their canoes for the day.

and who will be renting our lake later in the season for the race practice.

Throughout the day there were games and fun for all the family.

I personally would like to thank everyone who helped make the day such a huge success.

I was slightly concerned that after the first hour, our Commodore was talking to me about repeating the event next year already!

We have had lots of feedback, a sample is included here.

"Dave, congratulations on such a fantastic Coronation event day!! Perfect. My first time on the water this year under sail and absolutely loved it. So much organisation and hard work behind it all. The food was sensational."

Steve W.

Thank you to everyone involved in the organisation and running the event on the day. We could not do it without our brilliant volunteers.

"I wanted to thank you all for your kindness today and letting us join you for your Coronation celebrations.

My son had a great time and even myself and my husband got on the water which we have never done before. The food was amazing and I appreciate all your hard work. Many thanks"

Leazan Mason (Luke from Devizes Canoe clubs' mum)

"Very impressive and you have a great venue and great team here at the club. I am so impressed with how you all just made it happen!"

Bryan Parkinson Mercer Company Ltd (Sponsor of the club for electric outboard motor grant)



FUNDAY PICTURES



AMAZING CAKES



AMAZING CANOES...



AMAZING PEOPLE...



AMAZING FOOD...

FUNDRAISING

WINNER TAKES ALL AT THE FUN DAY



EASY FUNDRAISING

Easy fundraising has now £156 of funds

All down to 22 people just shopping and doing stuff on line

Please come and join us. You can book travel insurance, weekly shop, holidays, or just purchase online. All for just going through the App we get funds.

Remember you can use it doing your weekly shopping and sometimes we can double the percentage we get from offers from retailers & holidays. It doesn't cost you a penny.

For more information visit: wwysa.org.uk/easyfundraising



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