

# Tell Tales: news from the lake



## AHOY! FROM THE COMMODORE

These pictures are some of our young up and coming instructors. Without these aspiring young people, the club would be at a loss. Hopefully, we can help them become who they would like to be and help make their dreams come true.

WWYSA has been a starting place for so many young people, who have achieved so much more than they realised they would at the time.

Our tiny lake in the middle of land locked Wiltshire offers so much. The schools that have attended taster sessions, our new members the same. The Community Groups who have hired out our facilities. The adults that have learnt to sail or upskill themselves with our training. All the volunteers and how they have kept us running with their dedication and time. This club is an amazing legacy of many people who have dedicated their time to teaching sailing.

We had our Friends of WWYSA visit and many of them really enjoyed the day, impressed with our facilities. Lots of stories were exchanged, photos shared, and memories resurrected.

We have some exciting times at the club at present. We have our electric outboards, and new RS Zest dinghies will arrive shortly.

We have had the static tacking rig painted and finished, and we welcomed several new members from our waiting list.

So much has happened this year we have come on in our evolution of the club in leaps and bounds.

I do hope the volunteers will enjoy our Fish n Chip Supper to say a big 'thank you' for your part in contributing to our little club and making it possible for all this to happen.

RC boat members have been beavering in the background, chopping, trimming the trees of the island, and making the club safer with extra lighting and extra maintenance.

We will be having some more changes over the winter which will make the bosuns job easier and make our evening sessions even more fun and exciting than they are already.

We would like to welcome our new member of the Committee Michelle Bennett, who will be our new membership officer. Thank you for stepping forward and taking this on.

Juley, Commodore

### CONTACTS

Juley Simmonds  
Commodore@wwysa.org.uk

Liz Ballinger  
vicecommodore@wwysa.org.uk

Chris Wheeler  
rearcommodore@wwysa.org.uk

David Long  
principal@wwysa.org.uk

Nigel Silman  
chiefinstructor@wwysa.org.uk

Michelle Bennett  
membership@wwysa.org.uk

Neil Whittemore  
treasurer@wwysa.org.uk

### INSIDE

Ahoy from the commodore P1  
Radio Controlled Yachting P2  
Diary & training dates P2  
In detail: Winter training P3  
Lost Property P3  
An evening with Pip Hare P4  
Summer fun & sail trophies P5  
Club life P6  
Sponsors P7

# Radio Controlled Yachting Update

*This is our first report for a little while and in fact there has not been a lot to report on at all during the summer season.*

Image credit: mya-uk.org.uk

Sailing has been somewhat curtailed by what seems to have been weeks of poor winds and weather. Many days have been windless and often the breeze has been so fluky that racing has been quite trying. However, there have been just enough races completed to scrape together a result for the summer series as follows:

1st place Peter Hewitt

2nd place Martin Harris

3rd place Andy Allen

As we now are into the Autumn series and hopefully sailing conditions are improving, it would be nice if we could see a larger number of sailors regularly attending on Thursdays (2pm) and Saturdays (10am). Earlier in the year we had good numbers sailing, the racing is so much better when we have a large number of boats on the water. Can I encourage everyone to come along when possible and join in the racing, have a cup of tea and enjoy a chat. Please though can an effort be made to complete a race sheet for each occasion to enable me to collate results.

We have recently been able for our club to gain affiliation with the Model Yachting Association (MYA) the aim being to put WWYSA on the model yachting map. This will enable us should we wish, to hold open meetings and for us to travel to other clubs to compete. Most importantly we will now be listed on the MYA's website as an active club and perhaps be able to grow our membership. Also it will give us the benefit of access to the MYA's information and knowledge bases. The MYA is the model yachting equivalent to the RYA and as such provides the framework around which most clubs operate.

Alan Brown

<https://www.mya-uk.org.uk/>

[Look up the club on the MYA website](https://www.mya-uk.org.uk/)



## CLUB DIARY DATES

27<sup>th</sup> October - Fish & chip supper 6pm  
2<sup>th</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> November Adult Course  
18<sup>th</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> November Adult Course  
9<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Free sail with drinks and mince pies  
2<sup>nd</sup> January - New Year Frost Bite - Free Sail  
19<sup>th</sup> - January - Awards Certificates and Trophy Presentation with AGM

## Winter Training dates

Save these dates if you are an AI or aspiring DI  
Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2023  
Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2023  
Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2024  
Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Sessions will run from 12 noon until 3pm on these days find out more below...

# WINTER SAILING AND TRAINING

Last winter Margaret ran a series of winter training days based around preparing sailors for the pre-assessment day required before anyone over the age of 16 may train to become a dinghy instructor. This pre-assessment day should have been held on September 9th but due to the forecast lack of wind we have had to postpone until 28th October. The assessment has to be carried out by an experienced RYA Dinghy Trainer and we are very fortunate to have Richard Beardsley running this day for us.

Nigel – Chief Instructor

I now want to start on the next cadre of trainee instructors including those that already hold Assistant Instructor (AI) certificates or those that would like to follow this route.

We will run a series of days, approximately once a month over the winter to both talk about the RYA approach to teaching people to sail (the RYA Method).

Whilst our current AI training covers all of the components required for assessment and award of the certificate, the element that we don't currently cover in any detail is how to organise and deliver a sailing session.

So that is what I will focus on over this winter.

We will also cover the Dinghy Instructor pre-assessment criteria as these make excellent teaching sessions with which to demonstrate and practice session organisation and teaching methods.

The dates are also in the diary section, but these are the planned sessions – subject, of course, to weather forecast and conditions.

Saturday 25th November 2023  
SHORE: ways that people learn  
WATER: tacking, gybing, roll-tacking & roll-gybing.

Saturday 16th December 2023  
SHORE: stages of learning  
WATER: tight circles drill and mark rounding.

Saturday 20th January 2024  
SHORE: RYA EDICTS model  
WATER: man overboard, coming alongside.

Saturday 17th February 2024  
SHORE: presentation & visual aids  
WATER: rudderless & centreboardless sailing.

Saturday 16th March 2024  
SHORE: briefing & debriefing  
WATER: sailing backwards, follow-my-leader.

Sessions will run from 12 noon until 3pm on these days.

Obviously, 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.

We are so lucky to have such a vibrant membership with so many of our young sailors keen to progress along the instructor route. That is not to say that we don't have any over 18's keen on instruction, because we do. Everyone is incredibly valuable in delivering our programme of teaching.

If this sounds like something you would be keen to do, then please drop me a line!

[chiefinstructor@wwysa.org.uk](mailto:chiefinstructor@wwysa.org.uk)

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 25th November!

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.

## LOST PROPERTY

**Please claim your lost property before it goes out for donation and other people making use of it.**

Size 4 Peter Storm Trainers | 1x Red Baseball cap 'B' on the front above peak | 1x Richardson Khaki Baseball Cap Tree and Crescent on the front above peak | 1x pair Gull sailing gloves junior size | 1x Pair of grey socks blue heels n toes | 1x Navy blue 11/12 boys boxer pants | 1x Grey and pale blue Boxer sport shorts | 1x Goodmove Grey Lycra t shirt | 1x Junior black with red feature on wrist wet suit | 1x Book hard backed 'Gypsies & Gentleman' by Nerrissa Williams | 2x blue water bottles | 1x red Clear snap fitness water bottle | 1x RNLI Royal blue sweatshirt | 1x grey micro towel | 1x 13yr Regatta wet suit

# AN EVENING WITH PIP HARE

Juley Simmonds

So, on a rainy evening in October, I trekked over to Dauntsey's school to listen and meet up with Pip Hare. For those who haven't heard of her she is a solo sailor from the 2020 Vendee Globe Round the World Race, achieving this in 95 days 11 hours and 37 minutes.

She also holds 2 Guinness Book of Records for sailing the fastest round the Isle of Wight in 4 hrs 48 minutes and 38 seconds for a 60 ft boat and solo sailor, (and a woman at that).

Her evening was a speech on her experiences during the race, her upgrade of 'Medallia' her boat and how she first started out.

I remember her showing me around her boat in Poole in 2019 just before the 'Big Race', she had only her friends to support her and help her then.

She has come a long way since the Telegraph wrote an article on her and Medallia popped up to sponsor her. She has never looked back!

She started out at the age of 16 with an ambition to sail around the world. She didn't know how she would achieve this, but she knew she wanted to do it.

She sailed all sorts of boats crossing the Atlantic several times, she delivered boats and tried to get her foot in the door of a very male dominated world. As she grew up her ambition got stronger to achieve her dream.

Finally in 2018 she had the opportunity to borrow a very old IMOCA Class boat (used for the Vendee Globe Race).

Pip and her friends did it up and made it appropriate for the job and she set off.

Facing many challenges, she kept 15th place out of 31 yachts until her rudder needed replacing which she did between storms in the Southern Ocean, finally finishing 19th!

She now hopes to achieve far more in 2024. Keep an eye out for the updates on this race starting in September.

If you really want something, you dream of you can get it with hard work and resilience. It was a fab evening!

Thanks to Jen Parker for sharing the details on our Facebook page.



## JULEY AND PIP AT THE MERCER'S LECTURE IN OCTOBER

# SUMMER FUN AND SAILING TROPHIES

West Wilts youth sailing member Charlie Pearce ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in his AB bronze class at Parkstone Youth Club youth week in August. In a challenging week, weather wise, 285 kids sailed this event, in 250 boats, which was both crazy and amazing. Charlie sailed his AB Swallow, and he also sailed a topper in the Dartmouth combined Rockfish regatta later in August.

The awards were presented by Canada TP helmsman, (pictured right: photo credit [https://www.parkstoneyachtclub.com/Youth/Youth\\_Week](https://www.parkstoneyachtclub.com/Youth/Youth_Week))

Charlie's dad said, "Thank you and all at WWYSA helping Charlie to achieve all this. It makes me a very proud father."



Charlie with his winning trophy from Parkstone Youth club youth week (left) and Charlie sailing a topper (right) in Dartmouth royal regatta sailing week in late August.



Junior Dinghies raced from Dartmouth/Kingswear with a range of river courses in the rockfish regatta.

This year, the Junior Series started on Sunday and ran over 3 days, with 3 races scheduled per day.

One-design classes Toppers, Fevas and Teras, and a PY handicap class for other junior boats.

Intentionally blank

# CLUB LIFE



Well, we certainly have had some fun recently.

We have had a taster day where we had some volunteers also joining in having fun in our boats as we had plenty to help, so we all took advantage of a good sail.

We have had some lovely evenings at the club with games due to lack of wind, theory fun due to too much wind and families sharing in the whole experience of our club.

We had a fantastic open day for our past members, some of whom would like to come back and help again (you would think they had learnt!).

We have had a DI training session cancelled so everyone made the most of our time.

The RC Boys are really going to town now. Some have J Class yachts that are far bigger than our usual Dragon 65F Class racers.

These big boys require a crane hoist to launch them (not sure if they will hire a van to get them to the club!)

The day these self-build monsters are launched has to be something we don't miss. I for one am looking forward to having them on the lake. What a spectacle these will be. The 'boys' are also off to a RC Boat jumble, so look out for what these mad men pick up next!

Don't forget we have our lovely T shirts for sale at £15 a shot these are a bargain, and it makes a small amount for the club that goes towards our events and treats, so with Christmas on the horizon it might be nice to order one for our budding members under the tree.

We have some 'free winter sailing' planned, training for our volunteers, especially with our new equipment coming, we will need to know how to rig and use it all. We will have a chance to play with it before the season kicks in in March.

We will be holding a Christmas and New year sail for



both our dinghies and RC boys, a Seamanship craft day early in the New Year with knot work, wood turning, boat building skills to partake in, and of course our AGM. Please look at the calendar and

newsletters for details as you won't want to miss out on all the fun and enjoyment. So much more to look forward to.



We are grateful to our fundraising partners,  
The ASDA foundation

and Funding for all



**FUNDING FOR ALL**  
& ALL FOR FUNDING



FOYLE FOUNDATION



THE  
**MERCERS'**  
COMPANY



**made by**  
**sport**

An Inspired Facility



West Wilts Youth Sailing Association  
Station Approach  
WestburyBA13 4HP

Registered Charity number 1057119  
membership@wwysa.org.uk  
www.wwysa.org.uk

ENDS