



Aquila

january 2013



Commodore's Communique

Welcome to your first Aquila from your new Committee. I hope you all had a good Christmas and New Year, mine was fun and restful, albeit as usual expensive!

I have asked the new committee to put a little something in Aquila about themselves this month, in the hope that you can all get to know us a little better, thinking that was a good thing?! Unfortunately that means that I should do likewise so here goes:

Brought up in a 'new' sailing family, I have memories of watching my dad make his first wet suit on the lounge floor (the glue smelt good) and following him around to sailing venues, but I was the youngest of my siblings and never got involved. Then about 14 years ago my sister Karen Street persuaded my husband and I to give sailing a try and as PBSC were starting a new sailing school we joined. I have never looked back! I completed my level 2 and 3 and went on to do my instructors, I got involved in racing as a mere novice (level 2) probably getting in the way but no one seemed to mind. It was such good fun and my skills and confidence improved the more I got involved, my high was sailing Oddsocks my 'sexy Solo in Ferrari red' a wooden boat that just had to be stroked every time I went near it. I don't sail now but luckily both my boys do and they share my passion for the water, they are both now instructors and race coaches.

I love being at the club, fuelled by my love of the sea, but also because as a family I believe we get so much from it, not just the obvious fresh air and exercise (less of that these days) but also the friendships, sense of achievement and of course partying!

Now the future. I hope as your Commodore to help the club to continue to be successful and strong for us all to enjoy now and for future generations. We have past committees to thank for the club's current strength and hope to build on that legacy. The committee is made up of a strong group of volunteers who share similar values and enthusiasm but between us we also have a variety of ideas and skills to make things happen. Most importantly we want to hear what you the membership wants from your club to ensure that you get value for money from your membership fees!

As such please find attached to this Aquila a **questionnaire**. Please, please complete it and return it to Julie Watson for collation. The more views we get back the better, so if you are part of a family please complete it yourself but also get other members to fill it in for themselves, I know from my own experience that Matt, Greg and I would all give different responses to different questions.

This year we have had to put fees up by 5%. Whilst I know that this is a difficult financial climate and any increase is hard for most people, a lot of thought has gone into this increase and it is essential to do this for all the reasons that I am sure you are aware of, particularly fuel and energy bills. A family membership will now cost £205 per year which initially I recognise will be hard to find so soon after Christmas, but once paid there is nothing else to pay for a whole year, so all those fun weekends at Costa del Pevensey Bay Sailing Club become 'free'; however tight or difficult things get at home a visit to the club won't cost anything! (£205 divided by 4 people over 52 weeks of the year is 99p each.)

The Membership Renewal Form is being sent out with this Aquila and payment became due on the 1st January. As usual, we do give you until **31st March** before we consider your membership as lapsed (after that we charge you an additional renewal fee of £40). An incentive to pay your membership early is that we will give you **FREE** entry to our **Boat Whisperer talk and a meal on 6th February**.

For those that cannot renew before this date the cost of the evening will be £8. This evening is open to non-members so please invite anyone you know will find the talk of interest. **See separate letter.**

Over the 'closed' period there will still be a lot going on at the club. We have work parties planned that will be advertised through Dutyman. Greg Cox and his team have already made a cracking start to the club house but the main work, where we need everyone to get involved, will be the boat park. As well as work during the closed season we have got the Boat Whisperer evening, which although perceived to be about racing, is useful for all sailors wanting to improve boat handling skills and the fun they get from their sport. In Feb/March we also plan another evening on running racing to help all those of you that come along and do their duties but frequently say "If only I knew what I was doing!" We intend this evening to include things such as course laying, rules, computer, flags and much more - this should be a fun interactive evening. Lastly we intend to put on an evening for our cadets, run by our youths for youths, a bit about sailing, a bit of team building and lots of fun!

Currently Aquila and Dutyman messages only get sent to the main name on your renewal form.

However if you would like your partner or children to receive their own electronic communication from us please attach their details to your membership form when you return it.

I have so much more that I want and need to communicate to you but am aware I have dribbled on for long enough and you have the rest of Aquila to read, so I will save it until February. See you soon

Elaine Fowler

sailing school

With the start of a new season and new Executive Committee taking the reins, our Commodore thought it a good idea to introduce ourselves, most of you know me from old, not quite part of the woodwork yet but getting there !..... But for those of you new to the club, I am the PBSC Sailing School Principal responsible for all RYA training undertaken at PBSC. Although I am co-opted onto the Executive Committee, I have no voting/decision powers. However I am responsible to the RYA and am required to ensure that all training, dinghy/catamaran/power boat is in accordance with their guidelines, is safe and hopefully fun for participants. I don't do this alone and am supported by a team of enthusiastic and experienced instructors, and if it wasn't for them we would have no training programme. Like myself, they are all volunteers giving up their own free time to do what we enjoy.... teach others our sport. Each training session is run by a Senior Instructor (SI), the title is not because we are old and crumbly, but have undertaken additional training above RYA Dinghy Instructor to oversee the running of training sessions. To be a Principal you need to be SI endorsed by the RYA, although there are rare exceptions. No training session can be undertaken without an SI overseeing the session. I am also a RYA Power boat level 2, including Safety Boat, instructor, and once again supported by 4 other PB endorsed instructors.

My own sailing experience started in my teens when at school with Gordon Beard 'in the bay'. I then didn't start sailing again until about 11 years ago when I joined PBSC. Hopefully you will occasionally see me on the water with my family in our own Laser 2000 and even maybe 'big boat' sailing around the Solent if you go that far afield.

The 2013 season training schedule is still in infancy, but hopefully by February Aquila we can publish our aspirations. We are looking to continue the Tuesday evening RYA Level 1 & 2 Dinghy course, the Cadets on Saturday mornings, although probably back to the split Seal/Dolphin sessions, and currently considering making Thursday night a Race night, where the racing will not be full on hard core, but available to anyone wanting to try racing with a race coach on hand and fellow race-enthusiastic members around to impart their wisdom and knowledge. They will not be permitted to shout or heckle, but provide constructive quality feedback only! The idea being then that with some confidence, the more novice sailors will come and try Sunday race series racing. We are also considering how best to support the Sharks (Teenage section) on Saturday afternoons, and are keen to introduce new Instructors into our fold, so will be running an RYA Assistant Instructor course at some point.

If you have any questions etc. then please email me at dave.watson@pbsc.org.uk or telephone 07986 425785. I travel a lot for work, so email is preferred as I can pick this up anywhere.

Watch Aquila and our website (www.pbsc.org.uk) for more details. 'OUT'

dave watson

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Happy New Year everyone! As I write this the sun is shining and it's New Year's Day today, so I wonder what this year's got in store for us all? Hopefully good health and happiness, and better weather than last year.

I am your new Membership Secretary and **hope to be receiving your completed renewal forms and cheques through my door soon**. If you have any problems with the form or payment please give me a call and I'll do my best to help. Please try to renew your membership as promptly as possible so that duty rosters and other planning can be made for the year ahead. Your cheques must be received by 31 March 2013 or you will need to pay an additional £40 entrance fee in order to renew your membership.

Most of you know who I am, but we have been asked by Elaine to introduce ourselves, so here goes. I started sailing at age 18 (with 4 friends all very squashed up wearing huge ancient orange life jackets in a fireball called Wiz Liz), and although looking back was all a bit bonkers, this experience prompted the purchase of our first dinghy, Mirror 1215 Magna Carta, which only had room for two! Since then there's been Miracles, Laser 2's, Toppers, Bytes, Europes, RS400s, 29ers, National 12s, Laser 2000s and many others that I was too terrified to sail (B14, Laser 4000, Laser 5000). I currently sail an orange/red Laser called Ketchup (weather permitting as I don't "do" waves), with either a Radial or 4.7 rig. My husband Paul is the PBSC boat tart and allegedly sails an International Moth (although not seen near the sea for several years). We have two wonderful children Charlotte (9) and James (6) who can often be found somewhere near the water, and are proving to be very keen cadets. My day job is working for Rother District Council as their Principal Accountant and I also enjoy knitting and crochet in any spare time I can find.

PBSC is a super club, and we as a family are all very proud of being part of such a friendly club. I'm only too pleased to be doing my "bit" in this role as Membership Secretary, but please make it easy for me by paying up on time!

JUDY GRIFFITHS

01323 325389 (best between 6pm and 9pm)

SAILING SECRETARY'S SCRIPT

Happy New year to you all. I hope you all had a good Christmas and got all those new bits of kit you wanted. Here is my short sailing CV. I started sailing at about 8 years old with my parents in a Gull and then with Scouts in Mirrors. I joined Felpham sailing club where I sailed and windsurfed. Over the years I have sailed many classes of boat from Fireflies to J24s, both inland and on the sea. My all time favourite is the National 12 of which I have owned several and built one, and which I sailed at many national champs with varying degrees of success. These days I sail a Blaze (as pictured) which I try to sail most weekends at the club.

Over the last few weeks the wind has at times been very strong so I would urge you to check on your boats and take down your masts if you have not already done so. **In February the plan is to sort out the boat park**. For this we need plenty of willing volunteers to help move boats and dig in new tie-downs so if you can spare some time it would really help. It will be great finally to get the boats in some sort of order and tidy the club up a bit. We will let everyone know via Dutyman when we intend to do this and will try to post a plan of the boat park at the club.

The sailing calendar for next year is well under way and should be published in the near future. Before we start sailing we have a winter talk planned and of course the RYA Dinghy show is at the beginning of March. Finally here are a few dates for your diaries which I hope will help you plan next year's sailing: First club races of the year will be the **Warm up races on Sunday 24th March**. **Sea Week will be 12th-16th August** – a great week for all the family!!!

I hope that as many of you as possible will be able to take advantage of our great facilities and you will all enjoy your sailing in the coming season. **The Weather has to be better than last year!!!!**

CHRIS CLARKE



Spot the
Commodore...



VICE'S VERBALS

Happy New year to one and all. A new year brings a new Commodore and a new Vice, some what influenced by others to take the role, but now I am here, it's not so bad and I plan to give it my all.

I am known as being the joker and feel life is often far too serious; we should all have more fun in our lives. I have been advised that now I am in a role of responsibility I have to act responsibly. Well I'm 45 and I am not sure this old (salty) dog knows, or can learn, any new tricks. So if it's OK with you guys, I will stay the same.

We have been asked to write a little about ourselves for those members who do not currently know us. Well I am the small, shy, retiring one who does not drink and never dances at parties ...

I was first introduced to sailing by my parents at the age of 5. They were members of PBSC well before the club house was built, when it was actually in the Bay. I learnt to sail under the instruction of Gordon Beard at Normans Bay Sailing School at the age of 11 onwards, quickly took to it and sailed at another local club in 505's until I joined PBSC at the age of 15 or 16. At that time PBSC had a very competitive fleet with some exceptional sailors. Crews where hard to find and levels of dedication can differ in 2 man boats so I had a go at a single-hander. Purchased an old boat, did the nationals that year, came 5th beating the Hong Kong entrant to the Olympics, the UK entrant was some way in front but not that far I decided to give it a real go! After a couple of years I ended up crewing in a Soling and competing in 14 International Olympic regattas around Europe ... had a fantastic time and what an experience, but we did not make the 1992 Barcelona games. After that, family came along and my emphasis came back to PBSC where I have sailed, on and off, since - depending on family and work commitments.

PBSC has always been a constant in my life, always a friendly face, great place to sail, and a great place to be. Excuse the expression, but I have been about a bit and PBSC really does rank up there with the best locations to sail in Europe, and it is on our doorstep!!! We should all use it more.

I have enjoyed the club for many years, and the hard work of others. For me, it is about putting back a little that perhaps I have taken out in the past. With that I would like to thank all previous and current committee members for giving their time and dedication to make PBSC what it is today. Thank you for entrusting me to continue that legacy.

Enough of that history, what do we have to look forward to in 2013? Hopefully, better weather than 2012! Secondly a call from the shop floor to bridge the gap between the sailing school evening and Saturday classes to Sunday racing. We are formulating this as we write, but we will be running Thursday evenings as a race prep, sailing skill development, and training evening with some less competitive fun racing. More next issue when we have a more formal structure.

Your spicy vicey

GARY PEARSON

And here is the full PBSC Executive committee for 2013-14 – so you know who to speak to!

Commodore	Elaine Fowler
Vice Commodore	Gary Pearson
Rear Commodore	Greg Cox
Treasurer	Tony Richards
Secretary	Adrian Peckham
Sailing Secretary	Chris Clarke
Membership Secretary	Judy Griffiths
Social Secretary	Karen Hilder
Committee Member	Dave Boniface
Committee Member	Mark Doughty-Keen
Committee Member	Matthew Key
Training Principal	Dave Watson
Committee Member	Jules Watson

REAR'S REQUESTS

Well it would seem I have jumped straight in at the deep end in taking on the position of Rear commodore. If you did not know, my responsibilities lie in the general running and upkeep of the club and facilities. Fortunately most of the immediate maintenance and improvements have been planned by our previous Rear Comm, Gary Pearson, so hopefully things should continue smoothly!

Just a quick line to say who I am if you do not know me. I joined the club in 2005 completely green to sailing having recently gained my level 1&2 dinghy certificates from Spray water sports centre at the age of fifty. My wife Terri joined in 2006 and we have been overwhelmed by how we have been welcomed into the club. We have been keen to improve our sailing skills, so after much deliberation we acquired our current dinghy, a Laser 2000. We now compete regularly in the Sunday races and have been to couple of open meets, so as they say: "you are never too old, never too bad and never too late to start from scratch".

Anyway enough of me, maintenance works have now started at the club so volunteers for working parties will be welcomed: A dutyman request should be circulated. The list of projects includes:

- Decorating the main clubhouse room and, if time permits, the lobby and stairs;
- Cleaning the kitchen, bar and showers;
- Repairs to roof above main entrance;
- New hand rail and wire netting to balcony;
- Power-washing the patio, decking and benches.

To enable easier access to the ground floor, a ramp will be formed to the main entrance and disabled wc facilities. The other main project we plan to do is the reorganisation of the Dinghy Park. This we hope to carry out during February so many hands will be required to move boats.

I look forward to seeing many eager faces over next couple of months.

GREG COX

Club Watch Duties Roster



Hello club members & comrades in neoprene.

A brief introduction: During a jovial evening at Sea Week among fellow sea fairing salty types, I was plied with a fair dash of alcohol by a friendly character. I woke the next morning to find myself, not aboard **HMS Victory** off to the **Battle of Trafalgar** but to have put my name against the vacancy "Watch Co-ordinator".

My solicitor has advised me "Although Britain abandoned the practice of impressment in 1815, impressment remained legal until the early 1900s, and the various laws authorising impressment have never been repealed". Bother.

I understand we are to continue the 4 watches, with one just Watch Co-ordinator. (Reallocation of volunteers they say!!). So here I am eagerly waiting the club membership list and sailing calendar.

The club cannot function without duty volunteers. No safety boat = no sailing. No Officer of the Day / Race timer means no racing. I reckon if everyone did 2 duties we are covered for the year.

I am proposing a combination of :

- using Dutyman (our automated system giving notice of duties and enabling swaps online)
- a personal chat by phone* to discuss what suits (luckily T-mobile have given me lots of free calls) and to answer your questions about how Dutyman works
- email reminders
- publishing the monthly duty roster in the Aquila and on the PBSC Facebook group.

Well I guess that's it for now, please don't hesitate to contact me if anyone has any ideas or questions. (pumney@yahoo.co.uk or 07508 277375)

In next month's Aquila, I will discuss the benefits and opportunities of doing our duty!!

Paul umney

*Alexander Graham Bell originally suggested 'ahoy' be adopted as the standard greeting when answering a telephone.

COMMITTEE CATCH-UP

Finally, let's not forget the rest (nearly) of the new Committee. Final instalment next month....

Adrian Peckham – Honorary Secretary

Duties involve monthly committee meeting and AGM agendas and minutes, company secretarial and official correspondence. A long time sailor but only sailed dinghies the sea for the first time in 2010. Purchased a single handed 14ft Blaze in 2012 and enjoyed many swimming lessons in the early part of the season! Much improved by late Autumn and can't get enough of it now. Day job is in finance in London but I get down to the club most weekends.

Karen Hilder – Social Secretary

Hi! I am your new social secretary, so please contact me if you have any ideas on socials that you think you might enjoy with fellow club members. I have been sailing for 12 years after sitting watching my children learning and thinking 'I could do that!'. As long as I am on the water I don't mind if I am helming, crewing, instructing or on the powerboat, and fortunately Pevensey Bay Sailing Club covers all of that.

David Boniface – Committee Member

Combines serious Catamaran sailing with teaching metalwork, woodwork and DIY at the amazing Multi-Skills Workshop in Polegate. www.multiskillsworkshop.co.uk [Editor's note: Dave was too busy and we're big fans of his metalwork teaching, so I wrote this, not him.]

Jules Watson – Committee Member

I have been a club member for about 12 years during which time I have been editor of Aquila and run the bosun's locker. I dabble at sailing both dinghies and yachts but cannot pretend to be any good at either! I don't get the chance to get out on the water very often but when I do, I enjoy sailing our Laser 2000 with my husband Dave (Principal of Sailing School) and our youngest daughter Emma. I am happy just to get out on the water and enjoy taking a cruise down to Cooden or up to Eastbourne as much as racing on a Sunday. Incidentally if anyone is looking for a crew for occasional racing on a Sunday morning, it is worth giving me a call or dropping me an email. I work part time as a business manager for a veterinary practice and spend the rest of the time running around after my family. I also run a Brownie Guide unit and I am District Treasurer for the Girl Guide Association. As well as sailing I enjoy reading, gardening, cycling, walking and anything that get me out of doors.

Aquila editor

This is my second year as Aquila editor. I also send out the email copies but not the post copies. (That will be Patrick Parker from February.)

I started sailing many years ago on the River Thames and in Studland Bay in my dad's home built Mirror Dinghy. But I only renewed my interest when we moved to Polegate 3 years ago, and enrolled the children on a course at Spray. They (Ali 13, Tom 11 and Charlotte 9) are far more expert than their parents, but I loved regaining my confidence (a bit) on the Tuesday evening beginners course in 2012. You'll mostly see me at the Club on Saturdays during cadet sessions (probably knitting) and afternoon free sailing, and at Sea Week, maybe somewhere near a bright blue Laser Pico.



If you are getting this by post but could get it by email, then do send me an email and I'll make sure you get it direct from me electronically in future. Or if you want to suggest items for inclusion, I'm always happy to take suggestions.

Julie Burrows jandgburrows@btinternet.com