



Southern Region News

November/December 2009

KIDS EXCEL AT TWO GREAT SEPTEMBER ONBOARD EVENTS

Ninety eight youngsters aged between nine and 14 took to the water in two Onboard Events in the south in September to improve their sailing skills and compete in some races. The Harbour Challenge, at Brownsea Island, Poole on 26th and the Onboard Festival at Hill Head Portsmouth on 12th were both great opportunities for the youngsters, including beginners, to enjoy a day on the water.

At Poole, the children, sailing in pairs, were split into two fleets according to ability. All had been invited to attend from the Onboard teams of their local clubs including Harbour Challenge, Rockley Watersports, Poole Yacht Club and Swanage Sailing Club. They went on to compete in some five or six races in fabulous late summer weather, although racing was a bit tricky in the light winds.

Fleet winners were Mollie McVey and Jennifer Condie in the red fleet and Sam Dooley and Max Whaley in the orange fleet. Both pairs came from Swanage Sailing Club. Mollie, aged 10, from Swanage commented " Winning was my



Hill Head's happy Onboard winners

favourite part of the day. This is the first medal I have ever won in anything. I loved it! " This was Jennifer's and Mollie's first taste of racing - they've only been sailing for a year.

The Hill Head event was a great opportunity for the youngsters to enjoy a mixture of mini 'try a boat' races in a variety of dinghies, and a final race at the end. At the end of the day it was Zak Wickland from the Titchfield Sea Cubs sailing

with Max Hindry from Hill Head SC who claimed the overall winners' trophy, but every kid was a winner, just for their spirit of taking part. Medals were also given to the six runners-up with and their crew; including: Harry Thorsteinsson crewed by Alastair West, Michelle Rance with Andrew Knighton, Emily David with Ewan West, Adam Game with Josh Wakelin, Sam Waldron with Laurence Crimble and Sam Kimberly with Beth Sadler

Run by sailing's National Governing Body, the RYA, OnBoard is a highly successful industry supported grass roots programme which seeks to make sailing easier to get into for young people. Over a ten year period the programme aims to introduce a minimum of 500,000 children to sailing in the UK, converting over 10% of them into regular participants. So far it's nicely on track. For more information about how to get involved in sailing visit the RYA's website www.rya.org.uk or the OnBoard website www.ruob.co.uk.



Poole Onboard youngsters celebrate a great day



RYA APPOINTS NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The RYA has appointed a new Chief Executive. She is Sarah Treseder and she will take up the post in February 2010, when she will work alongside the current CEO, Rod Carr OBE, for a month before his retirement in March.

Sarah joins the RYA from The Admirable Crichton,

a private luxury events company, and has extensive management experience combined with a broad sailing experience from cruising in the south west of England, France, the Channel Islands and further afield to racing in dinghies, yachts and keelboats. Currently, Sarah joint owns a Sigma 33 which she sails on the south coast.

STILL TIME TO NOMINATE THE 2010 RYA CLUB OF THE YEAR

The RYA's Club of the Year Award aims to recognise and promote clubs that are successful, forward looking, and vibrant. Clubs from all over the UK are being urged to submit applications detailing how they encourage people onto the water, offer a range of activities for all ages and abilities and are well managed.



Record breaking yachtswoman, Dee Caffari (pictured above) launched the initiative at the 2009 PSP Southampton Boat Show in September.

There are some excellent clubs out there who are doing a fantastic job of engaging and inspiring people. The RYA Club of the Year Awards are an opportunity to recognise the hard work these clubs put into the sport.

For more information about the award and how to nominate visit the RYA Website www.rya.org.uk/cluboftheyear.

Want to crew in a 1905 Gig?

Over the next two years members of Thorney Island Sailing Club are helping to promote the Royal Naval Museum at Portsmouth and have a bit of fun at the same time. They will be sailing - or perhaps rowing - in a 75 year old Royal Naval Museum Gig to various events with the crew dressed in a rig of 1905. The boat has been overhauled and the aim is to keep her in tip-top condition. They need a crew of six to man the Gig from a total of twenty volunteers. Both male and female crew are needed with no upper age limit, but must be at least 15 years old. Training is expected to take place in Chichester Harbour around Thorney Island. If you would like to join them contact Mike Ryan on 023 9250 1582.

OXFORD WINDSURFERS PULL OFF CLEAN SWEEP OF WINS AT POOLE EVENT



6.8m class winner Henry Bloodworth receives his prizes from Olympic Bronze Medallist Bryony Shaw, four times World Windsurf Slalom and Race Champion Antoine Albeau, and Pro windsurfing stars Jamie Hawkins and Robby Swift.

The Oxford Zoomers from Farmoor crowned their season of straight firsts by winning the last of four regional Team15 (T15) events in the RYA's T15 Inter-Club Championship, held at Sandbanks Poole, on Saturday 12th September.

The T15 event, part of the Animal Windfest weekend, attracted a record breaking number of 53 youngsters in the perfect weather conditions and gentle NE breezes, with competitors, all under 15 from the Southern region, competing in a range of sailboard classes: the 3.5m, 4.5m, 5.5m, and Bic Techno 6.8m.

The eight teams - the most ever to compete in the T15 event - included the Calshot Flyers, the Queen Mary Skimmers from Staines, the Academy All Stars from Poole, the Manic Monkeys from Bray, Maidenhead, the champions Oxford Zoomers, Datchet Watersports, Wildcats and Rockley Watersports.

The event was hosted by FC Watersports at Sandbanks, and organised by Chris Lewis the T15

South Zone Co-ordinator. Chris reported "We've never had this many competitors, and the racing was extremely tight, especially in the first race with the 53 competitors all vying to get around the first mark of the course!"

"Team 15 is all about encouraging newcomers and progression at every level, and we are very pleased to have seen so many kids entering this event".

Individual winners included Ella Milne of the Academy All Stars, 1st overall, Molly Todd of the Oxford Zoomers, 2nd overall and Daniel Wilson 3rd.

Around a thousand spectators looked on as some top windsurfing personalities handed out the prizes.

Supported by industry leaders Neilson, Tushingham/Starboard, Windsurf magazine, Boards magazine and Neil Pryde, T15 was set up by the RYA to help make windsurfing more accessible and appealing to youngsters at a grass roots level. To find your local club visit www.team15.org.uk or contact the RYA 0845 345 0400.

CLUB FOCUS

Club Development

Regional Development Officer for Clubs Andy Hooper continues his good work. For information on the dates and resources below contact Andy on 07748 806733 or andy.hooper@rya.org.uk

Funding Available

Sport England's new funding started on the new financial year. We have four targets that S.E would like us to achieve:

Increase in Adult Participation—24,000

Increase in Satisfaction: 5%

Youth Development Medals: 17 with Volvo Champion Club

5 Hour Offer: 36,000 with OnBoard (OB) Team15

Contact me for funding to help increase adult participation, help with volunteer training or general club development to increase membership. OnBoard and Team15 will still be a strong thread and we plan to use current OB clubs to get new adults through their parents. If clubs are not yet an OB and would like to be please urge them to get in contact. **PLEASE URGE YOUR CLUBS TO GET IN CONTACT SO I CAN HELP THEM GROW THEIR MEMBERSHIP AND GET MORE MEMBERS SAILING MORE OFTEN.**

Next instructor's conference

Sat 27th March 2010

Hayling Island SC for both the South and South East Regions.

OnBoard is a nation-wide programme that aims to introduce 500,000 young people to sailing in the next 10 years and retain more than 10% as regular sailors

National Figures: 2009 from April

48,469 beginner sailing sessions

157 new teachers

230 new schools

2,761 more regulars

Since 2005

191,241 Beginner sailing sessions

1,257 Teachers

1,062 Schools

160 clubs/centres

9,328 Regulars

High Performance Update

*from Chris Atherton RYA High Performance Manager
contact him on tel: 07909 994641 or chris.atherton@rya.org.uk*

RYA CLUB & COACH CONFERENCES 2009

The RYA Club and Coach Conferences are aimed at all those with an interest or involved in delivering, planning or coordinating club training, racing and coaching for both juniors and adults:

- Inspire committees, attract active volunteers and coaches with new ideas to start planning the new season's programme.
- Get updates from your RYA High Performance Manager and RYA Regional Development Officers on what's new including essential information on any available funding
- Select from a number of workshops for your needs.
- Coaches can revalidate the Level 2 Racing Coach Certificate.

5th December

S. West: Mountbatten Centre, Plymouth

Thames Valley: Burghfield SC

S. East: Bewl Valley SC

6th December

South: RYA House, Hamble

From 10am to 4pm. Free for VCCs and for clubs working with Regional Development Officers aiming to increase adult participation; otherwise it is £10. Book via: www.ryaracingevents.org.uk and follow the link for coaching courses.

ZONE SQUAD TRAINING

All this winter's zone squad training dates can be found on the RYA website at:

www.rya.org.uk/racing/youthjunior/junior/zones/southsouthwest/Pages/sthsqinfo.aspx

RYA PATHWAY MANAGERS

Two new Pathway Managers are **Kirsty Bonar** who is looking after the Single Handed classes including windsurfing and **Roy McCubbin** who is responsible for the Double Handed Classes. They will both be working with the relevant Class Associations and will be at events or coaching weekends as they will continue to coach in these exciting new roles.

Kirsty : 07900 215851

kirsty.bonar@rya.org.uk

Roy: 07717 495581

roy.mccubbin@rya.org.uk

RYA VOLVO TRANSITION TRAINING

RYA Volvo Transition Training will take place in the RS:X, Laser Radial, 420 and 29er classes. Key changes to help youngsters learn the basics of their new Youth Class from the experts, include the introduction of RYA Volvo Open Transition Training before the RYA Volvo Transition Training Squad is selected. Anyone interested and would like to find or to apply please visit the RYA website:

www.rya.org.uk/racing/youthjunior

CLASS RECOGNITION POLICY UPDATE

There are now 3 types of recognition:

Pathway Classes:

The RYA Youth Steering Group (YSG) believe these most effectively develop the necessary skills and knowledge sailors require to successfully progress into Youth and Olympic racing. Large numbers of sailors will be consistently fed into the RYA Transition Training and National Youth Squad Programme.

Optimist (Junior), Topper (Junior), Laser 4.7 (Junior), BIC Techno (Junior), Laser Radial (Youth), Laser Standard (Youth), 420 (Youth), 29er (Youth), RS:X (Youth)

Supported Classes

Again, these classes will help progression into Youth and Olympic racing, but a small numbers of sailors will be fed into the RYA Transition Training and National Youth Squad Programme

Mirror (Junior), Cadet (Junior), RS Feva (Junior)

Recognised Classes: These are classes which the RYA accredits as providing good quality, safe and effective race training and competitions, using qualified and competent personnel. They are well placed to enable sailors to progress their racing skills and enjoy a lifetime with the sport
Dragoon (Junior), Spitfire (Youth).

AROUND THE SOUTHERN REGION

ABP's dredging may affect the Hamble

Associated British Ports is planning a major dredging project in Southampton Water to increase the channel depths from the current 12.6m to a minimum of 13.6 metres. Most of Southampton Water will be dredged as well as a section around West Bramble, and part of the Nab channel. Dredging will start in early 2010 using a suction type dredger, which has the effect of stirring up large quantities of silt. As a result depths in the Hamble river could reduce.

ABP may accept "mitigation" works if it can be proved that the dredging has caused a material increase in sedimentation. To do this the River Authorities and clubs would need to conduct their own survey of areas of concern such as moorings and dinghy sailing areas. The clubs will monitor the situation.

Car Parking

Hampshire County Council will be carrying out an independent review of parking facilities on both sides of the River, to review capacity versus demand.

Cowes Outer Harbour Project Update

Plans are in progress for some ambitious modifications to Cowes Harbour. These include: construction of a new rock mound breakwater and a short extension to the Shrape breakwater to create a properly protected outer harbour for the benefit of both East Cowes and Cowes; a marina of 300 permanent berths with separate dedicated provision of visitor and event berths to support the waterfront re-generation of East Cowes; dredging of a new eastern channel to →

The RYA's Southern Region has a fleet of six Optimist Dinghies available for hire to anyone who would like to have a go at sailing.

Sailing Clubs, Schools and other childrens' outdoor, training and community organisations are encouraged to take advantage of these one-person dinghies aimed at the 7-12 year olds. The nominal hire charge is only £30 per day for all six boats which are based in the Christian Youth Enterprise Sailing Centre, Chidham, Chichester Harbour, and the hirer would be expected to collect and return. Boats are together on a trailer and lifejackets are included.

The boats, which are the training model of the racing version shown the above



picture, were donated to RYA Southern from funding raised by the John Merricks Sailing Trust.

Optimist dinghies are perfect for learning to sail and easy to control.

To arrange to hire the boats, or find out more about them, contact: Chris McLeish chris.mcleish@cye.org.uk.

→ improve vessel safety within the harbour especially during major yachting events such as Cowes Week and the ISC's annual Round-the-Island Race.

Full details of the proposed Outer Harbour Plan application and supporting documents can be found at Cowes Online www.cowes.co.uk and are also available to view at the Cowes Harbour Office, Town Quay, Cowes.



VOLVO ECO CHALLENGE

The Volvo Eco Challenge is a great opportunity for young sailors to get actively involved with an environmental project for their club. The Eco Challenge provides grants of up to £1000 to sailing clubs who undertake an environmental initiative, carried out by young people aged between 10 – 16 at their club.

£15,700 was awarded in 2008. Volvo has announced further Eco Challenge grants of £20,000 being available for 2009.

See www.volvocars.com/uk/sailing/Sponsorship-Programme/EcoChallenge for more details.