



January 2018

# CIVIL SERVICE SAILING

*Civil Service Sailing Association*



**Volunteers  
welcome: p3**

**IDOR 2018: p16**



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*Slightly belated Seasons Greetings to everyone - here's hoping you've all enjoyed a relaxing break and are ready for a summer (and spring) of sailing adventures.*

*As ever, magazine contributions are most welcome, and I'm particularly on the look-out for interesting, dramatic pictures. Remember that high-resolution images work best and if you aspire to the front page, photos need to be portrait-shaped. Email to:*

**civilservicesailing@yahoo.co.uk**

*Deborah Ward, Editor*

■ **FRONT PAGE PICTURES:** Top shows preparations under way for the Christmas Cracker Race at Jumbles Sailing Club, Bolton. Below, Roger Marks and daughter Elizabeth race a Wayfarer (see page 7).

## Richard races to another victory



Richard Palmer (left) former Club Captain of Civil Service Offshore Racing Club has collected another impressive trophy to add to his already large collection.

Richard's British JPK 10.10 Jangada, racing two-handed with Rupert Holmes was the winner of the Royal Ocean Racing Club (RORC) Transatlantic Race IRC Two and IRC Two Handed. class.

The 23-strong mixed international fleet left Lanzarote on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2017 on race, which runs through the Canary Islands before crossing the Atlantic to arrive in Grenada, a total of around 3,000 nautical miles.

The pair finished in an elapsed time of 21 days 17 hours 32 mins 55 secs.

"The race took significantly longer than anticipated, but our preparation and anticipation for the race saw us through without any big issues. Rarely do you finish a race before the predicted time and the reality is you often finish after it," said Richard after the finish.

Palmer, owner of the smallest boat in the record fleet this year continued: "Before the start, our routing showed little difference between going north or south.

"However, the route to the north was less stable with low pressure systems to contend with. Whilst by going south and once through the transition zones, the north easterly tradewinds were relatively far more stable.

"We worked extremely well as a team; if you saw dark clouds behind the boat it was reassuring to call down below and get an immediate response. The one time I didn't, we had a spectacular broach, so I learnt that lesson well. A riving in Grenada to such a welcome was fantastic, but we only managed to drink half the beer before drifting into a long sleep."

### Chandlery

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	Small (20cm x 30cm approx)	£13.00

CSSA ties (polyester) £10.00

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Brian Grubb  
64 Cross Road  
Winchester  
Hants  
SO23 9PS

### ... DIARY DATES .... DIARY DATES .... DIARY DATES .... DIARY DATES

- RYA Dinghy Show, Alexandra Palace, London, 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> March
- CSSA AGM, Civil Service Club, London, 17<sup>th</sup> April
- Inter-Departmental Regatta, Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2018
- Rolex Fastnet Race, August 2019

Find us online at:  
**www.cs-sailing.org**  
... and send in your events!



# Volunteers welcome ... your support will help to keep our association afloat!

I write this article in that doldrum between Christmas and New Year – a great time to remember the past year's sailing and review the coming year's events, while also thinking what goodies to buy at the Boat Show.

There is not much on my shopping list, but the Boat Show does provide a great opportunity to meet up with friends in the Guinness bar. By the way - did you know that Guinness has only about 70% of the calories found in normal bitter or lager?

For me, the year will start with a rush in early February, firstly sailing with CSORC member/ex-Club Captain Richard Palmer taking his JPK10.10, Jangada, on a delivery trip from Grenada to Antigua. Also, congratulations to Richard who's just won both the IRC2 and double-handed class in the RORC Transatlantic this year!

In Antigua, I will jump ship to skipper Lancelot II, CSORC's entry into the RORC Caribbean 600 race, with a crew of 10. The rest of my year is not yet fully formed, but I hope to have plenty of racing to enjoy and to write about over the coming months.

The Association's business is also taking up some of my time, mainly preparing for the CSSA AGM, which takes place on Tuesday



■ Trevor Drew

**by Trevor Drew**  
**Vice-Commodore**

17<sup>th</sup> April at the Civil Service Club. We have had quite a good turn-out of members over the last few years, also strengthened by CSORC members, who hold their own AGM afterwards – so please come along and grab some free wine and nibbles.

It is a small but sincere thank you to all of the members and volunteers who make up the Association and its member clubs. And while volunteers are not so thin on the ground at club level, we do have a problem finding people to serve on the Association itself, to share their club experience and wisdom among our wider community. So, if you fancy the idea of serving as a Flag Officer or Secretary of the Dinghy or Offshore Divisions, please do get in touch. We are particularly keen on getting some younger members among us, so don't be shy!

I also recently had the pleasure of attending the Armed Services AGM at the end of last year, which was very enlightening, both in identifying opportunities for closer ties and to recognise that we share many of the same challenges. Whilst we are not alone in finding teams of match-racers for the Victory Trophy, we did identify an opportunity for competitive fleet keelboat racing in the Solent, so if anyone would be willing to help to organise that, it would be much appreciated – do get in touch.

Many thanks once again, to all our members and volunteers and a happy new year to all. May I wish you fair winds and safe passage, on the sea and in life, in 2018.

## Civil Service Sailing Association Annual General Meeting 2018

Members are invited to attend the 60<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the CSSA, to be held on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> April, starting at 18.15, in:

**The Civil Service Club, 13-15 Great Scotland Yard, London, SW1A 2HJ**

A full Agenda will be included in the March edition of CS-Sailing. For further details on the Civil Service Club, go to: <http://www.civilserviceclub.org.uk/Home.aspx>

Vacancies that will need to be filled either at the AGM or in the next few years include:

- Rear Commodore Offshore
- Rear Commodore Dinghy
- Safety Officer
- Dinghy Secretary

There are also opportunities to serve as a member of the General Committee. If you are interested in helping to shape the Association's future direction and would like to know more about what's involved, please get in touch, we'd love to hear from you: [csgensec@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:csgensec@yahoo.co.uk)

# Practise on the Mersey, sample the Menai Straits and then cruise Scotland

## Ynot's 2018 sailing programme

Five Kingdoms SC will start 2018 with the Brass Monkey race series with Liverpool Yacht Club on the Mersey. The Brass Monkey runs from January through to mid-March on Sundays when high water and daylight coincide. We will sail in the Venture Class which is racing for cruisers. These races provide good practice and skills honing for efficient sailing of Ynot and provide wider opportunity for skills honing under motor in and out of the marina lock. These races are good for skippers and crew who are seeking active familiarisation with Ynot during sailing sessions.

Ynot will be on the hard for winter maintenance from mid-March until late April. Maintenance volunteers very welcome. For dates and times and to see what tasks are scheduled and to sign up, please visit <http://www.5ksc.org.uk/booking.php>.

Some skippers have asked if we can base Ynot in the Menai Straits for May – probably Conwy or Deganwy marinas to be close to a railway station. Other skippers also intend to visit the Menai Straits for long weekends in September and October. If you like this idea (as skipper or crew), either early or late season, please inform David Hedley [crew\\_bureau@5ksc.org.uk](mailto:crew_bureau@5ksc.org.uk) and we will make it happen. Please contact Ruth [rosaing@aol.com](mailto:rosaing@aol.com) if you are interested in a women-only weekend in May on the Straits.

Ynot will head for the Clyde at the end of May and handovers will be in Largs (unless other arrangements are made by incoming and outgoing crews) for June and part of July. Several slots are already provisionally allocated and remaining time will be allocated once dates are confirmed for providing RYA practical training and Certificate of Competence examination. Time on the Clyde will include allocations for charter by 5KSC Inshore Skippers.

Ynot will transfer from the Clyde to the Hebrides in late July. Handovers will be in Mallaig (at the end of the West Highland railway line) unless other arrangements are made between incoming and outgoing crews. Ynot will return to Liverpool in September where she will be available for charter. She will deliver Taster Sails and mini-cruises at weekends through until the end of October. She will join races with LYC through the winter.

Most skippers like seven-day charters with handovers on a Saturday. Longer charters are available, perhaps 10 or 12 days. Handover days other than Saturday are by agreement between incoming and outgoing crews.

## Booking your charter of Ynot and berths

It's always best to start off with a chat with David Hedley at the Crew Bureau. Once you know your way around, you can book your berth for a trip at <http://www.5ksc.org.uk/booking.php>. You will be offered the opportunity to set up an account when you book and then your latest entries will be auto-filled for your subsequent bookings.

## Your 5KSC committee for 2018

### Vice-Captain demitting:

Paul Brereton

[Captain@5KSC.org.uk](mailto:Captain@5KSC.org.uk)

### Officers

Rob Rawlinson

Pete Shuttleworth

David Hedley

[Secretary@5KSC.org.uk](mailto:Secretary@5KSC.org.uk)

[Treasurer@5ksc.org.uk](mailto:Treasurer@5ksc.org.uk)

[Crew\\_Bureau@5KSC.org.uk](mailto:Crew_Bureau@5KSC.org.uk)

### Members

Alison Hutton, Ruth Ingram, Frank Atherton, Colin Atkinson, Andy Deyes, Martin Hugo, Dave Messham, David Smeatham and Martin Strohmaier

The web bookings page shows you what is fixed in the programme. The summer programme is designed as contiguous charters and the programme is usually published on the bookings page in January. The low season programme is mainly day sailing from Liverpool with a few mini-cruises over long weekends.

For all charters, 5KSC require that the details for all crew are entered onto the bookings page. The bookings data is used to assure 5KSC, CSSA and CSSC that Ynot is being used in line with respective policies.

For crew, the bookings page provides details of the trip including the dates, the duration, brief notes about the trip and handover ports at the beginning and end of the trip. If you see that a skipper is advertising available berths you can book on. The type of charter indicates the basis of the berth fees and shows you who is eligible to participate.

You can see the fees if you hover your mouse over the entry in the 'Type' column. 'Private Charters' are only available to crew invited by the skipper. When you book your berth you will see the fee for your berth and payment details.

For skippers, please contact David Hedley [crew\\_bureau@5ksc.org.uk](mailto:crew_bureau@5ksc.org.uk). David will add your Charter to the schedule. When your booking is added, you will receive e-mail notification of the Charter agreement and fees.

You must include contact information for yourself and your nominated Principal Shore Contact. You can do this by signing into the system and going to the details for your booking. Your crew can also book against your charter. If you have booked a private charter, you will be responsible for payment of the charter fee and collecting contributions from your crew. For other types of charter, your crew and you will be billed individually by 5KSC.



■ Ynot will be racing in the Mersey before heading for for Scottish waters

## Clyde Muster 2018

The Clyde Muster between members of the Scottish Civil Service Cruising Club (SCSCC) and 5KSC will take place in the summer on the Clyde. The event is a cruise in company for a meal at a favourite restaurant.

It would be good to see you join us aboard Ynot, Foxfire, Scorcherv or your own or a commercial charter yacht. Dinghies welcome. For further details or to enter, e-mail [Captain@5KSC.org.uk](mailto:Captain@5KSC.org.uk).

## Yacht familiarisation and skills honing

To gain a full appreciation of Ynot and her equipment it is best to join a Skills Honing day when you can sail with people who know Ynot well and share ideas on how to get the best out of her.

Any topic can be covered during Skills Honing. Popular topics include marina handling, flying the asymmetric spinnaker without the pressure of a race, and getting the best from the plotter. More general topics can also be discussed such as favourite spots to visit in 5KSC's cruising grounds, pilotage, log keeping, following SOLAS V, etc.

## Inshore Skippers

As a 5KSC Inshore Skipper, you can charter Ynot for sailing in a defined area of the Firth of Clyde, in favourable weather (Force 4 or less) and in daylight without full CSSA Skipper Approval. The limitations keep you within the terms of the code of practice appended to MGN280.

The area limit gives you a vast range of opportunity to visit many

marinas, anchorages and hotel moorings in the deep and sheltered waters among the beautiful islands and lochs of the Firth of Clyde.

To be a 5KSC Inshore Skipper, you must hold RYA shore-based course certificates for GMDSS radio, First Aid, and Day Skipper or Yachtmaster theory and hold a Day or a Coastal skipper RYA practical course completion certificate. You must be familiar with both Ynot and the Clyde. You will likely gain the required experience if you complete cruising or training aboard Ynot on the Clyde. Apply via [crew\\_bureau@5ksc.org.uk](mailto:crew_bureau@5ksc.org.uk) for approval to participate in the scheme.

## Member survey and social media

Your new committee want to review what you, the 5KSC membership, want. 5KSC members will be surveyed by e-mail early in 2018. Please take a few minutes to update us on your sailing interests.

Our newer members have resurrected our facebook page – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/249230828457/> Please take a look.

## RYA First Aid shore-based course

CSSA First Aid offers RYA First Aid training for CSSA members. The next course will be at Combs SC near Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbyshire in January or February. E-mail [CSSAFirstAid@gmail.com](mailto:CSSAFirstAid@gmail.com) if you would like further details.



# Summer cruise around the waterways of the Netherlands

The ECYD meeting and AGM was held on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November at the Priory in Ware. Plans for next season were discussed during the afternoon and an informative talk was given by Jeremy Batch on the Story of Navigation. This was followed by the AGM and Laying-up Supper to round off the off the evening.

Freyja starts the season as usual with RYA training courses, informal boat handling, practice and taster day sails. It will be possible to run further RYA courses if there is sufficient interest, so be sure to let the Crew Secretary know if you would like to take a RYA course.

Two Club Cruises are planned for sails in local waters aimed at those who wish to follow up their early experiences through taster sails and RYA courses or anyone who would just like a sail on Freyja in local waters before she departs her home base for the 'long trip'.

The first is from Shotley to Shotley and the itinerary will depend on the preferences of the crew but as always the over-riding restraint will be the weather. The rivers Orwell and Stour allow for sailing in sheltered waters if the weather is really unkind or a visit to the river Deben if the tides are right while the Walton Backwaters are an ever-popular destination. The second Club Cruise starts at Shotley and ends at Ramsgate so a passage across the Thames Estuary is needed. Depending on tides and weather, it may be possible to take in the river Blackwater, or the rivers Crouch and Medway en route.



■ ECYD members at the AGM and laying-up supper

This year Freyja is exploring the waterways of the Netherlands, starting at Middleburg and then cruising from Enhuizen for the rest of the summer. Crew places on the 'long trip' sometimes become available so let the Crew Secretary know if you have a particular interest.

For all crewing opportunities contact the Crew Secretary, Jean, at [crusing@ecyd.org.uk](mailto:crusing@ecyd.org.uk). Full details of the itinerary of the sailing in the Netherlands can be found on the web site [www.ecyd.org.uk](http://www.ecyd.org.uk).

Early Season Programme					
Start Date	Time on Board	Type of Trip	Destination/ pick-up point	Berths	End Date
18.00, Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	5 days	RYA Competent Crew & Day Skipper	Shotley	2	18.00, Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> April
18.00, Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	2 days	Practice boat handling	Shotley	4	18.00, Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> May
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	9 hours	Taster	Shotley	5	18.00, Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> May
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	9 hours	Taster	Shotley	5	18.00, Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> May
12.00, Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	5 days	Club cruise	Shotley	5	12.00, Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> May
12.00, Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	7 days	Club cruise	Ramsgate	5	12.00, Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> May
Long trip starts					
12.00, Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	10 days	Private charter	Middleburg	1	12.00, Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> June

Costs			
Type of Sail	High per day	Mid per day	Low per day
Club cruise	n/a	£37	n/a
Taster	n/a	£35	n/a
All RYA courses	n/a	£80	n/a
Boat handling	n/a	£75	n/a
Passage planning	n/a	£75	n/a



# JUMBLES SAILING CLUB



■ Young elf Daniel Cunningham, aged nine, sails his Topper in the Christmas Cracker race, while Paul Burroughs, below, declares 'Bah humbug'.

*Snow, ice ....  
who cares?  
They've gone  
crackers for  
a white  
Christmas  
up North*



■ Left Richard Morgan and Kevin Wilde raise a smile. Below, the clubhouse freezes under a seasonal dusting of snow.



# Rubbish removal anyone ....?

At the time of writing Sea Essay is on the Mercury Yacht Harbour car park for its winter maintenance and by now will have received multiple coats of anti-fouling and undergone numerous repairs, servicing and replacements of fixtures, fittings and equipment at the hands of Jeff Llewellyn and his Yacht Husband team. The looming task is the deep clean to remove 200-plus days of sailing and onboard-living detritus, any volunteers?

### Annual General Meeting

The Channel Sailing Division (CSD) held its 2017 AGM on the 25<sup>th</sup> November at Water's Edge, Mercury Yacht Harbour.

Andy Smith, CSD Captain, reported that this is the end of the third season for the Jeanneau Sun Odyssey 409 incarnation of Sea Essay. The boat has now clocked up around 14,000nm and proved to be reliable, safe and enjoyable sail, despite tangling with some unmarked fishing gear and losing a prop.

The club has performed well and remains in a stable financial position. There was a successful summer cruise, whilst day sails and sea times have been extremely well supported.

Demand for training continues and we have delivered several non-RYA courses (Boat Handling and Sail Trim) this year. However we continue to face challenges in offering formal RYA courses. CSD is working both with the CSSA and other clubs to try to re-establish the reliable delivery of RYA training in coming years. We hope to be able to do this using our own members as instructors but in the short term, it is likely we will need to continue drawing on support from commercial sea schools. We are also working with CSSA and other clubs to improve the approved skipper scheme process and address other issues such as package travel regulations (which could potentially apply to some of our sailing activity).

The Captain recorded his thanks to all those colleagues who have contributed to the running of the club, including the committee, the yacht husband team, instructors and skippers who have given their time to skipper day sails, sea times and training. Particular thanks went to the three people who are stepping down from committee posts this year:

- *Ken Pavitt who has for many years been the CSD membership secretary (although continues in that role with CSSA). He has been involved with CSD for decades in a variety of roles and his contribution has been very much appreciated and we wish him the very best with his move to north Wales.*
- *Colin Smith is stepping down from his role as Club Secretary but will remain on the committee and continue to organise Day Sails. Colin has done an excellent job at ensuring the smooth running of the committee and these annual meetings.*
- *Simon Richardson has ably delivered the charter operation remotely from Plymouth for the last few years delivering a vital element of the club's revenue.*

After a number of years with the same faces on the committee, we are pleased to have three new members in posts for 2018.

### Day Sails and Group Day Sails

Day Sails are intended as a fun day out from 09.00 hours to 18.00 hours to provide an introduction to sailing on a cruising yacht. Following a safety brief, we motor down the Hamble River to Southampton Water and then proceed under sail to the sheltered waters of the Solent. There's a stop for lunch at a hostelry (often on the Isle of Wight) and then return to Mercury Yacht Harbour. CSSC have included Day Sails in their taster day



■ The Channel Sailing Division Yacht Husband team (from the left) Colin Smith, Jeff Llewellyn, Bob Meir, Andy Rankine and Adrian Kelly. Sea Essay is behind them in the slings having just been lifted for winter maintenance.

programme and application for berths should be made to Jennifer Yarrow ([jennifer.yarrow@cssc.co.uk](mailto:jennifer.yarrow@cssc.co.uk)) in the first instance.

We also organise similar days out for groups, say from the same organisation, or just a group of friends. We provide a qualified and experienced skipper and mate. For more information and to apply, please contact Colin Smith ([csddaysails@gmail.com](mailto:csddaysails@gmail.com)).

### 2018 Summer Cruise

Results from our 2018 Summer Cruise Survey clearly favoured our usual format of weekly legs moving the boat from the Hamble to the Channel Islands then along the French coast to West Brittany, back up to the South West UK (weather permitting via the Isles of Scilly) and return to Hamble. At the time of writing all cruise weeks from 30<sup>th</sup> June (Brest) to 1<sup>st</sup> September have been taken but the first five weeks taking the boat from Hamble to Brest have yet to be finalised. There will be some crewing opportunities including YM Offshore qualifying passages that will be managed by Susie Welch ([severtimebureau@channelsailing.org](mailto:severtimebureau@channelsailing.org)).

### Rates Increase for 2018

It's Brexit's fault, but due to inflation, the cost of spares and need to build up capital to fund a replacement boat in several years time, we feel it is necessary to increase our boat fees by an overall 5%.



■ From the left, Kerry McHale, Susie Welch (helm), Sarah Rogers, Christopher Rocke and Ian Finlayson approaching Portsmouth (photo taken by the Skipper Bill Taylor)..



## CSD Committee for 2018

The following elections were agreed at the AGM.

Position	Name	Contact	Responsibilities
Captain	Andy Smith	csdcaptain@yahoo.co.uk	
Treasurer	Lindsay Cole	lindsay.cole@btinternet.com	Radar Instructor
Secretary	Bill Taylor	wrbtaylor@tiscali.co.uk	
Yacht Secretary	Adrian Barnes	boscombe@lineone.net	PSC Chair & HSE
Yacht Husband	Jeff Llewellyn	j.llewellyn57@ntlworld.com	Skipper Familiarisation
Crew Bureau Secretary	Susie Welch	seatimebureau@channelsailing.org	Sea Time Organiser
Committee Member	James Savage	training@channelsailing.org	Training Organiser
Committee Member	Brian Skelley	charters@channelsailing.org	Charter Organiser
Committee Member	Colin Smith	csddaysails@gmail.com	Day Sail Organiser *
Co-opted Member	David Price	df.price@btinternet.com	Skipper Representative
Committee Member	David Haward	davidhaward@btinternet.com	Yacht Husband team
Committee Member	Andrew Moore	asjmoore@gmail.com	Publicity

\* For CSSC Taster Day Sails Contact Jenny Yarrow at CSSC (jennifer.yarrow@cssc.co.uk)

### Sea Times (two & three-day events run from 18.00 day one to 18.00 final day)

Date	Area	Berths	Skipper	Contact
23 <sup>rd</sup> -25 <sup>th</sup> February	Solent +	4+	TBA	seatimebureau@channelsailing.org
9 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup> March	Solent +	4+	TBA	seatimebureau@channelsailing.org
23 <sup>rd</sup> -25 <sup>th</sup> March	Solent +	4+	TBA	seatimebureau@channelsailing.org
20 <sup>th</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup> April <sup>th</sup>	Solent +	4+	TBA	seatimebureau@channelsailing.org
18 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup> May	Solent +	4+	TBA	jennifer.yarrow@cssc.co.uk
28 <sup>th</sup> July-4 <sup>th</sup> August	Brest to Falmouth	4+	A Ramsay	seatimebureau@channelsailing.org
16 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> September	Solent +	4+	TBA	jennifer.yarrow@cssc.co.uk
28 <sup>th</sup> -30 <sup>th</sup> September	Solent +	4+	TBA	seatimebureau@channelsailing.org
7 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> October	Solent +	4+	TBA	seatimebureau@channelsailing.org
26 <sup>th</sup> -28 <sup>th</sup> October	Solent +	4+	TBA	seatimebureau@channelsailing.org
9 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup> November	Solent +	4+	TBA	seatimebureau@channelsailing.org

### Training (18.00 day one to 18.00 final day) (RYA courses dependent on status of CSSA School)

Date	Course	Berths	Skipper	Contact
TBC	MFD Plotter	6	C Smith	csddaysails@btinternet.com
TBC	MFD Plotter	6	C Smith	csddaysails@btinternet.com
11 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> March	RYA Yachtmaster *	4	TBA	training@channelsailing.org
10 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> April	Boat Handling 1	4	TBA	training@channelsailing.org
24 <sup>th</sup> -27 <sup>th</sup> April	Sail Trim 1	4	TBA	training@channelsailing.org
30 <sup>th</sup> April - 4 <sup>th</sup> May	RYA Comp Crew/Day Skipper	4	TBA	training@channelsailing.org
7 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup> September	Boat Handling 2	4	TBA	training@channelsailing.org
2 <sup>nd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> October	Sail Trim 2	4	TBA	training@channelsailing.org
5 <sup>th</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup> October	RYA CC/DS Pt 1	4	TBA	training@channelsailing.org
11 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> October	RYA CC/DS Pt 2	4	TBA	training@channelsailing.org
24 <sup>th</sup> -27 <sup>th</sup> October	Boat Handling 3	4	TBA	training@channelsailing.org
28 <sup>th</sup> Oct-4 <sup>th</sup> November	RYA Yachtmaster	4	TBA	training@channelsailing.org
TBC	Radar 1	6	L Cole	training@channelsailing.org
TBC	Radar 2	6	L Cole	training@channelsailing.org

## *If you fancy the Fastnet next year, that's 2019, do get in touch*

After a very successful 2017 Fastnet campaign, coming 50<sup>th</sup> in class and 227<sup>th</sup> overall, we are thinking about the next one and applications are invited for a place in the 2019 crew. There will be three or four qualifying races in the Spring and early Summer of 2019, a two-day sea survival course and then the race itself in early August. Give it some thought and if you think that it's for you, please get in touch.

We're working on the 2018 Programme which will be available on the website soon with a mix of inshore and offshore races and the Inter-Departmental Offshore Regatta (IDOR) in June (Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June, see p16). Have a look at <http://www.idor.org.uk/> for more details of this.

We are now thinking that CSORC should own its own yacht after having been chartering for the last seven years or so. We are therefore inviting interested CSSC and CSSA members to join CSORC and become one of our race skippers. We would like to hear from already-CSSA-approved skippers who might like to skipper in races, skippers who are not yet approved and but would like to go further and crew members who are looking to up their game and become skippers. If you are interested please get in touch.

We will be at the CSSA AGM on 17<sup>th</sup> April so if you want to come and chat about the racing programme or about becoming a CSORC skipper, please feel free.

In the meantime there are more details available on the website, <http://www.csorc.org.uk>



■ The CSORC crew during last year's Fastnet Race







■ Andy is presented with his award by Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal

## Top honour for Rear Commodore Andy

The Royal Yachting Association has awarded Littleton's Rear Commodore Andy Bennett with its Lifetime Commitment Award for dedication to boating.

The prestigious award was presented to Andy at a ceremony on the 24<sup>th</sup> November, by Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, President of the RYA. The RYA awards are presented to outstanding individuals or groups nominated by their sailing clubs and class associations, with the winners selected by the RYA Awards Panel.

The RYA commendation for Andy read as follows:

*Andy has been volunteering at Littleton Lake since 1993 and has served as Commodore of the former BP Sailing Club and on various Littleton Sailing Club committees, most recently as Rear Commodore Facilities. This role encompasses the management, maintenance and repair, with a team of helpers, of Littleton's extensive boundaries, utilities and structures.*

*A natural team player, Andy was responsible for organising major repairs after serious floods in 2014. He is helping to negotiate a lease with the landlord and has represented the club during the Thames Flood Relief Scheme consultations.*

*Andy stills sails regularly, helps run races, organises cruising days, takes new members out sailing and assists both the juniors and Phabsail, a local group for sailors with disabilities. His wide-ranging support has been instrumental in making Littleton Sailing Club a vibrant and successful club.*

Andy said of receiving the award: "I feel incredibly honoured that

my contribution to a sport I love has been recognised in this way. I am indebted to those who have supported me over the years, without them I would not have been here today. The awards ceremony was a wonderful experience and meeting and chatting with other award winners made for a most enjoyable day."

The venue for the award ceremony was the Lecture Theatre of the grand and imposing Institute of Civil Engineers in Great George Street, Westminster, with its walls decorated with the names of Newton, Brunel, Arkwright, Stevenson, Trevethick, and other national luminaries.

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**“ I am indebted to those who have supported me over the years ”**

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Each award winner went up in turn to Her Royal Highness to be presented with their award and to have a few words and their photo taken with her. When all awards had been distributed, everyone, together with Her Royal Highness, attended a special luncheon in the adjacent dining room.

Andy was accompanied by his wife Jayne, who herself has served on Littleton's social committee for many years. Littleton Commodore Peter Fryer and wife Pauline also attended the ceremony and luncheon, and past Littleton Commodore Ian Sandell and wife Jean attended the ceremony to see Andy presented with his very well deserved award.



■ From left to right are Charlotte Winter from Active Surrey, Andrew Selves and Alan Povey from Littleton Sailing Club, together with the Mayor of Spelthorne, Cllr Vivienne Leighton.

## *Alan and Andrew are simply the best!*

Littleton sailing club has been awarded Coach of the Year from Spelthorne borough council. Alan Povey and Andrew Selves were awarded at the annual borough awards ceremony on 10<sup>th</sup> October at Shepperton Studios.

The award recognises excellence in many areas of clubs and associations throughout the borough (of which there are approaching 100) and Coach of the Year puts Alan and Andrew at the top of coaching in the borough.

This is the second time that the club has won this award for coaching so is testament to the passion and enthusiasm in the instruction staff that enhances the learning environment.

Alan and Andrew lead a team of enthusiastic parent helpers and ensure the youngsters have a safe environment in which to learn

new skills and develop, not only skills but also personal relationships with others around them. Meeting once a week during the summer months, the youngsters also have opportunities to sail further afield in national sailing events.

Some of the youngsters have become assistant instructors in their own right which contributes to their DofE awards. As a result of their activities, some more mature youngsters have now gone on to make the sailing industry their career path.

Littleton Sailing Club continues to strive to be a place of excellence for dinghy sailing and runs adult courses as well. If you would like to know more about the club and how to get started at dinghy sailing we would love to hear from you.

[info@littletonsc.co.uk](mailto:info@littletonsc.co.uk)





■ Littleton's Geoff Carveth is on the far right, with crew members Jerry Hill (middle) and Richard Lovering (left).

## Ex-junior Geoff continues to lead the world

It seems only a few years ago that Geoff Carveth was a young Littleton family member learning to sail on Littleton Lake. He raced in various dinghy classes, then started competing in Solos at open meetings and then national and world championships, where he achieved multiple successes.

He has continued racing and his most recent success was at the SB20 World Championships, held at Cowes last August. The SB20 is a boat with LOA of 6.15 metres, flies an asymmetric spinnaker and carries a crew of three or four depending upon weight limitations.

Geoff was the helmsman in a crew of three, competing with 79 boats including seven from Australia and others from Ireland and various European countries. The event was hosted by the Royal Yacht Squadron.

There was of course intense competition throughout the fleet, but then day by day, as racing progressed, it began to emerge that competition among the leading boats was so close that any of them could take the trophy. At this point Geoff's team were lying fifth with a slim chance of winning, but the outcome would depend on the final day's racing.

The weather was far from perfect with winds light and variable. At the start of the race, Geoff's team broke clear of most of the fleet, then improved on the windward leg. This proved crucial as the wind suddenly died leaving most of the fleet bunched together trying to catch what wind they could find. Geoff's team was free to take advantage and continue moving forward.



They led the fleet to the finish and emerged as winners by just two points: a great reward for the efforts of the team.

Geoff has previously won this event when it was in Dublin (2008), Torquay (2011), and Australia (2012), making him now the World Champion for the fourth time, and surely true inspiration for Littleton's junior sailors today, of what can be achieved with time and dedication to the sport.

A full event report, photos and videos can be viewed online at <http://sb20worlds.co.uk/>

*Sailors will enjoy this look into the history of sailing flags and ultimately the creation of RCSSC club colours and burgee. Thanks to John Cranwell-Ward for his work in making this happen and writing this article*

**Dave Grundy, Commodore RCSSC 2014-17**



## How to wave the flag for our very own club

The club's founder Pete Shuttleworth is good at coming up with ideas. Sixteen years ago, he felt that there was a need for a joint RCSL/CSSSC Keel Boat club in The Midlands. With joint funding from Revenue and Customs Sports and Leisure (RCSL) and CSSA, he set up RCCSC at Rutland Water.

In 2017, Pete was at a committee meeting and produced the RCSL house flag, suggesting that RCSSC could adapt the design to produce one of our own. Many thought this too difficult and the idea drifted away. But in stepped Commodore Dave Grundy and with assistance from a graphic designer, he came up with further logos and branding. But it was felt at committee that what was needed was to create a club burgee specifically for us. John Cranwell-Ward, Pete Shuttleworth and Mark Harrap were tasked with coming up with some ideas.

Research showed that a burgee is a distinguishing flag, whatever the shape, of a recreational boating organisation. Most have the triangular pennant shape.

Further research showed that there is a long historical tradition behind yacht clubs. Russia's Neva Yacht Club, founded in 1718, appears to be the oldest-ever yacht club. But since it was established by a tsar's decree, it does not fully qualify as a proper modern club, understood as a voluntary association of members who organise and run the club.

So Ireland's Royal Cork Yacht Club, founded in 1720, is also widely acknowledged as the oldest yacht club in the world. Based on Western understanding, the Royal Swedish Yacht Club, KSSS, founded 1830, becomes the oldest European yacht club outside the UK and the fifth oldest in the world.

There is an even longer history of maritime flags, naval code flags, merchant flags, maritime company flags, national ensigns, jacks, burgees, and pennants being used internationally for hundreds of years. Indeed all forms of communication at sea were by code flags. Famous sea battles were fought and controlled with communications by flags.

With input from Pete, John started researching sites, looking at other sailing club burgees and what we wanted from our own.

By chance, he went sailing in midsummer with another long-standing RCSSC member Grahame Hudson, Head of Dept at The Faculty of Art and Design at De Montfort University in Leicester.

Grahame mentioned a PhD graphic design student, Alis Dyann of Dyann Designs, who ran her own business and lectured at the university. However John felt he first needed to put together some initial ideas that could be used to develop a new club branding and burgee.

John had also been the official photographer at many national Squib events so had hundreds of images. Two were used in helping to create the final designs.

### Design Brief

- Sailing clubs are allowed to create their own club flag, known as a burgee, which can be used to enhance a club's own identity.
- We needed to reflect affiliation to CSSA and RCSL in the design.
- We sail Squibs, a unique type of keel boat with its own distinctive design. The design should reflect the Squib shape with the hull clearly visible.
- The hull can be red or navy, possibly white. The sail colours must be tan. The spinnaker colours are red, white and blue using the CSSA club burgee as the basis of the design with the original RCSSC Squib in the centre.
- The hull shape needs to be defined with a wave to give the impression of movement through the water.
- The pennant above the mast flag needs to be yellow or gold to recognise our partnership with RSC and RCSL and should carry a horseshoe shape to represent the County of Rutland.
- The design should include up to four different versions, one suitable for a printed burgee flag and burgee-shaped, digital versions for letter headings, publicity materials, website etc, and a version to include the main design of the Squib on the water for publicity materials, website etc. (not burgee shaped).

To assist, John, with the help of his wife Jacqueline, created a unique design of a Squib. He then met our graphic designer armed with his original concept sketch, a hand-cut burgee with the intended design hand drawn on it and various illustrative elements.

After six design proofs involving some 30 different designs, John and Alis finalised versions which were approved by the committee and unveiled at the AGM in December. So Pete Shuttleworth's germ of an idea has come to fruition.

**John Cranwell-Ward**



# Club's welcome to Christine

Sometimes, you are so involved in 'getting there' it is very easy to forget just how far you have travelled. Which is why our December AGM was not just about the important legal and financial 'stuff' - we quickly got on to celebrating our small club's achievements and thanking a very proactive committee, while afterwards, led by our new Club Captain Christine Peck (right), thinking about what members want in 2018.



This was the third and final AGM for Dave Grundy (left) after serving as Club Commodore since 2014 and Treasurer since 2013.

He stepped down from both posts, with a view to getting back into sailing and focusing on the public relations role, helping making sailing at RCSSC sustainable for current and future members.

## RCSSC Headlines 2014-17

- *More and better equipped and maintained boats:* From a couple of rather tired-looking Squibs, we now have three Squibs and a Soling, all well maintained and equipped by our boat husband team led by John Cranwell-Ward. I'm sure he'll never forget the complete refurbishment of Lift Off – a major club achievement.
- *Improved finances:* In 2014 we had circa £100 in the bank and nearly £300 in bills. Members, keen to ensure the club kept afloat (pun intended) loaned the club funds. Fast forward to 2017 and the finances are robust, with reserves for those 'unplanned' bills.
- *Improved membership:* In 2014 our membership fell as low as eight at one stage. At the AGM, we were delighted to report we now have 30 members, which to us is a huge improvement and lots of new friends to sail with too.
- *Helms and members development:* Making sailing affordable and accessible has been a key strategy for the club. Whilst none of us are trained sailing instructors, a number of helms have invested time and energy to help others improve their sailing skills and go on to gaining their RYA Level 2 qualification. We look forward to them taking others sailing and passing on their knowledge and enjoyment too.
- *Subscriptions kept low:* With more members and other donations, the club has been able to keep subscriptions at the same level for four years!
- *More sailing days:* In 2014 RCSSC sailed on a Saturday or a Sunday only. With more members retired and approved helms, sailing now takes place during the week too. More boats + more helms + more days to sail = more sailing opportunities.
- *Promotion:* If the public hadn't heard of RCSSC before, they have now. Articles, Social Media, photos, stories from the lake, engaging with our friends in the CSSC and CSSA – and I am sure everyone now knows RCSSC is probably the best keelboat club in the CSSA – OK, OK we're the only one. No website? With a little help from my friend Andrew Moore at CSSA, I learned how to build one. The good news is we now have a proper webmaster – David Metharam, a new member who has all the right skills and will be taking it forward with Dave Grundy as Public Relations Officer (PRO) and the lead for content.



■ Christine Peck is the new Club Captain

- *New club images:* We are proud to announce our new club colours and burgee. These reflect our history and association as part of the CSSC and CSSA and based at Rutland Sailing Club (RSC) and particularly the boat of choice selected by founder Peter Shuttleworth – the Squib. These were revealed to members at the AGM by John Cranwell-Ward who led and delivered to the highest standard.

I thought the AGM was finished when a voice behind me said: "Just a minute Dave, we need to say a few words". It is easier to work for a club and give, than it is to receive kind words and gifts which I shall treasure and look back on my time as Commodore fondly – it's been fun and, together with great support from the committee, it's surprising how much has been achieved.

I had invited our friends from CSSC to join us at the AGM. The plan being for Michelle Chelu to give us a talk on the benefits of membership and savings on offer – well received. Jenny Yarrow was also there – she is behind the tasters at CSSC, including sailing, which really have made a difference to our club (thanks to other CSSA clubs for the idea). Hedley Featherstone is Michelle's manager and I thought he'd come along just to meet us.

Little did I know. He gave an unscheduled but interesting talk about the history of the CSSC. By now I was looking forward to lunch and a pint so my thoughts did start to drift (yes, another sailing pun!) So my mind was elsewhere when I heard him announce a certificate of recognition for invaluable voluntary contribution to the CSSC and Rutland Civil Service Sailing Club for my sailing buddy John Cranwell-Ward and myself!! So I was knocked over, twice.

It only leaves me to wish our new Club Captain Chris Peck and our CSSA friends all the best for 2018.

**Dave Grundy**

## The Civil Service Inter-Departmental Offshore Regatta

The Inter-departmental Offshore Regatta (IDOR) is held every year between boats and crews representing Civil Service departments and agencies.

Find out how you or your department can take part, email [idor@cs-sailing.org](mailto:idor@cs-sailing.org) or visit [www.idor.org.uk](http://www.idor.org.uk)



# IDOR 2018

3<sup>rd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> June 2018

The Island Sailing Club, Cowes



Civil Service  
Sailing Association



CSSA is affiliated to the  
Civil Service Sports Council (CSSC)  
and the Royal Yachting Association



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