



# Three Sheets to the Wind



Official Newsletter of Felpham Sailing Club

## A Word from the Commodore – Paula Bentley

Welcome to our Summer 2013 Newsletter. I am absolutely delighted to advise that we have been awarded the £50,000 grant from Sport England. This will enable us to start working on the changing rooms this winter. Planning permission has already been obtained and there will be lots for members to do on the decorating front! The Committee will keep you posted. Huge thanks to everyone who helped with the Grant application especially Roger Belton.

We have also received a £750 grant from Felpham Parish Council and a £1,000 grant from JWAC which have been spent updating our training fleet. We have also had a Laser Vago loaned to the club by club member, Ian West.

Our Women on Water (WOW) sessions on Thursday evenings from 6pm, during July and August, are in full swing. It doesn't matter if you have not sailed before, we cater for all abilities. Catherine and I look forward to seeing you there.

You may have noticed that the previous lockers have been removed and the Committee have purchased a new set of 8 lockers. There will be an annual charge (for those who would like to have their own locker). This will easily enable us to record who has what key/locker. The annual charge for a locker is £15 and spare keys will be retained by the club. The new lockers also have barrel locks which can be replaced, for a modest cost, in the event of a member ever losing a key. If you'd like a locker, just let one of the committee members know or send an email to [james@gerwat.com](mailto:james@gerwat.com). If more than 8 members request a locker then we'll purchase more to suit the demand.

## A Word from our Rear Commodore Sailing – Keith Hopper.

Firstly I have an apology to make, it is now mid July and I have due to my own incompetence only just got the duty teams out to you the membership. Now the teams and team leaders have been published (they are on the notice board next to the canteen hatch) and when your team is on duty is published on the website. Please do your best to make contact with your team leader and to be available on the teams date. Or arrange an exchange with someone of similar experience.

Numbers on the water with the exception of Fridays has been very up and down depending on the weather forecast. It has been very windy of late but now that the sun has finally arrived it seems to have left the wind behind. That aside all the clubs within the Club have been doing very well not only Fridays as mentioned before but WoW has started and is doing well.

Some of our Cadets have been doing very well at the WSSYSA Topper Travellers series. Many thanks to Mark for organising and supporting the Cadets in this venture. Earlier in the season some of the Cadets went to an RS Feva team racing event supported by Catherine and all had a good time, learning a lot in the process.

Meanwhile another Mark has taken the opportunity to helm his Blaze to take a bucket full of bullets in the Club races while one or two of the better sailors have been away, beware Mark they are now back!!

The Annual Regatta was unfortunately again fraught with its own problems after the person who had volunteered to be OOD (me) had to work so had to hastily twist some arms on the Friday evening many thanks to Paula, Guy and Roshan who very kindly stepped up to the plate and ran as good an event as they could given the adverse weather conditions.

The Tythe Barn Trophy was retained by Felpham for another year with eight out of the top ten places. Well done to everyone involved including Luke who managed to run a very good race despite having to wait for Pagham, the wind and the lazy team in the safety boat to lay the correct size course.

Calling everyone who has a dinghy in the dinghy park, come on people some of those dinghies have not moved! Why? What are we doing wrong? What would you like us to organise? Why not put some suggestions in the suggestions box? If they are sensible and sailing related we will do our best to organise them.

Signing off yours in sailing

## **Training Matters – What's new for 2013. Roger Belton – FSC Training Principal.**

### **Training Matters....**

Our sailing season got off to a great start with our Instructor team growing in numbers & skills. Paul Miller & Callum Aldous are now both fully qualified Senior Instructors and Tom Rusbridge is nearly there too. Catherine Davies has completed the Advanced Instructor Course and is now qualified to teach Spinnakers & Performance Boat courses. Well done and thank you to all four. Steve Sampson is also helping out as a Powerboat Instructor. This growth in our senior team makes a huge difference in delivering courses & teaching at FSC and helps share the load.

Skill Saturdays have got off to a good start too. We have been blown out a few times but still held 13 Skill Saturday events with total of 139 sessions so far this year. Skill Saturdays are led by John Breach, Catherine & myself supported by the Instructor team. Come on down and join the fun and enjoy the opportunity to improve your sailing or Powerboat Skills. If you bring down your logbook we may be able to sign off some parts of your course.

Class coaching was hit by bad weather for the Asymmetric training recently, but the Laser Class coaching with Andy Kerr went very well earlier in the year. The Start Racing afternoon went well too.

The first Powerboat training session went very well with Evie Howard, Lewis Bramley, Lauren Bentley, Sophie Bentley, & Roshana Nagi now trained up to (nearly) Powerboat Level 1 standard and able to help on safety duties with a more qualified helm. Please help them to get more experience by getting them involved in duties. Thanks to Steve Lamb & Steve Sampson for helping with the training. We have at least another six who wish to do powerboat training over the summer. We will run theory course in the Autumn as well.

We have run the first part of the Dinghy Assistant Instructor (DAI) course with Natalie Inker, Dexter Bergmann, Jake Aldis-Hobbs, Mitchell Campbell, Tom Sargeant, Ed Gerwat, Euan Stretch & James Hedderly who can now be help deliver training and need practise & experience to complete the course. We still have Georgia Swanton, Josh & Bethany Wilkinson, and Owen Gillett who all want to do the DAI course as well. Thank you to all those who wish to help deliver sail training, the extra help and enthusiasm is very much appreciated.

The Club has just acquired a nearly new Pico (coloured grey), so now we have 6 Picos in the training fleet. This complements the Fevas (3), Bluebelle (Wanderer), the WSSYSA Topper fleet (6) and the Taz fleet (6) on hire from Pagham Lagoon Sailing. This training fleet is providing excellent training opportunities in a variety of boats for those wishing to learn. A huge thank you to Nigel Schofield for helping keep our training fleet in good order.

Late August will see our annual Felpham Youth Regatta, plans for which are already in hand. Application forms have been sent out to all Cadets & families by email. Places are very limited so applications are being considered in strict order of receipt. Please apply soonest to secure your place. Our annual RYA Inspection will take place at this event. Applications for FYR to Kate Miller please.

The next courses coming up are the Laser Class training day and day 1 of the Start Sailing course – both on 20<sup>th</sup> July. Sign up on the notice board please.

### **Youth Racing away from FSC.**

There have been some great developments in Youth Racing this year. On 4<sup>th</sup> May six youngsters travelled over to Crawley Mariners to take part in WSSYSA Feva Team racing and had a great day. Recently another team went over to Dell Quay to participate in the first of the WSSYSA Topper Traveller Series and scooped the first three places. Well done all. Thank you to Catherine for organising the Feva team and to Mark Aldous for organising the Topper team. Good luck for the rest of the series!

### **Child Protection at FSC.**

We are in the process of reviewing our policy & procedures at FSC regarding Child Protection. Kate Miller has kindly agreed to take on the responsibility of Child Protection Officer. We will shortly be asking our senior instructors to complete a DBS form (previously CRB). The update to our Club Processes will help assure protection for our young people and align with current best practice. If you have any queries about Child Protection please talk to Kate Miller.

## **Friday Nights**

The season has got off to a great start with 91 Cadets now enrolled onto our Friday Night sailing programme. These have been split into 3 groups with a Racing group and two training groups. The racers have been doing an excellent series with a variety of different races such as pursuit racing and

handicapped events. Richard, Ian and James have been running this really well and the Cadets have dramatically improved their racing skills. So much so, that we had a first second and third at the recent Topper event in Dell Quay. This should bode well for West Sussex Schools in the late Summer. The two training groups have been making excellent progress with the more advanced group now helming very well in strong winds. The beginners have started to helm on their own and we just need some kind wind to allow them to continue to make progress. We have only had to cancel one session so far due to the wind but we have put with some quite blowy conditions when we have asked our better sailors to take others out for joyrides.

It is great to see the parents enjoying the bar and the outside seating while their youngsters are sailing. We have added to our fleet of boats with the purchase of a new Pico which was be presented to our Cadet Captains, Georgia and Owen by Counsellor English. The team has been fantastic and a big thanks to Ryan, Cullum, Mark, Roger Catherine, John, Aldert, James, Jon, Winston and Tom who have regularly helped out even though for most it is not their duty night.

Lets hope the sun shines for the rest of the summer.

## **Dates for your Diary – Social – Steve Pearce**

There is a slight change to the programme for the Dinner Dance this year.

Due to costs we have now changed the venue and date - so update your diary NOW!!

Bognor Golf Club, Downview Road on Saturday 2nd November!! Places will be limited to first come first served - so keep an eye out for the notice to go up in the club and an email will be sent around the end August.

Want to keep up to date with whats happening? Send us your email address to

[felphamsailingclub@gmail.com](mailto:felphamsailingclub@gmail.com) if this was not added to your membership form or if you need to add your details! Please let us know if you have not received any club emails.

You can find us on FACEBOOK/Felpham Sailing Club - put your request in to Join NOW....

Steve Pearce.

FSC Youth Regatta – 28<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2013

All Saturdays in August – Bring your own BBQ's from 5pm.

Sat 14th Sept - Curry Night – Adult only.

Sat 26th Oct – Halloween Party - Disco.

Sat 2nd Nov – Dinner Dance – Bognor Regis Golf Club, Downview Road, Felpham

Sun 15th Dec - AGM 2pm.

## **Membership Update – Karen Pearce**

Membership cards have been completed and are now in the bar ready to be collected.

Just a reminder that we also have a YAHOO GROUP and a FACEBOOK GROUP and request that you join these as well to hear the latest updates for Social events at the club. Both of these are "CLOSED" groups and you have to REQUEST to join.

## **Website**

Remember to keep checking the website [www.felphamsailing.co.uk](http://www.felphamsailing.co.uk) for updates.

Felpham Sailing Club is run by members for members and if you wish to help, running a social, hosting a bbq, helping on the water, or any other ideas, please speak to any of the Committee.

Happy Sailing

Paula