



Frampton on Severn
Sailing Club

NEWSLETTER

December 18th, 2021



For most, thats a wrap. Merry Christmas...

Welcome to the December newsletter.

Please send any articles for the January edition to support@fosscc.org.uk by 15th January.

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Commodore's comment

This is my first report as Commodore, having been elected at the recent AGM in November.

Thank you to David Coates for the last 4 years. I think you would all agree that he has done a sterling job steering the ship "FOSSC" through some uncharted waters, especially during the Covid pandemic. Under his leadership we have also achieved many things to be proud of, just look at the upgrade to the clubhouse, which continues to be the envy of many visiting sailors. David thanks for all your time and efforts.

Thanks must also go to the committee, who continue to support and drive the club onwards and I look forward to working with them.

My first event as Commodore was the recent prize giving evening, which was organised by Rhonwen and Phil Kirk. It was held at The Anchor in Epney, with about 40 guests. It was a lovely evening, with good food and conversation. Congratulations to all the winners and thanks to Rhonwen and Phil, but also thanks to Diana (Mrs Heming) for presenting the awards.

As part of our RYA training each year, we attempt to run evening classes for Day Skipper or Yachmaster theory. This year is no exception, we have 15 students all undertaking Day Skipper theory. However, rather than doing numerous evening sessions, our trainer David Whitehead, has decided to do 5 full Saturdays, which started on the 4th December and will run through January, with time off for Christmas.

A meeting was called by Peter Clifford of Frampton Court Estate in late November with us and the fishermen who use Townfield lake, to discuss the "vegetation" issue. This is a far more complicated issue than I had ever imagined. It is a balance of Nitrates, water levels, temperature, sediment, fish, fishermen, sailors, aquifers and many other things! 2021 was recognised by everybody at that meeting to have been a bad year, with the fishermen having to use aerators to pump oxygen into the water to keep the fish alive. Unfortunately, this issue is not going to disappear overnight and needs to be managed by all parties concerned. My thanks go to Rob Cyphus for his continued support and direction. The level of knowledge he is building about the ecology of the lake is staggering.

Junior Club was established a few years ago as a social group for the children, with the aim of having fun and building skills. The club stopped due to Covid, but is about to be relaunched. Mark Carver and Steve Brooks have agreed to run the group, with the aim of "fun and games"



on the water, but in a more structured way, linked to RYA training. They explain more later in this newsletter.

Congratulations go to our new band of Senior Instructors, who recently undertook 2 full weekends of assessments. Thank you for your ongoing support for the club.

As a club, we offer RYA training courses to all members, which are usually given by our own FOSSC instructors. These instructors are a group of people who want to share their skills and enjoyment of the sport with others. Every year we try and train new instructors. Again, this year is no exception. Our recently trained Assistant Instructors will go forward to be assessed as Dinghy Instructors in March or April of 2022. These young adults have shown interest in the sport of sailing and been active at the club, helping with both training and sailability.

However, Dinghy Instructor training is not just for the youngsters. If any adult members who are experienced sailors would be interested in training to become Instructors, please contact me (tony@tonyheming.co.uk).

As I mentioned earlier, our club facilities continue to be the envy of many visitors. It requires on-going maintenance and management of the buildings and grounds, which is done every year during our work parties. It is a requirement of our membership that we each attend a work party. Thank you to all members for your continued support and I'm sure you all agree they are generally good fun. Thanks must go to Jim and Patricia Bennett who put together the job list and thanks to all the committee members who have led the work parties.

As a final and most important point, may I take this opportunity to wish everybody a very happy Christmas and here's to a good sailing season in 2022.

Tony Heming

Commodore

Sailing Matters!

Good on those who have continued to sail and race during the cooler months – there's certainly an extra incentive not to capsize! Covid permitting, we will run our usual programme of informal races over the holiday period and into the New Year with most sailing activities starting from March/April. As I write this, Chris Haskins is working to get the details on the website. A few points to note:

- John Sanguin race on Boxing Day will start at 1100.
- True Grit race on New Year's Day will start at 1400.
- Wednesday afternoon informal races will start at 1400 through January, February and March

Other points of interest for the 2022 programme:

Training: we hope to run the usual Junior and Adult sail training courses, Race Training and Safety Boat courses. Look out for details early in the New Year when you will be able to book your place. Provisional dates are given overleaf. Note that there is no training on a bank holiday weekend.

Sailability will run on Saturday mornings throughout the season (rather than moving to Tuesday evenings around June). This means there will be Training and Sailability happening concurrently which will make the lake busy, but there should be plenty of room for everyone.

Racing: We are looking at introducing some shorter races, e.g. two 20 minute back to back races rather than one 50-60 minute race for one or two series. Hopefully this will be more appealing to newer and junior members, while giving the more experienced racers something a bit different.

Overnight Sailing: The 24 hour event was great fun earlier this year – the illuminated boats looked great! We will do something similar in 2022, exact format to be confirmed. It will likely take place overnight Friday 23 to Saturday 24 June.

Boat Maintenance: Would anyone be interested in a half day session at the club sometime in the new year when we can look at what sort of maintenance you should be thinking about for your boat? If you are interested, please let me know and if enough people are keen, we will make it happen. If you would be happy to impart your knowledge, again please let me know (it's not my area of expertise!).

Buying a Boat: This can be a bit daunting – what sort of boat should I buy, how expensive will it be, what pitfalls are there??? We hope to discuss these questions and more on the final day of Adult Training (23rd April), with the session being open to any member, not just those who have done the training.

Work Parties: The usual series of work parties will be scheduled, with participation allocated by surname. If you had a winter work party in 2021, you should get a warmer date this year and vice versa! The first work party will take place on January 22nd, allocated to names L-N, but of

course if you cannot make your allocated work party, please join another one. The next one will be on February 19th for those members with names starting O-Ri.

That's it for now!
Rhonwen James
Sailing Secretary

Monthly Junior Club - Fun and Safe Sailing for Juniors

Calling all Juniors!! In 2022 we will be running a monthly Junior club. The first one will be held on Saturday 15th January between 1.00 - 4.30.

All we ask is that you are between 8 and 18 and have attended at least one sailing course. That is so you know the pointy end from the blunt end of the boat. Club boats will be available if required.

The aim of Junior club is to allow our Junior club members an opportunity to get out sailing, hopefully improve their sailing skills and knowledge and have a bit of fun along the way.

We will be taking a slightly different approach. We will have more structured sessions which incorporate some learning through on water games and activity (weather permitting otherwise land based activity).

Maybe you've been before, maybe you haven't, why not come down and pay us a visit on 15th January and we will be happy to explain things in more detail.

Parents are welcome to stay and chill, stay and help or drop and run! If you wish to do the drop and run you will have to follow some simple rules. (Contact form, sign in and sign out)

We also have a NEW webpage for everything Junior! Contributions and suggestions are more than welcome ... but then be prepared to support us with any changes.

<https://www.fossc.org.uk/wp/frampton-club-juniors/>

For more information please contact Mark Carver or Steve Brooks. Mark and Steve will be taking responsibility for running these sessions and ensuring they operate in a fun and safe manner. If you would like to get more involved to help your kids please contact us, we are always appreciative of the extra help.

Look forward to seeing you on the 15th January

Mark Carver

Powerboat Training

The next RYA Powerboat Level 2 course is planned for 12th and 13th February 2022 at FOSSC. This course is suitable for beginners and those with previous boating experience. Applicants must be current members of FOSSC and over 12 years of age. Where only one Junior member applies to take part they must be accompanied by a parent/carer. Bookings on Web Collect will open from the 8th until the 29th January. As this is a popular course and books up quickly, if you'd like to take part in February please mark the bookings open date on your calendar.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,
Patricia Bennett
Chief Powerboat Instructor

Social Event - New Year Day walk

A New Year Day walk from the club & along the canal is being offered. Friends & non sailors most welcome.

Probably leave about 2pm-ish and take about 90 minutes. Hopefully we will have some mince pies & mulled wine after. Dogs on leads welcome.

Be good if people could let me know if they would like to come.

bru5e@outlook.com

Bruce Lowe
Social Secretary

Provisional 2022 Sail Training Plan

			Adult Level 2	Adult Level 3	Junior Level 2	Junior Level 3	Junior Level 4	Start Racing
March	17	Sat	4 days Toppers/Picos plus 1 extra for double handed sailing	5 days double handers				
March	26	Sat						
April	2	Sat						
April	9	Sat						
Easter weekend								
April	23	Sat			5 days - Toppers/Picos			
May Day Bank Holiday								
May	7	Sat					4 days - Fevas	
May	14	Sat						
May	21	Sat						
May	28	Sat						
Jubilee Bank Holiday								
June	11	Sat				5 days - Toppers/Picos		
June	18	Sat						
June	25	Sat						
July	2	Sat						
July	9	Sat						
July	16	Sat						
July	23	Sat						

Optimist Training: On 7 Sundays, from May22nd to July 10th inclusive (but not June 5th which is the Queen's Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend)

Powerboat Level 2 Training: Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 February.