



Frampton on Severn  
Sailing Club

# NEWSLETTER

March 15<sup>th</sup> 2024



## Terry Evans 1940 - 2024

Welcome to the March newsletter.

Please send any articles for the next edition to [newsletter@fosscc.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@fosscc.org.uk) by 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024

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# Commodore's Comment

As I sit here writing this, the rain is lashing against the window, yet again, and it made me think of the water level in the lake. Over the last few weeks we have had considerable rainfall, but the lake has maintained its level of circa 10.75m, which proves that the sluice is doing its job. The level is monitored on a weekly basis and plotted on a chart kept by Ken Elsey.



Junior Week – In last month's Newsletter, I reminded people that Diana had stood down and asked for volunteers to take it on. I am really pleased to say that Amber Marshall and Callum Pearce have stepped up and will be working as a team with one other person to do the behind the scenes work, with Ellen Brooks and Sam Callen hopefully undertaking the child facing element, just like last year. The date will be 29th July.

At our last committee meeting it was my pleasure to introduce Julian Hardy to the committee, who has kindly agreed to take on the role of Vice Commodore. Julian is a recent member to the club, having returned to the UK after working abroad for many years. He has previous experience of the role, having been Commodore of Lagos Sailing Club and is eager to get involved at FOSSC. Welcome aboard Julian.

Straw Sausages – It's coming to that time of year again. The fishermen have borrowed our straw stuffer to undertake their straw stuffing next weekend on the Court lake. We have our straw stuffing exercise planned for Saturday 13th April. As in previous years, we will have the barley straw delivered and need willing volunteers to create the sausages and some people to start to put them around the edge of the lake. As many of you will remember, this is a fun event and the kids enjoy themselves as well, so please come and help on 13th April.

Last weekend saw another work party at the club, with a good turn out and many jobs achieved. These are an important part of our membership and required to keep our club up together. Thanks for everybody that turned up, but especially thanks to Jim Bennett for organising another successful day.

Weed – Malcolm has been working tirelessly to work out a strategy going forward that will hopefully eradicate our problem over time. We had a meeting with Peter Clifford at the Estate and discussed our various thoughts. This included raking the silt to remove the filament roots of the plants before they sprout for the new season. However, this operation needs to be done during the period of colder weather and not when fish are spawning, so it appears that we may have missed the opportunity for this season, although may be able to attempt something in the autumn/winter. However, an alternative was to "pluck" the early growth from the silt bed, which should have minimal disruption to the silt and as such, will not require Natural England consent. Peter was happy for us to appraise this possibility and Malcolm is currently looking into the practicalities. As I have said before, please discuss this with Malcolm, he has amassed a huge wealth of knowledge on the subject.

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Grass growth – As the weather is warming up, we can almost see the grass growing. Please can we all keep the grass mown in our berths, as it is more pleasant for everybody, rather than having to battle against stinging nettles etc!

See you all at the club.

Tony.

# Sailing Matters!

It might still be a bit chilly out there but that has not dampened the enthusiasm of our racers so far this year. The Sunday Icicle Series which has now finished was won by Pete Roberts with 4 first places; Mike Crowley was second and Jon Barrance third – a clean sweep for the lasers! Overall there were 21 competitors across the 9 weeks, and an average of 9 per race. Well done to all who took part, especially those new to the racing scene. The Wednesday afternoon Icicle series continues until the end of March. Pete R only managed a third place in the first race of the series, but has won every race after that – can anyone stop him?!

As normal, the RYA issued updated ‘Portsmouth Yardstick’ numbers at the end of February. These are the numbers used to adjust elapsed race times for each boat so that different classes can compete against each other. Updated lists are next to the signing on sheet, in the wet bar window, and in the green folder in the black OOD box.

The Sunday Spring Series starts on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March – pursuit and class, but please do remember that the Spring Class series will actually be run as a handicap event, i.e. one start for all racers, with prizes for different fleets pulled from the overall results.

Every member is welcome to participate in any race, and the ‘usual crew’ are always on hand to give advice on anything from boat rigging to how you know when and where to start. If you fancy it, get on down to club and join the fun!

The Hansa Open is on 17<sup>th</sup> April. If anyone would like to help – on or off the water - please contact Dave Greenfield.

The race calendar can be found in 2 places on the club website:

- All club events can be found on a month by month calendar by selecting the ‘Events’ tab on the home page followed by ‘Calendar’. [Events from October 20 – August 1 – FOSSC](#)
- Alternatively, if you are just interested in races, select ‘Sailing’ then ‘Race Programme’ and you will find a list of races for the whole year. [Race Programme 2024 – FOSSC](#)

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I also had a request to list upcoming events in the newsletter each month – you will find that list later in the newsletter.

Happy Sailing

Rhonwen James

Sailing Secretary

sailingsec@foss.org.uk

### **Terry Evans 20.03.1940 – 07.02.2024**

Terry Evans passed away on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February at the age of 83. He was the last original founding member of FOSSC. Along with his father David Evans (after whom the Club Championship is named) and Frank Hazelwood, Terry was a driving force in getting the club established at Frampton. (See photos of him with Sir Peter Scott at the official Club Opening in 1966)

He started sailing on the Court lake with his sister Lesley in an Enterprise. Then he raced an OK painted bright yellow (wearing a yellow wet suit) on our present lake. He also sailed a yellow National 12 – see the other photo - maybe yellow was his favourite colour?

Terry then moved to Thornbury Sailing Club and raced a Merlin Rocket and other high performance classes before settling down in Flying Fifteens which he was still racing until two years ago. Soon after his wife Sue died, Terry had to stop driving due to poor eye sight which prevented him getting to Thornbury to sail. He had been in deteriorating health in recent months and was admitted to hospital for tests the day before he died.

He was one of the Frampton team who travelled to the Southport 24 Hour race each year. Each summer the Evans, Elsey, Hall and Cook and other families would travel to Trinity Sur Mer in Brittany for camping and caravan holidays next to the beach.

Terry was renowned for having slightly dodgy sailing equipment and he was a bit of a maverick. He would come ashore and tell stories in the bar of how he would have done much better in the race if only his rudder had not fallen off, or ...if some other item of equipment come undone or had not broken.

Terry was a very keen bird watcher and could often be found at Frampton by the lakes or down by the river Severn with binoculars spotting the various birds and ducks. He was very knowledgeable about all forms of nature and was an accomplished artist in his younger days.

He was a wonderful character and well loved. He will be much missed by family and friends.

Ian and Lesley Cook







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# SAIL TRAINING 2024

Sail training starts in 2 weeks time, Saturday March 23 with a pre Zoom meeting on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>. To date we have only 5 candidates and we can manage up to 12, so if you want to learn, or improve your basic sailing experience now is the time to consider doing so.

The Better sailing course is very much undersubscribed and currently is unviable. The course is designed to take you from basic sailing skills to competent boat handling in more challenging conditions. Sailing is in the

Club Wanders and will fully complement the skills of those of you who completed Adult L2 last year in the Clubs single handed boats. Start Date, Saturday April 6<sup>th</sup>.

Junior course bookings are coming in well, nice to see the junior L2 sailors booking onto the L3 course. The L4 course is nearly full as we must limit this course to 8 sailors.

The Club has up to 15 Optimists to support our younger sailors and we still have plenty of space. This course is always popular, so early booking is advised.

With the warming Spring weather, a full weed free lake now is the time to book that sailing course. Go to the Clubs WebCollect site, log on using the email address registered with the Club and your password.

Happy Sailing

Andy Crofts, your RYA Training Principal





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## Sailability starts on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April

We are starting again on the 13<sup>th</sup> April, and with the lack of weed at the moment we can use the dinghies a lot more than we can in the summer, but to do this we need more helpers and are making this cry for help. The helpers don't necessarily have to be members of the club, they will all be covered by the clubs insurance, and training will be given. Working with our Sailability sailors is great fun regularly finish with smiles all over our faces.

We run things with fun and safety in mind, our aim is to give every one a good time, so we don't go out if its raining or too windy, sitting around in a boat can be cold a scary in the wrong weather and we don't want that.

Our season runs until 5<sup>th</sup> October when we end with a BBQ for sailors and helpers. We don't sail on Bank Holiday Saturdays to give us all a break.

On the 17<sup>th</sup> April we will be holding the Hansa Open an annual event that gets competitors from all over Britain, we normally get around 20 competitors with very close racing in all classes. If you can help on and off the water let me know, we need catering, safety boat, off water help.

Lastly, may you all have a fantastic year messing about in boats.

David Greenfield

01452740126

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# Wanted

One Saturday morning per month to help with Sailability.

Can you give this commitment, if you can contact David  
Greenfield 01452 740126 david2greenfield@gmail.com

## Diary Dates.

Sunday	March	10	11:00	Spring Pursuit 1
Sunday	March	10	13:00	Spring Class (Handicap) 1
Wednesday	March	13	13:30	Icicle 11 (Pursuit)
Saturday	March	16	09:30	First Aid Training
Saturday	March	16	12:30	Junior Club
Sunday	March	17	11:00	Spring Pursuit 2
Sunday	March	17	13:00	Spring Class (Handicap) 2
Wednesday	March	20	13:30	Icicle 12 (Pursuit)
Saturday	March	23	09:30	Adult RYA L1&2 Training wk 1
Sunday	March	24	11:00	Spring Pursuit 3
Sunday	March	24	13:00	Spring Class (Handicap) 3
Wednesday	March	27	13:30	Icicle 13 (Pursuit)
Wednesday	April	03	16:30	Spring Pursuit 1
Wednesday	April	03	18:30	Spring Handicap 1
Saturday	April	06	09:30	Adult RYA L1&2 Training wk 2
Saturday	April	06	09:30	Adult Better Sailing wk 1
Sunday	April	07	12:00	Canada Cup (Handicap)
Sunday	April	07	14:00	Canada Cup (Pursuit)
Sunday	April	07	15:45	Canada Cup (Handicap)
Wednesday	April	10	16:30	Spring Pursuit 2
Wednesday	April	10	18:30	Spring Handicap 2
Saturday	April	13	09:30	Sailability
Saturday	April	13	09:30	Adult RYA L1&2 Training wk 3
Saturday	April	13	09:30	Adult Better Sailing wk 2

Sunday	April	14	14:00	Spring Pursuit 4
Sunday	April	14	15:45	Spring Class (Handicap) 4
Sunday	April	14	15:47	Junior Cup & Rookie (Handicap) 1
Wednesday	April	17	11:00	Hansa Open
Wednesday	April	17	18:30	Spring Handicap 3

### **Newsletter email address.**

The email address for articles for Sailing Matters is [newsletter@fossc.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@fossc.org.uk)

Please have any items submitted by 10th of the month for inclusion in that month's issue.