



Frampton on Severn
Sailing Club

NEWSLETTER

May 16th, 2021



It is great to see sail training resume.

Welcome to the May newsletter.

Please send any articles for the June edition to support@foss.org.uk by 19th June.

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Commodore's comment

The sail training programme is progressing well, racing is underway, members are going down to FOSSC for a sail, The Junior club has restarted, the regular Thursday work party is making progress and the Covid situation in England continues to improve.

On Monday 17th the next phase of Covid lockdown easing comes into effect. This means that as of the start of next week, the showers and changing area within both the Gents and Ladies will be available for use. Members using the

facilities will be required to adhere to government guidelines for being indoors and for now, the number of occupants in the changing room will be limited to six. To control this, adjacent to the changing room entrance, six key fobs will be found hanging up. If you want to use the facilities and there is a key fob available, remove a key fob and take it into the changing room but when you come out, please remember to **return the key fob to its hook** so that someone else can use it.

If there are no key fobs available at the changing room entrance then it means that there are already six people in the changing room and you should wait until someone comes out.

Until the planned further relaxation of the rules in June, the main room upstairs will remain closed, the galley will not be available for serving drinks etc. and the Wet Bar can only be used as a passage way to the Ladies and Disabled facilities. The decision to keep these areas closed has been made by the Covid Sub-committee as the expenditure required to make them Covid secure could not be justified for a restriction period of five weeks.

Next week will see the first of this year's vegetation cut of the lake take place. This was scheduled for Monday 17th and Tuesday 18th but due to a technical problem, it will now take place on the Tuesday and Wednesday. The work should complete prior to the scheduled Wednesday racing, but if the contractors are still in the process of clearing the site, please allow them to complete their work as quickly as possible.

Those of you who have been down to the club and are good at "spot the difference" puzzles will have noticed that a new mast has appeared on the boat shed with the weather station on top of it. The work on this is almost complete (it still wobbles around in the wind) and has been done due to the sensor instruments at the top of the mast in front of the clubhouse having failed and



nobody wanted to climb up there to replace them (the new mast has been hinged and can be lowered for maintenance purposes).

On Sunday 30th May, Frampton is holding an “Open Garden” day. Cars will be parked in the field adjacent to the FOSSC car park boundary. For this day only, a one way system on Watery Lane will be introduced. Club members will enter the club grounds in the usual way but will leave via the field. The gate will remain open all day.

The Junior Club re-started on Saturday 24th April and use of the lake was shared with the Adult beginners sail training. It was a windy day but that didn't put anyone off from venturing out onto the lake. I was pleased to see 20+ boats out on the lake during the afternoon. I would add that the safety boat crews did get a lot of practice that day!

Several members have been asking if the club will be holding a “Junior Week” at the end of July this year. The answer to this is that it is looking likely but before we can open it up to bookings we need to secure the team who will be running the event. At this point in time this has not been finalised. As soon as we know more, a note will be sent out to the membership via email. For your information, the target week for this event is Monday 26th to Friday 30th July.

In support of getting more younger people involved in sailing, the club's “On boarding” activities are now open for bookings to provide on the water experience for youth groups. Tony Heming co-ordinates this activity and already has two bookings for early July.

I have recently heard that the annual Frampton Show will be going ahead this year on Sunday 12th September. The club always has a publicity stand at this event and attracts a lot of enquiries. This will be followed with a FOSSC taster day on Saturday 18th September.

Have you ever sailed at night? Well, this year you will get the opportunity to try it out at FOSSC. This will be open to anyone who can sail a dinghy, though during the hours of darkness we will be asking anyone under the age of 16 to be accompanied by an adult. The buoys, jetties and hut will have flashing identification lights on them and there will be head torches available for members venturing out on the lake. The club will also make sailing dinghies available for those who don't want to use their own boat. During the hours of darkness, a safety boat will be manned on the water whenever the lake is being used,

This event is being organised in memory of John Jordan. For those of you who weren't fortunate enough to know John, he had been a member of FOSSC for over 30 years and made an enormous contribution to all aspects of the club's success which in the last five years included taking the lead in the refurbishment of the Clubhouse.

John often spoke of his sailing trips to the Isles of Scilly, so we have measured how far it is to St. Mary's from Frampton. The objective of the 24 hours will be for members to sail around the rectangular course set on the lake enough times so that if all the laps sailed were put end to end, we would have collectively sailed to the Scillies!

Elsewhere in this monthly newsletter you will find an introductory article regarding this special 24 hour event which is being run over the last weekend of June (25th/26th) in memory of John Jordan.

And finally, now that we are emerging from the constraints of Covid, the FOSSC committee want to know what you think of the club today and what you would like it to change and improve going forward. The more members who take the survey, the better our analysis will be. Please, I urge you to spend just five minutes taking part in the activity which is important for the future development of the club.

Happy sailing

(which I hope will include a sailing by torch light experience on the 25th/26th June)!

David Coates.

Commodore.

For Fun

From the Times Crossword, 11.05.21:

16 down

Eg. rubber dinghy catches cat after end of race (9)

For answer see last page of Newsletter.

Jonathan Barrance

FOSSC Membership Survey 2021

Back in 2015 we were planning major changes to our club facilities and used a survey to get your views on the Committee's proposals – your response was magnificent and the results are now enjoyed by us all!

A lot has changed in six years and it is time to understand your wishes before we embark on any further projects. Knowing what is working for you and what is not will also help us build a strategy that has your support and should bring long-term benefits to our club.

Ideally, this survey should have occurred last year when the committee worked to create a Strategic Plan to cover the period 2021 – 2025. However, with the impact of Covid it was decided to leave the new plan in a draft state until we could obtain valuable input from the membership.

(For those interested, the draft Five Year Strategic Plan can be viewed on the FOSSC website).

Two short on-line surveys have been created. Both of these surveys are anonymous unless you specifically want to raise a topic with the committee.

1) New Members Survey – the Joining Experience?

This survey is specifically for members that have joined in either **2020 or 2021**. We want to understand your experience joining FOSSC and whether anything could be improved to make it better and be more effective at attracting new members?

2) Full Membership Survey – Current club offer and development?

This survey is for all members, including those that have joined recently.

The survey has been put together with two key objectives:

- a) To understand if we are meeting your expectations and whether there is anything that we need to tweak to improve things?
- b) What would you like the club to change/improve/develop to allow us to sustain your long term enjoyment and membership of the club?

Objectives 1) and 2a) are measuring '*your satisfaction with FOSSC*' and 2b) is asking '*what would you like us to do?*'

The next page outlines the procedure to participate in the survey.

For those of you taking the New Members survey, this should not take longer than 2 minutes. The Full Membership survey should be completed in less than 5 minutes.

We do hope that as many of you as possible will complete the survey by the closing date of **Sunday 30th May**. The more of you who complete it (Family members can each do their own if they want), the better the quality of the analysis of the results.

Many thanks in advance for supporting this initiative and if you get any errors or have problems running the surveys, please contact Tony Emery (tonyemery7nt@gmail.com)

1. NEW MEMBERS SURVEY (for those who joined in 2020 or 2021)

This survey is arranged in the following sections:

1. Chance to enter your e-mail address, otherwise members will remain anonymous
2. Getting started?
3. Finding us
4. Joining up
5. First impressions?

To start the New Member survey (it should take now more than a couple of minutes) click on (or cut and paste from the newsletter):

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScQVzloazi3PxIxSigXwXS8pgHchnCxjqlKklww_LZ535M2cw/viewform?usp=sf_link

2. FULL MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

This survey is arranged in the following sections:

1. Chance to enter your e-mail address, otherwise members will remain anonymous
2. Your membership
3. On water activities
4. Becoming a Training Instructor
5. What is the club like?
6. Clubhouse
7. Further Clubhouse improvements
8. Outside facilities
9. Social Provision
10. Fostering Local Links

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11. Communications – keeping in touch
 12. Could we do better?
 13. Any further comments?

To start the Existing Member survey (it should take now more than a five minutes) click on (or cut and paste from the newsletter):

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScb0GvN1qb-RpX7jlojjU-6RRy4DuU0arYL-c1RdZgKZioVFw/viewform?usp=sf_link

Let's get FOSSC Buzzing!!

Friday 25 and Saturday 26 June

We have a great weekend of activities planned with something for everyone. Although it's not a wedding, we'll have something old, something new, probably something borrowed, and hopefully a rich blue sky!

John Jordan 24 hour sail event which is a new venture for the club. As our Commodore has explained, the club wanted to honour John who passed away last year. David Coates has set a challenge to the club of how far we can sail in 24 hours - do you want to be part of that challenge???

Between 1800 on Friday 25 June and 1800 on Saturday 26 June, a pre-measured square course will be set on the lake and anyone who sails round the course can log the number of laps they complete. You can start and stop sailing as many times as you like during those 24 hours, and at the end we will count up how far we have cumulatively sailed. A rescue boat will be available throughout.

Yes, we will have the option of sailing during the night! Lighting will be provided on the buoys, jetties, hut and rescue boat; anyone sailing at night, or when the light is poor will be asked to wear head torches (provided by FOSSC).

If you are interested, just come to the club and join in!

Social Sailing will start mid May and will be on as usual on Friday evening.

Sailability will start at 0930 on Saturday 26 June for the first session since 2019.

The final day of **Junior Beginner Training** will also start at 0930 on Saturday 26 June.

Camping available all weekend

Everything subject to government covid restrictions being lifted.

On Saturday evening, we will host the **2020 Prize-giving**. This will be an informal affair, hopefully using the marquees outside the club house, although if the weather is not good, we will use the upstairs room in the clubhouse.

A simple meal will be provided (details tbc, but likely to be a lasagne, or pie, etc) for ~£7 per person, £5 for U14s. If you would like this, please email me by 15 June with the number of places you require and any dietary requirements you have. If we need to move inside and due to covid you are not comfortable with this, you will be entitled to a refund. rhonwenbryce@yahoo.co.uk

Dress code is completely informal, t-shirts and flip flops are welcome. It would be great to be as bright and colourful as possible! If anyone would like to provide colourful decorations for the marquee, please bring them down and hang them up!

Sailing Matters!

Well the sailing has definitely been interesting! Most people are still in dry suits due to the temperature and rain which has been plaguing us, but the sailing has been great with some good winds for training and racing.

On the racing front, there have been a good number taking part on Wednesdays and Sundays – if anyone else wants to join in, just come down and you will be very welcome. Ian Cook is currently top of the leader board on Wednesday afternoons, but he's going to have to work hard to catch up with Pete Dalton in the evening series. Mike Crowley is leading the Sunday Pursuit series, with the Sunday class series being led by Pete Roberts (Laser), Roger Allen (Solo) and Chris & Alfie Owen in an Enterprise in the Handicap fleet. Good luck to everyone who takes part.

Social Sailing will start on Friday 21 May for that lovely relaxing way to start the weekend. As usual, there will be a rescue boat on the water and plenty of experienced people around to help you if you need advice on rigging, or some pointers on how to improve your sailing.

On 13 June, we will start some series which are particularly aimed at members who are newer to racing, with the Junior & Beginner series at 1230, and the ProAm races at 1400. For the former, we will explain the course beforehand, and have on-the-water coaching to help everyone; the race will be 30-40 minutes long. The ProAm is where an experienced racer pairs up with a novice racer in one of the club gulls. There will be two short (25-30 minute) races with the Pro helming the first race and the Am helming the second race.

As I write this, the Adult Beginner Training course is on its final day and the new Picos have proven to be excellent training boats. Great to see everyone improving week on week. The instructors have generously agreed to do an extra day with the trainees in June to introduce them to 2 man boats.

Junior beginner training starts next week on Saturday 22 May, and Oppie training starts on Sunday May 23rd. It's great to see so many people enjoying being out on the water 😊.

Rhonwen James
Sailing Secretary

New to Racing – Am I improving?!!

So, you've taken the plunge and joined in a few races – that's great!! Hopefully you've had a few moments of adrenalin, and the lessons you had when you first learnt to sail are paying off. However, sometimes it can feel like everyone else is better and it'll be ages before you move up the results sheet. Don't worry – we've all been there!! What follows is my personal view on how to take it one or two small steps at a time. There are loads of personal achievements along the way – major and minor. Try playing these bingo cards!

A novice racer

Completed a lap		Did a gybe in a force 3 without capsizing	
	Completed a race without capsizing	Completed the same number of laps as the winner	Not last on the results sheet
Not last at the first mark	Overtook another boat		Crossed the start line within 10 seconds of the start signal

Getting better!

	Called starboard on another racer		Won a glass for 3 rd place in a series
First to the windward mark		Won a race!	
	Finished ahead of that really good helm	Called 'water at the mark'	Remembered to play some of the controls – outhaul, kicker

Advanced 😊

Controlled a death roll and didn't capsize		Won a series	Pushed another helm over the start line
	Did a port start – and it paid off		Raced in force 4-5 and didn't capsize

Won a club championship series		Crossed the start line exactly on the sound signal	
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And finally.....

Won the club championship!!

Whatever your achievements each week, I hope you enjoy your racing. If you do have any questions, please drop me an email.

Rhonwen James
Sailing Secretary
rhonwenbryce@yahoo.co.uk

Junior & Beginner Races

Starting on 13th of June, there will be a Junior and Beginner Race each Sunday at 1230 until 22nd August (except July 18th). Any Junior who is 17 years or under on the date of the race is eligible. There is no formal definition for a 'beginner racer'. If you want to join in, please come and take to the water – if you are too good, we may suggest you focus on other races!

Just before each race, we will have a more experienced racer talk you through the course – which buoys to go round, where the gybes will be, etc. We will also allow on the water coaching and support, e.g. advice to pull your sail in a bit more, or if you capsize and need help getting your boat back up, you can still carry on (normally if you have assistance you would have to retire from the race).

The race will be quite short, probably about 30 minutes for the first boat and 40 minutes for the slower boats. You don't have to commit to doing all the races – just do the ones you can.

Pro-Am Races

For 5 weeks starting on 13 June, we will run a series of Pro-Am races on Sundays at 1400. These are also aimed at novice racers. Each novice racer will be paired up with a more experienced racer and will take to the water in one of the club gulls (or if you have your own gull, even better). There will be two races back-to-back (quick turn-around so no coming ashore between races), each about 25-30 minutes. The 'Pro' will helm the first race and the 'Am' will helm the second race. The novices will therefore get one-to-one support during the races.

If you are interested in participating, just turn up on the day. Again, you don't need to commit to do every race.

RNLI Trophy

June sees the RNLI Trophy as part of the Club Championship series. Just as a reminder, this Trophy is comprised of three races spread over three Wednesday evenings, starting on 16th at 18-30 hrs.

There is an entry fee for this series, which is a donation to the RNLI. Any extra donations will be most welcome, 2020 was the RNLI's busiest year, and this year also promises to be very busy for them.

Fees are : £5 for the whole series
Or £2 per race

This fee to be paid to Bruce Richardson by 18 - 25 hrs on each day.

Race entrants will only be accepted payment of the fee prior to the start of each race

Successful Training!

The 2021 Adult Trainees have just finished their course with a couple of short races on Saturday afternoon before the rain set in. Despite a very changeable wind there were no capsizes and plenty of well controlled gybes – an excellent result for both trainees and instructors.

Having only been able to do very limited training last year, it was great to see training actually taking place. FOSSC are leading the way in the local area in terms of offering training this year and the RYA are very interested in how the club has adapted this year – big well done and thank you to the whole training team. The addition of the fleet of Picos to our club fleet has been a big bonus in terms of all trainees having loads of helming practice, and the new sails on the gull looked really smart. Roll on Junior & Oppie Training which both start next week. Here's a few photos from the final adult session.







Assistant Sailing Instructors

We have a few vacancies for the post of Assistant Instructors, and will consider any suitable applicants.

Entry requirements for juniors are : minimum age of 16, holder of RYA YSS 3 course for at least one year, and undertaken at least 20 hrs of sailing since completing this RYA course.

Entry requirements for adults are :

holder of RYA level 2 course for at least one year, and undertaken at least 20 hrs of sailing since completing the RYA course.

Due to the restrictions imposed by Covid, applicants must be available to help on current FoSSC training courses, i.e. between now and the end of July 2021.

A final assessment day has been set aside at the end of October.

Enquiries to be sent to :

Bruce Richardson

landbrichardson@btinternet.com

WEATHER STATION

The more observant of you may have noticed the Weather Station display on the website wasn't always working. The problems started during Covid times last year so it was difficult to fix them in a timely manner.

In mid May last year the outside humidity reading started reading low and cut out altogether at the end of the year, at the same time the outside temperature sensor which is mounted on the same circuit board stopped working. We were also having problem with birds sitting on the rain gauge and it blocking the small hole with dirt and moss. The wind direction sensor and the anemometer also packed up at the end of December. Given that the wind apparatus is mounted 12 metres up our flag pole, and it was in the middle of winter, nobody volunteered to climb the flag pole to fix the problem?

We were able to start investigating the issues once the Thursday work parties were able to start again after the Covid Lockdown. After cleaning and checking the electronics in the Weather Station, it was found that we needed a new temperature/humidity board which now works well. The combined wind direction/speed anemometer was still a problem 12 meters up the Flag Pole. Even though days had warmed up, still nobody volunteered to climb the flag pole!

It was then we remembered that when we moved over from a cabled system to a wireless system in 2014, we had a spare anemometer. (We had to change as mice had chewed the cable.) On checking the wireless system we found that the transmitter worked the length of the dinghy park, so we just had to find a position to located

it. We wanted to be high enough to avoid obstructions and be easy enough get at to service. With the help of the club's engineering gurus Brian Trubshawe and Malcolm Payton, a plan was made using an old scrap mast and attaching it to the Boat Shed on a hinge so it could be lowered if needed. Thanks to Teilo Coates, some computer issues were also solved. This work has now been completed and all the systems are working.

The display can be found on the club website under **"ABOUT"** **"Live Weather"** We don't have the solar radiation and UV sensors as you can just look outside of your door to establish.

Ken Elsey



FREE Windsurfer Rigging

The rig comprises 2x masts, mast extension, about 6x sails and 4x wishbones with other tackle.

Anyone interested is welcome to Mike Farr mikefarr2@btopenworld.com



Website

You may have noticed the website has been updated with a new look and feel.

One of the changes we have introduced is the addition of an online store allowing members to buy FOSSC branded clothing. The range currently includes beanies, baseball caps, t-shirts, polo shirts and more. There is also the option to customise items by adding your name and/or RYA qualification to the sleeve.

The screenshot shows the FOSSC website's online store. At the top, there is a navigation menu with the following items: ABOUT, BLOG, EVENTS, MEMBERSHIP, SAILING, TRAINING COURSES, MEMBERS, STORE, BASKET, and a search icon. The main content area is titled "Products" and "FOSSC branded clothing". It displays four product cards, each with a photo of the item, its name, category, price, and a "SELECT OPTIONS" button.

Product Name	Category	Price
Child Sweatshirt	CHILD, CLOTHING	£12.50
Adult Hoodie	ADULT, CLOTHING	£20.00
Child Hoodie	CHILD, CLOTHING	£16.00
Adult Sweatshirt	ADULT, CLOTHING	£15.00

FOSSC Calendar of Events

Change of Dates

Please note the following changes to the sailing and events programme:

- Junior Club which is now 5 June (was 12 June)
- Adult Double Hander Training will be on 12 June
- Work Party Q to S is now 19 June (was 26 June)
- John Jordan 24 hour sail is now 25/26 June (moved from ¾ July)
- 2020 Prizegiving is now 26 June (was 4 July)
- Safety Boat Refresher and Intro to OOD are now 10 July (moved from 17 July)

Work Parties

To help you get dates in your diaries, the work parties for this year will be:

May	22	Work Party L-P
June	19	Work Party Q-S
July	24	Work Party T-Z
October	2	Work Party A-Co
October	30	Work Party Cr-G
November	13	Work Party H-K

To find these on the club website, click on 'Events' on the menu at the top of the page, type 'work' into the search bar which appears, and click on 'find events.'

Answer to Times Crossword clue:

ELASTOMER

end of rac E, LAS-tom-ER

You cannot get better recognition of class than to appear in the Times Crossword.