



Ulley Update

The Newsletter of Ulley Sailing Club

Message from our Commodore – David Holt

March 2013

Our Brass Monkey series has really lived up to its name this year and has only attracted the hardiest of hardy sailors. Final event is on 10th March. Only a few weeks now to the start of the new sailing season – 1st race day is 31st March (Easter Sunday). Before this we have our Prize Giving and Curry Evening on 9th March. It's our first social event of the year. I've seen the menu and we're in for a treat! Don't miss it.

Don't forget to book for our Racing Rules Evening on Wed 13th March, when Carol Haynes, RYA's Regional Rules Adviser, is coming to brief us on rules changes this year. £4 including a hot supper. It will be a good social evening. Book on the sheet on double doors in club room.

We then have two **Working Party weekends on 16/17th and 23/24th March** when we'll have lots to do, especially in the boat park. We need plenty of volunteers.

Look out for the Bosun's programme of work.

We have recently finalised the design for our double-decker boat racks, for storing Lasers or other single handers. 4 racks are on order and will be positioned in line with the wall down the side of the building. This will allow us to store another 8 boats on the same ground area.

Delivery is expected in early April. Ground preparation work will be completed over the next few weeks so assembly/positioning of racks can be done quickly when they arrive.

The boat park will then be comprehensively reorganised, each boat being given a specific storage position.

We have just taken delivery of a brand new Suzuki 15hp outboard plus three engine trolleys, courtesy of a successful grant bid by Rosalie Hill. We'll be advertising our original 9.9hp Suzuki shortly. Having three new/nearly new 4-stroke engines is another demonstration to the RYA of our serious intent for the future and will help us with our application for Recognised Training Centre status. We're not far off with this now. (See Mark's section for more info.)

I'm disappointed to have to report that our new lease is still not finalised. RMBC have thrown a last minute spanner in the works, wanting to insert a clause limiting their expenditure on the building, giving us some cause for concern. We have made suggestions to minimise any potential problems and are awaiting a response through our solicitors.

Our relationship with the new Activity Centre tenants, Wickersley School, is coming along nicely. There will be teething problems as we each sort out our respective storage areas. The name of the game is a bit of patience and a lot of speed in sorting out any issues arising.

I have a monthly meeting with Adam Taylor from Wickersley so we can ensure that each group is aware of the other's activities, working together wherever possible.

For the first time since 2006 (I think) we are preparing to send a team of young sailors to compete in the Southport Junior 12 hour Endurance Race on 29th June. Age limit is under 20.

We have the option of entering an under 18 team. Claire Thickett is the lead on this. Contact Claire for more information.

And finally, the club will be receiving a Certificate of Commendation following our entry in the RYA Club of the Year Competition. Each year, five entries are selected as finalists and the final results are announced at the Dinghy Show which this year was on 2nd and 3rd March at Alexandra Palace. We didn't make it into the top five but the Competition was so close this year that the judges decided to issue these new Certificates to the next three best entries.

This means we finished in the top eight nationally. How good is that! View it as a "well done" message from the RYA to everybody at the club.

Happy sailing

Check out our Facebook page, search for **Ulley Sailing Club – Official**.



Check out our Flickr page, go to:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/ulleysailingclub>

Boat Park Development – Dave White

Those who have been around over the festive period and the run up to the season starting will have noticed some changes. The club is going through some exciting changes, all needed to develop and secure the future of USC. Some of these changes will affect the boat park. Recently we had a purge on car tyres in the boat park. I think we counted nearly 100 tyres, rims and other objects that were removed. These had to be disposed of by an approved waste carrier so in turn there is a considerable cost associated with disposal. **Please don't bring any tyres back into the boat park.** I know they are useful but they are an eyesore, trip hazard and are not very environmentally friendly. During the next few working parties it has been suggested that more suitable replacements should be made, like trestles and wooden chocks. Anyone with some woodwork skills please raise your hand at the next working party. During further development projects please be patient. The committee will try its best to notify any work that affects individual members and their boats. However if boats are moved by anyone during this time please treat them as if they were your own and respect people's property.

Youth Southport – Becky Thickett

Southport 12 hour race for the youth happens every year. Unfortunately we, as a club, haven't been able to attend for many years. This is because of the lack of youths that were in the club willing to participate. This year we are hoping to take part in the 12 hour race but, in order to do this, we need some more youths to come forward who believe they will have a great time. Personally, I have been to two 24 hour races at Southport which are for anyone who wants to join in with the fun. I had a fantastic time each year, sailing with new people and interacting with members within the club! Southport 12 hour race is a club event where, just like the 24 hour race, you will be able to interact with the youth of the sailing club and you will have a fantastic time sailing with people who are around your age! This is a brilliant way to make new friends and a chance to show your skills to everyone at the club. If you want to participate in this amazing event put your name down in the galley - there is a sheet of paper near the whiteboard with some names already down. Put your name under either helm or crew depending on what you want to do!

Some Important Dates for the Diary

- Prize Giving at Ulley – Saturday 9th March
- RYA Racing Rules Evening – Wednesday 13th March
- Working Party Weekend – 16th, 17th & 23rd, 24th March
- Start of the 2013 Sailing Season – Saturday 30th March



Message from the Galley – from the Rear Commodore

In addition to the information about the OoD duties contained in the Club handbook, there are a few things Members need to be aware of. Please do not put things on top of the extractor fan housing, as the flexible pipe is easily dislodged. Recently the right hand sink developed a leak, so there is a bowl on the floor underneath the sink. Please leave it there until Dave has managed to fix the leak. The galley is subject to inspection by Environmental Health and, if it does n't meet their standards of hygiene, they may serve notice on us preventing us using the galley until their requirements have been met. These include the cleanliness of the fridge, cooker, microwave and sinks. When on duty, if you use something, please clean it and put it away,.. Don't assume that the next OoD will do it because the chances are they won't, which is how things get so dirty, especially the cooker hob. The annual spring clean is not enough to keep the galley clean for the rest of the year!!

Yet another pair of scissors has escaped from the drawer in the Galley, no doubt making a break for the boatpark!! Will members PLEASE stop using the Galley as a tool box, bring your own scissors and sharp knives to cut ropes and repair boats, I can't keep pace with these missing items!

CALLING ALL ULLEY TEA TOWELS: WOULD YOU PLEASE RETURN TO YOUR PLACES IN THE DRAWER IN THE GALLEY. YOU ARE SORELY MISSED!!!

If you are reading this as a printed copy but would be happy to just receive the electronic version, please send an email to: membership.secretary@ulleysailingclub.org.uk

Plum Pudding Race – Steve Butler

On Boxing Day, a whole fleet (flock, gaggle, herd, ...) of Santa Claus impersonators took to the water at Ulley, as eighteen boats competed in the Club's annual Plum Pudding Race. A magnificent turn out!

The race started in a good breeze blowing straight from No 1 to No 4 and, right from the start, the leader on the water was the Merlin of Mark and Simon Pinder. A decrease in the breeze later in the race favoured the Enterprises, particularly those sailed by Matt Velamail + Tim Brownell and James Morley + Rachel Burkitt, although Mark and Simon stayed out in front for the whole race. Although everybody managed to keep moving, this decrease in wind strength certainly did not favour the two-handed Mirror helmed by Kevan Wilson! Our RS600 national champion, Jamie Mawson, was sailing but the conditions did not suit the RS300 that he now sails and he was also testing out some recent repairs, so he did not feature in the results.

At the end of the race, after adjusting for handicaps, Mark and Simon's time was only good enough to put them in second place, ahead of James and Rachel but beaten by Matt and Tim. However, even the best sailors make mistakes and Mark and Simon had been over the line at the start of the race! Since they did not return to restart they were disqualified, so the winner's trophy went to Matt and Tim, with James and Rachel promoted into second place.



When Santa Came to Ulley – Christine Mawson

The first children's Christmas party for a very long time was held at Ulley on Saturday 8th December, and was attended by approximately 30 children and their parents or grandparents. It was the brainchild of member Laura Moore, who now realises she has resurrected a tradition which will probably ensure she has a job for life! Laura is now planning this year's party - nothing like being prepared!

It was a magical time for the children and adults alike; an old fashioned 'proper' children's party, with games, party food, and the highlight of the afternoon, the arrival by boat of Santa and his elves, accompanied by a snowman. The excitement of the children on the patio as Santa arrived was incredible. One member said his three year old almost leapt from his arms!

Laura would like to pass on her thanks to all who helped make it such a special time: Santa for giving presents to the excited children; his elves, Rachel and Becky for helping him; Claire in the galley cooking party food (which was all delicious) and the parents for providing it. Special thanks to Linda and Will for setting up and decorating the room on Friday evening - it looked wonderful - and to Will for providing the music. Extra special thanks from the members and committee go to Laura. The planning and hard work that went into making it all happen is very much appreciated.

If you didn't manage to attend last year, you missed a real treat. Make sure you sign up for this year's party as soon as the date is announced!

Rear Commodore's helper!



On an irregular basis, we often need to find somebody with a particular skill, whether it be for maintenance/repairs to buildings or boats, catering, technical drawing, fund raising, writing articles, designing brochures or posters, general IT skills, etc., etc.. **If you have ANY skills that might possibly be of use to the operation or management of the club, please send me a note or an email:**

general.secretary@ulleysailingclub.org.uk

Membership News – Welcoming all new and current members

Two years ago, in 2011, we had a record number of new members joining the Club and ended the year with a total of 91 memberships – the highest number since the very early years of the Club. Inevitably, as in previous years, some people decided that sailing was no longer their preferred sport and did not renew their membership in 2012. However, this was more than compensated by a further twenty three new memberships during the year, so that we finished with a **total of 95 memberships** – an increase of four over the total for 2011.

So, while many sailing clubs are seeing decreases in membership, we are more than holding our own. We must be doing something right!

There have been three new memberships since the October 2012 newsletter, so we give a hearty welcome to:

Haydn Knight	Single Member
Mark Ellson and Gemma Loveday	Family Members
Kelly and Paul Herring	Family Members

The Club was buzzing with activity all last year and I look forward to seeing similar or greater activity in the coming year.

For those of you who have not yet renewed your membership for 2013, I hope that the expenses of Christmas have now been paid off and you are able to pay your renewal fees. Unfortunately, you must now include the late-payment surcharge, as set out in your letter about the AGM. If you have lost this letter, you can see the required fees on the Club website, on the "Members' Information / Membership Renewal" page. You can download a copy of the Renewal Form from there as well.

Please send your payment and the completed Renewal Form to my home address (as given in your Club Handbook), or you can leave them at the Club for me to collect, but please ensure that they are in a sealed envelope marked for the attention of the Membership Secretary and with your name on the outside.

Alternatively, you can make your payment by internet bank transfer to the Club's bank account, but you must still return your renewal form. The account details are:

Branch Code: 12-18-68 (Bank of Scotland)
Account Number: 00900660

Enter the "Reference" for your transfer as "[Your Name] Fees" so we can be sure who the money has come from.

Steve Butler
Membership Secretary
Email: membership.secretary@ulleysailingclub.org.uk

Becky's Cakes



Pre-event training Mr Commodore? – Southport 24hrs

CAKES START FROM £3
TO £6
BUNS ARE £2.50 FOR 12



MALTEASER
CHOCOLATE CAKE
WITH
BUTTERCREAM

VICTORIA SPONGE CAKE WITH
BUTTERCREAM

FLAKE CHOCOLATE CAKE WITH
BUTTERCREAM



ORANGE
CAKE

BUTTERFLY BUNS WITH
JAM AND
BUTTERCREAM



CHOCOLATE
BROWNIES

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A CAKE MAKING
CONTACT BECKY ON:

07584085421

01709 739668

Training News – Brush up on those 5 essential skills

Training Opportunities

Safety Boat Familiarisation Training:

You all may be aware that the outboard engines have been replaced with Suzuki 4 stroke 15 hp engines following the theft last year. The engines operate slightly differently than the ones we had previously. The tractor has also been replaced and is very different to the one we had.

As with previous years, every member is required to attend one of the Safety Boat/equipment refresher sessions that take place on the fourth Saturday in every month from 10:00am to 12:30pm.

It is each member's responsibility to ensure they book and attend a session each year prior to their safety duty. You will need to contact Mark Burkitt on training@ulleysailingclub.org.uk

The exception to this requirement is anyone who holds a RYA Powerboat Level 2 qualification, or a RYA Safety Boat Qualification. However, if you have not driven the safety boat or the Tractor for some time it is recommended that you attend a session to refresh your skills and remind yourself how and where everything is kept. It has all been moved to different locations.

Dinghy Training Sessions:

These also take place on the fourth Saturday in every month, from 1:30 to 4:30pm or thereabouts. Here an instructor and/or an Assistant will be on hand to assist you with developing your technique or, if you are a total beginner, then these afternoons will be the ideal platform to start out in the sport. At present, tuition will be given free of charge as part of your membership. **Please be aware that the 'Have a Go' days are expected to be busy, therefore club boat sharing is encouraged.**

The Safety Boat Familiarisation and Dinghy Training days are:

23rd March, 27th April, 25th May, 22nd June, 27th July, 24th August, 28th September, and 26th October

Wednesday Night Training: Calling all new members!

Table-top training sessions have been continuing through the cold winter months, and are tailored to meet the needs of those who attend the sessions, from beginners and novices, through to improvers.

When the season starts we need to know if there is a demand for additional training sessions on Wednesday evenings before the racing starts at 6:30pm. It is proposed to do a short 'desk top' session before going out on the water to practice the topic covered. We will try and cater for the varying competencies. If there is sufficient support we intend to run these short sessions on most Wednesdays throughout the summer.

Please let Mark Burkitt or David Staniforth know if you are interested in these short sessions.

RYA Instructor Training - UPDATE:

We have very recently put in our application to become an RYA Training Centre, and we are currently awaiting the inspection date from the RYA. We are looking for SIX ~~victims~~ volunteers to attend a training session during the inspection. If you are willing to be one of the first to be on a course, please let Mark Burkitt know as soon as possible.

RYA First Aid Courses:

In November 2012 and January 2013, the Club held first aid courses where 19 members completed a RYA First Aid qualification. This normally costs about £75+ at any other centre. These courses were heavily discounted and provided the delegates with a basic understanding of First Aid.

We are looking to provide this again later this year, so if you are interested please contact our training co-ordinator, Mark Burkitt. *(Note: Anyone wishing to become a RYA Instructor must have obtained a recognised First Aid qualification less than 3 years ago.)*

RYA Powerboat Level 2:

The Powerboat Level 2 course is available throughout the year at various training centres throughout the region for those who wish to attain a RYA Powerboat qualification. The cost of this may be subsidised by a RYA grant. However, you will be required to pay in full before applying for a subsidy. If you are interested, contact our training co-ordinator, Mark Burkitt, who will make enquiries on your behalf. *(Note: Anyone wishing to become a RYA Instructor must have a recognised Powerboat qualification.)*

RYA 'Push the Boat Out' Weekend

This year (2013) the RYA's highly successful 'Push the Boat Out Day' is being extended to cover two days, 18th & 19th May. This is to encourage **'more people to sail more of the time'**.

This is a phrase you may hear more throughout this year, as the RYA are trying to get existing sailors to get in their boats more often and have a sail. Just an extra once or twice during the year will help push up the numbers of people sailing. Remember, if you haven't got your own boat, then you can hire the club boats to have a potter around the pond or even enter a race.

RYA Safety Boat Course

In September 2012 the RYA's Regional Development Officer offered the Club two days of free training on any subject the Club desired. After a 'short' debate it was decided that the Club would benefit from improved safety cover and more members having an official RYA Safety Boat Certificate. The skills attained could then be passed down through the membership at the Safety Boat Familiarisation sessions.

Five members and a Park Ranger attended the RYA Safety Boat Course held at Ulley over a weekend using a Rib from Wickersley School and the Clubs safety boats. As a result, all five members passed the course, and the Park Ranger achieved the RYA Powerboat Certificate.

This offer may be made again this year, and your thoughts on what training the Club would benefit from would be welcomed. If you would like to be considered to go on a course then again please let Mark Burkitt know.

Sailing Experiences and Taster Sessions

Preparing the yearly training calendar is always a bit tricky as we need lots of helpers setting boats up, providing Safety Cover, assisting Trainers, etc. As you are aware, each year we have a number of new members wanting to learn to sail and we need to keep the Ulley tradition of passing on the skills we have to keep our sport growing.

The first suggested dates I have in mind are as follows: -

Instructor & Assistants Day	30th March (First Day of Sailing)
Sailing Experience Days	6th and 13th April
Sailing Lessons	20th and 27th April and 4th May
Sailing Experience	25th May (Also a Club training day so extra help will be needed)
Sailing Experience	1st June

We have not thought about the rest of the year at this point but please let me know if you can help or provide assistance to the instructors. Once we have passed our RYA inspection, an official RYA Assistant Instructor Certificate can be issued once you have fulfilled the criteria.



Things to watch out for:

Following on from meetings with our newest members and with Adam McGoven, the RYA's Regional Development Officer, with regards to increasing regular participation levels at Ulley, the main areas discussed and where we saw potential was:

- 'Try Sailing Saturdays' - Sailing Experiences
- Regular 'Ladies that Launch' events – Getting more ladies/girls to sail and hold events
- Regular 'Race Coaching' – Early Sunday morning race-coaching sessions
- 'Rewards Day' for regular participants – Quality prizes for regular participation.

The funding available from the RYA on these topics is not yet clear as the regional budget has not been set, but these are areas where funding may be targeted, so keep an eye out throughout the year for these events springing up. As usual special events will be advertised in the Club house, on the Club's website and on Facebook

RYA Racing Rules Evening Wednesday 13th March

For more information go to:

<http://www.ulleysailingclub.org.uk/media/News/Racing%20Rules%20Presentation%20poster%20website-%202013.pdf>

Thank you for reading the newsletter. If you have any comments or feedback please email Dave Holt – Commodore, and he will inform the relevant person.

commodore@ulleysailingclub.org.uk

Happy & Safe Sailing!!!