



March 2016



Welcome to Ulley Sailing Club's first edition of Ulley Update for 2016.....



**** NEWS FLASH ****

The revamped Clubhouse will be officially re-opened on Wednesday 11th May by

The Princess Royal, HRH Princess Anne!

The princess will be at the Club from about 12 noon to 1:30pm and we would like as many people as possible (especially youngsters) to be out sailing when she arrives, so you need to be there well before 11am. More details to follow as the arrangements are finalised, but get your day booked off now from work or school.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

26/27 March Working Parties

26 March Events Team meeting

2 April Main Season Start

23 April Youth Squad

11 May Grand Re-opening

14 May Open Day

New telephone and phone number

The current BT landline has been replaced by a mobile phone so we have a new phone and phone number. Please note the new phone number. The new phone can't be missed! It's bright red and will live on the bar – please do not remove it!!!

USC's New phone number: 07398 505 821

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



USC is on Twitter - @ulleysailing



If you have any comments or feedback on this newsletter please email the commodore, Mark Burkitt, and he will inform the relevant person.

commodore@ulleysailingclub.org.uk

If you would like to get involved with future Newsletters or have an idea for an article please email the General Secretary, Nicola Panter

general.secretary@ulleysailingclub.org.uk

Happy & Safe Sailing!

Club News – What’s happening and what has been happening

Committee 2016:

The new volunteers voted onto the committee for 2016 were Kevan Wilson and Mark Pinder. We sadly said farewell to Ian Mawson and Mick Sumner. It always takes a little time for the bottle to stop spinning when we dish out the jobs during the December committee meeting and then it takes until after Christmas for the reality to set in.

Ulley Sailing Club Committee 2015/16

- **Mark Burkitt:** ships cook, bottle washer, dogsbody, and all round nice guy, the **Commodore**.
- **Steve Butler** continues as the **Membership Secretary** and is still awaiting some membership forms.
- **George Davis**, sits as the **Vice Commodore**, and supports Dave White and Dave Staniforth.
- **Dave Holt** has moved into the Galley as **Rear Commodore**. REMINDER! You’ll still have to pick up the OoD bag on Wednesday nights, and drop it off at Dave Holt’s house.
- **Nick Lander**, Dave White’s ‘**Skivvy**’.
- **Nicola Panter**, has taken the role of **General Secretary**, and is supporting the committee with Newsletter writing and getting ~~worms~~ words in the right place.
- **Mark Pinder** is to join the **Training Team** and support Thomas Flewitt with the **Youth Squad**.
- **Andrew Rogers**, is our **House Steward** assisting Dave Holt. He’s also our **Trainee Rota Secretary**.
- **Ken Russon** remains the **Treasurer** and is awaiting some fees.
- **Dave Staniforth** is the **Sailing Secretary**, and is looking for Fleet Captains, so hands up who wants to volunteer. He’s also part of the **Training Team**.
- **Dave White** reliable as ever as the **Bosun**.
- **Kevan Wilson** is the **Assistant Bosun**, helping Dave White with the task of keeping the boat park and the equipment working and ship shape.

We also have a small but perfectly formed group of volunteers that don’t sit on the Committee, but do a load of stuff in the back ground. These are

- **Thomas Flewitt**, a member of the **Training Team** and our **Youth Team Leader**. He’s looking for a suitable candidate for a Youth Team Captain.
- **Rosalie Hill**, **fund and hell raiser** and one of the **Development Plan authors**.
- **Guy Mosely**, another member of our **Training Team**.
- **Phil Scolah** - **Rota Secretary** and another **Development Plan author**.

So there you have it, a bunch of folks that all help to run your Club, so if you have any issues that you need to discuss or want to help out in any way, don’t be shy just grab one of us and we’ll try to sort it out for you.

Remember, we don’t have magic wands and we aren’t part of Hogwarts, but we will listen and try our best to serve the Club.

So here’s to a great sailing season for 2016 – it would be great to see you all at the Club, just SAILING.

Mark Burkitt, Commodore commodore@ulleysailingclub.org.uk

Inspired Facility Project (Club Room Redevelopment)

As you are all aware the Club Room has undergone a transformation - who says you can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear? (Well something like that!). We've had a good go at it anyway, the tired décor has gone. We have a new internal layout making the whole complex more flexible. It's also cleaner and tidier for all users of the building.



All set for Friends Café Day

We were very lucky to receive a substantial grant from Sport England but we have Dave Holt to thank for his determination, hard work and patience in putting the scheme together.

As a cherry on the cake, we are bidding for additional funds to help us complete the ensemble, with new furniture in the *changing rooms and new tables and chairs for the Club Room*

It goes without saying that the new facility will only last if we all, including the other users, take care not to mistreat the new facility and its furniture.

The Committee will be pushing RMBC to invest in the building to tidy up the external appearance and look at replacing the fascia boards that are looking scruffy, along with the replacement of the window frames that are rotten.

We will of course be undertaking some works during this month's Working Parties, and as in previous years there will be a need for you to join in with the Working Parties to get the Club ready for another BIG season of sailing.

It goes without saying, that if anyone sees anything that is out of place or any other user mistreating the furniture, changing rooms or the galley, please let a member of the Committee know asap.

To try and maintain a tidier clubhouse there will be a few less notices going up on the walls (*no one reads them anyway!*) Our website and Facebook page will hopefully replace these so keep an eye on them. The scrappy filing cabinets will be going too and our new storeroom will be kitted out with purpose made racking.

You will already be aware of our Grand Re-Opening planned for 11 May. Get the date in your diary and the day booked off work/school. Remember to keep an eye on our website ulleysailingclub.co.uk and our [Facebook](#) page for updates.

Mark Burkitt, Commodore

Youth Squad

2015 was another great year for the Youth Squad... For those that joined in, what was the most memorable bit? For me it was absolutely fantastic to see the progression - especially those that went from not really wanting to sail to becoming extremely confident on the water and in different weather conditions.



We tried different training activities on the water this year, trying to concentrate on one skill per session. Skills ranged from tacking, gybing, double hander skills to water confidence. I think the most popular activity was powerboat handling and safety. By the end of the afternoon all the kids were able to be signed off for theory and practical elements! Did you keep up? Remember you can see what we've been doing by looking on our website under the Members Area - Youth Squad. Again there is an overall winner for "Star

of the Year” with only 2 stars between the top two! Certificates were handed out at our prize giving event on Saturday 12 March.

This year, there will be a new “Star Chart” so make sure you sign up by adding your name to it. Collect your stars every time you come to the club to be in with a chance to win a prize at the end of the year (they’re in the till in the galley, so ask someone for them). Remember that the Youth Squad is on the 4th Saturday afternoon of every month starting at 1:00, check the year planner at the club or online. Again we’ve been given access to all the club boats for use on those afternoons without cost, so take advantage of it! If you can think of any activities you’d like to try this year let me know. We have a USC Fun Day planned for 9 July. There is absolutely loads happening this year so please get involved. We know that it’s down to parents and members to bring the Youth Squad members and volunteer to help out as well, so thank you! It’ll be great seeing you all at the club and out on the water this year!



2016 Youth Squad prize giving

Thomas Flewitt, Youth Development Officer

Membership News – Welcoming all new and current members

At the end of the 2015 membership year we had 97 memberships, which is only slightly less than the record-breaking total of 102 memberships in 2014 and means that we have had five successive years with more than 90 memberships at the year end. This is a significant achievement at a time when many sailing clubs are seeing a decrease in their membership.

There have been five new memberships since the last newsletter, so we give a hearty welcome to:

Family Members: Brendan Molloy and Julie Gell David and Deborah Lee

Single Members: Zafram Azam Stuart Knight Grant Shires

We manage to attract a lot of new members who are total beginners or only have limited experience, so they appreciate a bit of assistance or friendly advice from the longer-term members. We describe ourselves as “The Friendly Family Club”; let’s all make an effort to be especially friendly and welcome the newcomers into our “family”!

Membership renewals. As you all know, the Club’s membership year ends on 30th November and the renewal fees are then due. It is understandable that some people find it difficult to pay immediately with the expenses of Christmas so soon after, but Christmas is now long past and a number of you have still not renewed your membership. This makes it difficult for your committee to plan for the 2016 sailing season, particular regarding the assignment of names in the Duty Rota.

So, please send me your renewal form and fees as soon as possible. You can send them by post to “USC Membership Secretary, 8 Lymister Avenue, Moorgate, Rotherham S60 3DD or leave them at the Club inside a sealed envelope addressed to the Membership Secretary with your name on the outside and leave it with one of the OoDs (please DON’T leave loose cash). Or you can pay the renewal fees by internet banking to the Club's bank account:

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. Please ensure that you still return your completed Renewal Form – especially if you are Gift-Aiding a berth space donation.

If you have lost your renewal form you can download a copy from the Members’ Area on the website.

If you have decided not to renew your membership then we are very sorry to lose you but please, please let us know – and it would also be nice to know why you have made this decision.

News of possible future members? Anna and Joe Bawden's son, Arran Connor, was born by caesarean on 6th December. Darren and Michelle Machen's son, Harry David, was born on 1st December and Darren reports that Harry has already started his swimming lessons in preparation for crewing with him.

Steve Butler, Membership Secretary membership.secretary@ulleysailingclub.org.uk

End of an Era!

A message from Christine Mawson

Last summer Ian came to the conclusion that it was time he 'retired' from the post of Rear Commodore. Ian and I became involved with the House side of the Club when at the AGM in 1995 Steve asked me if I would become the 'housekeeper', for want of a better title, and then Ian became House Steward to Steve's Rear Commodore. The 'Dream Team' continued until Ian took over as Rear Commodore in 2005 when Steve became Commodore, then it was just Ian and myself!

We have seen many changes over the years in our 'department': the barbecue salad menus have progressed from lettuce, tomato and cucumber to the delicious arrays of salads we now have at these events. I wonder how many salads and desserts I have coerced, sorry, coaxed, from members over the years. Some surprising talents have been found lurking under bushels. But now you can relax, I won't be chasing you with my notebook as barbecue dates approach!

What a party Ulley had to celebrate Paul Goodison's gold medal at the 2008 Olympic Games. It was an honour to be part of the brilliant Ulley team that put together an unforgettable evening for such a very special occasion. It would be difficult to beat this as an event, and we have very happy memories of it.

The members of Ulley have produced some delicious cakes and food for many events, a lot of time, effort and support has been given; you are all very much appreciated. Thank you for being part of the team we could always call on.

Ian's side of things has also seen great change, particularly with regard to the gatherings around the bar on Wednesday evenings and after sailing on Sundays. Gone are the days of beer on tap and regular deliveries of barrels of beer to keep up with demand - sailors don't seem to feel the need to relive each race over a drink on Sundays any more, what a waste of a good patio and view!

No doubt I could say more (I usually do!) but I'll stop now and just say Ian and I have been pleased to give something back to the sport and the club that has made Jamie the man he is today.

I recently came across this item and it occurred to me that whoever wrote it certainly knew Ulley very well!! I thought I would share it with you all, and perhaps it could be adopted as new 'House Rules'.

Christine and Ian Mawson

A Guide for the smooth running of Ulley Sailing Club!!

If you open it - close it

If you turn it on - turn it off

If you unlock it - lock it

If you break it - fix it

If you can't fix it - report it

If you borrow it - return it

If you make a mess - clean it up

If you move it - put it back

If it doesn't concern you DON'T MESS WITH IT

If you DON'T KNOW - ASK!!

Sailability at Ulley SC

The club is now registered as an RYA Sailability Centre which means that we are able to offer opportunities to sail for persons with certain disabilities, whether their desire is leisure sailing, racing or formal sailing lessons. We have indicated that we can accept ambulant, hearing-impaired, and blind would-be sailors as well as those with learning difficulties. Through Sailability over 53,000 young people and adults with disabilities are introduced to sailing each year, with many going on to sail on a regular basis at some 202 RYA-recognised clubs and centres across the country. Boating is one of the very few sports in which able-bodied sailors and disabled sailors can participate on equal terms. There are many opportunities for people with a disability to get afloat on all types of boats at such centres.



You will have noticed the new, alarmed, disabled toilet and changing area in the clubhouse and the work done over the winter to upgrade the access ramps on some of our outer doors. It is intended that **our pedestrian access will change to the gate to the left of the parking ticket machine** rather than the one we have used for years to the right hand side (do not try to enter by the right hand gate as it is barred for good reason and the lock has been changed). Finally our new jetty to facilitate disabled access is a project in progress.

At Ulley issues relating to the availability of suitable boats have been resolved after discussions with the Schools Activity Centre. We are now able to provide some specially adapted boats and equipment for disabled persons to use, with access boats such as the two-person Hansa 303 of which there are three which we share with the Schools, as well as the Wayfarer, RS Visions and Qubas. Please note we already have members at Ulley SC who are registered as disabled persons who sail in their unadapted boats with little apparent difficulty! Dave Staniforth will be acting as a team leader for Sailability activities and is willing to discuss any concerns that you may have in relation to this project.

However disabled sailors, when asked about what is important to them say that what is needed at a club like ours is a friendly support network, which entails two or three people coming to help with rigging and getting afloat on the occasions a session has been arranged and confirmed. The session may be a training-based sail with an instructor or a leisure sail for those who have some experience but the general idea is to make the sessions enjoyable and for all involved to come back for more. Ulley SC has always been a friendly and inclusive place to sail and I am sure that we can make the Sailability initiative work and so share our amazing hobby.

Dave Staniforth, Sailing Secretary and Sailability Team Leader

Bart's Bash 2015



Despite the most pathetic of winds (0-3 knots) last year's Bart's Bash was another resounding success. We had a total of 33 Boats on the water with 30 of these completing the race. We made a whopping £840 for the Andrew Simpson Sailing Foundation.

Events such as Bart's Bash really bring home what a great club we have. To see the water so full of boats, everybody mucking in and helping out and the Club House buzzing with people is amazing. So a big thanks to all who took part, helped out or just came down to spend time with friends.

Southport have arranged their 24-hour race on the same weekend as Bart's Bash this year.

*****In order for us to gauge interest and decide whether or not to run Bart's Bash at Ulley this year, please email general.secretary@ulleysailingclub.org.uk if you wish to attend Southport – if everybody's at Southport there's no point running Bart's Bash at Ulley!*****

We'd like to thank Andrew Rogers for sponsorship of a sail for one of the Club's Lasers

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New Events Team

Are you interested in events at Ulley? Have you any ideas for improvement of existing events or new events? Would you like to be involved? We're starting a new informal Events Group and the first meeting of this group will be on **Saturday 26 March at 2.00**. Initial thoughts are to hold these meetings to coincide with Youth Squad but this can be discussed at the first meeting. Just turn up on the day – we'd love to see you.

Other News

26/4/1986 - 26/4/2016, 30 years ... and nothing has changed!

Registered Charity Numbers 1014274, SC040136

Chernobyl Children's Life Line

Supporting children affected by the aftermath of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster

You may recall that last summer Ulley Sailing Club took a group of six children from Chernobyl Children's Life Line (CCLL) for a sail one evening. The six children really enjoyed their evening on the lake as this was something that they would never get the opportunity to do back home in Belarus and all rated it 5 out of 5! The host families enjoyed the evening in a great setting (and our great bar prices) and of course our members enjoyed taking part and were kind enough to offer their time and share their boats. We hope to host a visit again this summer.

CCLL is looking for families that could help during the visit this year. They have a group of children arriving from Belarus on July 16th for 4 weeks and need families/couples that could either host (have the child stay with them) or support (help to look after the children during the day). Hosting is for either 2 or 4 weeks. A full itinerary is planned during the visit. Host families don't need to be able to speak Russian, just offer a caring environment.

CCLL is also looking for businesses/clubs that could help during the visit by supplying goods/services/donations etc. It is also collecting good quality second hand clothing for the children to take home with them, especially winter coats.

If you can help in any way or require any more information then please email Ben, Link Chair at ben@gd35.orangehome.co.uk