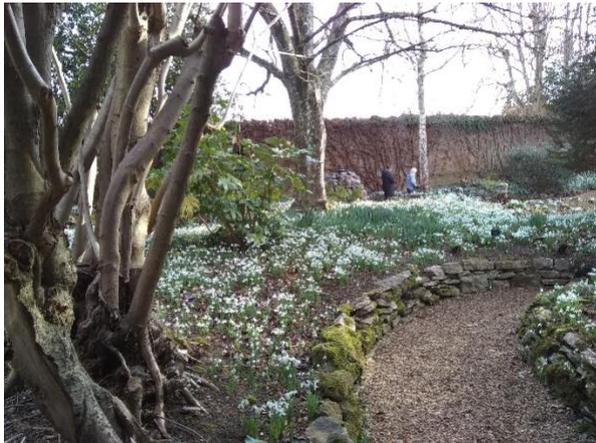




HURST CASTLE SAILING CLUB

SHORT NEWSLETTER MARCH 2022

Hello. Welcome to Spring.



And to the beginning of a new season.



Can we say goodbye to those horrid gales?

This newsletter aims to alert you club events in the near future, just in case you have not got round to reading your programme yet. An email copy came out with the information about the AGM and hard copies will be available at and after the AGM.

So first of all, this coming Wednesday an evening talk

March 9th at 19.00 hours: Paul Jepson will be talking on Dinghy Cruising. Paul is one of our members and is part of the team who provide our support boat training early in the season. He is also very experienced in dinghy and yacht sailing. Light refreshments will be served.

And later April 6th at 19.00 hours: Nick Griffin will give us a talk on Introduction to Racing. Another experienced dingy sailor who helps to arrange the sailing programme. This is the talk that was postponed in January owing to Covid 19. Light refreshments as usual.

Event of the month: HCSC Annual AGM. Saturday March 19th at 19.30 hours.

Information has already been sent out and you will have seen that we have reverted to the traditional pattern of nibbles and wine after the business. Last year's Zoom meeting meant that members who live further away could join the meeting. So this year you have the option of coming in person or on air. If the latter, don't forget to register in advance. See the AGM email for how to do this. If you are coming in person bring a small contribution of finger food. The club will provide wine and fruit juice.

Pre Season Potterers' lunch : will be on March 23rd at the clubhouse. This is a "bring and share" event. You can sign up in the clubhouse whether you will bring a savoury or a pudding dish. Or email jwoods03@tiscali.co.uk

Environmental Corner Given the wild weather of February, take a moment to think about our oceans. Answers at the end.

1. Why have scientists and conservationists called for one of the busiest shipping lanes to be re directed off the coast of Sri Lanka?
 - a) Large vessels are scaring seabirds away from the area.
 - b) Shipping fuel is contaminating coral reefs.
 - c) To protect blue whales.
2. What percentage of the world's coastal regions remain ecologically intact?
 - a) 64%
 - b) 35%
 - c) 15%
3. According to a 2019 study how much plastic does the average human consume in a week?
 - a) The equivalent of a credit card.
 - b) The equivalent of a lego brick,
 - c) The equivalent of a computer mouse.

BACK TO THE PROGRAMME:

April will see the start of on the water activities:

Support boat training : starts on Saturday April 2nd and continues at regular intervals . See the programme for more dates.

Dinghy Refresher Training: Friday and Saturday April 15th and 16th.

Beginners and Improvers Dinghy Sail Training: starts on **Thursday, April 21st** and on most Thursdays after that. There is also a special session for working people on **Saturday April 23rd**.

Also on Saturday, April 23rd we will have a real, live Launching Supper. This will be our first for two years. Guy and Jo Verney, also HCSC members, have given us a brilliant catering service in the past but are now stepping back so the Social Committee are looking into who and what can take their place, as well as how to minimise any Covid 9 risk. Look out for more details. Many thanks to Jo and Guy for all their hard work in the past.

The following day, Sunday 24th will be our Working Party Day: the clubhouse will need a brush up and tidy up. Bring yourself in old clothes and we will provide a soup&bread&cheese lunch.

First Cruise of the Season April 30th: will be to Yarmouth. Sign up in the clubhouse.

Thinking about **Covid 19**, HCSC will be following government guidelines in letting go of restrictions. However, we all know that the risk has not completely gone away so we do ask that you continue to consider other people and respect the fact that not everyone is comfortable with close quarters. In line with government advice, please don't come to the club if you have any symptoms that might be Covid 19.

And finally, this is the last newsletter from me as Commodore. It has been a strange 2 years that required more frequent newsletters because we could not see each other. Editing and learning how to stop the photos moving themselves around the page kept me occupied, though not patient, during the lockdowns. Now we can be out and about, perhaps this is the moment for newsletters to revert to quarterly as in the past. I must thank you all for reading and making suggestions, thank the people I nagged into making contributions and all of you whose photos I purloined from various sources. Looking forward to seeing you at the forthcoming events.

Quiz Answers; 1 c; 2 c; 3 a – about 5g of plastic. (thanks to The Guardian Newspaper for the questions.)

Jean Woods (Commodore)