



HURST CASTLE SAILING CLUB



NEWSLETTER January 2022

Hello and Happy New Year! Despite the grey weather, this is the time to begin to look forward to spring and to a new sailing season. Last summer was better than the one before so perhaps 2022 will be better again. The General Committee will be picking up threads again in January so in this newsletter you can find news of plans though sadly also of cancellations. So let's get them out of the way first.

Dinner at Royal Lyminster, January 8th 2022. In case you have missed earlier messages, this has been cancelled. It seems wiser, in view of the Covid 19 situation and we hope to reschedule later in the year. Paul M worked hard on arranging this but it won't be wasted.

Winter Sailing Talk, January 19th 2022. The sailing committee has put together three winter talks (see later) but we have decided to re-schedule this one by Nick G, again for obvious reasons. Instead it will take place on April 6th. As for the other talks, we will have to take stock month by month.

So, onto more positive things:

General Committee: Lots of work has been done on the new programme which will be available at the AGM and on the website. Mike H puts it all together for us. It has the usual support boat and sailing refresher training in early spring for those of us who forget everything over the winter, racing, short and longer potters and so on. Working parties for the club house will be in March and November. Start of season events for potterers and all members are in there as well.

The committee is also updating the development Plan for the club and beginning to plan for the AGM (March 19th - put it in your diary.)

Membership subscriptions: These are due in January. Please make our treasurer's job easier by checking that you have paid yours.

Gift Aid: Thankyou to everyone who has returned their form about intention to participate in sailing in the coming year. This helps to confirm our status as a Community Amateur Sports Club. If you haven't returned yours please do. We gave you an s.a.e..

RYA workshops: The RYA lays on workshops for clubs every winter to help us keep up to date with new ideas. For the last two years, they have been on line and so the same this year. It was nice when they were live because we got to see other clubs' premises but the evening drive was dark. The focus this winter is on getting and keeping volunteers. If you are interested in "attending" to hear the discussion just contact me at commodore@hcsc.org.uk so I can give you the link.

The Clubhouse: Most important, the clubhouse main room and kitchen will be **closed** for redecoration in the week beginning January 10th. Peter H will be looking for volunteers (that word again!) to help take things off the walls on Monday 10th. The Adam and Eve facilities **will** be available but there will be **no coffee on Tuesday 11th**.

HCSC Library: Sue A looks after all our books and has sent this message:

There are 59 books missing from the Library which have not been signed out. Please could you check your shelves and bookcases at home, and see if any of the HCSC books are there?

We have over 240 books in the Library with duplicate copies of quite a few. In addition, some of the older books have not been booked out for 10 years.



The books are overflowing the cases, and now encroaching on the window ledges.

We will be clearing out some of the older and duplicate books, and will give club members a chance to take them (possibly with a donation to charity), before the remainder are taken to a charity shop.

RNLI Fundraising:



Have you noticed the box on the shelf near the clock? Wendy S has supplied it to collect spent printer cartridges which can raise money. If you have a little hoard and did not know what to do with them.... here's your answer. How quickly can we fill that box?

Winter Talks: Subject to review but put them in your diary anyway. They promise to be good.

Wednesday 9th February. Vince Sutherland "Support Boat Operation".

Wednesday 9th March. Paul Jepson "Dinghy Cruising".

Wednesday 16th April Nick Griffin "Racing".

Environmental news: As from December 17th 2021 there is a voluntary No Anchor Zone in Studland bay. It will become permanent and larger on 1//6/2022. The time lag is to give people time to adjust their anchoring practices. This change will help to protect the seagrass habitats in the bay, prevent coastal erosion and support fish stocks as well as precious species such as sea horses. You can find more information using this link [Managing marine non-licensable activity in Studland Bay Marine Conservation Zone](#), including some frequently asked questions.

So ..back to Volunteers: we will need two new committee members for next year's General committee. The General Committee keeps an eye on everything to do with running the club and formulates plans. You don't have to have a special interest, or any great experience. Just bring yourself. It would be good to have some representation from people who have joined quite recently because we are keen to know what it is like when you first join and what we could do

better. A fresh pair of eyes and all that. But more experienced members are welcome too. It can be fun! It is a good way of getting to know people! Get a friend to nominate you!

Also, this Commodore needs to step down or at least step back. It might look like a heavy role but that is because of the Covid 19 effect which will not be for ever. Again, you don't need experience of any particular area. Other people have that. If you don't feel able to take on the role, could you offer a job share? We really do need to have volunteers who can carry the club forward and widen the representation of all members. No one goes on for ever.

Blast from the past: Newsletters from spring 2003 and 2004 show there was a bit of a crisis then about people to help with running the club but it did get resolved thanks to offers from members. Our current Vice- Commodore, Steve, was Commodore in both those years. Thankyou, Steve, for sharing your experience over all these years. There was a strong cruiser group and dinghy pottering was going well under the leadership of Ron C. In 2003 we took possession of our two Jaffas, following theft of the previous support boat. These two are still going strong with the help of new engines.

Dinghy and Watersports Show: See the latest in design and equipment. Is I scheduled for February 26TH and 27th at Southampton.



And finally: Goodbye to 2021. Although our intrepid ad hoc-er sailors were on the water just before Christmas, New Year's Eve defeated them with wind gusts of about 30mph. It would have been a fitting way to end 2021 but perhaps it was typical of the way the year had frustrated us.

(photos from Paul R and Fred K on December 21st and Terry W on January 1st)



Hello to 2022. The WhatsApp messages mentioned a cold sea swim, but the most popular welcome to the New Year was a semi-traditional HCSC walk. We missed the bird knowledge of Sheila and Keith, who joined us later, so it was more of an informal get together but good to meet friends and think about the

plans ahead. Afterwards, there was coffee, biscuits and mince pies at the clubhouse. (Thankyou again to Betty and Derek) Here's to more shared activities. Welcome 2022!

Best wishes,

Jean Woods (Commodore)