

Hi Everybody,

What a weekend! I'd normally start the blog with a photo – perhaps this week of the sunshine but, it has been such a fantastic few days there are so many photos to share with you that I'll run out of printer's ink when I post them. So, just enjoy!

Sailing and Angling Report:



From RC Sailing Kevin, the Sailing Calendar for the coming month is as follows:

APRIL

3 rd	SUNDAY SPRING LAUNCH RACES 1 & 2	11.00	1 Followed by Spring Lunch Buffet
9 th	SATURDAY SAILING SESSION	13.30	
10 th	SUNDAY SPRING SERIES RACES 1 & 2	11.00	
16 th	SATURDAY SAILING SESSION	13.30	
17 th	SUNDAY SPRING SERIES RACES 3 & 4	11.00	1 Easter Eggs to 1st, 2nd & 3rd
23 rd	SATURDAY SAILING SESSION	13.30	
24 th	SUNDAY COMMODORES CUP SERIES RACES 1 & 2	11.00	3 Separate Mono Hull & Catamaran Class
30 th	SATURDAY SAILING SESSION	13.30	

You may remember that we now finally have a new Bosun Bailey who has been in this position for just over a week. I am pleased to tell you that he has taken the role on board in a major way and has already sold surplus toppers and trailers which has set us in good stead to purchase new equipment and improve our stock. Brilliant news Bailey!

From George, he has nothing new to report apart from saying his thanks to the club members who attended the work party as they did a great job.

I'm not sure how many of our fishermen joined in the BRAAS competition on Sunday but they have made a donation to the Club for the use of our premises and Bar. Thank you, boys – really good to be able to share our facilities (especially when we had a fabulous singer to keep everybody entertained).

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First Aid

Sadly, I have only received 2 replies to my request for members to take on the First Aid course for which we would normally be charging you but we were going to run for free. This is a serious concern as I am only aware of three people that are qualified first aiders in the Club, one of which is me. I am sure that you feel that this is not acceptable.

The qualification for First Aid lasts 3 years. If you are still qualified and know that you will be on/around the beach during opening hours/sailing hours, please can you get in touch with me as a matter of urgency.

If you would be willing to take on the course which we may be able to run on two evenings during the week, again, please can you get in touch with me. I cannot emphasize how strongly I feel about the Club getting up to strength on this.

Saturday

Well, it all started on Saturday morning with the Work Party, which the Commodore tells me was the largest turn-out he had seen for many years. A very big thank you to the sailors, fishermen and social members who came forward and helped to put the new benches/tables together, cleared the beach with a digger for the winch, laid the power cables for the winch, cleared the slipway, cleared the Boat Park, tidied out the Bridge ready for sailing and numerous other works.....and then retreated to the Galley for Bacon Butties and Coffee with a donation for the Ukraine charity.

Fantastic work by all.



From Paul C, he tells me that as he was away in London for the work party, he thought he could bring a bit London back to Pagham with Samosas and Pakora for the rugby. Typical male – thinks of food all the time!



And speaking of which, we moved on to Saturday afternoon with the Rugby supporters starting with Wales v Italy, in Wales. A remarkable result with Italy winning by 22 to 21. Glad I wasn't in Wales with a score like that! This was followed by Ireland 26 v Scotland 5, with a comfortable win. And then the match we had all been waiting for – France v England. Yes, you know what happened. France won by a healthy 18 to 6 giving them the grand slam. Oh well.....

An enormous thank you to Rosie D who manned the Bar in a sterling fashion for the whole of the afternoon, despite our problems with Wifi that interfered with the operation of the till. Who needs technology when you have an England supporter behind the Bar?! I know the flower keeps appearing, year after year, but I still have doubts about it (?)



The Club was packed for this event and we couldn't have gone ahead without the support of the girls in the Galley – Carol and Alison assisting Sue in

providing sustenance to go along with the cakes donated to raise funds for the Ukraine. I know I keep saying this but girls, **Great Team Work!** (Has something slipped Alison? Alison??)



Sunday

The morning began with the dog walk at 11am which eventually finished around 1.30pm, involving twelve persons including children and various assorted dogs. The walk visited the pubs in Pagham and made a collection in aid of the Ukraine at each stop (plus a beer at one or two establishments!). Tesco's and Nisa were called in and also donated free cakes for the Club to boost our Cake sale. Thank you!

I think the walk, along with the sale of cakes and baps raised £850 – a stunning amount. A special mention to Edna at the Inglenook who gave us £50 for the collection. I will confirm the amount raised as we go along.



Sylv's Yellow and Blue Ukraine Flag cake. Close, but good enough for the boy's digestion!

And then Sunday afternoon!!!! Were you there on Sunday afternoon? Whoa! Sarah Saville was with us from 2pm and what a voice she has – stunning. Not only the voice but the variety of songs. We must get her back again, perhaps when the marquee is up so we can have more people to come and listen. Having said that, the Club was full to bursting anyway!



I've just been listening to Sarah singing "Where Did Our Love Go" recorded on a members' phone and she sound so like Diana Ross. Wow, what an amazing voice.



Following Sarah, Chef Olive was at it again with his version of roast potatoes. This secret food weapon to keep members from wandering home must be working as it was after 7.30pm when the Commodore finally shut up shop. All we need now is British Summer time next weekend when we will have whole families celebrating Mother's Day. Thank heavens we have now erected the new outdoor seats/tables for all those extra wide posteriors to join us.

Which reminds me, despite our saviour Rosie D taking on the Bar duties for the whole of Saturday and Cetra doing a long shift plus a few other members coming in to rescue the Commodore behind the Bar after I abandoned him on Sunday.....we really are putting the bar duties load onto just a few. Can you help out by just doing an hour or two, here and there, signing in monthly which makes such a difference? Go on – you know you will enjoy it! Just email Scottie the Bar manager on bar@paghamyachtclub.com or let me know, as I would be delighted to pass your details onto him - and I will also be as delighted to spend the time with you whilst you get to grips with what to do. If I can do it then it should be simple for you! It's a great way to get to know the people who regularly use the Bar, including the Committee, so you can form a working relationship with how the Club is run and what is going on. And it might stop Scottie from going on his skiing holidays!!!

Social Events



Ukraine – Next Saturday afternoon from 2.30pm, Sue is planning to show our support for Ukraine by inviting the kids to come along for a craft afternoon to further decorate the Club in blue and yellow. Have you seen the banners, balloons and hopefully the flag by the time you read this? (We have ordered one but the demand understandably is high). If you have any ribbons, buttons or materials that can be used to create garlands or other items for indoor or outdoor posting, please can you drop them off at the Club. On the day will do as we want to get as much help on this. Thank you in anticipation. And by kids, she means anyone who knows what glue can do!!! (and Sue, how to get it off the tables please!!!)

If you are hosting a Ukraine family or helping the Ukraine situation out in any other way, please can you tell us as we would be happy to let other members know what you are doing via the blog. We want to send our support in whatever way we can and to encourage other members to do the same.

Early Years Photos – I will keep nagging you to get those photos in! Let's face it – we love our rugby supporting members but, even after they have imbibed many pints and other alcoholic drinks, as well as lots of food on Saturday, I'm sure they must have looked more attractive when they were aged 4 years old! I won't mention bald heads looking more attractive on babies, or fatty legs and knobbly knees looking cute when the owners are only 9lbs in weight, or.....well, you get the point? This is probably aimed at wives –

can you have a look through the old photos and find just ONE and let me have it? If not, I'm sure that the wives – with their good taste can find one of them to let me have. 8-)

Easter party for kiddies – just a gentle reminder that this will be next month on Saturday 16th April but we still need to have their names up for Sue to sort out the food and prizes. I know you have time to do this but she's under pressure!



From Bognor Regis Yacht Club, the Commodore Rachel has invited our members to join them for their first social event of the season on Saturday 26th March at 8pm. If you would like to come along they are having a band who we are told are very popular with their Club (one of them is also BRYC member) and if any of our members wanted to come along you'll only have to pay their Members price of £2.50pp (all non- Club Members need to pay £5pp).

So, only another two weeks to go before the sailing season starts. Have you been down the Boat Park yet and sorted out your boat??? If not, and there is a reason, do tell us why not as we may have noticed already as Andy D, our Membership chap has been around there check up on who has re-registered. Perhaps we can help if you have a problem so don't leave it another month or months without asking Andy what can be done for you. Please don't leave your boat another season without help as we are there to make it all happen for you.

So, on another matter, let's hope the weather carries on being so helpful to us as I am looking forward to seeing everybody out there without getting my winter underwear back out again! (I don't think it fits anymore.....or the summer.....)

Watch this space.

Jill
Honorary Blogger

Pagham Yacht Club

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