

Hi Everybody,

Well, I started last week's blog with a wonderful photo of the sunrise and said what a wonderful start the Sailing Season but when I awoke this morning to the final day of the Easter break all I could see was rain. Oh dear, never mind. At least the past two days of sailing have been excellent.

I shouldn't have mentioned this but as I am finishing writing in the mid-afternoon the sun is now blazing out there! Why do I bother? Don't answer!!!!



Sailing Events & Angling

From RC Sailing Kevin, another great weekend of sailing starting on Saturday afternoon with youth/leisure.



The first sailing session for Youth Officer, Allan Fry didn't start great as preparing the rib he managed to fall off while still in the boat shed! I'm pleased to say that he was not too badly injured, just a little bruising, although he did whine a bit. Well, you have to do that to get any sympathy around here.

It was a good turnout with eight boats on the water and just to keep RC Sailing Kevin busy, a special thank you to Joe and Bertie for breaking two boats so he didn't feel left out!

I have heard that it was a great moment with Clive talking out the Commodore Paul for a sail in a pico when the rib decided to doughnut around it forcing a capsized. All good fun Commodore!

It was great to see a lot of youth on the water and let's hope that this will carry on throughout the Summer.



Sunday morning saw eleven boats getting rigged for Spring Series 1 and 2.

Although a bit of a shore dump with the onshore wind, the rib was launched to set the course but after laying the line end mark and the first marker buoy, a heavy sea mist descended and RC Sailing Kevin had to radio the bridge to stop any boats launching until it had cleared.

Once the mist cleared, mindful of the rising tide and onshore winds, three boats decided not to launch. This was an understandable decision as all would be recovering close to high tide.

The sailors that did race enjoyed the course that our new member to the rib crew, Mike Naish helped to set out. Both races managed to be completed and all boats were recovered with the rib safe and sound - even though Allan F managed to get run over by a pico gaining another bruise to add to the one on Saturday! At least he can laugh about it. Well done to Allan, only another seven months to go. 😊

A big thanks to Mike on the helm of the rib, Dave and Commodore Paul in the bridge, John S on the recovery Winch and the sailors that didn't go out to remain in their wet gear to help recover all the boats. That can be an awful situation so, another great team effort. One last thanks to Tiffany and Molly who were not involved with the sailing, they still helped to put away the rib and ground tackle. Basic works which really needs doing so, Thank You, girls! Or ladies!?

Sailing Results 9th April 2023

Spring Series

Race 1

1 st Sam Atherton	Topaz 14
2 nd Simon Orde	Laser Radial
3 rd Kevin Robbins	Dart 15
4 th Clive Briggs	Laser Pico
5 th Stuart Ashwood & Alan Phillips	Topaz 16
6 th Graham Salter	Laser Radial
7 th Guy Lawson	Laser Pico
8 th Kieran Smith	Fusion 2
DNF Nick Cook & Kevin Freeman	Wayfarer

Race 2

1 st Sam Atherton
2 nd Simon Orde
3 rd Kevin Robbins
4 th Kieran Smith
5 th Graham Salter
6 th Stuart Ashwood & Alan Phillips
7 th Clive Briggs
8 th Guy Lawson

Paddleboards/Snorkelling

We are having an Open afternoon/evening on 17th May from 6 – 8pm for you and your children to come along and try out paddleboards/kayaking/snorkelling. This will be a time for you to discuss with Dave G and Andy G, plus a few other Committee members what is involved.

The Paddling and Kayaking evening will be running throughout the summer on Wednesday evening from 6-8pm, weather permitting, and the snorkelling will be running on Thursday evening from 6-7pm – again weather permitting.

We are asking that only children from 10+ years apply, unless their parents feel that they have abilities extending beyond this age and then we ask that they speak to the organiser to include them in.

As usual the rib and safety boats will be on duty as in previous years. Consistently, we welcome all to come to talk to us to see if we can include you in what we do!!! Please don't feel that you can be left out. Just ask.

Angling

From George, two boats went out on Saturday with the usual Dogfish a Silver Eel - caught by Evie and the first of this years' Black Bream caught by you know who. (That's would be George if you don't know better 😊)

Next Sundays' Boat match starts at 11.00am ending at 3.30pm with Skate the target species. He hopes to see as many of you there as possible.

I want to say, "Don't be afraid of asking George who seems to talk to fish who want to be with him!!!" but, hey, get a life and get out there and just FISH!!! I've talked to my fish psychoanalyst but he said that I'm a looser you are out there on your own! End of my contribution to ask George why Paul is not getting any salmon at all, or on time? Dah? Best I go to mid-afternoon purchasing from somewhere else for now.

Merchant Shipping (Watercraft) Order

The Department for Transport (DfT) have confirmed that a new law, the Merchant Shipping (Watercraft) Order came into force on 31st March 2023.

This legislation now regulates the safe operation of personal watercraft (PWCs) and other powered recreational craft, and will enable watercraft users to be prosecuted for dangerous and negligent use.

The new law introduces a definition for watercraft which applies to any craft capable of moving under its own mechanical power and is intended to act as a deterrent to those who might otherwise use watercraft in a reckless and inappropriate manner. It aims to reduce accidents resulting in personal injury or damage to property.

The motor does not need to be in use, it only needs to be fitted or carried. As well as personal watercraft (PWC), power boats and RIBs, tenders, sailing dinghies and keel boats which are fitted with or carry a motor are watercrafts.

Unpowered craft such as pedalos, canoes, rowing boats, SUPs, windsurfers, kite surfers, wing surfers, sailing dinghies and unpowered surf boards are not considered watercraft. This is in the context of the Merchant Shipping (Watercraft) Order 2023 and its definition of a watercraft.

If you are a RYA member and you have a question regarding this new legislation you can email the RYA Cruising team. The RYA are working on a guide that will provide information on the new rules and how they might affect you. In the meantime, you can read the Order on the GOV.UK website/

Boat Park

You may remember that we have warned owners of boats stored on the Boat Park that we were allowing time for fees that were due to be paid until 31st March and, if fees were not forthcoming that we would be taking action to have the boats removed and/or sold to pay any outstanding fees.

Please take this as a warning that action can now to be taken unless you have contacted Andy Day, our Membership Secretary to arrange for an extension for fee payment time. membership@panghamyachtclub.com

If this is you or you are aware of the owner of a boat who is no longer a member, please can you contact Andy to arrange for payment of any outstanding fees and its removal before we follow the legal proceedings to have the boat sold.

Other News

Two posteriors that you may recognise? If not, RC Social & Fundraising Sue and John G took two of our shovels out to clear the pathway on Friday after seeing a wheelchair wasn't able to make it to the Mulberry stone to read the inscription. Well done to both!



Sadly, I looked at the path today and it's nearly covered in pebbles again as visitors can't be bothered to step over the edges. In case a member is wonder about this, the pathway is not our responsibility and belongs to the Parish Council should any visitor be critical of us not maintaining it - which I have heard has happened in the past. Also, the depth of the lovely new benches/seats installed by the council, which I am glad to say are very popular, are now being sunk by pebbles. Anyone who has time and a shovel I am sure would be much appreciated by them to make this gesture last more than a few weeks before being sunk and unusable!!!

Galley Opening

Having said that I would open the Galley on Saturday, that proved to have been an error of judgement on my behalf as the Kids Party was underway with small bodies, entertainment and food all over the place from 12.30pm! Who would be interested in a mere bacon buttie when all of that was going on? Not me!!!!



£2 each!

The good news is that Olive took over on Sunday morning and fed the early morning sailors which assisted them to survive the mist and the heavy sea so it was all worthwhile for the wait.

I will be back again next Saturday from around 12.45 until 4pm to provide a cooked order for bacon, sausage (or combined) buttie or a Cheese & Tomato roll for the veggies – **all at only £2** as we have worked out that we can do them for this price!!!! Aren't we wonderful?? (Just agree).
Do make the most of this bargain so we can see if this proposal is the way ahead for the season.

Social Events

What a weekend! It started with the Bingo on Friday night to a great crowd who, I had to say knew a whole lot more about what to do than I did. What do you mean – you just dabbled a number when it was read out? You are talking to someone who likes my numbers to be in order not spread out all over the place! No wonder I didn't win.....



Happily, we did have a variety of winners, one of whom was Evie who seemed to have luck on her side! Or her book on her side. Well done to Keith who compared the show and managed to award what looks like the entire stock of Sainsbury's easter Eggs.



On Saturday the sun was shining as the Kids Party started with the entertainer who was brilliant! I think the adults were laughing as much as the children. A really good choice of entertainer Sue!

And on Sunday we had Slim Jim & The Wildcards back again. Brilliant! And what a full audience!!! Everything the group played was fabulous but my own favourite was their version of The Shadows, with their version of Hank Marvin on guitar playing Apache. I couldn't tell the difference – just loved it to bits!



Next Saturday we have an annual event that hasn't been advertised this year in the Club – **the Grand National 2023!**



So.....on next Saturday 15th from about 5.15pm the races at Aintree will start - so do get in the Club extra early to make sure you will already have

placed your bets on the sweeps of £1, £3 or £5 to see who might win. The bad news is that it is a Lucky Dip so you have no choice of which horse you pick!!! Bit like choosing a husband!!! Aaaarghhh! And, like a husband, no refunds!!!

Never mind, the Bar will be open, food will be flowing and this time you might win!!!!

You just know you must be there to join in the fun so have a look at who you want and hope!!!!

We then have Sarah Saville, a fabulous singer coming back to join us on Sunday after the raffle. Don't miss out on her as she was fabulous the last occasion, she was with us. Nothing like favourite songs on a Sunday afternoon to cheer you up if you lost your bets the night before! Sorry shouldn't have mentioned that.

I'm trying to be helpful so leave me alone!!!!



Future Events

April

Saturday 15th Grand National Sweep Stake Lucky Dip from c.3.30pm

Sunday 16th Sarah Saville singer from 3.15pm

Saturday 29th and Monday 1st May (Bank Holiday) – SailFish starts – please look out for more details

Evening - 80th Birthday Bash/Party for Maggie with High Tide playing from 7.30pm. All members are welcome to join her in her celebrations so do put this in your diary as it looks like a great event and she is looking forward to you joining her!



May

- Saturday 6th Posh Tea with King's Coronation on Big Screen
High Tide band from 7.30pm
- Sunday 7th Eve Lesedi, a singer and a saxophone player (possible outside event dependent on weather)
- Monday 8th King's Coronation Events – details to follow
- Wednesday 17th Open Evening for Paddleboard/Kayaking/Snorkelling 6 – 8pm
- Friday 26th Sheerwater arrivals. *Be warned that the Car park will be closed
- August**
- Sunday 13th Lightning Brothers c.3.30pm (outside event)



More from the Brass Monkeys who had 18 members on Saturday morning joining them in the sea. Do you think the blue sky and warm sunshine might have encouraged them? Personally, I still think they need to go out and buy some boats before they die of exposure or of drowning. Or maybe sunstroke. Just a personal opinion mind. Ask me again in September.

Jill

Honorary Blogger

Pagham Yacht Club 10.04.23

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