

# HELTFORD RIVER SAILING CLUB

## Winter Newsletter 2022



### COMMODORE'S REPORT

Dear Members,

What a momentous year for so many reasons. One of the biggest celebrations the UK has seen in recent years was the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. What an event that was, being celebrated by every community in the country. Then only a few months later we were mourning the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Her Majesty being Patron of the RYA, among many other organisations, has given a lifetime of service and devotion to the Country and Commonwealth and we thank her for this. We wish his Majesty King Charles III the wisdom, grace and understanding that was so evident in the 70-year reign of his mother.

Our Club has had a busy year with almost all sailing activities running with very few cancellations thanks to the Captains of these activities. With over ninety new members joining this year, it is reassuring that our Club is an attractive organisation to be a member of. Members have been well served by our great staff, whether answering your enquiries by Tracey in the office or by Ollie's team serving you from the bar. Our kitchen has been run very efficiently by Nathan and the team of the Cornish Food Hub with a very varied menu changed weekly.

Occasionally we have the option of opening the Club for a specific event to non-members, this we have done twice during the year, once for The Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations and again for the Helford Village Regatta Fireworks Display as many locals and visitors like to view the display from the Club balcony. Taking out a temporary licence for such events protects our bar licence and gives us the opportunity to show off our Club to prospective members.

The problem with non-members walking through our property to launch kayaks and paddle boards and sometimes using the Club facilities has continued and I know is an annoyance to members. Even with signage, this is a problem that is difficult to deal with so I would ask members to help us in politely challenging these people. We have been discussing options to prevent this at Committee meetings and are very aware of the difficulties in policing this, (any ideas gratefully received).

Our Club is here for you the members, the carpark, the pontoon, the Clubhouse and all that is HRSC. We all have the option of signing guests in, again we must ensure this option is not abused. The HRSC committee works tirelessly on behalf of the members and are always happy to have your thoughts on improvements that we can make.

As the water activities have now finished for the winter, we look forward to seeing you all at any or all our winter social events. The programme of events has been posted online and emailed and will be updated as any new events are planned. My grateful thanks to our Committee for their dedication and tremendous efforts in running the Club and to the whole membership for your continued support.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Club over the winter months.

Chris Hosken - Commodore

PLEASE LET US HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS SO WE CAN KEEP YOU  
UPDATED WITH ALL CLUB NEWS OR ALTERNATIVELY VISIT OUR WEBSITE  
[www.helfordriversc.co.uk](http://www.helfordriversc.co.uk)



## ADULT SAILING REPORT

One of the things I most enjoy about running Adult Sailing at HRSC is meeting new people. This year new members have joined us from all walks of life wanting to learn how to sail or refresh their sailing skills by joining us for the Tuesday Sailing Sessions on the beautiful Helford River. Some have joined experienced members in our club Wayfarers whereas others once feeling more confident have taken out single handed dinghies such as the club Fusions.

The season this year was a little frustrating at first because the early spring strong gusty winds took longer to settle down than is usual, meaning some earlier sessions were cancelled or rescheduled. It did seem for a while that the strong winds were falling on Tuesday evenings in particular!!

Once into the season we sailed over for a successful BBQ at Grebe Beach on the north bank of the Helford adjacent to Durgan in July. The weather was perfect and over 40 members joined us for a wonderful evening. We also held another BBQ on the little beach just below the clubhouse (no Wayfarers this time). It was unseasonably warm with temperatures more reminiscent of the Mediterranean. This evening was also much enjoyed. I did hope to organise a trip across Falmouth Bay but we ran out of time. I just couldn't settle on a weekend when the weather was perfect and members didn't have other commitments. I will try to organize this next year earlier in the season before the school holidays when everything gets a bit manic!

Exciting news for next year is that the club have purchased 4 sets of new Wayfarer sails and 1 extra genoa for Red Snapper for next season. We also hope to upgrade the outhaul mechanism on the mainsail, with the help of Paul Randall when he returns from Australia.

This year I have taken out in a few adult sailors in a Wayfarer to experience the excitement and sheer pleasure of dinghy racing and hope that in time they will join dinghy racing themselves.

I'd like to thank to all those who have helped with the safety boat cover, with special thanks to Ken Burley, Marc Shepherd, Chris Shepherd and Treve Stock who has newly joined us this year. Also, many thanks to those who have helped lift and de-rig the Wayfarers including our Commodore Chris Hosken.

So, if you aren't already part of the adult sailing fraternity, please get in touch and join us next year.

Angie Watson - Captain Adult Sailing



## TREASURERS REPORT

Financially, the club has had a successful summer with an encouraging increase in membership. Our accountancy year end is 30th September and the figures will have been delivered to our accountant by the time this is published.

This last year we have saved costs in internet, phone contracts, accountancy and printing but sadly those savings have been dwarfed by huge increases in wages and pontoon costs. This time last year repairs to the pontoon were budgeted at what seemed a generous £26k but came in at £35k and we are awaiting a quote for more work over this winter. Despite rising costs, over the last 2 years we have squirreled away £73k into the pontoon fund and £20k into a fabric fund for the clubhouse, car park etc.

In summary, we have started the 2022/23 year in a strong cash position having made a healthy profit last year but the budget going forward is looking weak. Nearly all costs have risen and our new electricity contract is 2.8 times that of our existing one. We should be eligible for some government support which may reduce that to nearer double.

However, being conscious of the current inflationary squeeze on everyone, the Committee has decided to raise membership costs only modestly. The only exception to this is drying moorings where members have been subsidising running costs – the Committee has decided to narrow the gap between revenue received and running costs. We are also going to renegotiate servicing costs which might fully close the gap.

Mike Lowe - Honorary Treasurer

### 2023 MOORING FEES (1st April to 31st October)

Deep Water Mooring	£39.00 per 300mm (minimum charge £550 at the discretion of the Committee)
Sailing Dinghy Park Adult	£125.00
Sailing Dinghy Park Junior	£ 85.00
Sailing Dinghy Park Rack	£ 80.00
Car Park Dinghy Area	£ 75.00
Canoes, Kayaks & Paddleboards	£ 55.00
Tender on Pontoon (under 3.25m)	£125.00
Trailer summer storage	£ 60.00
Drying Mooring (boats up to 22ft)	£560.00
Inflatable Dinghy Rack	£ 60.00



### 2023 Membership Fees

Joint £250

Single £160

Under 5's Free

Family Junior\* £25

Junior\*\* £55

Cadet\*\*\* £45

Temporary Holiday Membership  
£60

\*Family Junior - Under 18 whose parents are members

\*\*Junior - Under 18 whose parents are not members

\*\*\*Cadet - 18 and over to under 25 and in full time education

Tender on Pontoon—there is no waiting list for boats under 3.25metres – spaces for these are allocated on a first come first served basis from January onwards by contacting the Club office. If your tender on the pontoon has an outboard engine please ensure that you place a bucket over the propeller to avoid damage to other boats.

### Finger Berth Moorings

Maximum:	Length 5 metres	Beam 2 metres
	Weight 450kg	
Outboard:	2 stroke 90hp or 4 stroke 75hp	
All boats regardless of length		£360.00

All finger berths, dinghy park and mooring spaces are allocated via a waiting list system. If you would like your name added to the list (one per family) please contact Tracey in the office on 01326 231006.

**The Commodore and Committee would like to wish all our members a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year**

**HELFDORD RIVER SAILING CLUB  
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Friday 27th January 2023 at 19.30 hrs**

**Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Helford River Sailing Club will be held  
at the Clubhouse at  
19.30 hrs on Friday 27th January 2023 at which the following business will be transacted:**

**AGENDA**

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting
3. Commodore's Report
4. Honorary Treasurer's Report - Approval of Accounts
5. Election of Officers
6. Election of Club Accountants
7. Any Other Business

**Close of Meeting**

Immediately following the close of the AGM, the meeting will be opened for General Discussion of any topics raised by Members.

Nominations for election of Officers must be sent in writing, duly proposed and seconded, to the Honorary Secretary not less than 7 days before the AGM. Items of Any Other Business must be submitted in writing to the Honorary Secretary at least 28 days before the Annual General Meeting (in accordance with Club Rules 18,20 and 32 respectively).

If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else for a position on the Committee please contact the office on 01326 231006 for a nomination form.

Peter Lethfead-Currie - Honorary Secretary

**YACHT REPORT**

We have managed a full season of races this year with 3 series of club racing, the annual L'Aber-Wrac'h race and Falmouth Week, all with great success.

The 61st annual L'Aber-Wrac'h race was held this summer after a 2-year break due to Covid restrictions, with visiting French boat arriving the day before to join the race back but not before enjoying the festivities held at the club!

Wednesday evening Yacht Racing evening, started with informal races in April followed by three series of races, Spring, Summer and Autumn. With a spread of winners, the prize giving was held along with the Dinghy Racing on the 16th of Nov.

All keel boats, whatever class, are welcome to join in this "sailing with a purpose" next season. Wednesday evening Series Racing generally starts at 18:30 from early May until late September. Courses are set in the mouth of the river and/or into the bay outside depending on the prevailing weather conditions. Races are usually run on a Handicap Average Lap Time basis. So, you don't have to have the swiftest boat in the river to enter and enjoy the events. Whilst the faster boats might complete three laps of the course, completing two laps can prove competitive, depending on your handicap. Details of the Marks used are available to view or download on the HRSC website.

We also have a Facebook group which you are welcome to join. If you are looking for crew or if you are available as crew - put a post on the Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/hrscyachtracing>)

If you would like to get involved in any of the events, as crew, as a yacht owner or as part of the Race Officer team, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Captain Yachts—Alex Mills

## VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

What a wonderful summer season we've had at the clubhouse. Ollie and his team have worked extremely hard to serve our regular members, visiting sailors and all our guests. The atmosphere in the clubhouse and on the busy balcony was amazing after a couple of hard years for hospitality due to the pandemic.

We also welcomed Nathan and his team from the Cornish Food Hub into the kitchen at the end of May. They have provided us with a fantastic and varying menu to suit everyone, serving up club classics to seafood specials, special junior sized portions for Fridays and everything in-between. The BBQs were especially popular with over 250 people served each time.

All the events we had went incredibly well, especially our first Sunday for Falmouth Sailing Week. We had live music, amazing food and the sailors were able to feast on our 'famous' teas provided by the social team and members.

As the season changes we're already having some fascinating talks and quiz nights. We are being served meals from around the world alongside the CFH club classic, specials and Sunday lunches. We have more events scheduled, including a New Years Eve party so keep an eye on your inbox, socials and the website for more details.

Nick Glossop -Vice Commodore



## DINGHIES REPORT

It's been a season of extremes this year with lots of light winds and the odd gale!! Even so, a vast number of boats out racing has been good, creating a competitive fleet. Now the boats are almost all away safely for the winter we're waiting for next summer's racing. The calendar will be out soon, but not before the final results for the year.

I'd like to say a big 'thank you' to everyone who has helped with the rescue and committee boats over the year, as without your help, racing couldn't happen.

If you would like to get involved please contact me.

Duncan Skingley—Captain Dinghies

## **JUNIOR SAILING REPORT**

This was my first year in post as Captain of Juniors and I loved every second of the season. There is something very special about the Junior Sailing family at HRSC; we have such a good community of children, parents, friends, and volunteer instructors and helpers. A real mix of tuition, experience and fun come together perfectly on Friday evenings to give the juniors the best time possible on the water.

This year we were able to accommodate 41 juniors out there thanks to the unerring will and support from the 23 (I think, at last count) instructor and volunteer team who show up week after week to impart their skills and keep the children safe. We also relied on the commitment of additional private rescue boat support from Nick Glossop, Dom Brandreth, Jono Cunliffe and Wolfe Scrimshaw alongside the HRSC rescue fleet. I can't thank you all enough, we are a brilliant team.

The season was split into RYA training sessions and some group sail sessions to give the juniors the benefit of both some intensive training and learning by way of having fun and sharing boats with others of varying abilities. We think this worked well. The weather was glorious and we got so much time on the water. All children received log books and certificates according to where they got to in their learning, and all this culminated in our Posh Nosh prize-giving in early October.

Posh Nosh was superb; the club was packed with 106 diners and Ollie, Nathan and their teams served up an absolute treat. My thanks go to them for ensuring such a huge event went so smoothly, they made it look effortless.

As well as the logbooks and certificates, we then issued the following trophies for some stand-out performances:

- Optimist Champion Cup - Reuben Cunliffe
- Acorn Cup for great potential - George Harrison
- Carol Lawrence Cup for most promising newcomer - Alexia Stone
- Topper Cup for best single-hander - Oliver Stone
- Most Improved Junior Cup - Edward Brown
- Dubois Junior Cup - Martha Philpott
- Junior Yacht Helm Cup - Nina Newton
- Andrew Ward Cup for consistency, courtesy and commitment- Oliver Scrimshaw
- The Hewett Family Cup - Marc, Chris, Lucas and Riley Shepherd
- The Stella Cup for excellence in attitude and attainment - Tom Wilson and Rose Tonks

Well done to everyone involved in Junior sailing this year, from the youngest child to the oldest adult! I'm looking forward to doing it all again, and I hope you all are too. When I release the applications online again in 2023, places will fill up very fast!

Vanessa Glossop - Captain Juniors

### **AUTUMN/ WINTER SOCIAL EVENTS**

- Saturday 19/11 - Movie Night 'Maiden' at 7pm**
- Wednesday 23/11 - Talk Night, Helford Under the Water by Sue Scott 8pm**
- Friday 25/11 - Football & Curry Night 7pm**
- Saturday 26/11 - Quiz Night 8pm**
- Saturday 03/12—RNL Christmas Fayre from 11am**
- Friday 09/12 - Sole Trader's Christmas Table from 6pm**
- Saturday 10/12 - Christmas Quiz 8pm**
- Sunday 11/12 - Tom Briggs playing from 2.30pm**
- Sunday 18/12 - Christmas Family Lunch—booking essential**
- Wednesday 21/12 - Christmas Carols & St Keverne Band**
- Saturday 24/12 - Christmas Eve Drinks**
- Saturday 31/12 - New Year's Eve Party, live music from Tiger Tails. Tickets**
- Saturday 07/01 - New Years Quiz 8pm**
- Sunday 15/01 - Live Music TBC**
- Wednesday 18/01 - Talk Night, History & Future of Culdrose by David Armitage 8pm**
- Saturday 21/01 - Will Keating time TBC**
- Wednesday 25/01 - Burns Night TBC**
- Saturday 18/03 - Dinner & Dance at The Greenbank Hotel, Falmouth**