

DAYBOAT NOTES

News from the Yachting World Dayboat Association
JULY 2016



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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Hello Dayboaters,

We're in the thick of Open Meeting events and fast approaching our annual Dayboat Week. From the following articles, you will see that Poole YC were first out of the blocks with their Open Meeting in June with 12 boats competing for the Newton Trophy in light winds. Poole also take advantage of being located in the beautiful Poole Harbour by holding a more relaxed race around the islands within the harbour – 14 boats entered this race. Bosham followed with their Open Meeting with 14 boats entered – well done to all those who launched never mind those who attempted to cross the start line. In what sounds to have been horrendous conditions, only 2 boats finished the race.

With the Gravesend crane out of action, this year's Open was cancelled but it's good to hear that Geoff Honey is on the mend and venturing back into a Dayboat.

It's always interesting to see reports from Dayboaters in far flung parts so many thanks to Bruce Dreyer for his Letter from America.

Since our last Dayboat Notes in December 2015, your committee has met twice, once in February and again in June. The major topics for regular discussion are mould funding and storage, boat builder, Dinghy Show, and Dayboat Weeks. You will see from the following reports that the search for a new boat builder continues while the moulds are safely stored. We successfully exhibited at the RYA Dinghy Show in March 2016 and have agreed to exhibit again in March 2017. Dayboat Week in August in a few weeks time in Brixham is all in hand and subject to any late entrants, we will have 26 boats taking part in the week's activities. Venues for 2017 have been considered in depth and I am pleased to announce that Dayboat Week 2017 will be held in Falmouth at the Royal Cornwall Yacht Club (RCYC) from Saturday 17th June to Thursday 22nd June 2017.

I'm looking forward to welcoming all entrants to Brixham on 6th August, a venue which was once a regular favourite during the 1960s and 70s, and to which we are returning after an absence of 39 years.

I hope you all enjoy your Dayboat experiences during the rest of this year.

John Lokier, DB 632 Don't Panic

Cover picture: James Hewitt testing his new Dayboat at Bosham - see page 4

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Welcome to new members ...

Stephen Stringer, with DB 304, Mary Bell. Bromley, Kent

Peter Simpson, DB 460, Naiad. Sherriff Hutton, Yorkshire

James Taylor, DB 427 Chaos. Hooton, Cheshire

Graeme Myles, Alyth, Perthshire, who is planning to build a wooden Dayboat

Welcome back to Stuart and Carol Martell, DB 655, Emma, of Bosham Sailing Club.

THE COMMITTEE

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Sally Hewitt		Poole	01985 214745
Geoff Honey		Gravesend	01322 229751
David Macfarlane		Bosham	07538 528699
Alistair Seaton		Bosham	01243 572778
Paul Winterflood		Gravesend	01322 274438

Please contact any Committee member for advice or information

We are on Facebook. Want to join?

Register (easy) and then search for 'Yachting World Day Boat' and ask to join - it's free



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Dayboat Week 2017 - Falmouth

At the committee meeting held in June 2016, it was decided to hold our 2017 Dayboat Week at the Royal Cornwall Yacht Club (RCYC) in Falmouth from Saturday June 17th to Thursday June 22nd.



RCYC are experienced in holding national championships for a range of classes so looking after our Dayboats will be fairly straight forward. Our events will be held within the Fal Estuary in the Carrick Roads stretch of water and perhaps venture out of the estuary for our long distance race, depending on weather and tide conditions. Mooring of our Dayboats will be on trots which will be laid just off the yacht club terrace. The club is situated in the Packet Quays district of Falmouth which has holiday accommodation within walking distance.



Falmouth Working Boats racing in Carrick Roads

NEWS FROM THE CLUBS

Thornbury

For the first time since 2010 there will be more than one TSC boat at DB Week. At Brixham there will be two wooden clinker, DB 474 Constance and DB 565 Avocet, and one smoothie, DB 494 Pluto.

The TSC Open is still planned for Saturday 10th September with two races over the top of the tide. Unfortunately the Bosham Classic Boat event is the same day so we may have difficulty in getting enough visitors to make the Open feasible. Hopefully we'll succeed particularly after the enforced cancellation of Gravesend's open due to crane problems. We can help with accommodation for anyone wishing to stay over for an informal upriver cruise on Sunday.

Tim Parkinson, DB 565, Avocet

Bosham Open Meeting.

First the good news.....

A highly competitive fleet of 14 boats assembled to do battle on Saturday 2nd July for the Galatia trophy. Five visitors representing Poole, Gravesend, Dell Quay, Thornbury and Island Cruising Club joined with 9 home fleet boats.

Unfortunately no one informed the weather gods that we had ordered sunshine and a gentle 3-4 breeze. So instead, as anyone watching the Round the Island race would have seen, we experienced a very boisterous 23 - 28 knot westerly which, combined with an unusually strong neap tide, kicked-up 3-4 feet standing waves in the middle of the race area in Chichester Harbour!



The unsurprising result was the equivalent of a demolition derby which very few survived.

James Hewitt (ICC) crewed by Paul Kameen DB676 (see cover picture) set a very hot pace off the start line of the only race that was completed. They were followed closely by Colin Blewitt (Poole) crewed by Izzy Lee DB647 and Mark and Ben Ross (Bosham) DB637. The rest of the fleet struggled to stay upright or succumbed to the conditions and sensibly retired.

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As Colin and Izzy rounded the second windward mark, disaster struck, their boat stalled and a vicious wave caught her and they capsized. The drama was not over, as James and Paul planed flat out down the final run, their boat nosedived down the face of a wave and came to a grinding halt, somehow James managed to avoid capsizing . When they got going again they spotted that their brand new Superspar mast was bent massively out of shape. A quick conversation between James and Paul ensued along the lines..... James: 'What you think, can we make it to the finishing line without losing the entire rig?' Paul: 'Worth a go it's only a short final beat!'

And finish they duly did, followed by the only other survivor Mark and Ben Ross.

After everyone had had a chance to get back to the club and dry out, a prizegiving tea was held followed by an event supper.

As has become traditional at the Open, a number of visitors were provided with B&B accommodation for the Saturday night by local fleet members, and were able to enjoy a balmy, sunny Sunday in Bosham!

Results:

1st Place: DB676 James Hewitt (ICC) crewed by Paul Kameen (Bosham)

2nd Place: DB637 Mark Ross (Bosham) crewed by Ben Ross (Bosham)

David Macfarlane, DB 597, Yellow Peril

Dayboat News from Gravesend

Well first the good news, after period of 3 years of not sailing I have finally made it back to the tiller of a dayboat. I sat out the first couple of races at the club as the weather was not suitable to test drive helming. I did not know how my arm and shoulder would react to the rigors of sailing and could not risk another injury.

So when the opportunity to sail in a decent F2-3 presented itself I could not resist. It was a bit of a slow start as I had to re rig the boat for rear main sheet, no more having my arm twisted behind my back!. There were other fittings and bits on the boat which I had to re familiarise myself with, but once on the water and out with the other boats it all started to fall into place once again. The sailing that is and not my body.

For those of you who have sailed at GSC the course was one of the longer ones across the river and down to the beacons on the Essex shore, this in itself is not a problem, but after 15 minutes on the same tack I was beginning to suffer a stiff neck and shoulder, the mark could not come soon enough.

I managed to survive the course and have even taken part in an evening race, but as far as dinghy sailing goes at GSC that could be it for most of the

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season. Due to a fault in the crane which we use to launch and recover our boats and no alternative we are left with only cruiser sailing at the moment. So at the moment not much to report on the Dayboat front at GSC.

Geoff Honey DB636, Phoenix

Dayboat News from Poole

Or rather here we are in a Falmouth marina sitting out a gale on Ruffian waiting for summer to start. The Dayboat season started off well with good racing and as many as 19 DBs on the start line on a couple of evenings.

The Poole DB Open Weekend was on 11th/12th June with the intention of having 3 points races for the Newton Trophy on the Saturday. However the "wind gods" had other ideas and did not appear until after lunch. Thanks to our race officer, who managed despite the fluky wind to give us 2 excellent races. We had 3 visitors, James Hewitt with his new DB 676 Mallory, David and Fiona Macfarlane with DB 597 Yellow Peril and Michael Hewitt who sailed DB 646 Snazzie.

The winners of the Newton Trophy were Colin Blewitt and Chrissie Campbell sailing Alice. Second place were Murray Glenister and John Clements sailing Lyberty and in third place was Michael Hewitt ably crewed by me in Snazzie with 12 boats racing in all. On the Sunday 14 boats raced Round the Harbour Islands for the case of Tanglefoot donated by Mark James. In first place was Peter Hewitt in Merlin, crewed by Julie Drake and in second place was Colin Blewitt in Alice crewed by Chrissie Campbell. Overall an excellent weekend with a carvery on the Saturday evening which was well supported including a group of 11 past dayboaters. Hope to see you all in Brixham.

Roy Davies DB 649, Merlin



On May Bank Holiday the Dayboat fleet at Poole ran a Try-a-Dayboat Day. The day, like so many others this year did not dawn well, but there were plenty of visitors, some from other fleets at Poole, wanting to give the boat a try. All were able to get at least a short sail before the wind became too much of a challenge for novice sailors and tea and cakes were more the order of the day.

Poole Yacht Club also had a taster day for all classes. Bob Clewer and Colin Blewitt flew the flag for the Dayboat fleet and were able to let some visitors try out their boats.

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Letter from America

We occasionally receive letters from Bruce Dreyer ('Vagabond II' DB 421) with his annual subscription. Bruce is our sole North American 'representative'. He sails with his family from Buffalo, on Lake Erie in the north of the US (look it up on Google!). The lake is subject to large seasonal changes in temperature, high winds, big waves and thunderstorms.

We do not have space to reproduce Bruce's letter in full, and all the photos he encloses, but here is a slightly-edited version.

Bruce writes:

22 February

This year so far is the warmest and least snowy winter on record. Lake Erie water temperature as of February 2016 is 36°F, with no ice. We are, however, expecting a cold snap, with temperatures predicted to be -10° F . That's right – 10 degrees below 0° Fahrenheit (*that's minus 23° C – Ed*). This combined with the warm lake usually brings heavy lake-effect snowfall.



Bruce with son Paul and daughter Molly



I am sending some sailing photos for you this time. We sail past the Buffalo Harbor Light (*an impressive stone lighthouse - Bruce sent a newspaper photo but we couldn't scan this in – Ed*) each time we leave the harbour. You can see this light and the Buffalo skyline in this photo taken from our boat.

Come aboard and sail with us!

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The photos were taken last September. We had a great day for a cruise. Sunny and cool weather, a steady breeze, with waves about a foot. We covered about 20 miles at 4-5 knots. A wonderful way to spend an afternoon! We had four adults aboard. This worked out very well to keep us balanced and upright.



(Editor's Note: DB 421 dates from 1965 and was one of a 'batch' of four Dayboats built by McGarry, possibly the McGarry boatyard at Crumlin on Lough Neagh in N Ireland, although there was another McGarry yard at Ardmore in Co. Waterford – does anyone know, or perhaps Bruce can tell us?). The three 'sister' boats are no longer on the Register and their whereabouts is unknown. As you see from the photos, Bruce's boat appears to be original and in immaculate condition. Admire that varnished foredeck!)

CALENDAR 2016

6-11 August **Dayboat Week at Brixham YC**

Phil Lokier: phil.lokier@gmail.com

10-11 Sept **Thornbury DB Open Meeting**

Tim Parkinson tim.timparkinson@gmail.com

All information is correct at time of printing. Check the YWDB Website - ywdb.co.uk for latest information

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RYA/Suzuki Dinghy Show

Once again the Association was 'on show' at Alexandra Palace in early March. We had a more centrally-located stand than last year, again in the Main Hall. James Hewitt's new unsailed boat DB 676, Mallory looked resplendent, having been fitted out (with plenty of string!) and prepared by the Hewitt clan.



As usual, there was a steady stream of visitors, including several current and previous Dayboaters, and plenty of interest. Attendance at the Show is the Association's largest single item of expenditure and involves many hours of effort from members in preparation and being there on the stand. But we need to keep the Dayboat in the public eye as a racing and cruising dinghy, and this Show is probably the best stage for this, even if the benefits are not immediately measurable.

The weekend was judged a success and enjoyed by all. The setting-up and packing away, always something of a battle because of the very restricted access to the Hall, seemed less manic than usual – or perhaps we are getting used to it, and appreciating that waiting patiently can sometimes be the best approach. Apart from demolishing half of the adjacent stand at one point (apologies to the Streaker Association, but it was a bit flimsy!) all went smoothly.



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Thanks to James for the loan of the boat, to the Hewitts for trailing it to and fro, and to the teams from Poole, Bosham and Gravesend for being there to greet visitors throughout the weekend.

The Dinghy Show is a good day out, with plenty of boats and bits to see and people to meet, so why not join us at next year's event?

Bob Davis DB 641, Lucky

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

RYA Suzuki Dinghy Show 2017 takes place at Alexandra Palace in London over the weekend of 4 - 5 March



New Dayboats

As reported in the last 'Notes', Chris Somner decided at the end of 2015 not to continue moulding grp Dayboats and the Association is now keeping the moulds in storage. The Association is continuing to talk to prospective builders. The current position is that an experienced boatbuilder local to Poole is able to mould Dayboat hulls or supply complete boats to order, so new boats are still available. The Association is in discussions with another builder who may be interested in a long-term appointment as our nominated builder and may be in a position to store our moulds. This is the preferred arrangement, since it reduces the costs associated with mould storage, and the risk of damaging the moulds in transit, and provides some continuity (as we had for 8 years with Chris Somner).

We will continue to keep members informed. If you might be interested in a new boat, please contact Pete Hewitt (contact on page 3) in the first instance.

The Committee

Please let us know what you are doing with your Dayboat - racing, cruising, restoring ... contributions to kathdavis@btinternet.com by mid November for the next issue

**Remember to visit the Association website - www.ywdb.co.uk
Information - News - Boats & Gear for sale
and lots of DB photos**

Dayboat Week 2016 - Brixham Yacht Club

August 6 - 11

For those who haven't been to a Dayboat Week, what do we do? A fun sailing holiday. There are five points races, one per day - 2 on Monday. The long distance race, on Wednesday, is sometimes a passage race with lunch before the return. This year the plan is to have lunch at Torbay SC, but the weather may dictate otherwise. There is a trophy race with prizes for crews, ladies and young sailors, who will helm the boats.



Brixham Yacht Club

The AGM will be after sailing on Wednesday. On the social side there are two prize giving dinners - we have so many prizes - and an informal social programme. This year we are planning a quiz and a sea shanty evening. There is plenty of spare time to enjoy the 'English Riviera' and lots for the non-sailors to see and do. If you haven't booked the week there is still time, or why not just join us for a day or two? ... or just make a note to come along next year?

DAYBOAT WEEK 2017

Falmouth

Royal Cornwall Yacht Club (RCYC)

Saturday 17 - Thursday 22 June 2017

