

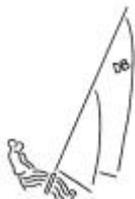
DAYBOAT NOTES

News from the Yachting World Dayboat Association

JULY 2010



THE CHAMPIONS - James Hewitt and Rachel Bullingham



DAYBOAT NOTES

CHAIRMAN'S CHANNEL

Dayboat Week 2010 has come and gone. Salcombe again presented its special challenges to some of us, but congratulations to the winner of the series, James Hewitt with crew Rachel Bullingham, whose discard was a second place. Congratulations also to everyone who took part. Twenty boats with their support teams all contributed to making the week once again a memorable one. There was some worry at the outset, that a shortage of moorings caused by the discovery of a rare seahorse (or the grass it lives amongst, or both - or something), would cast a blight on the proceedings. We were worried that the more privileged amongst us who are accustomed to walking to their boats (by pontoon that is, not anything more biblical), might not be able to manage a launch and a recovery every day for a full week. In the event, it all worked very well and the occasional meetings on the slip between Dayboats and black 4x4s with darkened windows and enormous ribs (in a nautical sense rather than anatomical – although who knows?), just added a pinch of spice to the proceedings. All in all, it was a thoroughly enjoyable week organised smoothly and with great generosity by Salcombe YC. Peter and Sally Hewitt were our liaison team and special thanks go to them for setting up the whole event.

Dayboat Week 2011 will be at Castle Cove Sailing Club in Portland Harbour from 20th to 26th August. Bragging rights while watching the Olympics on television in 2012 will be earned by all who take part, so don't miss out.

Down at Lyme Regis something stirred. A brand new riveted clinker Dayboat shyly poked its nose out of its stable. Locky McKenzie from Bosham has built, as part of his boat building course, Tailwind (DB668). Do have a look at the pictures on the website; this is a work of art. Tailwind raced in Bosham's Senior Week at the beginning of July and we are looking forward to seeing much more of her in the future.

Back in March, another new Dayboat from Chris Somner's workshop, made its appearance in time (just) for the Dinghy Show at the Ally Pally. It was a pleasure as always to meet many old friends and to let the world know that the Class is alive and well. The show boat is, I think, destined to go to Poole (if it hasn't already arrived there). Chris's tally is now up to eight high quality new Dayboats, with another on its way.

Thank you to all the Association's members for keeping the Yachting World Dayboat so active and for your continuing interest in this undoubtedly classic design. The summer is only just past half way. Get out there and enjoy it.



Iain Macpherson DB614 Doubloon

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FROM THE CHAMPION

When my father first started sailing Dayboats I thought of them as an "old man's" boat. My first Dayboat Week, crewing in DB365, was in Rock, (probably around 1991). However once I had had the opportunity to race one I realised how much I enjoy the friendly racing and the close competition. I have been fortunate to be able to borrow boats to enter several Dayboat Weeks – always with the ultimate aim of beating my father overall. This year I had Roy and Wendy Davies' lovely boat, Young at Heart, and the advantage of many summers spent sailing in Salcombe to help me achieve my ambition.



Father Peter leads the way!

I want to thank those who organise the event, it is always a most enjoyable week, and to mention all the crews. Without them we couldn't do it. Rachael Bullingham did a great job crewing for me.

Hopefully I shall be able to join in with you all in Weymouth next year. Has anyone got a boat they could lend me?

James Hewitt

THE COMMITTEE

Iain Macpherson	Chairman	Bosham	01243 575652
Cass Macpherson	Secretary	Bosham	01243 575652
Bob Davis	Treasurer	Poole	01794 368118
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Sally Hewitt		Poole	01985 214745
Peter Hewitt		Poole	01985 214745
Geoff Honey		Gravesend	01322 229751
John Lokier		Poole	01202 698584
Phil Lokier		Poole	01202 698584
John Yonwin		Poole	01305 852117

Please contact any Committee member for advice or information



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NEWS FROM THE CLUBS

POOLE YACHT CLUB

Sailing at Poole got off to a good start this year, with most of the 50 pontoon berths being filled by the end of April. Evening racing on Mondays and Thursdays has been particularly well-supported, with up to 18 Dayboats on the water.

Two brand new boats have appeared from the Chris Somner workshop. Owner Simon Philbrick carried out a lot of the work on 666, which has a very tidy sapele deck. Bob Clewer has bought 670, the boat on the stand at the Dinghy Show, which is the first boat with the new-design deck moulding. However, Bob is



Trying-a-Dayboat

continuing to campaign 'Black Pig'(609) in the Club Series for the time being.

We hosted the Association's 'Try-a-Dayboat' day in early May. The weather was rather 'brisk' and we didn't attract as many potential Dayboaters as we hoped, but we gained one prospective new Club member and a possible recruit from the GP fleet, so it was worthwhile.

The Mike McNamara Training Day the following weekend attracted around 30 members of the Poole fleet. Mike gave an excellent presentation, covering (amongst other things) racing tactics and a very illuminating demonstration of how the various rig controls affect sail shape. An 'on the water' session in the afternoon included a number of short races with Mike shouting hints (and kindly abuse) from the RIB, and some 'tacking and gybing on the whistle' routines which produced groans from the less-agile.

Seven Dayboats from Poole travelled to Dayboat Week at Salcombe which was, as usual, a most enjoyable event both on and off the water.

Bob Davis Lucky DB 641

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BOSHAM SAILING CLUB

Bosham's season got off to a shaky start. Sailing in March is really not the pastime of sensible people, so naturally we didn't go out until April. After the odd cancellation, we are now away and running.

The continuing success of the Classic Dayboat section of the Club has meant that Bosham's short Quay Start Line got so crowded that it was necessary to create three divisions of CDBs. The YWDBs have been put into the Medium division where they are sailing with eight

Devon Yawls, a Torbay Minnow, a couple of Fairey Falcons and some interesting other designs. It may not come as the surprise of the century that, as I write, Yachting World Dayboats are up there at the top of the division in 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th

and 6th positions (some of us hanging on more tenuously than others). We've now got eleven boats (including Locky McKenzie's DB668) at Bosham and the boat shows time after time how perfectly suited is George Kennedy's design to the waters of Chichester Harbour.

Unfortunately, a very crowded club racing programme has meant that it has not been possible, this year to have an Open Meeting suitable for Dayboats (and indeed our own programme shows certain eccentricities not always welcome to CDB sailors). We hope the chance will come again in the future and who knows we may one day even have a stand-alone class, racing without handicaps.



Stripey!



DB 668

Iain Macpherson Doubloon DB614

Turn to page 15 for more about DB668 - Ed



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GREENFORGE SAILING CLUB

We report from an outpost of the Dayboat empire, Greensforge SC. Not perhaps the most glamorous of sailing venues. We are 100 metres from the M6 near Wolverhampton, but what we don't have in scenery, we have in - err, well ...sailing club bon homie and friendly competitiveness.

We have a wide range of boat speeds from a Moth (blink and its whizzed past you) to the Dayboat (affectionately called the galleon), with Topazs, Lasers and Solos in between. A good range of ages too from 10 to 80 years, with usually 5 to 8 boats sailing on a Sunday. A well sailed GP14 provides a good sparring partner to the Dayboat and for some reason other people give us plenty of room when rounding the marks. The Dayboat handicap seems just right but we suffer against the Moth and Lasers when the wind drops. While we don't have sea breezes or tidal currents to think about there are large wind shifts and tight courses.

For 2010 we plan a major refurbishment of our clubhouse and bank edges and also have our annual club visits to Lake Bala and Saundersfoot.

David & Julia Morrice DB 625

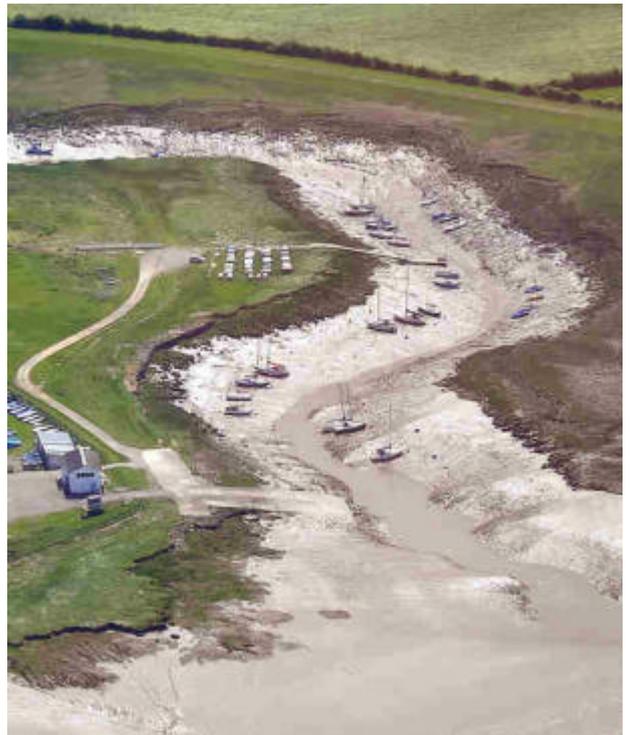
(David and Julia are regular attendees at Dayboat week - Ed)

THORNBURY SAILING CLUB

The DB activity at Thornbury remains at a low level but with two boats at Salcombe DB Week and a likelihood of three next year I remain hopeful that the class will survive.

For the benefit of those who have not ventured to TSC I include a photo showing our clubhouse and the pill (creek to the uninitiated) where we moor our boats. It is low tide showing all that lovely soft mud. The early season DBs are on the right looking down.

The other reason for the photo is to show where DB 1, 5 & 7 were registered in 1958.



Tim Parkinson DB 565 Avocet

GRAVESEND SAILING CLUB

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Well, not too much to report from GSC members, only 3 of which managed to trail down to Salcombe for Dayboat week. It was good to see James Davis recruit two Sea Scouts to crew for him, future champions in the making possibly. There should be larger turnout for next year at Castle Cove.

Back at base our season started very late with one race before DB Week ,so I was



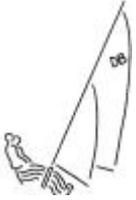
still finding all of those minor repairs I was going to do over winter, but didn't, coming back to haunt me. Just like last year in fact.

We still have not got our pontoons, there is a delay in the release by the MoD of ex RN pontoons. These will be more suitable and able to withstand our unique conditions on the Thames, than commercially available lightweight ones. So if you still want to get the full GSC crane experience, attend this years DB open on 31st July/1st August. But don't forget to bring a very long painter, the tide goes out a long way.

Geoff Honey DB 536 Phoenix

Email the editor, kathdavis@btinternet.com with your club report and photo for the next edition of DB Notes.

Do you have any other items of interest: Send before the end of November for the next issue



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RYA VOLVO DINGHY SHOW

The Association again took a stand at the Dinghy Show in March. As last year we had a good 'pitch' in the Main Hall. The only downside was that we were on the main access route, so we had to wait until nearly everybody else was "in" before we could set up. Chris Somner produced a new boat (670) almost straight from the mould. Everybody agreed that the new deck design is a step forward - more room in the boat and a little more (but not too!) 'modern'.

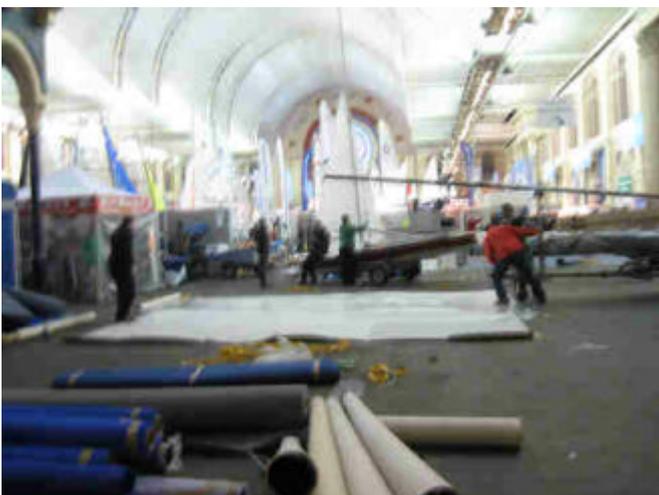
Thanks to all who helped.

Bob Davis DB 641 Lucky

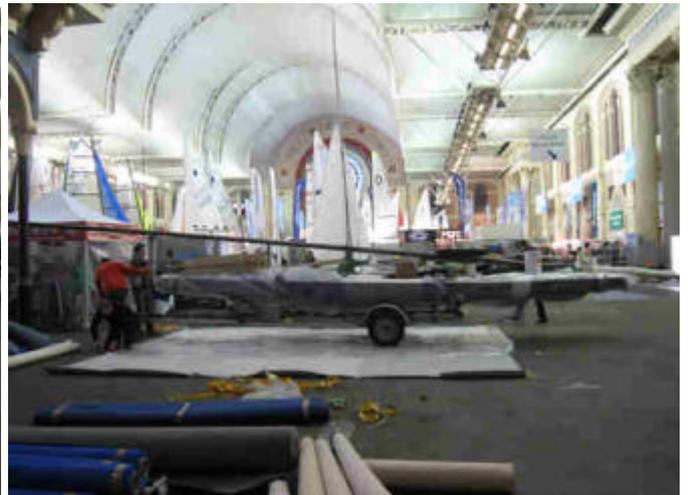


Friday afternoon .Not ready - wait whilst everybody else moves in....

...so sit down for a cuppa. Or two...



Carpet arrives - but other boats still crossing our pitch so can't start yet.



What's this? - not a Dayboat. (Thames A Rater -28 feet long, 44 foot mast)

DAYBOAT NOTES



Now for the serious stuff. Iain and Bob master the art of structures ...

.....and how to rig the DB 'banner'..



At last Chris Somner and team arrive with a (very) new Dayboat.



Lots of interest on both days.



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REFLECTIONS ON DAYBOAT WEEK – SALCOMBE 2010

Dayboat Week at Salcombe, 2010 was different from other Dayboat Weeks. Instead of the customary trots or moorings the majority of the boats were arranged side by side in the Batson dinghy park and it was immediately clear that the drawback of the pushing and shoving was far outweighed by the good-natured banter and camaraderie of everyone helping each other. This was to set the tone for the whole week.

We were delighted to welcome a newcomer to the event, Roger Pannell and crew, Carol Driver, sailing Eider(664) . Roger belongs to Salcombe Yacht Club and this



was his first opportunity to sail against other Dayboats.

Sailing on the Bank Holiday was shared with the Salcombe Yawls and Solo Open Meetings which meant that the water was quite crowded. The two races on the first Sunday were started in breezy conditions with a strong ebb tide. The Race Officer went straight for the black flag. Needless to say the fleet was pretty line shy. James Hewitt sailing Young at Heart was determined to put his mark on the week, and led the first race from start to finish. Pete Hewitt in Mandarin was second. This pattern was repeated in the second points race. The short tacking up the shore proved to be hard work for many of the fleet but James used his youth and mass to good effect, and showed how it should be done.

Monday's conditions were a direct contrast with a light north-easterly wind, meaning a beating start against the tide – no need for a black flag this time. Colin Blewett in Alice was the first to clear the fairway, but was eventually overhauled by James to

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score his third win. At this stage the overall second place was a close contest between Colin in Alice and Pete Hewitt in Mandarin. There were equally close battles for other placings throughout the fleet of twenty boats.

The scheduled Long Distance Race on Tuesday was abandoned through lack of wind. However, when a light breeze filled in, a scratch race was organised and six boats took part. After nearly two hours' sailing, Colin Blewett was the first home with James second by a small margin.

Points Race 4 yet again saw Young at Heart finishing first, although James did not have it all his own way. Colin Blewett was second. Places changed all the way through the fleet. The fourth win meant that the champion was settled, but there was keen competition for the rest of the placings.

Points Race 5 was held in sparkling sunshine on the top of the tide – perfect Salcombe sailing conditions. This time it was Mandarin that got away and James had to be content with second place, secure in the knowledge that he had beaten his father overall.

The Ladies' Race and the Cadet Race were sailed together on a short windward/leeward course in front of the clubhouse. The racing was close and provided good viewing for the spectators. Emma Griffen won the Ladies' Race, Alanah Honey finished first in the Cadet Race with Emma Clayton the highest placed "Under 15". Emma Griffen, sailing L'Enfant Terrible, 666, carried on the winning streak to lead the way home in the Crews' Race.

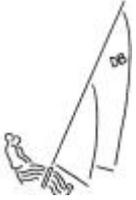
As ever, Salcombe Yacht Club provided a friendly welcome, excellent food and a super venue for our social events. Sailing at Salcombe is always testing, but looking back I am sure everyone will say they had a good week.

Sally and Peter Hewitt Mandarin DB649

DAYBOAT WEEK - SALCOMBE - RESULTS

1	Young at Heart	635	James Hewitt & Rachael Bullingham	Island Cruising Club
2	Mandarin	649	Peter Hewitt & Alanah Honey	Poole Yacht Club
3	Alice	647	Colin & Chrissy Blewett	Poole Yacht Club
4	Lucky	641	Bob & Kath Davis	Poole Yacht Club
5	Lyberty	659	Murray & Teresa Glenister	Poole Yacht Club

For the full list of results, visit the Association website: www.ywdb.co.uk



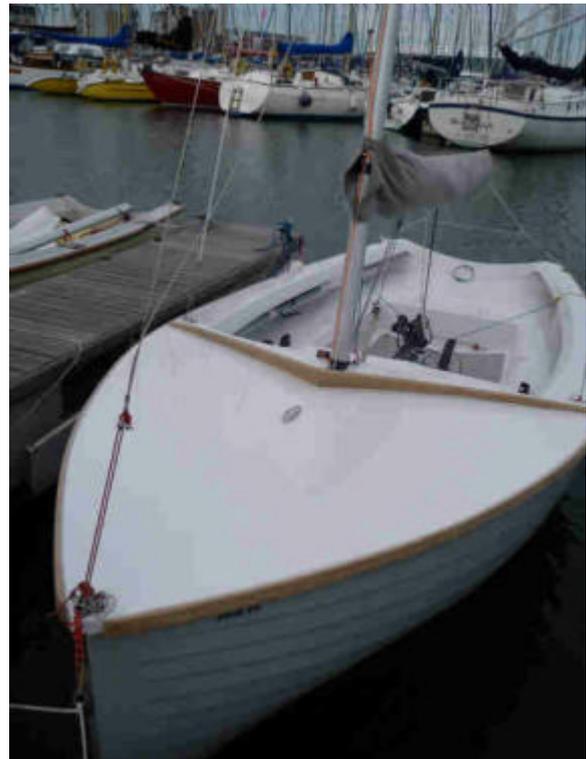
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MOULD TALK

With new boats now being built at a steady rate the Association decided to commission a new deck mould. It was clear that the existing mould, although sound, would not last indefinitely and the the decks coming off the mould required considerable hand-finishing which added to the build time (and cost).

At the same time, the opportunity was taken to make some changes to the appearance and layout . The new design, carried out in conjunction with builder Chris Somner, has more width inside, making the side tanks more useful as 'bum perches' and giving more space for family cruising, whilst keeping the comfortable side decks (for sitting-out) and providing a stiff structure to ensure the boats will have a long life.

The first boat with the new deck (DB 670) was on the stand at the Dinghy Show (see p.8-9). Comments received so far are very favourable.



670 is now on her pontoon at Poole

In the longer term the Association plans to replace the hull mould. This will be a major undertaking and will inevitably require some serious fund-raising (all ideas welcome!). However, to keep the Dayboat class alive and healthy for the next generation to enjoy we have to ensure that the tools for building new boats at a reasonable cost are going to be available far into the future..

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FROM THE WEBSITE FORUM

This letter was posted in May

"I leave in France and I have recently discovered a wooden YWDB in a boatshop. This is a very nice boat which can answer to my need but the salesman has not a lot of information to give me about this boat and I find nothing on the web. For example, what is the weight? the maximum authorized load? is it possible to sail with four adults? can you also row quite easily with it ? is it an unsikable boat? is it quite difficult to capsize? and so on... Last question what is the "price market" of a wooden boat dated 1960?

Maybe you can give me more information about this boat.

That will be very kind of you.

Thank you very much.

Emmanuel"

(Dayboats turn up everywhere! Tim Parkinson replied - see the website Forum)

Remember to visit the Association website

www.ywdb.co.uk

Information - News - Boats & Gear for sale

and lots of DB photos

Post your views in the Forum

OPEN MEETINGS

Gravesend Sailing Club

31st July - 1st August

contact Geoff Honey

geoff.h2@ntlworld.com or phone 01322 229751

Poole Yacht Club

14th - 15th August

contact Peter Hewitt

sa11yhewitt@yahoo.co.uk or phone 01985 214745



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WOODEN BOATS - OLD.....

THE LOVE OF WOODEN BOATS

We came to wooden YWDBs in a roundabout way. I was born at Barton-on-Sea opposite the Needles of the Isle of Wight, so was fortunate to have access to the sea from an early age, but as I came from the poorer 'septic-tank' end of the village (we still had gas lighting and outdoor amenities) most sailing was well beyond my means and to be fair most of the yachts and boats were owned by the dreadful yellow welly brigade. So I spent most of my free time on fishing boats or had powerful inboards and eventually went on to dive ribs.

Of course this meant I had always looked at yachts with a little disdain and felt that dinghy sailing was for old folk. Well surprise surprise I never expected to live this long – with all the abuses I put my body to (I have acquired a small scrap yard in my legs and always have the fun of setting off the airport alarms) – and I have now come to the realisation that the days of bouncing around in a rib off the tops of waves has come to an end. We decided after much deliberation that we had to find some other way of going out to sea; the idea of a 'put-put' was definitely at least two steps too far (I am 54 not 84) but sometimes the sea out of Plymouth can get interesting to say the least, so we needed a boat that could take at least two people and was a good sea going vessel. Easy you would think but no, my other half gets sea sick so a yacht was out of the question, also we had our last rib on moorings which was great for convenience but oh my, convenience does not come cheap.

So a Dinghy it was to be. As well as having bad legs another small problem was that I am 6' 5" and 21 stone (big bones!), and I had never been sailing before! To add to all of this we are very picky, it is not only the getting from a to b but the way you get to your destination that is important – this is mirrored by the fact that we have a 1922 Rover and found that we weren't slowing traffic sufficiently on country roads so we stuck a vintage caravan on the back. I digress. So after much research we decide on a YWDB; it was purported to be stable and fun. Of course there was no question for us, it had to be wooden (I am lucky to be good with my hands and I have done woodturning and wood inlay work).

I'm glad that we decided on a wooden YWDB. The feel of wood as opposed to plastic or fibreglass is indescribable, it's like I try to explain to non-vintage car people, the feeling of nostalgia and pleasure. It's smiles for miles. So as someone who was sceptical to say the least we have been converted, and we now have two wooden YWDBs, one sailing and one in repair mode.

You see, you can teach old dogs new tricks.

Happy sailing, Michael A Cook DB351 / DB562

(This item also appears on the Wedsite forum: <http://www.ywdb.co.uk/forum/>)

DAYBOAT NOTES



.....AND NEW

DAYBOAT 668

Dayboat 668, built in the traditional way by Locky MacKenzie at the Lyme Regis Boat Building Academy, was launched in June and is now sailing at Bosham Sailing Club.



Feast your eyes on the colour photos on the Association website.

More details in the next edition of 'Notes'.

Debs and Steve Struthers called at the Wooden Boat Show at Pangbourne on the way home from Salcombe. Debs reported "It's a really good exhibition site, complete with lake that is large enough to gets boats sailing but sufficiently small that you don't lose sight of them! DB 668 was part of the Lyme Regis College stand and we learnt that construction began in January '10 – not bad going to have her sailing in early June!"





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Why not join the Dayboat Pre-Olympics?

Dayboat Week 2011

Sunday 21st to Thursday 25th August 2011



Castle Cove Sailing Club, Weymouth
with sailing in Portland Harbour

**There is accommodation information on the YWDB website
- don't leave it too long -
Weymouth has become very popular with sailors the world over.**

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Full	£15.00	
Junior	£2.00	– below 19 years of age in the whole of subscription year
Family	£20.00	– Special Reduced Rate – 2 full adults and up to 3 juniors.
Race Certificate	£5.00	– renewable each year -