

DAYBOAT NOTES

News from the Yachting World Dayboat Association

DECEMBER 2009



THE CHAMPIONS - Peter Hewitt and Alanah Honey



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New man at the helm

At the AGM in August Iain Macpherson was voted in as Chairman of the YW Dayboat Association taking over from Peter Hewitt.

CHAIRMAN'S CHANNEL

As this is the first time I have written the Chairman's section for Dayboat Notes, I suppose I had better introduce myself; at least as far as my involvement with Dayboats is concerned.

My first Dayboat was DB513, which I subsequently renamed "Dapple". I bought her in 1985 from Steve Davies at Gravesend and kept her until 2003. I joined Bosham SC in Chichester Harbour at around the same time as I got Dapple and have sailed there ever since. Dapple is still very much alive and well at Bosham. Like cats, wooden Dayboats have staff to look after them, whilst GRP boats, like dogs, have owners. Dapple's devoted people are now Kip and Rosemary Hanbury. My own current dayboat is DB614. She was called Pick-me-up, but I have renamed her Doubloon – I have never subscribed to the view that renaming a boat is bad luck, but I do hope her previous owners will not be too offended. All through my Dayboat "career" there has been Cass, who crews for me without complaint (well almost), gets dumped in the water from time to time and has been the Association's Secretary for the last few years. On top of all that, she is now also in the unenviable position of having to keep the Chairman in order. I am told that the Buddhists say that if you are bad in this life, you come back as a cockroach next time round - Cass must have been really bad to pick up this fate!

Peter Hewitt is going to be a very hard act to follow. For ten years he has chaired the Yachting World Dayboat Association, bringing to the task a blend of good humour, skill and a sense of proportion which will indeed be hard to match and which is exactly what a body like the YWDB Association needs. We are lucky that he has agreed to stay on the Committee and help with the technical side of things. It is very good too, that Sally will also stay on the Committee – they are a powerful team. I am very fortunate to have the support of the same Committee to take the YWDB Association forward.

Chris Somner is now up to boat number eight since he took on the role of the principal builder of the GRP boats. I know that all who have seen them in action will

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agree with me, when I say that they are a credit to the Class. Chris has shown a keen interest in and commitment to the boat and we look forward to being able to make sympathetic improvements to the design as time goes on. Those who were at Fishguard this summer, will know that a device to prevent the centre plate dropping out in an inversion, is particularly close to my heart.

Whilst I am writing, we are being battered by gales and rain – I don't think it has gone below a 6 for longer than half an hour in the last fortnight. Christmas is coming and with the New Year we can all start looking forward to getting on the water again. The early taster will be the Dinghy Show at "Ally Pally". We will have a stand there; come and see us and spread the word! Dayboat Week 2010 will be at Salcombe from 29th May to 3rd June. Salcombe has its particular challenges and this time will be no exception. I am sure it will also be as much fun as it has been every other time we have been there. I do hope that we can welcome as many people there as can possibly make it. If you have been before, you will know what a great venue it is – tell your friends; let's make it a week to remember.

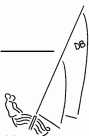
Happy Christmas everyone.

Iain Macpherson DB614 Doubloon

THE COMMITTEE

Please contact any Committee member for advice or information

Iain Macpherson	Chairman	Bosham	01243 575652
Cass Macpherson	Secretary	Bosham	01243 575652
John Yonwin	Treasurer	Poole	01305 852117
Deb Struthers	Membership Secretary	Gravesend	01328 822066
Tim Parkinson	Webmaster	Thornbury	01295 811585
David Cake		Poole	
Sue Clayton		Poole	01404 376273
Bob Davis		Poole	01794 368118
Kath Davis		Poole	01794 368118
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



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NEWS FROM THE CLUBS

Solway Yacht Club

Having read your request for information about Dayboats at Clubs in Dayboat Notes, we are members of the Solway YC at Kippford, on the beautiful "Scottish Riviera". While we are primarily National 12 sailors (having both a modern and several vintage clinker 12s) we fancied a boat more suitable for introducing our family to the delights of dinghy sailing. Having looked around, the Dayboat was exactly what we wanted; a trip to Bosham in February 2008 and DB344 "Brillig" was on the long trek North of the Border.



She has been exactly what we wanted; great for the family but the big bonus, a lot of fun racing in the Solway YC's handicap fleet, turning in some quite respectable results. She gets many admiring looks and lots of favourable comments.

You'll find her on www.thesyc.com if you have a close look!

Ian & Margaret Purkis DB 344 Brillig

Thanks to Ian and Margaret for this report - are there any more of you out there? Ed

Thornbury Sailing Club

One of the first two DB fleets was established at TSC in the mid 1950s and up to the mid 1980s we had 30 boats on moorings in Oldbury Pill (creek) so today's fleet of 10 boats give or take is really a pale shadow of the past. But the DB is especially suited to the rigours of the Severn tides and winds and it shows no sign of fading away as several other classes have. In fact 2009 will be celebrated as the year of the return of the wooden dayboat to active racing at TSC.

DB 213, Tanglefoot a clinker boat built in 1959, has been brought back to racing condition by Martin Theophilus and is currently well up the results table in the Winter Series races. DB 455, a wooden smoothie built in 1968, has been lovingly restored by Del Jeffrey and is also racing in the Winter Series. DB565, Avocet the third wooden dayboat that won the Summer Midweek series is laid up for the Winter as I am crewing for Del Jeffrey. I encouraged Del to follow my example and carry two buckets which we put to good use when we managed to finish one race after capsizing twice!

So, after some very lean years from the DB activity point of view, I am cautiously optimistic that we will keep the DB class alive, racing and cruising the Severn waters at Oldbury.

Tim Parkinson DB565 Avocet

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Gravesend Sailing Club

This year's GSC DB Open weekend on 11th/12th July saw 3 visiting boats - DB 661 sailed by David Cake and various crews throughout the weekend including Pete Hewitt and Mike McNamara, DB 535 Tim Parkinson and his crew Del, and DB 259 sailed by Simon Philbrick with Chris Somner as crew. It was David and Simon's first (though we hope not last) visit to the tidal Thames. The weekend also saw the return to the water after many years for DB 514 Yaki Dah, sailed or rather bailed by Harri Davis and John Mullan, Oh the joys of a wooden dayboat

In between the racing Mike McNamara gave a very short master class in sail setting and other go- faster tips.

The programme followed the usual GSC Open Weekend format with two very short races on the Saturday followed by a long distance down river race on the Sunday.

The outward leg on Sunday had superb conditions for reaching and running all the way to the Lower Hope buoy, before some serious windward work on the homeward leg with the lead changing frequently before the finish. The overall winner for the weekends sailing was Richard Twyman in Hazy Days with Richard Cake taking second place from Tim Parkinson in third.

It was also good to see so many GSC dayboats out in numbers at Fishguard, where we all had an excellent time both on and off the water. The total of 7 GSC dayboats was more than compete in some of our club races back home!.

Geoff Honey DB 636 Phoenix

Bosham Sailing Club

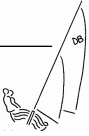
The Classic Dayboats 2009 season has finally come to a close with the annual dinner and prizegiving at the end of November. The year started with a big wind and a cancellation in March and ended with one of those races which could have inspired Coleridge. It wasn't that we shot any albatrosses, but if someone had, it might have made the day a bit more bearable – talk about a painted ship upon a painted ocean ...

The Bosham YW Dayboats acquitted themselves well this year. We now have ten boats sailing including a newcomer, Robin Albert, who has brought DB616 to the Club. This is a glued clinker boat which Robin has refitted with a metal mast and some "new" sails (courtesy of Cherry Giles at Poole, I believe). He has only been out a couple of



... Show me the ****ing albatross.

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times this season, but looks as though he is going to give us all a run for our money.

In the final reckoning, many of the DB fleet received prizes at the dinner. For the first time this year, the club also awarded a trophy to the highest placed YWDB in the Classic Dayboat fleet. Ian Norman won it with Sophie Boo (DB652) followed by Stuart and Carol Martell in Emma (DB655) and Mark and Shirley Stanton in Scaup (DB533). These three came a creditable 7th, 8th and 9th in the Fast Division's points series; ahead of them were the Torbay Minnow (16 feet), three Chichester Harbour 18s, and a couple of the quicker Devon Yawls. The Fast Division at Bosham now totals thirty eight boats and we regularly get starts of over twenty. Most gratifying to me, but then I'm biased, was the Class Captain's prize to the boat he most liked seeing on the water. This went to Dapple (DB513), which is looking as pretty as a picture.

Iain Macpherson DB 614 Doubloon

Poole Yacht Club

Chestnuts roasting on an open fire, dayboats safely tucked away, it's that time of year for the Poole Dayboat annual dinner and prizegiving, and time to reflect on the season past. Bob and Margaret Clewer in Black Pig scooped all trophies for the six series of races, while the one-off trophy races were shared between Bob, Ron Lovett in Eliza, and Pete Hewitt in Mandarin.

The mild autumn proved a great success in enticing our fleet to race on Saturday afternoons rather than Sunday mornings, so much so that on most Saturdays we were the largest fleet afloat – a couple of the more hardy dayboaters have even stayed for the winter series which runs to the weekend before Christmas.

Next year's sailing program is already planned with the season kicking off on the first weekend in April. Our new pontoon is now host to cruising yachts for the winter months but April will see it returned to our 50 strong dayboat fleet.

On behalf of Poole dayboaters may I wish all fellow dayboaters a happy Christmas and a windy (but not too windy) New Year and hope to see many of you at our Poole Dayboat Open weekend on 14th & 15th August 2010.

John Lokier DB 632 Don't Panic

After a long stint John and Phil Lokier have decided to stand down as Class Captain and Secretary of the Poole Dayboat Class, although John is staying on as Treasurer (he was doing that before, as well), and Phil is still organising our Prize-giving dinner. Our grateful thanks to them both for their untiring efforts, which have played a big part in keeping the fleet active (and happy!). Roy Davies has also retired as Vice-Captain – out thanks to Roy and Wendy also for their support. Peter Hewitt has taken over as Class Captain, with Bob Davis as Vice-Captain.

Bob Davis Lucky DB641

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Measurement Rule Changes



The following rule changes were approved at the 2009 AGM.

Rule 6: now changed to allow the rudder to be made from any material.

This rule now reads as follows:

“Two rudder shapes are allowed (Figs 9a and 9b).

These may be of any material; a protective strip with a maximum cross section of ½ inch (12.5 mm) may be fitted to the edge. The rudder may be fixed or drop. The edges may be faired off.

The rudder (with protective strip if fitted) shall conform to the Measurement Form.

The rudder stock, tiller and tiller extension may be of any design.”

Rule 6A and figs 9a and 9b shall remain unchanged in their existing positions.

Rule 10: reworded to allow spars to be marked other than by painted bands.

This rule now reads as follows:

“Clearly visible measurement bands shall be securely affixed, two on the mast and one on the boom. The width of the bands shall conform to the Measurement Form.”

Rule 10a and 10b shall remain unchanged.

RYA Volvo Dinghy Show 6 - 7 March at Alexandra Palace

It doesn't seem long since the last one, but we are now preparing for the next Dinghy Show at Alexandra Palace. Taking a stand at the Show involves quite a lot of work, but we believe it is vital to create new interest in the Dayboat and to keep the Class healthy.

We have now 'put our name on' the well-placed stand we had in 2009 (and we will have a carpet next time!). We hope that Chris Somner will have another new boat that we can display. The Show is well worth a visit – stands for all the active dinghy classes, clothing, gear and fittings etc as well as various informative talks and events. Details are on the RYA website.

As always, volunteers to help man (is that PC?) the stand and/or to set up and dismantle are very welcome. We have never been short of willing helpers but the more the merrier. So try to join us, enjoy the Show, and spend a couple of hours on the stand meeting old and new friends and explaining to visitors why we are so enthusiastic about the Dayboat.

Volunteers (form an orderly queue!) please call or email me for further details.
bobdavis123@btinternet.com 01794 368118

Bob Davis DB 641 Lucky



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Dayboat Week – Salcombe, 29th May – 5th June 2010

Plans are coming together for our 2010 Dayboat week to be held in Salcombe next year.

The first thing to note is that the sailing is scheduled between the Sunday and Thursday of the week. This is to widen the choice of self-catering properties, as many are rented Friday to Friday.

Since opening negotiations with Salcombe Yacht Club regarding arrangements, we have been told it is now impossible to put out trots for the boats, as has happened in the past. The whole sea-bed in the area has been declared an SSSI. The eel grass is the habitat for sea-horses and, more significantly for the conservationists, a rare mollusc has been found. Salcombe is its only known habitat in the UK.

We will be dry sailing from the Batson Boat Park. This problem nearly caused us to cancel until we considered the resilience of the dayboaters and the great track record of helping each other out. With many hands at the slipway, light work will be made of hauling the boats out.

We have an option on a few private moorings, just below the club. The cost for these should be little more than the cost of the dinghy park. The committee feels that the fairest way to allocate these is by "names out of the hat". When returning your entry form, please indicate whether you wish to enter the lottery for a mooring. Names will be drawn at the end of March, so your entry will need to be in by then.

For anyone who has not been to Salcombe before; it is a great venue with challenging and varied sailing in beautiful surroundings and plenty to occupy non-sailors. There are lovely sandy beaches for the bucket and spade brigade, good coastal and inland walks, gardens to visit and shops for retail therapy. Fish and chips at Captain Morgans is highly recommended. The club is most hospitable and provides a welcoming venue for our get-togethers.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible there.

Sally Hewitt DB649 Mandarin

Reflections on Dayboat Week – Fishguard 2009

This was our second visit to Lower Town, Fishguard for a Dayboat Week hosted by Fishguard Bay Yacht Club. The visitors knew the best places to stay and the majority were around the harbour in Lower Town within walking distance of the club. Launching on the Saturday was only for the early birds, ordinary mortals were left with an empty harbour and had to wait until the next day. Never the less, the boat park and harbour were a hive of Dayboat activity with scrutineering, repairs and replacements, and of course, the last minute fine tuning. This is always a nice part of the week, the troubles and trials of the preparation and the journey are behind you, and for one week at least, all you can look forward to a week of sailing and good company.

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FBYC is small club but they pulled out all of the stops to make sure the week was a success. With 18 boats entered and a full complement of families and friends the club needed to cope with a capacity crowd. The clubhouse was buzzing for the whole week, the barman was run off his feet, and the small number of volunteers in the kitchen worked miracle upon miracle to maintain a steady supply of food as well as serving for the “sit down” dinners.

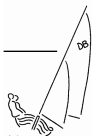
On the water the organisation was just as good. The weather was kind and allowed the full sailing program to be completed. The natural scenery of Fishguard Bay is stunning and the open water makes it very different from any other Dayboat venue. With the cliffs and headlands the wind is generally “off the land” so it can take a few days to decide where the wind bends can be used to the best advantage. We had the bay to ourselves and the only shipping to consider was the daily Stena sailing to Rosslare. Over the week the winds varied from a very light drift to a full 30 knots for the last points race on the Friday. The Race Officer used his common sense to make sure every competitor was looked after and sensibly shortened the last (very windy) race so that everyone had a good sail but didn't reach the point where it became a matter of survival.

The course for the long distance race was arranged with laid marks to give a grand tour of the bay and with a finish on the beach under Dinas Head. The plan was to eat at the pub but, on the day, the landlord decided that he couldn't cope with hordes of wet Dayboaters. This could have been a disaster but, once again, the club ladies rose to the challenge, hastily prepared sandwiches and delivered them to the beach. I had chosen to walk the coastal path and planned to be at the beach for lunch but, alas the walking was hard and I arrived at the cliff top in time to see the staggered start for the race back to Fishguard. Standing on the beach I could just make out the small boats fading into the rain and the gloom. Well, you wouldn't expect to get good weather for a whole week.



We were fortunate that so many club members gave their time to make our week work smoothly so a big thank you to all of them – and they have agreed to host another Dayboat Week.

Peter Hewitt DB 649 Mandarin



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Fishguard 2009 Results

Awarded	For	Presented to
Weston Bay Trophy.....	Champion Dayboat	Peter Hewitt/Alanha Honey
Yachting World Trophy.....	Champion Dayboat	Peter Hewitt/Alanha Honey
City of Plymouth Cup.....	Runner-up.....	Bob & Kath Davis
J. C. Payne Trophy.....	First Points Race.....	David Cake/Caroline Cake
Cake Trophy.....	Second Points Race.....	Peter Hewitt/Alanha Honey
Aberdonian's Cup.....	Third Points Race.....	Peter Hewitt/Alanha Honey
Marlow Rope Trophy.....	Fourth Points Race.....	Peter Hewitt/Alanha Honey
Poole Y.C. Trophy.....	Fifth Points Race.....	Peter Hewitt/Alanha Honey
Married Couple Trophy.....	Point Series.....	Bob & Kath Davis
Reginald Sawtell Tanner Trophy.....	Championship Crew.....	Alanah Honey
Lady Crew Trophy.....	Points Series.....	Alanah Honey
Petticoat Plate.....	1st Lady, Points Series.....	Wendy Davies
Tatman & Lowther Trophy.....	Long Distance Race.....	Davis Cake/Ellie Maher
Married Couple Trophy.....	Long Distance race.....	Roy & Wendy Davies
Ladies Race Trophy.....	Ladies Race.....	Diana Parkinson
Smartie Dish Plate.....	Crew Race.....	Diana Parkinson
Kiddle Morris Trophy.....	Cadet Race.....	Alanah Honey
Under 15 Trophy.....	Cadet Race.....	Emma Clayton
Graham Penny Trophy.....	Aggregate over 2 Years – outside top 6 places.....	Tim Parkinson
Decent Trophy.....	Age/Points Formula.....	Bob & Kath Davis
Leaky Boat.....	Highest Placed riveted Clinker Wooden Boat.....	Tim Parkinson
Wooden Bowl.....	Cruising report in DB News – Preceding year.....	Geoff Honey

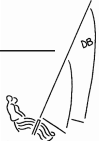
Membership rates

An increase in membership subscriptions was agreed at the AGM. This is the first increase in 10 years! The new rates are:

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 -

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A day out with Yachts and Yachting Magazine



Yachts & Yachting magazine contacted our boat builder Chris Somner to ask about doing an article on the YWDB. Chris unfortunately was busy that weekend so he passed the responsibility onto me to take the reviewer (Jeremy Evans) out for a sail on Moonrunner.

For once the weather was on our side and having rigged on the pontoon at Poole, we set off in a gentle force 2-3, with even the sun coming out for the photos. Jeremy asked plenty of the usual questions regarding sailing and ownership and of course expecting this I had thought about the main benefits of owning and sailing the Dayboat. I tried to differentiate it from other dinghies, and extolled the virtues of the boat's adaptability for all sailing occasions. Whether we are cruising around with the family & a picnic in a harbour or lake environment, or racing in 30 knot gusts out in the Irish sea, the boat is more than capable of approaching both environments in a manageable and enjoyable manner.



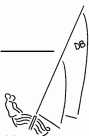
He said the boat was easy to tack and handle and I mentioned the benefit of this when teaching younger sailors or novices. That brought us onto the Dayboat week and the history of the fleet, and I talked about the family atmosphere and social side that supported the racing.

We sailed 3 up for a while with my sister, who also being a 3rd generation Dayboat sailor had plenty of good words to

contribute. Jeremy hopped off onto a moored boat whilst we sailed around having photos taken. Simon Philbrick helped out with a launch to get some real action shots and talked a bit more about the older style boat with his own being over 40 years old.

Hopefully the article will be in soon, but I hope the fame won't change us and we look forward to signing photographs soon!

David Cake DB 661 Moonrunner



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Dayboat Week 2010 - Salcombe




Saturday 29 May - Thursday 3rd June

Popular venue, sailing in glorious setting
Beaches, walks, shops and restaurants
- plenty for non-sailors.



Dayboat week is always a friendly, fun week – everyone welcome

£170 entry fee includes full sailing and social programme

-  **Welcome reception**
-  **Midweek Prize Giving meal**
-  **Thursday Prize Giving meal**

for both helm and crew.

Get your entry in by end March to enter draw for moorings (see page 8)

**Remember to visit the Association website
www.ywdb.co.uk**

**Information - News - Boats & Gear for sale
and lots of DB photos**

New in 2009 - Forum - your views

