



DAYBOAT NOTES

News from the Yachting World Dayboat Association
ywdb.co.uk DECEMBER 2021

DAYBOAT NOTES

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

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Despite all the issues around Covid we still managed to complete a successful year of DB sailing. All four open meetings took place and were well attended. But like the rest of the year, the weather patterns were very inconsistent with a hearty blow at Poole to a catspaw of a breeze on the Sunday at Gravesend! Probably the best conditions of the year coincided with our Dayboat Week in Falmouth. Whilst Covid put paid to most of the social side of the week, the on-water activities were superbly run and thoroughly enjoyed by the 16 boat fleet. A particular highlight being Tuesday's Long Distance race which took the fleet way up the Fal river at the top of the Carrick Roads and then a run back down to the finish at Loe Beach.

Arrangements are well in hand for this year's Dayboat Week in Brixham which takes place from the 23rd-28th July. Subject to the weather conditions on the day, the plan for the Long Distance race will be a course across Torbay finishing off Torquay with lunch at the Royal Torbay YC. The Notice of Race and entry form for the event are being sent out with the membership renewal reminder.

The dates for next year's Open meetings have been confirmed and are as follows: Bosham SC 21 - 22 May; Poole YC: 18 – 19 June; Gravesend SC – 13 -14 August; Thornbury SC 3 - 4 September. In addition, Avon SC are planning to hold an inaugural DB Open meeting next year with the date to be confirmed.

As previously announced your Association will be taking a stand at the RYA Dinghy Show at its new venue in Farnborough over the weekend of the 26 & 27 February. Michael Hewett has very kindly agreed to provide his boat for the stand so we will have the very latest DB on show. Members of the committee will be manning the stand over the weekend but we would welcome any member who would like to join us for some stand duty or just attend the show and show their support for the Association.

Best Regards , David Macfarlane

Cover pictures

Red : Dayboat 566 ducking a bridge - see page 9

Green : Thornbury Dayboats taking the Pill - see page 6

Blue : Avoiding the shipping at Gravesend - see page 4

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YOUR COMMITTEE

David Macfarlane	Chairman	Bosham	07538 528699
Alistair Seaton	Secretary	Bosham	01243 572778
Bob Davis	Treasurer	Poole	01794 368118
Kath Davis	Membership	Poole	01795 368118
Dave Allen		Thornbury	07503 331696
Julie Bowden		Thornbury	07790 498938
Peter Hewitt		Poole	01985 214745
Geoff Honey		Gravesend	01322 229751
Tim Wilcock		Bosham	01243 788678
Annette Wilson		Poole	01425 271927
Steve Wilson		Poole	01425 271927

Please contact any Committee member for advice or information

The Association's builder, Steve Creasey -
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Please send contributions for future copies of Dayboat Notes to the editor
kathdavis@btinternet.com

OPEN MEETING DATES 2022

Bosham Sailing Club	21 - 22 May
Poole Yacht Club	18 - 19 June
Dayboat Week, Brixham	23 - 28 July
Gravesend Sailing Club	13 - 14 August
Thornbury Sailing Club	3 - 4 September
Avon Sailing Club	TBA

We welcome new members....

Are all your Dayboat colleagues members of the Association? If not perhaps you could persuade them to join - Full membership is only £15 a year, plus £5 for a Race Certificate.

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FROM THE CLUBS

GRAVESEND SC

The GSC Dayboat open, held on the weekend of 11th & 12th September saw 12 entries including 4 visiting boats, as well as Bob and Kath Davis, visiting but not taking to the water. The race schedule was for the long distance race to be run on the Saturday up to Greenhithe, with 2 further short races on the Sunday.

The weather on the Saturday was a good mix of fresh breeze interspersed with light airs, with 12 boats on the start line before heading up river. The lead changed 2 or 3 times before the leading pack settled down. Once first time visitors to GSC, Mike Hewitt and Steve Creasey worked out what the bits of string did and where they were going, made swift progress getting to the front. Eventually taking the leading pack around the mark off Greenhithe, before heading back down river to Gravesend.



The positions of those boats following changed frequently with some getting caught in wind shadows whilst others only a boat length away managed to pass. Add the usual shipping movements plus the odd naval ship to avoid, various tactics were used, some electing to cross the river early hoping for better conditions. Only to be thwarted by the wind turning more southerly and getting caught in the wind shadows. Those that remained on the Essex shore had the better conditions and made swift progress to the finish line off the club. The day was rounded off by the usual GSC hospitality with an evening meal in the clubhouse.

The Sunday saw the arrival of the Association Chairman David McFarlane making his first visit to GSC and was suitably impressed with the crane launching method. On the weather front light winds were the order of the day and after an initial postponement it was decided we would race. Unfortunately this coincided

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with the wind dropping to f0 as race started. Some boats choosing to anchor to prevent being swept up river on the tide did eventually cross the line about 15 minute after the start. But with little progress being made up tide to the first mark, the race officer wisely deciding that all racing for the day would be abandoned. This did allow more time for the consumption of tea and cakes before the visitors took to the road for their long journey home.

Results	No	Boat Name	Helm/Crew
1	678	Groovie	Mike Hewitt/Steve Creasey
2	612	Hazy Daze	Richard Tywman/Beril Tutuncuogiu
3	565	Avocet	Tim Parkinson/Diana Parkinson
4	643	Zenith	Paul Winterflood/ Rob Turpie
5	610	Crystal Dawn	Chris Steer/ Paul Robbins
6	535	Ozone Friendly	John Mullan/Toby Withers
7	572	Attila	Dave Allen/Alfred Allen
8	636	Phoenix	Geoff Honey/Duncan Bradley
9	660	Widgeon	Steve Davies/Penny Davies
10	533	Proud Mary	Paul Bowden/Julie Bowden
11	655	Emma	Chris Smith/Karen Smith
12	510	White Lady	Pete Griffiths/Charlotte Griffiths

Geoff Honey

THORNBURY SC

Club racing returned to something akin to normal at TSC and we have seen good representation in all of the series, with six boats getting out on the water since July, racing in long distance, pursuit, and the more conventional 'round the cans' formats.



We have achieved a number of individual race wins, but no overall series winners this year. Despite this, I feel that we are progressing well as a group and will attract more sailors to DB racing on the Severn in the next few seasons.

Our open event in July was well supported by five visiting boats and a number of land bound supporters who enjoyed great weather and contributed to our

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most successful open since reinstating the event in 2016. Many thanks to all those who attended.

On the flip side, TSC sailors were in evidence at all of the other DB open events including the DB Nationals week in Falmouth, with three boats making the longest trek on the schedule to Gravesend S.C.

The Dayboat experience at Thornbury is not complete without planned excursions on the Severn, with all of the active fleet getting out for cruises to various destinations this year, both up and down stream of the club house. Tim Parkinson led an intrepid group of four DBs to one of our furthestmost upriver inlets, Brimm's Pill, and back on the returning tide safely. For three of those boats the near 25nm round trip, which includes the infamous Upper Shoots near Sharpness, it was their longest journey to date and a good achievement to boot.



A few diehards are still chipping away in club races with Stu Beale laying 3rd in the Autumn Pursuit Series and the Bowdens, Julie and Paul, laying 6th out of 24 in the Winter Series. The 'Thornbury Freezer' race will round off events this year at TSC on 28th December.

Dave Allen

POOLE YC

The 2021 Poole DB Open was combined with the GP14 Open weekend and held over Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th August. We had 7 visitors, from Thornbury, Bosham and Dell Quay. On the Saturday two races were held around the harbour islands, anticlockwise in the morning and in a clockwise direction in the afternoon. Perfect conditions sunny with light winds, unfortunately only 6 DB's competed.



The morning race was won by Colin Blewett and Chrissy Campbell in 647 Alice. Second was Cherry Giles and Malcolm Palmer in 606 Damon's Daughter and third was Dave Allen and Roy Davies in 572 Atilla.

The afternoon race was again won by Colin Blewett, second Cherry Giles and third John and Phil Lokier in 632 Don't Panic.

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The Sunday started with light cloud and a stiff breeze. With increasing wind strength and a forecast for stronger winds later it was decided to change the format; and instead of one race in the morning and two after lunch that we would do three races back-to-back. Due to the forecast, we had a reduced entry but Peter Drake our PRO and his excellent team of mark layers ran 3 very competitive races in very windy conditions.

Race 1 - won by Pete and Andrew Hewitt in 669 Merlin, 2nd Alastair Seaton and Tim Willcock in 635 Mojo, 3rd Colin Blewett and Chrissy Campbell in 647 Alice.

Race 2 – won by 653 Mojo, 2nd 647 Alice, 3rd Simon Veysey and Bruce Garrett in 651 Annabelle.

Race 3 – won by 669 Merlin, 2nd 647 Alice, 3rd 653 Mojo

Overall winner of the Newton Trophy was Pete Hewitt with 2 points, 2nd was Alastair Seaton with 3 points and 3rd was Colin Blewett with 4 points so all in all a very close days racing.

Here we are three weeks away from Christmas with one stalwart sailor still on the water doing the winter series. Covid has somewhat depleted the race series, but a core group have completed the 2021 season. Wishing you all a Happy Christmas from Poole and looking forward to a good sailing season and fair weather in 2022. See you at the Open Weekends and DB week.

Wendy Davies DB649, Mandarin

BOSHAM FLEET NEWS

The weather gods did not shine down on Chichester Harbour this year. Almost every weekend we had light and variable south easterlies which is by far the worst wind direction for setting a fair course in the harbour. And due to the light winds and strong tides, we were forced to run a number of races within the Bosham Creek. Hopefully 2022 will bring back some solid south westerlies so that the DB's can properly stretch their legs in the main harbour.



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Despite the poor sailing winds turnouts have been very good with a regular 12-14 DB's racing. The conditions also did not hinder the progress of Mark and Shirley Stanton (DB673), who sailed very consistently and ended the year winning both the season long race series. This is despite flying off to the BVI's in October and missing the last race! In both series they were followed by Simon Veysey & Bruce Garrett (DB651) with Alastair & Jacqui Seaton (DB653) in third place.

We are confident that there will be a sizeable entry from Bosham for Dayboat Week in Brixham and really looking forward to a week of largely tide free, open water racing.

Fleet changes

- Sadly John Webber (DB600) has had to retire from DB sailing due to ill health. He has however sold his boat to Jane and Steve Barratt who had previously owned a rather leaky classic wooden DB.
- Ginny Kidd has left the fleet to concentrate on Swallow racing at Itchenor and has sold her boat (DB640) to Mark & Sue Ross who proceeded to win a race on their first outing in the new boat!
- Mark & Sue have in turn sold their old DB637 to a new Bosham member Richard Hakes.
- Paul & Chris Sheldrick bought DB646 from Michael Hewett and they have been going faster and faster as they get to grips with the fully adjustable rig.
- Rumour has it that a Don Young wooden 'smoothie' will be joining the Bosham fleet in 2022. If proved correct, this will provide company for Paul Dewing's lovingly restored DB475. Paul had a Covid enforced break from sailing last year but we look forward to him re-joining the fleet next season.

David Macfarlane Bosham Class captain



26 & 27 FEBRUARY 2022

FARNBOROUGH INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION CENTRE

We will be there.

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Carousel goes Round the Isle of Sheppey

The Summer of 2021 was happy sailing times for Dayboat 566 CAROUSEL. After a spoiled year of non-sailing due to pandemics. Team Carousel with Helen Evans crewing and myself on the helm, were back. We decided to venture beyond our home clubs racing provision; Silver Wing SC and Dell Quay SC, to experience some open meetings, and in particular, to sail with other Dayboats. Visits to Thornbury SC, Bosham SC and Poole YC not only provided us with great new sailing venues but varying conditions too. Meeting up with Dayboat sailors and then sailing with their various versions of DBs, Woodies, Smoothies and Clinker Dayboats proved to be very enjoyable and educational. Let's hope for more in 2022.



At the end of the summer, we decided to revisit Sheerness for the 2021 Round the Isle of Sheppey race. A clockwise circumferential navigational race of 40 miles, the longest UK annual dinghy race with Cats and boards also participating. An endurance race established in 1959 over the Sea, Estuary, and River. Starting off from the seafront at 10.20am in the slow HC fleet >1120; the first of 4 HC starts. The last fleet being <900 including a Nacra and Formula 18 Cats.

A first beat for an hour against a NE 10knts of wind and tide to the NE tip of the island. A reach to Sheerness into Whitstable Bay then extending into a run into the Swale estuary. Already the big Cats were overtaking, colourful spinnakers approaching from astern and then a seal popping up alongside to see what the fuss was about, before quickly disappearing.

As the Swale became a river, there came an hour of gull wing with a 15 knt following breeze and time for onboard snacks. Then as the Swale morphed into a winding river, sailing around the tighter bends whilst keeping off the shoals and finding the faster water became the order of the day.

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Now the bridge at Kingsferry loomed ahead. The tide had turned at HW and this would help us under the bridge, sweeping us through whilst avoiding the hazard of the bridge that is too low to sail under. We sailed into the mainland shore to capsized Carousel in the shallows, along with all the other competitors, and then pushed her through under the bridge. Not easy with a Dayboat but not as difficult as a Cat! Leaping back aboard and we continued out of the River Swale and into the Port of Queensborough. Then out into the mouth of the Medway. A careful rounding of Garrison Point before returning to the open sea for a final pleasant beat back to Sheppey YC and the finish line.



Finishing at 15.51; a passage time of 5hrs 32min 54sec. Now the prizegiving. The first boat over the finish line was a Formula 18 in 2 hrs 21 min 44sec followed by the Nacra F20. In fact, the first 7 places taken by the multi hulls and the subsequent 7 positions taken by the fast HC mono hulls, all flying spinnakers. In 15th place, and a huge surprise for us, was Carousel winning the slow handicap fleet. With beaming smiles, we were presented with the equally shining Rush Tompkins Cup. Our first ever open trophy. Let's hope we can defend in 2022. Maybe against other Dayboats.

Ken Baker DB566 CAROUSEL

From FACEBOOK

In October Keith Webster reported *"Dixie No324 hit the water for a short time today. A quick relaunch after her rebuild to swap onto a new for her combi trailer. She had been out of the water for approx 30 years. Half an hour in the creek & took on about a gallon of water. I can live with that! Covid lockdowns stopped me finishing her, now i got no excuse! Sorry no pictures."*

Here are the before and after pictures - from Facebook



December 2017



October 2018

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WORDS ON WOOD

Although the majority of Dayboats being sailed today (certainly in racing fleets) have GRP hulls, the Dayboat was designed to be built in wood.

In the 1960s our predecessors in the Association recognised that to ensure that the class continued to grow it was essential to adapt the design rules to allow Dayboats to be built in GRP. The cost of professionally-built wooden boats was becoming prohibitive for many buyers, and at the same time many sailors were growing less enthusiastic about the winter round of painting and varnishing. The first GRP boats (the 'smooth' Golden Arrow boats) appeared in 1967, and the first GRP 'simulated clinker' hulls in 1980.

But wooden boats are still being built. Another new boat (this time of glued clinker construction) emerged from the Lyme Regis Boat Building Academy in 2021 – spotted at the Southampton Boat Show with owner/builder Graham Pickett. A sight to behold....

'Mrs P' - the new wooden Dayboat built by Graham Pickett (and helpers). Further pictures on the Lyme Regis Boat Building Academy website boatbuildingacademy.com



And wooden boats are still raced successfully. Tim Parkinson' Avocet DB 565, (a rivetted clinker boat built in 1975) comments that *"A survey of the boats taking part in this year's open meetings and Dayboat Week reveals the wooden boat is hanging in there. The three are Avocet, Bali Hai DB119 (cold moulded and winner of the 1958 DB Week) and Alice DB 647 (glued clinker and winner of two DB Weeks this century)."*

GRP needs a lot of energy to produce the glass and the resins, and is difficult and expensive to recycle. We needn't feel too guilty - GRP Dayboats have only made a tiny contribution to global warming and very few have yet found their way into landfill – but just think of all those expensive yachts and motor boats, not to mention the caravans. Wood is sustainable, easily worked with simple tools and some skill, and it floats! And a well-finished wooden Dayboat is almost a work of art. Perhaps wood is the future as well as the past (or maybe I'm just rambling!)

Bob Davis DB 641, Lucky (GRP clinker)

DAYBOAT WEEK 2022

will be held at

BRIXHAM SAILING CLUB

23 July - 28 July

More details will be published on the Association
Website www.ywdb.co.uk

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