



TELLTALES

The Journal of Priory Sailing Club
March 2008

www.priorysc.org.uk

COMMODORE'S COLUMN

Welcome to the first Telltales of 2008. This is my first Commodore's Column and I'd like to start by thanking David Kirk, our retiring commodore, for all his hard work over the last two years. His efforts are much appreciated by the committee and club members alike. Two other hard working club members are also stepping down from important roles; Paul Sharrock who has managed our website and kept the race results up to date, and Richard Maddison one of our volunteer sailing instructors. Thank you both for all your input and your long service.

Thank you also to everyone who helped out on our recent working party weekend, the island is much clearer as a result of our efforts! Our next working party is on **Saturday 15th March**; do come along if you can, to help get the club and grounds ready for the sailing season ahead.

Re-Activate 8 - Water Sports

Some hardy souls have been sailing throughout the winter of course and our regular Sunday racers have been joined on the water in recent weeks by an adult group new to sailing. Supported by the club, and as part of a council sponsored programme Re-Activate 8 - Water Sports, this group have proved to be very enthusiastic sailors and several plan to join the club.

New Boats

Our fleet of club boats has grown during the winter! We have recently taken delivery of a Topper Vibe which was part funded from an RYA grant to us as an On Board

In this issue: -

- **The Icicle Race**
- **PSC Committee for 2008**
- **Winter Restrictions Lifted**
- **Club evening**
- **Do you know....?**
- **John Howard collects his award**
- **Junior Mainsheet**

club, and, thanks to some dedicated and skilful restoration work by Peter Barton, Chris Jennings and others, we also have an additional Wanderer to add to our club fleet. These are both primarily training craft but your committee will be discussing how these boats will be managed for more general use in order that we might maximise their use by suitably experienced helms.

Peter and Chris have also spent some of their winter refurbishing the club's Heron. Thanks to you both for all your efforts.

A bargain available!

Our new Wanderer was formerly one of a fleet of six training boats belonging to Bedford Modern School. Two others have been bought by club members and brought back into service. There are still three more of these boats that need a good home, they are the yellow-hulled boats currently on the car park. If you are interested in a bargain please contact David Jenkins at BMS.

(Continued on page 2)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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Sunday 9 March	14.00 First of four talks with videos on sailing and racing for Pirates & Buccaneers
Saturday 15 March	Working day - see Commodore's Column above
Friday 21 March	Winter restrictions lifted - see page 3
Sunday 30 March	All-fools race for boards and dinghies -14.00 start for first race
Sunday 6 April	Start of the Spring Series - 10.00 start for first race
Sunday 20 April	First of the Buccaneers afternoon sessions 14.00
Sunday 3 May	First of five dinghy Pirates level 2 sessions 14.30
Saturday 10 May	Club lunch in the club house 12.45
Sunday 11 May	First of the Olympic Pursuit Series -10.00 start for first race
Wednesday 14 May	Club evening and assisted sailing for our disable members - see page 3
Sunday 25 May	Start of the Summer Series - 10.00 start for first race
Saturday 14 June	Open day - dinghy and board taster sessions for the public
Sunday 15 June	Open day - dinghy and board taster sessions for the public
Saturday 21 June	The first of six dinghy Pirates beginners sessions - 14.30 pm start
Sunday 22 June	RLNI Regatta for boards and dinghies - three races starting at 11.00 am
Sunday 28 June	Club's fun evening including sailing and BBQ from 4 pm

(Continued from page 1)

Your thoughts please

By now you will have received your membership renewal which this year included a members’ survey. The committee is keen to receive any new ideas or suggestions from club members on how we might better run our club. Please let us know what you think!

A chance to help

If you are interested in joining our growing band of volunteers please do get in touch. Perhaps you would like to help out on some of our coaching sessions, man the rescue boat, maybe help on shore side without getting wet or help at the Wednesday club evenings with sailing for our disabled members – see page 3 for details. The club’s continued success relies on our willing group of volunteers, come and join in!

Finally, a reminder that the winter sailing restrictions will be lifted on 21st March this year – see page 3. All the best for the sailing season ahead.

Tim Hewett
Commodore

THE ICICLE RACE

The Icicle race started in very light winds that progressively decreased to nothing whilst the race was still in progress. The race was therefore abandoned and the results, shown on the right, were based on the time the boats completed their second lap. The winner, Dick Knowles, received the Janes Trophy. In addition, fun prizes were given to the first three helms and also to Shevaen Davis, who was the last helm to complete the race.

As far as can be recalled, this was the first race in the history of the club to be stopped by lack of wind. Whilst there was disappointment on the water with the lack of wind, there was no disappointment with the very fine lunch prepared by Sue Baker and Jan Jennings that awaited competitors and spectators in the clubhouse. A very popular feature, particularly amongst the young members, was the chocolate fountain. Thank you to all involved with providing this event, especially to Sue and Jan.

THE ICICLE RACE RESULTS		
Helm	Class	Position
Dick Knowles	Vago	1
Colin Kitchin	Solo	2
Sarah Poxton	Laser Radial	3
Jonathon Powell	Topper	4
Guy Travis	Laser Radial	5
Peter Barton	Heron	6
Graham Pound	Topper	7
Jim Thornett	Streaker	8
Issy Powell	Pico	9
Jon Jennings	Heron	10
Shevaen Davis	Topper	11
Gordon de Sousa	Heron	12 (Retired)

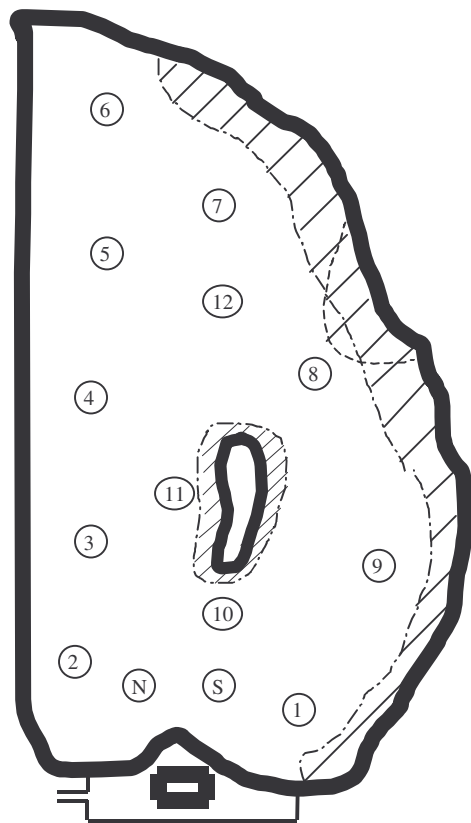
PSC Committee 2008		
<i>Flag Officers</i>		
Commodore	Tim Hewett	01234 319827
Vice Commodore	Gordon de Sousa	01462 451031
Rear Commodore	Glyn Powell	01234 349001
<i>Officers</i>		
Hon Treasurer	Peter Barton	01234 871237
Hon Secretary	Sue Baker	01933 412083
Hon Membership Secretary	Tony Ogborn	01234 708010
<i>Members</i>		
Member	Mark Ingledeew	01234 406386
Member	Chris Jennings	01234 855249
Co-opted Member	David Kirk	01234 307837
Member	John Morrow	01525 405323
Member	Mark Roe	01767 317761
Member	John Sweet	01582 652254
Member	Paul Williams	01234 325449
Junior Representative	Marzio Barberio	—
RYA Principal	Brian Stanbridge	01234 403933 or 07867 531400
BCA Representative	Brian Stanbridge	01234 403933 or 07867 531400

WINTER RESTRICTIONS LIFTED

The winter restrictions, which came into force on 1st November, will be lifted on **Good Friday 21st March 2008** (erroneously reported in the Christmas edition as the 1st April, but the restriction is lifted on Good Friday or 1st April, whichever is the sooner). This means that from 21st March until 31st October, sailing is permitted from 9.30 am until sunset on every day, providing the required minimum safety cover is in place, and on all parts of the lake except for the permanent no go areas shown shaded on the adjacent map, which are:

- inside the ring of buoys around the island
- within 20 metres of the south shore, which is reserved for anglers
- the shallows near mark 8

In addition, please avoid sailing near reed beds, particularly during April, May and June when birds, waterfowl and fish are using the reed beds for breeding.



CLUB EVENING FOR GENERAL SAILING AND SAILING FOR OUR DISABLED MEMBERS

As you will see from the above notice, you can sail on any day from 21st March through to the 31st October but you must ensure that adequate safety cover is in place. If no safety boat service is available, then you must arrange for there to be at least two experienced and competent helms on the water. During week days this is not always easy to arrange and therefore it has been a long tradition for Wednesday evenings from mid May to mid September, when the days are long enough to allow evening sailing, to be classed as club evenings for general sailing and assisted sailing for our disabled members, for whom a safety boat service is provided. This year the club evenings begin on the 14th May and continue every Wednesday through to 10th September, sailing starts at about 6.30.

We need a team of helpers to assist our disabled sailors, so would those members who intend to sail on the Wednesday Club Evenings but would also be available to rig, launch, recover and de-rig boats, and crew or helm with a disabled sailor, or operate the safety boat either as a qualified helm or as a crew member, when required, please enter their name and telephone number and tick the appropriate columns on a list on the clubhouse notice board - the one just inside the door at the top of the stairs - you cannot miss it (or contact Roy Beard on 01234 400934 or beardsbarn@hotmail.com).

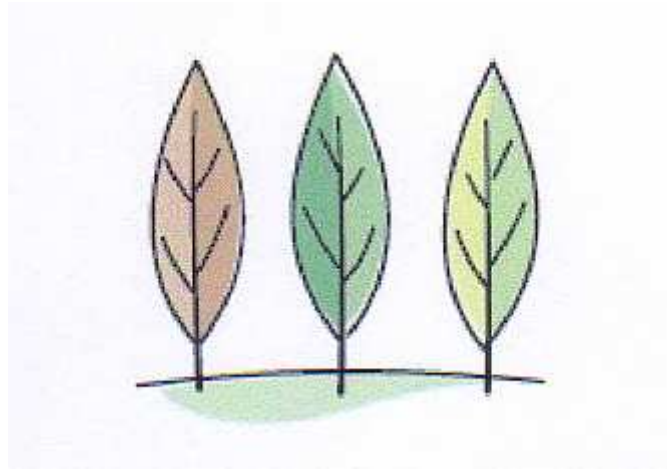
DO YOU KNOW.....?

Here is a new feature for your newsletter. A question will be posed on an aspect of sailing and the answer given showing, in *italics*, the source from which it is taken. It is intended to be a helpful introduction to terminology and racing rules to those new to sailing, and perhaps it may prove to be welcomed by our experienced members as a helpful reminder of the things they may have forgotten! Each "Do you know..." question will be numbered so that it is easy to refer to in the future. If you have a question then send it to the committee (see page 2) for an explanation in a future issue. The first question is about dinghy racing.

1. Do you know when a boat starts to race?

The starting procedure for all of the club's races consists of visual signals, with flags, and of sound signals from a horn at four intervals of time before the starting signal of the race. The first signal is the pre-warning signal at 10 minutes, this is followed by a warning signal at 5 minutes, a preparatory signal at 4 minutes and then a one-minute signal before the starting signal. A boat is racing from her preparatory visual signal, *Racing Rules of Sailing Definitions and Rule 26*, which is 4 minutes before the start of the race. It is from this moment that the starting marks may not be moved, *Rule 27.2*, and penalties or retirement come into effect for boats that infringe a rule, *Rules 31 and 44*.

**Ask us the big questions
We'll take care of the small details**



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GOING UP TO TOWN FOR THE ROYAL YACHTING ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY AWARDS

In the announcement of my RYA Community Award in the Christmas edition of Telltales, I was invited to tell you about the presentation. Well I certainly will, but first I must say that it was with amazement that I found in the post a letter from the RYA Head Office to the effect that the Heron Dinghy Association had nominated me for an RYA COMMUNITY AWARD. My first reaction was to feel very humble when I thought of all the other hard working long-term volunteers who work on behalf of the Association and the clubs, particularly at Priory S.C.

Then I discovered that at Priory we already had two previous recipients, Tony Ogborn in 2005 and Sarah Poxton in 2006. I didn't feel quite so guilty after that!

I was also swept along by my family's enthusiasm, "will your best suit still fit?" and of course my wife's need for a new outfit, etc, etc.

So on November 22nd we arrived at Church House, a prestigious conference building in the shadow of Big Ben, Westminster Abbey and Westminster School, and were greeted by very efficient RYA staff. There were about sixty awards recipients, their guests and the VIPs. The RYA had produced an excellent booklet outlining very briefly the activities that led to the nominations, which made interesting reading.

The President of the RYA, the Princess Royal (Princess Anne) joined us for the lunch before presenting the awards, and then subsequently attending the AGM of the RYA. In his formal speech the RYA Chairman paid particular attention to how the clubs, large and small, form the backbone of keeping the UK in the forefront of international sailing.

It was a wonderful function, and it was great to chat with other enthusiasts who work behind the scenes in the clubs, the Association and the RYA.

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation of the help given by Peter Baker from 1996 to 2001 in the early stages of rewriting the construction and measurement rules, by David Butler when I was working with him on the redesign of the GRP Heron and when I was writing many of the Association's information sheets. These rules had probably been progressively developed over about fifty years and we endeavoured to produce a more concise document for the years 2000 and 2002. Recently this has been updated for 2008 with the help of Derek Dodd and Martin Treadway.

As with all voluntary groups, I am indebted to all these people and others, and especially to the Heron Association committee for my nomination.

My wife, June, and I had a wonderful and unforgettable day.

John Howard.
Heron 9809 "Zander"

THE JUNIOR MAINSHEET

Hello to all Junior members! Welcome to the first Junior Mainsheet in 2008. I am your new representative on the club's committee, and I am also your "roving" reporter for the Junior Mainsheet. Our sailing fun is about to start again for the 2008 Season. If any of you have anything you want to contact me about, anything at all, from fun ideas to race dates, or some thing you think would make an interesting article in the Junior Mainsheet, I will be more than happy to help you. You can contact me on 01234 402940 or e-mail me at barberiomg@bedfordschool.org.uk.

In this issue of Junior Mainsheet we have the answers to Issy's Christmas Wicked Winter Wordsearch (did you find all the words?) and the training events, both in the "class room" and on the water, for Pirates and Buccaneers. It's looking good.

Marzio Barberio

Issy's Answers

The answers to my Christmas Wicked Winter Wordsearch, when I asked if you could find some words in a grid of letters, are shown on page 6.

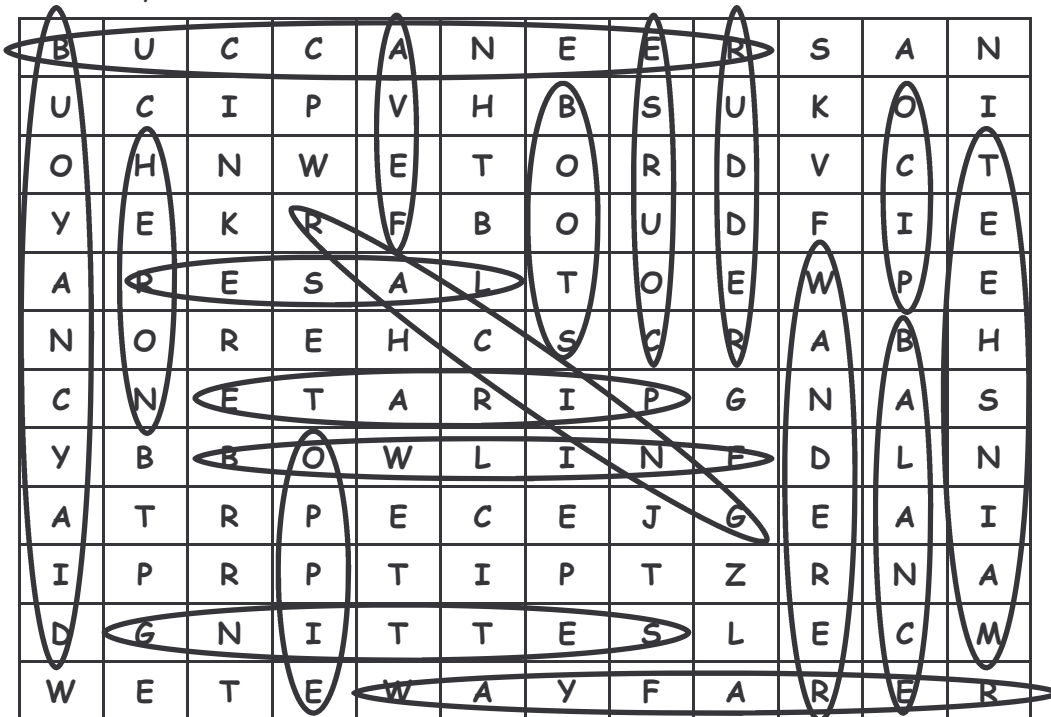
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These were the words: -

Mainsheet	Rudder	Course	Bowline	Laser	Heron
Pico	Oppie	Wanderer	Wayfarer	Buccaneer	Setting
Balance	Racing	Buoyancyaid	Boots	Pirate	Feva

And this is where they were: -



I also asked you to complete a sentence with words from the grid. The word WET appears four times and the word AND once, to give: -

" What I like best about sailing is getting WET /WET / WET / AND / WET! "

I hope you liked the challenge!

Issy

PIRATES AND BUCCANEERS TRAINING

PIRATES & BUCCANEERS TALKS ON SAILING TECHNIQUES AND RULES.

If you missed the first two presentations on sailing techniques and racing rules for Pirates and Buccaneers, then there are two more, one on 23rd March and the other on 6th April, in the clubhouse starting at 2 pm. If you are interested, just arrive and present yourself at the clubhouse. Parents and adults welcome to come.

BUCCANEERS ON THE WATER.

On the water training for Buccaneers starts on Sunday 20th April at 2 pm and continues every Sunday through the summer. If you wish to participate in Buccaneers on the water training sessions just turn up on the day and report to the instructor on the beach by 2.00 pm.

PIRATES ON THE WATER.

On the water training for **Pirates at level 2** starts on Saturday 3rd May at 2.00 pm and continues for the following four Saturdays to 31st May. On the water training for **new Pirates (beginners)** starts on Saturday 21st June at 1.30 pm and continues for four Saturdays, the 28th June and the 5th, 19th and 26th July. Please note there is no training on the 12th July. All Pirates must complete an application form and send it to Tony Ogborn before attending these on the water courses. If you have not received an application form by post, one can be obtained from the club's website www.priorysc.org.uk