



February 2019



NOTES ON RUTLAND SAILABILITY

The New Year has arrived and as is common with other organisations we have decided to have a fresh approach to various existing enterprises and in this case we are going to update our newsletter and as I tried to sneak out of the door I was asked to be the Editor.

I will try to ensure that we will cover a wide spectrum of topics and so I am relying on you to let me know what areas you want to discuss or make others aware of.

Andrew St John has very kindly offered to let us all know something about himself and also about what his duties are as a trustee.

Hopefully other trustees will in future newsletters be letting us know what their responsibilities also are and their thoughts on the future and perhaps a humorous reflection on the past!

It goes without saying that Val and Annie have let us know what they have been up to over the winter months. It seems they never stop sailing and racing, just a thought, maybe they should have their own newsletter?

I really hope that the fleet captains will contribute regular articles in the Newsletter.

In fact, I encourage everyone to send in any pieces they would like to add, don't be shy, it has only taken me a can of lager to mackle this together!!

CONGRATULATIONS! Wasn't it wonderful to hear that Rutland Sailability member, Margaret Jennings, had been awarded an MBE in the New Year Honours for Service to the County of Rutland? Saying 'well done' to Margaret seems so inadequate, but all our very best wishes are with you.

I hope that you find this first newsletter of 2019 is making a start to being helpful and informative, it is early beginnings. But to make it informative and interesting I need, and I would love to hear, your comments, good or bad, naturally!!

My plan is to have the next newsletter ready for the end of March, but if there is any 'breaking news!' or something exciting comes along I will send a newsletter at the end of February.
You can catch many RS news items on FaceBook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/RutlandSailability/>

My email is : bhollier@hotmail.co.uk

Bryan Hollier



Photos from last year's Spinnaker Course



Skill Check Sheets for Jetty Master, Tractor, Buggy and Jetty Washer

In response to the pre season inspection last year by the RYA, we agreed with the inspector that we should have skill checklists for our members driving the tractor and buggies, operating the jetty washer and managing the jetty.

We were already practicing the skills required, but just needed documented evidence that would support us, should an investigation be carried out, following an incident.

This is largely about health and safety and when someone comes up with one of these, it is very difficult to ignore it!

So, we now have a skills list for each operation mentioned above, and for any member to operate that particular piece of equipment, they must have been checked out and signed off by the managers of that equipment.

The signed-off checklist will then be kept by the membership secretary, as appropriate.

Nobody must operate any of the above equipment without having been checked out and signed-off unless they are being supervised by one of the equipment managers. (i.e. training)

In order for the club to operate efficiently and flexibly, we need as many members as possible to get checked out and signed off as soon as possible.

The new RS website will be up and running soon and we will publish the skill checklists on there for you to have a look at.

Currently, the equipment managers who can check you out and sign you off are:

Tractor: Neville Rose, Graham Fisher

Red Buggy: Neville Rose, Graham Fisher

Green Buggy: Neville Rose, Graham Fisher

Jetty Washer: Neville Rose, Roger Millington

Jetty Master: Geoff Collier, Graham Fisher

Please contact the above people to arrange for a checkout and sign off.

If the equipment manager is not at RS then leave a note at reception and he will make contact with you.

Graham Fisher (RS Trustee - Shore Support)

email: grahamfis@btinternet.com

Mob: 07983 333 286



Andrew St. John, Sailing Trustee - who am I, what are my responsibilities?

In another life I was a GP in Blaby from 1972 to 2009 and from 2006 to 2013 when I finally decided enough was enough, I was an Assistant

Medical Director at University Hospitals of Leicester, all now firmly in the past.

I am married to Heather and have 3 grown up daughters, Fiona, Emma and Freya. Heather and Fiona were brave enough to sail with me first in a GP 14 (what else?) and then later in bigger boats around the South Coast of England and then sometime in the Mediterranean and Caribbean.

I came to Rutland Sailability in the middle of 2015 wondering if I could be of any use and also to encourage my grandson Sacha (who has muscular dystrophy) to try sailing.

At the AGM of 2017 I was encouraged to put my name forward as a Trustee and the Trustees decided that I should take on the role of Sailing Trustee. This role I found was easily defined as - you are responsible for anything that floats, but rather oddly this also includes radios which clearly don't! In addition I get to chair the Sailing Committee, which I found included the Chief Instructor, the Fleet Captains and Senior Instructors. The overall role of this committee is to organise the sailing days to ensure that all members get to sail in a safe and happy environment, leaving at the end of the day, having of course helped to put the boats to bed, with a smile on their faces and at the end of the year perhaps a trophy or two. And none of this would be possible without the help of all our non-sailing members who work hard in the office, on the shore and on the pontoon keeping the show on the road.

So it's a really simple, volunteer role.

And now to the New Year.

Thursday sailing will start on 4th April and end on 31st October

Saturday sailing will start on 6th April and end at the half-term break in October.

All dates subject to weather!

And lastly we will continue to use Dutyman Rostering so that we know who is doing what and when.

See below !

Duty Man Rostering Software

At last year's Forum the subject of duties essential to member's sailing and Duty Man Rostering software came up – this article aims to provide details of how the Trustees would like Duty Man to work for the 2019 sailing season. The Duty Man Rostering Software is a piece of commercial, internet based, software built by sailors, for sailors and sailing clubs in particular, to roster members against the essential duties required to effectively run the sailing activities. In our particular case it has been shown that if members sign up to do duties essential to a sailing session, (such as Multi Helm, Longboat Helm, Duty Controller, Venture Helm etc), in the days before a session starts then that session will run much more smoothly and thus benefit all our members.

So, over the coming weeks, in a manner similar to previous years, I will set up a set of series of essential duties for Thursday and Saturday Sailing within the Duty Man software (see attached draft duties list). I will then add the e-mail addresses of all the members of RS together with an e-mail text describing in more detail how to log in, access Duty Man and how to volunteer for duties. This e-mail will then be sent out in mid- February inviting members to volunteer for essential duties.

While duties up until November will be uploaded to Duty Man there is no expectation that members will volunteer for duties that far ahead – the concept is that members volunteer a week or so ahead as their calendar allows. Furthermore, once having volunteered for a duty, if you subsequently discover that you cannot do it then you can simply log in to Duty Man and cancel.

While the Trustees recognise that many members will not be able to volunteer for any duties due to their disability or lack of qualifications recent discussions have revealed that members would like a more 'all inclusive' approach to the management of sailing – hence the wider distribution list.

With regards to data security – the web site is accessed via an https link (HyperText Transfer Protocol Secure) under which the web site and your PC agree on a 'code' between them, and then they scramble the messages using that 'code' so that no one in between can read them. This keeps your information safe from hackers. With regard your data (name and e-mail address only) the Duty Man administrators have confirmed that they fully comply with the requirements of GDPR and that all data is encrypted and will not be 'sold on' to external agencies.

If you have any questions about this them
please contact John Deene

**Example list of 'Essential Duties'
(NB this is subject to change and will
certainly be different for Saturdays)**

Date of Duty	Duty Description	
11-Apr-19 Thursday Sailing	DC-AM	Duty Time 09:30-12:30
11-Apr-19 Thursday Sailing	DC-PM	Duty Time 12:30-15:30
11-Apr-19 Thursday Sailing	Jetty Master-AM	Duty Time 09:30-12:30
11-Apr-19 Thursday Sailing	Jetty Master-PM	Duty Time 12:30-15:30
11-Apr-19 Thursday Sailing	Multi Helm-AM	Duty Time 09:30-12:30
11-Apr-19 Thursday Sailing	Multi Helm-PM	Duty Time 12:30-15:30
11-Apr-19 Thursday Sailing	Jetty Cleaner 1	Please complete cleaning by 09:30 if poss
11-Apr-19 Thursday Sailing	Wally G-SP Needs Helm AM	Please make boat available by 10:30
11-Apr-19 Thursday Sailing	Penny W-Sp Needs Helm AM	Please make boat available by 10:30
11-Apr-19 Thursday Sailing	White Kinsman Helm-AM	Duty Time 09:30-12:30
11-Apr-19 Thursday Sailing	White Kinsman Helm-PM	Duty Time 12:30-15:30
11-Apr-19 Thursday Sailing	Black Kinsman Helm-AM	Duty Time 09:30-12:30
11-Apr-19 Thursday Sailing	Black Kinsman Helm-PM	Duty Time 12:30-15:30
11-Apr-19 Thursday Sailing	Venture 232 Helm-AM	Duty Time 09:30-12:30
11-Apr-19 Thursday Sailing	Venture 232 Helm-PM	Duty Time 12:30-15:30
11-Apr-19 Thursday Sailing	Venture 233 Helm-AM	Duty Time 09:30-12:30
11-Apr-19 Thursday Sailing	Venture 233 Helm-PM	Duty Time 12:30-15:30

**Repeated for succeeding
Thursdays and Saturdays**

REQUEST FOR NEW BOOKS BY THE NEW BOOK MONITOR!

On a quiet Thursday before Christmas and being an avid reader, as well as passionate sailor, I found myself drawn to sorting out the RS bookshelf!

We had been given a very generous donation of books, a car boot full to be precise and this prompted a clear-out of our existing books, many of which were very old and outdated and had obviously been on the shelf for a very long time!

As the bookshelf generates a small income for Rutland Sailability - 50p a book - it would be good to keep the turnover of books fluid and the titles more up to date. Novels and thrillers by current authors seem to be most popular, but up to date general interest books are worth considering.

If you have any recently published or unwanted Christmas present books you would like to donate please feel free to add them to the bookshelf. I will check it periodically and 'move on' older books to try to keep the stock fresh.

Reading and sailing help to keep the mind alive....although probably not at the same time!

Happy New Year!

Sally Irvine



Milly's Electric Sailing AdVenture

RUTLAND SAILABILITY WINTER PROGRAMME 2019

January 24 - Hansa Team Rutland at the Worlds in Hiroshima Japan – October 2018 Val Millward and Pat Crowley will tell us all the exciting details of this amazing event.

January 31 - Milly's electric sailing adVenture – Roger Millington, Andrew St. John and Dick Goodey. Hear about this young lady's amazing sailing experience.

February 7 - Melstrum Ukulele Band with our own Bev Jacques. Some light entertainment to banish those winter blues.

February 14 - The Third Rock – where are we in the universe? A fascinating illustrated presentation by Keith Townsend.

February 21 - Leicester's Space Rockets - A fascinating visual presentation by Roger Cooper.

February 28 - A slight change to our usual format. At 11am Peter McNally will tell us about his trek up Mount Kilimanjaro and at 1.30pm we will have our Members Forum.

March 7 - Radios 2. A presentation by Graham Fisher.

March 14 - Refresher Training – All instructors, competent helms and helpers.

March 21 - Refresher training – As before.

March 28 - Refresher Training – As before followed by the **AGM** at **midday** in the Wet Bar.

All presentations will be in the Lounge starting at 11am unless otherwise stated.

Chris Gant



Remembering Chris

One Thursday morning in the Spring of 2011 I was attending a U3A 'Singing for Pleasure' session when a smartly dressed gentleman, using a 'zimmer' came in and sat behind me.

When the music started, a rich baritone voice sang out loud and clear – well in tune and absolutely in time.

I was struggling to read the music and thought 'This chap may be able to teach me something!' So, at breaktime I introduced myself to Chris Gant.

Chris told me that he lived at Priory Court Care Home in Stamford, and that he was always looking for new challenges to occupy his time. He was currently taking flying lessons at Sibson but was keen to try something new.

So, I invited Chris to have a day at Rutland Sailability – and the rest is, as they say, 'History!'

Over the coming months Chris became a sailing member of RS, taking to the water in an Access 2-seater, under the guidance of club instructors.

Regardless of the weather, Chris was always ready for a sail and complained bitterly when sailing had to be cancelled due to too much wind and weather!

For quite some time, fellow RS members Peter Seagrave, Jim Fleming and yours truly picked Chris up from Priory Court to ensure he could enjoy his sailing.

Chris became so committed to RS that, in 2013, he generously purchased a new Access two-seater boat – appropriately named ‘*Endeavour.*’ – and donated it to RS.

Amy, at Priory Court, became Chris’ carer and brought him to RSC, helped him to kit-out for sailing, and on many occasions took to the water for a sail, becoming a competent and reliable crew member.

Ever-ready for a new challenge, Chris ‘converted’ to the Venture 233, with its electric joystick steering, crewing with John Deane, Andrew StJohn and others.

Sailing was not the only talent Chris developed at RS. His humour and inexhaustible supply of funny stories and reminiscences of his own life kept us fascinated and amused. He was always keen to join in new activities and made many new friends.

2018 was a tough year for Chris. His physical condition deteriorated, and he was admitted to Peterborough City Hospital in the Autumn. He died at the beginning of December and his funeral was held at All Saints Church, Stamford, on December 11.

Chis’ family has generously donated his sailing gear to RS.

To end, Chris was a fine example to our members – a combination of determination, humour, unselfishness and above all - friendship.

It was good to know such a person.

Mike Baumber & Jim Fleming

RS Christmas Lunch



The lunch was held on December 13 and enjoyed by 96 members and family. Thanks to your generosity we raised £67.80 on the Christmas Card and a huge £302 on the raffle. This day was especially significant for John Morley and his wife Maureen. Not only was it John's birthday, it was also their Diamond Wedding Anniversary.

Pauline presented Maureen with some flowers to mark the occasion and to top it all Maureen won the raffle.

Chris Mynard

Many thanks to James Greenberry for his photos of the Christmas lunch



Photos from the Ride Round Rutland Water last summer



Important Buggy information from Graham Fisher

Red Buggy

The buggy is meant as a personnel carrier, though I know it has been used to retrieve some of the lighter boats.

It was reported to me that it lacked the power to pull a Liberty up the slip.

The buggy technician visited us to day and has reprogrammed the buggy to provide more power.

Green Buggy

I was aware that this buggy could not accelerate slowly and was thus being driven by people with their foot on the brake at the same time as the accelerator pedal.

Whilst this achieves a slow and controlled take off, it has been damaging the transmission system.

Today, the buggy technician has serviced the green buggy and replaced the belt drive

Thus, it can now pull or push the heaviest Liberty up and down the slip. (I have tested it.)

I am therefore happy for the red buggy to be used to launch and recover boats up to and including the Liberty's, though please do not enter the water with the buggy as to do so, will damage it.

Also, be aware that the buggy is not very heavy and has only a simple braking system.

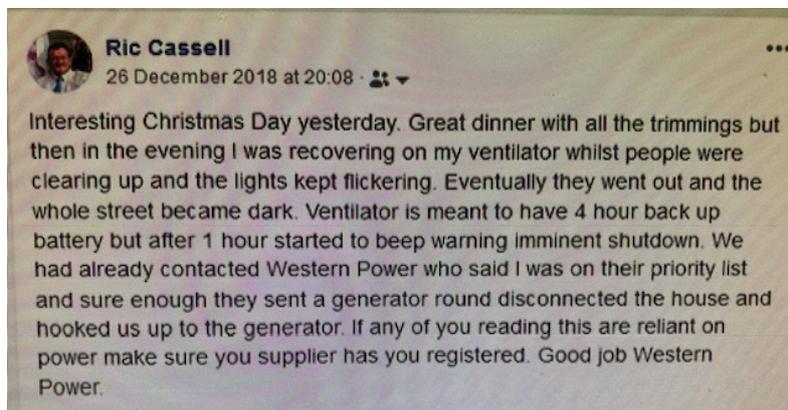
Therefore to attempt to launch or recover anything heavier than a Liberty could result in the buggy being pulled into the water by the boat being launched!

in the transmission.

I have tested the buggy and confirmed that light application for the accelerator will build the revs slowly and the vehicle can gently accelerate without the need to apply the foot brake at the same time.

Please do not apply the foot brake at the same time as the accelerator. Treat the vehicle as you would an automatic car, using only the right foot to press either the brake or the accelerator. The left foot should not be used.

Also, be aware that the buggy is not very heavy and has only a simple braking system. Therefore to attempt to launch or recover anything heavier than a Liberty could result in the buggy being pulled into the water by the boat being launched! Heavier boats, e.g. Longboats and Kinsman, should only be launched and recovered by the much heavier tractor.



Situation Vacant

The RS Trustees are looking for a Minutes Secretary for our monthly Trustees Meetings.

The applicant would need to be computer literate and able to attend the Trustees meetings, usually held on the last Thursday afternoon of the month and lasting approximately two hours.

For further information please contact Chris Mynard

Tel: 01832 280351

Email : c.j-mynard@tiscali.co.uk or see me at RS.



Many at Rutland will know Rory McKinna as the young Scottish chap who appears to every so often to compete, and then try to sell everyone some of his free range eggs! But there is a bit more of a link to Rutland than just competitions.

In October 2015 Rory age 13, appeared at Rutland to 'have a go' as he was advised this was where all the best dinghies were. After a couple of outings in the Rutland Lion he was hooked on going just a bit faster than he had been to that point. His name was put forward to join the RYA Paralympic Development squad, and two hard cold winters of training in 2.4's Leigh & Lowton SC began.

He began competing in 2016 but concentrated mainly on the Hansa 303 as there was no 2.4's or Libertys in Scotland...so nobody to race! So, he went to the Hansa Nationals at Carsington that year and made a decent account of himself despite stronger winds and more to the point stronger competition than he was used to.

The Development Programme disappeared in Spring 2017 but the training proved invaluable and by the end of 2017 results included 1st Hansa Nationals 303, 1st Multiclass Regatta 303 singles, Scottish Club Champion, 1st Scottish Hansa Series, followed by a wee (Scottish term) trip to Europe where he won a silver medal at the European Para Youth Games in Genoa and then competed in the European Hansa Championships at Meze where he finished in the top 20. A great finish to the season.

The winter turned out to be not too bad either being awarded the RYA Sailability Young Person of the Year, The RYA Scotland Young Person of the Year and the Ayrshire Sportsability Young Athlete of the Year.

2018 brought about the usual sailing challenges and competitions at home along with the added complication of Higher exams so the season began quite late. A spot of training in Weymouth at the beginning of June and then off to Kiel Germany for the Eurosaf European Championships with the aim of a top 10 place. Rory describes Kiel as a huge learning curve. Being there on his own (apart from mum) no coach, no back up rib and hard sailing. Fortunately, mission was accomplished, and he finished 9th.

He then discovered he had been selected as part of Team GB for the Para World Championships in Sheboygan, Wisconsin USA. This was a huge leap and very exciting to be part of a team that included two Olympians. Not too bad for a 16 year old who was in his 3rd season of competing.

A bit of extra training at Rutland thanks to Richard Johnson, Jon Williams, Chris Emmet and everyone that put in the time to help Rory headed to Sheboygan where he finished 14th.

As you can see despite living in Ayrshire, Scotland, Rutland was the start of a fantastic sailing adventure and continues to play a key role in all of Rory's sailing career. December saw another visit to gain his Level2 Race Coaching Qualification and I'm pretty sure it won't be long before he's back down.

Thanks Everyone.

Editors Comment : This is from Angela, Rory's proud Mum.





Wooden Spoon

The children's charity of rugby

Grant from Wooden Spoon

Rutland Sailability is hugely grateful for a grant of £13,000.

The application was made in May 2018 for an amount of money to fund 2 Hansa 303s, this was agreed just before Christmas.

The requirements from Wooden Spoon are that the funds are to be used to purchase two Hansa 303s for the benefit of our junior sailors so that they can develop racing skills.

It is hoped that the dinghies will be available for the start of sailing in April.

Wooden Spoon is the children's charity of rugby. They support children's charities and have a very active branch in Leicestershire & Rutland. Many thanks to Malcolm Foulkes-Arnold for the introduction.

If you would like to find out more about them then take a look at the website, or have a word with me!

If you'd like to know more visit: www.woodenspoon.org.uk

Bryan Hollier

Challenger Winter Racing



Pictures © Tim Olin

‘The Selden SailJuice Winter Series is based around the UK’s biggest winter handicap events. Sailors from many different dinghy fleets now consider this series as one of the main goals of their winter racing..... it attracts some of the best sailors in the country to compete against each other.’

The Draycote Dash, held on November 17 and 18 was the first of the 2018/19 series. It was a two-day event with four short handicap races on the Saturday and a non-discardable 120minute pursuit race on Sunday.

The weather was beautiful with a F3 breeze on Saturday and F3 gusting F4 occasionally F5 on Sunday. There was sunshine both days. Unfortunately these winds were not sufficient for the Challengers to excel and on Saturday in particular they struggled in the 103 boat fleet and ended the day with Val in 66th, Graham 76th and Jack 85th. Val was lead Challenger in three of the four races with Jack leading in the fourth. In the stronger winds of Sunday's 2 hour pursuit race they fared rather better with Graham managing 27th and Val 34th. Jack struggled in 84th after he inadvertently found a calm patch - it doesn't take much to lose a lot of places in a SailJuice event. So overall Val was 57th, Graham 62nd and Jack 84th. This was the first regatta for Val's new boat "Legless Jester" and, under the conditions, she, that is the boat, acquitted herself very well! Thanks must be extended to Viv, Annie and Marion for the shore support given to the sailors. Without their rigging, launching and recovering the racing could not happen!

The Datchet Flyer



Pictures © Tim Olin

Graham Hall 270
Val Millward 312
Jack Alderdice 281

The Datchet Flyer, held on December 8 and 9, was the second of the 2018/19 series. It was a two-day event with three short handicap races on the Saturday and a non-discardable 120minute pursuit race on Sunday. The Breezy conditions, F5+ suited the Challenger nicely. On Saturday, Jack was a little over enthusiastic on the first start and was black flagged. This became his discard fortunately. Both Val and Jack focused on maintaining maximum speed, 12.5knts, while dodging the mayhem of capsized and slower boats around them. The gusts, up to 30mph, made the conditions very difficult but exhilarating. The trapezoidal course chosen by the race officer gave the Challengers great sailing. On Sunday the wind seemed a little calmer until the pursuit race started. The conditions became just as wild as Saturday but the course was fantastic for the Challenger with short beats, wild reaches and suicidal runs. Jack and Val knew this was the event, given the conditions, in which they could excel. They were delighted with the results, Val 12th and 1st slow handicap in the pursuit race and Jack 22nd overall. The launch and recovery was very difficult at this venue. The concrete bowl was steep and unforgiving. The shore crew again more than earned their wine and cake!

Rutland Sailing Club 2017/18 Club Dinghy Handicap Annual Prize

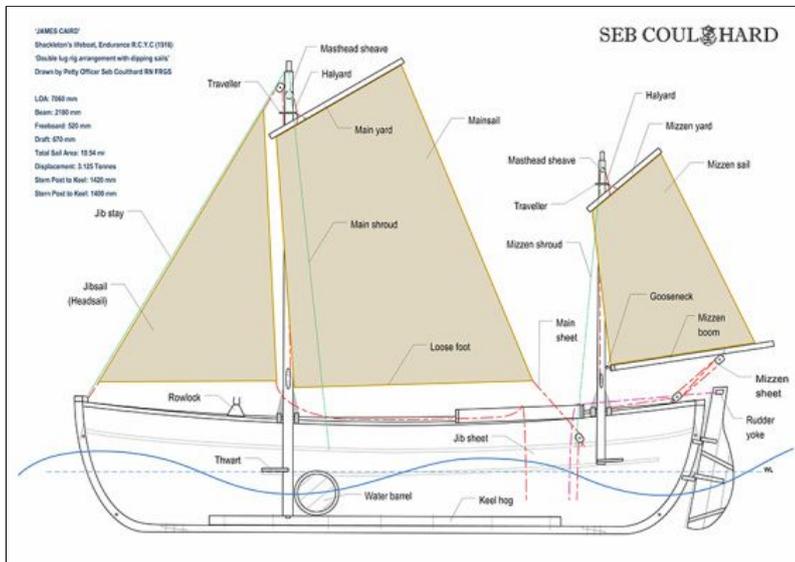
During the twelve month period from November to October the club holds racing on Sundays. From April to September there is also racing on Thursday evenings. The results of all the series are added up to establish the overall Rutland Sailing Club winners and our Challenger sailors, Val Millward and Jack Alderdice came first and second respectively. Prizes were presented at the club Christmas Party on December 8 while Jack and Val were sailing in the Datchet Flyer.

Rutland Sailing Club Winter Series 2018

This series took place at the club during November and December. There were three races each Sunday making up the mixed handicap series. On several occasions we had six or seven Challengers taking part. Richard Johnson came first overall with Val Millward second and Nick Bett third. and Jack Alderdice was fourth.



Philip Mason took this stunning photo of the location for this year's multi - class in Portsmouth



Some news from Dick Goodey

Those who were fortunate enough to hear Mike Davies talk at the Rutland Sailability Dinner back in November will remember he paid tribute to Shackleton and his epic 16 day, 800 mile voyage from Elephant Island to South Georgia in the small open boat 'James Caird', across what is probably the most treacherous stretch of sea to be found anywhere in the World.

The designer of the Drascombe boats, John Watkinson took his inspiration from two sources. One was the Coble fishing boats from the North East coast, which can trace their ancestry back to the Viking Longboats.

The second was the James Caird, which can be clearly seen in the drawing. Watkinson's first design was the Drascombe Lugger which was originally rigged with Lug sails like James Caird, hence the name. The rig was soon changed to the current Gunter Gaff, but the name stuck. Once the Lugger was firmly established, a demand for a slightly larger boat suitable for training Sea Scouts was met by simply adding a few inches in length to the centre body.

The result was the Drascombe Longboat.

There can be no better lineage for a safe, simple and sturdy open boat. We have a proud heritage to maintain.

Editors Comment

I thought that it would be interesting to include the Skud Newsletter from November 2018 with a few updates. They also play a vital part in the success of Rutland Sailability



It is now two sailing seasons since the two Skuds were taken over from Rutland Sailability and one year since the new organisation Rutland Skuds was formed. From an initial start with two elderly boats, no organisation and no funds, we have made considerable progress.

The very good news is that the original two boats have now become four and we have sufficient funds to cover the insurance and RSC fees for the next two years, though we still need more for repairs, sails, etc.

The aim is to provide disabled sailors of all abilities the opportunity to sail and race these exciting highly responsive boats, learning the intricacies of helming, sail setting, asymmetric spinnakers, racing rules, etc. whilst having fun on the water. In this we work closely with Sailability at Rutland, which is why all our regular sailors are required to be members of Sailability as well. It is not our aim to compete with Sailability, but to complement and add to the work they do. Many of our sailors sail and compete in other classes. The skills learnt in the Skuds should be transferable to their other boats, and vice-versa.

2018 Season

This season has been very busy and there has been more Skud sailing at Rutland than for many years. Where possible we have tried to get one or two boats on the water every Thursday for training and have joined in Thursday afternoon racing with the Kinsman fleet.

Invictus trials

This year sailing has been included in the Invictus games for the first time and in the spring we were asked to help with initial selection trials at Rutland over two days. We put three boats on the water each day, each with an experienced sailor and two novice ex-servicemen. Each morning was spent teaching the new sailors to sail a simple upwind and downwind circuit and then in the afternoon a doing a series of short races. The weather was good, racing was close and fun and our efforts were greatly appreciated.

Night sail

This is a fun event to raise money not a race, organised by the RSC cruiser fleet. This was the second year that the Skuds have taken part, and we had two boats on the water. Unfortunately the winds were very light so the course had to be shortened but it was a beautiful dry, warm night. A share of the money raised has been kindly donated to Rutland Skuds.

RYA Multiclass Regatta

This was the biggest event of the year and we had all four boats on the water for the three days. Beautiful weather and close racing between the Skuds, with the extra challenge of trying to avoid the floating patches of weed. Congratulations to Allan Smith and Nev Rose in the winning Skud in the race series, and John Williams and Christine Spray for coming 5th out of 51 boats in the pursuit race.

Match racing

This has been run twice this year as an experiment, and has proved popular. Many thanks to Dr Tim Litt, Steve Tylecote and their team, and also to the youngsters from Oakham school who kindly helped with crewing.

Early plans for 2019

Below are some of the ideas that are being discussed for next year, in addition to the routine Thursday sailing days. No dates have been fixed yet, but over the winter it would be good to get an idea of the level of interest, and firm up plans. Please talk to a member of the team about what events you would like to see.

Night Sail

This event is held every year at Rutland on a Saturday night near mid-summertime to raise money for charity and is organised by the cruiser fleet at Rutland Sailing Club. Sailing starts at 8.00pm and goes on till 8.00am Sunday and boats are allowed to come in at any time for a break or to change crews. The object is to sail as many laps of the lake as possible in the time. It would be good to take part again and the more sailors the better. How often do we get the chance to sail under the stars, and see dawn from out on the water?

Weekend Racing at Rutland

Every weekend through the summer at Rutland there is racing on Saturdays and Sundays, and it has been suggested that we join in on three or four days next summer with our fleet. This would be very valuable racing experience, and if we could get all our boats on the water together it should give some exciting sailing.

Match Racing at Rutland

This takes a lot of organising, as we need the help of Tim and his team, and also some experienced crews. It is very valuable for teaching the rules, tactics, and close quarters boat handling. It has proved popular this year and would be good to build on this next year.

Multiclass at the WPNSA, Portland

Next year the RYA multiclass regatta will be held at the WPNSA at Portland, and this will be the first opportunity for many of our sailors to sail these boats on the sea. We do not yet know the dates, but are keen to get at least three if not all four of

our boats there. This is the biggest disabled sailing event in the UK every year and takes place over three days and is always very enjoyable. If we end up with too many wanting to sail, we may end up having to have a draw.

Contacts

Chairman Leroy Baird lee.w.baird@gmail.com 07799 150700

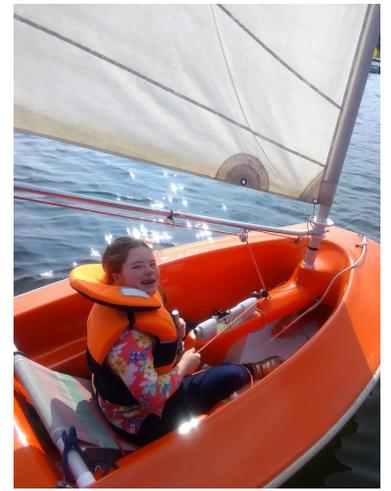
Membership Secretary Neville Rose nevillegrose@gmail.com 07773 591132

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Hi, I am Millie Moody and I wanted to share my amazing experiences with Saturday Sailability. Although I have had several sessions over the years, last April I decided I would like to learn how to sail properly and hoped that the volunteers would be able to teach me. I have quite complex disabilities and so wasn't sure how far I would be able to go. Being Deafblind means that there are often huge barriers to learning new skills. Fortunately, none of the volunteers saw my disabilities as barriers and they all adapted their teaching methods around me for which I am extremely grateful. With the support and encouragement of both the volunteers and the other sailability students not only did I learn how to sail in a 303 but I also learnt a skill I never thought possible and that was sailing solo in a 203. My Mum was very nervous about this because of my lack of vision but is beyond proud of my achievements. In those wonderful months of sailing last summer I gained my bronze certificate and have almost finished my silver; I have learnt to tie knots; to set up and recover boats and lots of sailing terminology. It's very difficult to explain how much I have benefited and grown from this experience - my confidence and self-esteem have grown, I have developed a passion for sailing and hope to continue to take this as far as I am able. To crown an amazing summer, I was awarded a trophy for Most Improved Sailor at the Christmas party.



EDITOR'S COMMENT:-

I remember Millie turning up for the Saturday sailing Christmas party looking quite the young lady in her marvellous sparkling shoes!!



Gary Anderson sent this marvellous sunny photo on a 40ft catamaran in the Med last year. So, yes we are all envious!!

Call the RS team for weather updates on 07554 306679 on Thursdays and Saturdays from 09.30

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