



C M Y C

THE FRIENDLIEST NEWSLETTER IN SUSSEX?



APRIL 2025



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MARVELLOUS MARCH

The heart-warming “*thanks to Mum & Dad*” podium messages at the Awards Evening would put the Golden Globes to shame. It was a marvellous evening and more of a social celebration than watching awards being handed out. Thanks to Martyn and Ian for the event and for support in presenting some of the awards from Liam (Youth Ambassador) and Diana.

The month kicked off with an Instructors Day and some on-the-water sessions including spinnaker training and various coaching sessions. I was lucky enough to have time off to join the social sailors one Thursday with a gentle breeze and bright blue sky. An absolutely marvellous March day, and there are more to come, just take a look at the programme.

With regards to the very active programme we offer at CMYC you can find this on the website and within the 2025 Handbook. The handbook has answers to many of the ‘frequently asked questions’ and is well worth a look. Thanks to Jerry and Duncan for getting this printed and out to new and renewing members.

Last weekend we held the first of the combined Grebe Club & Sunday Socials together with the first of the Spring Sunday races, although the mirrored lake had mariners reflecting on the sensibility of the latter, deciding to abandon instead. The Safe & Sure themed Grebe Club session had adults and juniors exploring all the safety equipment across the grounds and Clubhouse and everyone learnt something – a very useful and fun session thanks to William, Theo and Max. The next is ‘Together’ with cake & prizes available on 06th April.

You will have received a Grebe Club Challenge Record sheet in the Handbook. This is open to adults and juniors but if for whatever reason you do not need your record sheet, please bring it to the Clubhouse for others to use – sometimes reuse is better than recycle.

We are continuing to request that you take rubbish home so that it can be recycled and disposed of where there are collection services as we do not have this luxury at the lake.

The benches are being given a fresh coat of paint ready for the season and of course Open Day on Star Wars day “May the Forth be with You” (May 04th) – thanks to TVG. Andy has kindly taken the lead on Open Day so please support him and your Club by inviting your friends, family and colleagues, tidying your boat space and coming along on the day.

By the time you read this the Club will also have made an application for a grant to further support our less abled members and the launch of the Community Spaces project – you can read more about this project in the Handbook. Fingers crossed for the grant.

Important – The tree surgeons are booked for April (see separate news item).

Don't forget when you are renewing or updating your membership details you can add email addresses for other family members so that they get the newsletter too.

Richard
Commodore



RYA Young Sailors Stages 1 & 2 Course

Course Fee: £110 - for those using their own Topper

Course Fee: £135 - for those using a club Topper

All course training books and certificates are included in the cost of the course.

Day 1 – Saturday 21st June; 9:00 – 17:00

Day 2 – Sunday 22nd June; 9:00 – 17:00

Day 3 – Saturday 28th June; 9:00 – 17:00

Day 4 – Sunday 29th June; 9:00 – 17:00



This course is ideal for complete beginners and for those who have been attending Junior Saturday Clubs, it will teach the basics for beginners and reinforce knowledge gained previously and expand on this for those with some experience. This course covers Stage 1 & Stage 2 of the RYA Youth Sailing Scheme and is open to young sailors aged 10 to 15 years. It runs concurrently with the adult course, giving parents the opportunity to achieve RYA Level 2 at the same time.

By the end of the course the young sailors will be safety conscious and able to rig and sail a dinghy confidently in light winds. Toppers dinghies will be used and each sailor will be in a boat on their own. Please be aware there are a limited number of club Toppers available and you should use your own Topper if you have one. Numbers on the course are also limited by the number of instructors available. All sessions are held at CMYC.

Booking opens via Web Collect on 1st April 2025

(This may all seem a bit early but Open Day is on 4th May this year, so to avoid disappointment book before then.)

Payment is required by the 14th June and should be made by bank transfer if possible.

Any queries? Email [Jeff](#) - Bookings close on the 7th June

If the course is fully booked, please add your name to the waiting list, we may be able to add more places if we have sufficient instructors and boats.



RYA Start Sailing – Level 1 & 2



**Course Fee per person using a club boat:
£175**

Course Fee per person using own boat: £150
(If you wish to use your own boat, it must be a suitable double handed dinghy large enough for 3 adults)

All course training books and certificates are included in the cost of the course.

This four-day course covers the Start Sailing and Basic Skills syllabi from the RYA National Sailing Scheme. No previous sailing experience is necessary. The course provides a basic knowledge and understanding of dinghy sailing. On successful completion of the course, you will be able to handle a dinghy competently in light wind conditions.

This course is essentially a practical one giving instruction in the basic techniques needed to rig a dinghy, launch, leave the shore, sail around a course involving all points of sailing and return to land. Practical sessions are held on Hedgecourt Lake. Theory sessions required to support the practical aspects of the course along with briefings will be held in the CMYC Clubhouse. The emphasis is very much on a safe, seamanlike approach to sailing.

For this course we use appropriate double-handed dinghies, club dinghies include: RS Quests; Laser 2000; Wanderers and Topaz Omega. You may also use your own boat provided it is capable of holding three adults and considered suitable for the course.

The course is intended for adults and older teenagers, as younger members will have the opportunity to join the RYA Youth Sailing Scheme Stage 1 & Stage 2 course running on the same four days, details elsewhere.

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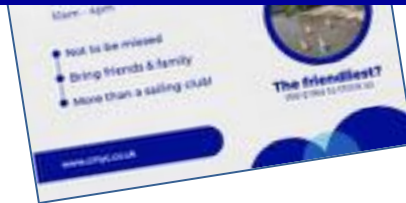
Any queries? Email [Jeff](#) - Bookings close on the 7th June

If the course is fully booked, please add your name to the waiting list, we may be able to add more places if we have sufficient instructors and boats.





Open Day



Help us to show case the full range of what we have to offer from Training, Sailing, Racing, Cruising, on and off water Social events, Swimming, Kayaking, Paddle Boarding, our Facilities, and our People as one group renowned for being friendly and helpful to our friends and visitors at Open Day on...

Sunday 04th May 2025 from 08:30

→ Help by advertising this event with your friends, colleagues, and everyone you know, and put-up copies of the poster included in this newsletter or request a pdf from the Editor.

→ Help by coming along on the day to support and promote your favourite activity, or better still why not let Andy T., know by joining our growing group of volunteers at Crawley Mariners by visiting webcollect and click...



Volunteering

@ Crawley Mariners Yacht Club

Time well spent

Please let Andy T know by filling in the Google Form from the members email and put your name down to help

What you choose to help with and how much help you offer is entirely down to you

Join now!





Good news!
Try sailing for free

**CRAWLEY MARINERS
YACHT CLUB**

OPEN DAY

Sunday 4th May 2025

10am - 4pm

- Not to be missed
- Bring friends & family
- More than a sailing club!



Where we sail
Hedgecourt Lake,
RH19 2QG



The friendliest?
We'd like to think so

Open Day – Sunday 4th May

Why not bring a friend along!

It's a great opportunity for them to get a chance to have a ride in a boat on our very beautiful lake.



On OPEN DAY we will be selling home-made cakes

The proceeds from this will go towards Team Tops for our young sailors entering this year's NSSA Regatta at Rutland Sailing Club

You can pay by card or cash

Why not treat yourself to one or two cakes – or even three or four!



THE GREBE CLUB



Together

We are one-Club with one-Aim ... to have fun!

06 April 2025

10am for a 10:30 start at the Clubhouse

Everyone Welcome

This is the second themed event following the successful launch in February. This time we are exploring what is at the heart of our Club, its community and looking at how double-handed sailing is all about working together.

It's this weekend... **06th APRIL** ...in the Clubhouse!



Act now and don't miss out on events that have been described as, *"It was great to see both children and adults having fun together and everyone joining in."*

Advanced Warning:

Although we are sports people, and encourage a healthy diet, the **Together** event will feature cake.

If you want to be sure of a slice of the action, please let Richard know.



Future events for the diary:

- 06 Apr: The Grebe Club - Together
- 04 May: Open Day and The Grebe Club - Green Blue
- 01 Jun: The Grebe Club - Fun
- 06 Jul: The Grebe Club - Crew Development
- 03 Aug: The Grebe Club - Active Adventure
- 13 Sep: The Grebe Club - Navigation with Bart's Bash
- 19 Oct: The Grebe Club - Oceanwide
- 02 Nov: The Grebe Club - Annual Round-up
- 07 Dec: The Grebe Club - Pre-Christmas Laughter.

"Looking forward to the next one."



ANGUS BRANSBY R.I.P

Angus was first introduced to sailing by his wife Olive in the late 1960s. He quickly came to enjoy the hobby regularly sailing Lasers, 420s and Mirrors. They joined Crawley Mariners in the early days when the access was from Mill Lane, and the changing room was the back of your car. Angus was one of the signatories on the Club's Articles of Association helping to get CMYC formed, and we thank him for this.

Before the children he built a Mirror dinghy in the front room of the house, and mum took some convincing that it would fit through the door once completed, which included borrowing one to check it would not become a permanent lounge feature.

My fondest memories were of the regular weekend trips with the Wayfarer in tow to the south coast, Angmering, Chichester and my favourite from Itchenor sailing up to East Head – cruises the Club still does today. Dad enjoyed the windiest days when the sailing was the most exciting, but I think the rest of us were less impressed with getting continually sprayed with water and feeling a bit sick. Eating sandwiches on the beach with flasks of warm drinks, was a good reward.

Dad became a qualified RYA Instructor and we were soon launched out on our own onto Hedgecourt in Mirrors with just a jib sail and Toppers, without any real instructions, I think he assumed we had gained enough hours watching to know what to do, and we always came back.

We enjoyed summer holidays pottering around in boats in Cornwall, and trips abroad to Greece and Turkey for some cruising holidays around the islands.

Angus migrated to Wayfarers and regularly raced through the winters at Bough Beach. After Retiring from work he and some friends set up the Warlingham Yacht Club. Although Warlingham is some 35 miles from the closest bit of coast and to start with his family was not sure they were sailing much more than a pub table, however the club became more serious and chartered boats to sail in the Solent and across the Channel. He also joined the CMYC on trips to Greece most recently in 2017. My brother and I joined them on that trip and for one of the best holidays we have had.

Angus was always fit, healthy and enthusiastic to help out, he continued sailing up to this summer and joined friends to sail to Jersey in October, before becoming unwell with mesothelioma (asbestosis) and passing away on the 1st February 2025 after 80 years well lived.

Hedgecourt provides a safe place for children to learn and has a great atmosphere to the club with regular trips to the coast. Now his grandchildren take on helm enjoying junior events.

Angus (with thanks to Hal Bransby, his son).



CLUB STRATEGIES IN DETAIL

Since 2024 the CMYC Management Committee has invested time to:

- ensure continuity of leadership is more easily maintained
- knowledge and responsibilities are shared
- adding a focus on DATE
 - Development (skills), Activities, Together (Community) and Environment.

Put simply we wish to strengthen and *demonstrate** our community spirit and develop our social dimension for the long-term benefit of the Club.

This has resulted in collaborative Cloud storage, a Knowledge Base Intranet to share information, use of Club specific email addresses, creation of a detailed set of Roles & Responsibilities plus the creation of role and event guides to make everything easier. 2025 also started with a fully integrated activities programme and are introducing the following:

Community Together – **Galley Duty**

This new duty type has been added for 2025 to support open events and more importantly help you to contribute to and enhance the social aspect of our events.

Community Together – **Community Spaces**

CMYC are introducing Community Spaces to share the beautiful view across the lake from our Clubhouse grounds with others from the local community, such as residential care homes. This can help with mental health as well as being a social opportunity to care for others and promote this core aspiration.

This will also help promote the Club and with records retained of those organisations we support will actively *demonstrate** our commitment to the wider community.

Community Together – **Sailability**

A Sailability review started in 2024 using the RYA Assessment guide and the use of two special loan boats to obtain personal feedback. This has culminated in a prioritised approach the Management Committee will use to actively *demonstrate** improvement of our facilities and eliminate barriers to participation for our less able members.

Skills Development – **The Grebe Club**

The Grebe Club has been launched to support and *demonstrate** skills development in addition to any formal training the Club offers. Next of these is 06th April – all welcome. This initiative also actively supports all other Club activities such as promoting Cobnor, Open Day (04 May) and is re-introducing youth leadership, and we are working on how to better manage the lake that we all love and rely upon.

*Demonstration of our approach will greatly assist applications for grants and will benefit future Management Committees to receive the RYA Recognition the Club deserves.



THE COMMUNITY SPACES PROJECT

We wish to share this view with local community groups because we believe being outdoors, next to nature, watching the ripples and wildlife on the water helps relieve stress and improves wellbeing and mental health...



Initially we are going to invite local residential care homes with their own mini-bus to host small groups, on-land, not on-the-water, to enjoy what we have to offer...

As I'm sure you know we have a number of classic garden chairs that can be put outside the Clubhouse plus several bench style picnic tables with one situated on a paved path with a single wheelchair position. All other surfaces are loose stone including the car park although there is ample parking.

Our Clubhouse has a small hall with large glazed doors looking over the lake and a small kitchen to one side with kettle, fridge and microwave. Tea, coffee & milk is available. We have two separate male and female changing rooms with toilets as well as a separate disabled toilet.

Who looks after the visiting group?

All care and responsibility remains with the visiting group. We will provide a host who will unlock the grounds, provide a welcome, show the facilities and lock up after the visit.

Who else will be there?

We understand Safeguarding is important and will arrange visits when there are no other planned activities. Sailing Club members are free to attend at any time however, these numbers are very small during the working week. Pre-booking is required for all visits.

How can I recommend a Care Home?

Simply contact us via email (communityspaces@cmymc.co.uk). We aim to respond within five working days. Once we have established contact, we will work to find a date that suits everyone including one of our Community Space Hosts.

How can I become a Community Space Host?

Simply contact us via email (communityspaces@cmymc.co.uk). We welcome your support and aim to respond within five working days.



This is an important community project for us (Crawley Mariners Yacht Club) and we hope you will support this project with visit recommendations and in becoming a CMYC Community Space Host.



DONATIONS & GIFTS

The Tuesday Volunteer Group wanted to express their gratitude to Martyn F., for the gift of a petrol mower that didn't need any servicing and was ready to go and is set to last many years...



We join them in thanking Martyn as this will be used to help keep the vegetation down along the dam wall – the roadside along the lake in Mill Lane (at the other end of the lake to the Clubhouse). This is important because the plants, including the brambles, interweave their way between the sandbags and dislodge the good work of those members that help maintain this area.

This roadside is the Dam, and we are responsible for controlling the water level as part of our flood prevention obligations.

Controlling the brambles and other bits and pieces you accumulate in your boat spaces is down to you so please look at your space and remove any brambles and rubbish:

- ready for the season ahead
- prevent ingress of plastics etc., in the natural habitat, and
- to tidy the grounds prior to Open Day (04th May).

This is also one of our byelaws.

Donations and Gifts

Occasionally we are asked about donations and gifts, and we are always delighted to receive such requests.

If a financial donation is associated with a project or specific purchase, we can even put your name to it as we have with some of our boats.

Material gifts are welcomed but please make sure that they are serviceable as Martyn has done with the lawn mower.

Thanks to all of you that donate; your time and your expertise in helping the Club thrive and for completing your duties and obligations as custodians of The Club.

Thank you.



EMAILS to the EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I am appalled at the way bushes have been either removed or extensively cut back in the Clubhouse grounds and demand an explanation.

*Name withheld for publication
[Aka Horrified of Horley]*

Dear HH,

On your behalf I have investigated this and spoken to the Commodore about it, only to find he is the gardener that has removed and extensively cut back bushes in the Car Park area.

He reports that he is continuing the Hedgecourt Hero work that was started in January to make the place look a little tidier in readiness for Open Day on 04th May.

We hope this clarifies your concerns.

Best regards,
Newsletter Editor

Dear Editor,

This is just not good enough! HH has explained what is going on and I fully support their concerns.

He [the Commodore] should do what he is best at, running the Club, not ruining the grounds like a man possessed.

He should leave the leaves, trees, bushes, flowers to those that know their Ilex aquifolium from their Rubus fruticosus.

To that end I demand this is printed in the next newsletter and anyone who likes gardening and knows a weed from a flower should email VcEstate.cmyc@gmail.com to put an end to this before there isn't a plant left standing and our visitors have nothing to look at all.

*Name also withheld for publication
[Aka Shocked of Smallfield]*

Dear SS,

As requested, All gardeners to petition the Vice Commodore Estate (*not me*).

Thanks, the Editor



HALL OF FAME

The winning theme tune suggested for the Grebe Club by Ila U., was selected by Raymond Speck, a DJ at Mid Sussex Radio from the many competition entries we gathered at the Launch Party.

The words in this pop song fit exactly to the ambition we have at the Grebe Club to do more for our crew members. Here is an extract of the lyrics but why not play it on one of the many on-line sources?

*Yeah, **you can be the greatest, you can be the best**
You can be the King Kong bangin' on your chest
You can beat the world, **you can win** the war
You can talk to God, go banging on his door
You can throw your hands up, **you can beat the clock**
You can move a mountain, you can break rocks
Some will call that practice, some will call that luck
But either way you're going to the history books...*



“Together”

*Standing in the Hall of Fame
And the world's gonna know your name
'Cause you burn with the brightest flame
And the world's gonna know your name
And you'll be on the walls of the Hall of Fame*

***You can go the distance, you can run a mile**
You can walk straight through hell with a smile
You can be a hero, you can get the gold
Breaking all the records, they thought would never be broke
Yeah, do it for your people, do it for your pride
Are you ever gonna know if you never even try?
Do it for your country, do it for your name
'Cause there's gonna be a day when you're...*

Chorus

***Be students, be teachers**
Be politicians, be preachers, yeah (yeah)
Be believers, **be leaders**
Be astronauts, **be champions**
Be truth seekers.*

Every month at the Grebe Club & Social sessions we will cover a different topic and offer some fun Challenges for you to add to the record sheet enclosed with the 2025 Club Handbook. All dates are in the programme and recognition will be given to those that participate including in a monthly hall of fame for the leading light in any one month.

There is nothing to lose, everything to gain, walking in the hall of fame (06th April – 10am).

Is the theme for 06th April

Everyone is Welcome

10am for 10:30 start

with Coffee & Cake too.



MAKE A 'DATE' WITH CMYC

Development + **A**ctive + **T**ogether + **E**nvironment = **CMYC**

We are an active Club with an adventurous programme of events. We help develop our adults and juniors alike with formal RYA courses and informal challenges at the Grebe Club Socials. We own the lake and the beautiful natural environment we inhabit and as custodians are prepared maintain it and share it with local community groups. Together we all support the Club by volunteering, completing our duties and contributing our skills.



Make a date...

...use your Jedi powers and attend

Star Wars Day – May the Forth (May 04th) be with You, aka...

...CMYC Open Day – 04 May

Social & The Grebe Club “Together” – 06 April

Saturday Sessions – Junior 12 April & Adult 26 April

Beginners Race Series & One per Month – 26 March

Three Cruises – 05, 12 & 27 April

Informal Social Sailing – every Thursday morning

Join our Volunteer Group – available every Tuesday morning

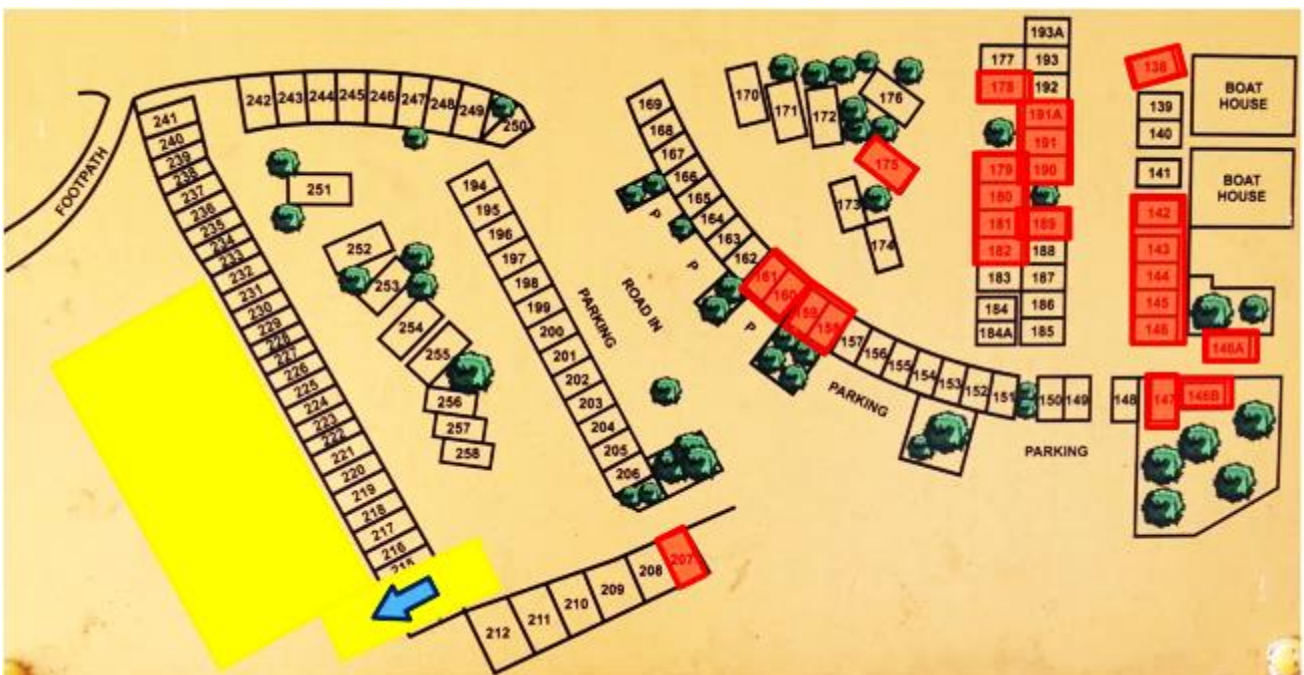
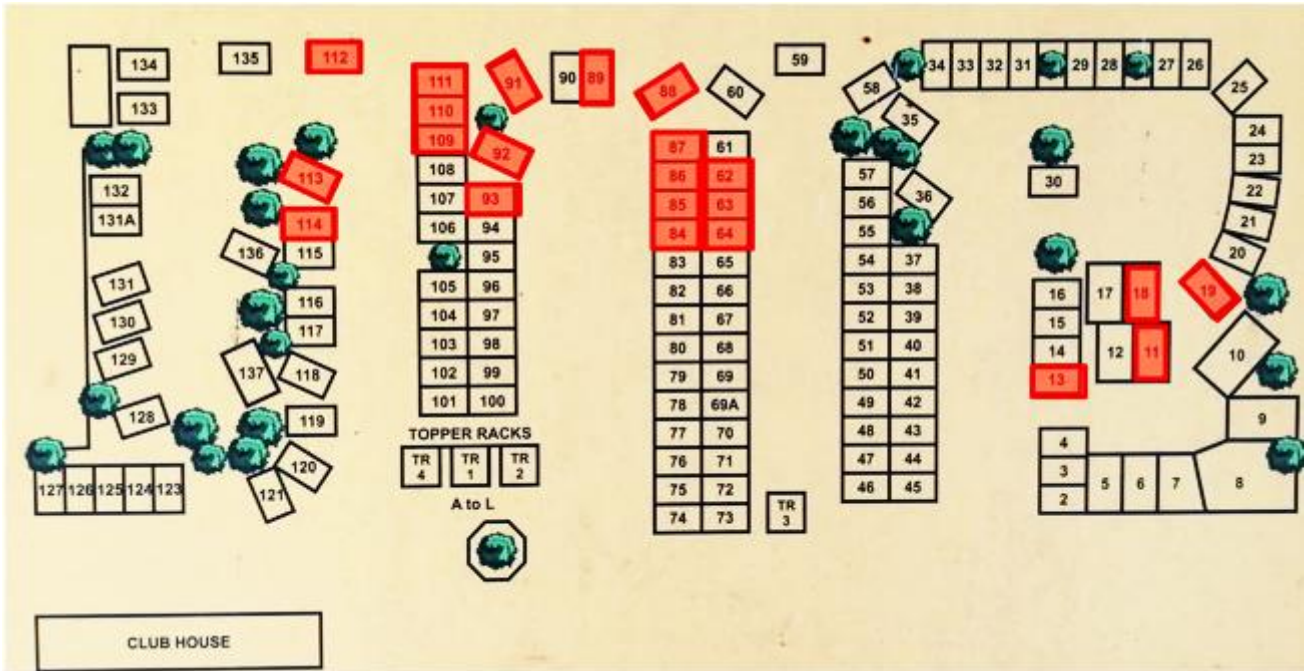


TREE CUTTING



Please be advised that tree work is being completed in the Boat Park on the following days 08, 15 & 22 April.

If your boat space is in the red areas marked below, please **unlock your boats** as a minimum and move them out of harms way, ideally to the yellow area.



Thank you,
on behalf of the Committee.
PS Don't forget to put them back after 22nd April



Fun Race!

Come and join our next 'Fun Race' at Junior Saturday Club on 12th April

Open to all Junior/Youth sailors, so do come along and join us.

March saw our first 'Fun Race' of 2025 and yes it was cold and windy. None the less brother and sister (William and Victoria) took part and raced against each other, doing really well in the tricky conditions. This was Victoria's first race and she managed to stay upright in her Oppie throughout the race. William did have one dry capsized in a Topper 4.2 but managed an additional two laps to his sister and came first. They returned with big smiles and were looking forward to the April Fun Race. Having watched the race, one of the other AM Oppie sailors has now decided he will join Victoria for the next one.

Dan and Maria were in the coach boat and were pleased to see how well the two sailor's skills improved during the race.

Next month we will have two brothers racing in an Oppie and Topper joining the other three next month. So do come and join these five sailors for some more fun.

AM sailors can use the boats they have used in the morning session and have a quick warm up before the race starts.

PM sailors need to let us know if they want to race, then we save a boat for you. The race finishes at 1.00pm so you will have time to eat your lunch and join in with your PM group.

The Fun Race is only 25 minute long and if you can tack, gybe and sail a triangle you will have no difficulty in taking part. There will be a support boat and an instructor on the water giving help and advice to anyone that needs it. There will be someone to help get your boat on and off the water and a tow if necessary to get you out to the start line.

For those new to the fun race.

1. **Find a boat** – if you are using a club boat ask an instructor to allocate one for you to use. If you have your own boat do ask if you need help rigging
2. **Sign on** – Outside the clubhouse there will be a form, please put your full name clearly on it together with the other information required (there will be someone there to help if you are not sure where and what to put).
3. **Briefing:** Before the race the person running the race will explain where the race will be and the marks to go around. They will also explain how you will know when the race is about to start and stop.
4. Head out to the sailing area by the Maid of Kent.

Looking forward to seeing you there, and it would be lovely to see some new sailors having a go along with the regulars.

When booking on for Saturday Club please say you will be racing. (Many thanks – Diana)



Model Yacht Group News

Our group of DF-65 sailors is steadily growing. At present we meet up on an informal basis on a Wednesday afternoon to practice our helming and boat on boat skills. Ad hoc races tend to ensue, and the boats are very well matched. Did any of you visit the DF stand at the dinghy show? I chatted with John Tushingham there, one of the co-founders of the class and a leading DF helm.

We also now seem to be starting to attract new model yacht members. Expect to see International One Metres (IOM) on the lake shortly. These are a development class rather than a strict one design. I for one look forward to seeing them on the water. We are open to all classes, the more the merrier! Brian Dart has also been busy in his man shed and is rumoured to be building his own IOM on a 3D printer! Watch this space.

What if you don't have a model Yacht? No problem. CMYC now has its own classic Marblehead Yacht. "Bloodaxe" is a big and impressive model with a swing rig and it was designed and built by Roger Stollery. We tested it out last week and it sails beautifully. We have yet to set dates for a formal Club Racing series but we will set one up shortly. We are using the DSRC mobile phone app for our ad hoc races and it seems to fit the need perfectly. You can download it for either Android or iPhone. It provides an audible one minute count down and it can be used with any Bluetooth speaker. It also has a built-in racing and results facility a bit like sail wave or HAL.

As we are all sailing 65cm yachts we do not have the additional complication of handicap calculations. Do come down and meet the group. Someone will almost certainly thrust a transmitter in your direction and you will discover just how much fun model yacht sailing can be.

Fair winds

[Donal](#)



Sovrana

Join me for a sail on a classic wooden Ketch

I'm opening up a few spots aboard *Sovrana* — a stunning 1969 Sovereign Class wooden ketch with loads of character. She's a real head-turner and a joy to sail. I'm looking for friendly, enthusiastic crew to join me for a delivery passage in the second half of April (East Coast to her home base in Swanwick), and later on for weekend and longer cruising trips from Swanwick. I keep things relaxed and enjoyable onboard, but safety is always a priority. I'm RYA Yachtmaster Offshore and love sharing the experience of sailing — especially on a boat as unique as *Sovrana*. Whether someone's got plenty of miles under their belt or just loves the idea of sailing a classic yacht, they're very welcome to reach out.

[Maksim](#)



Spinnaker course report – March 2025

The RYA Dinghy Sailing with Spinnaker course is an advanced module designed to give the participants 'Everything you need to know to sail a boat confidently with conventional or asymmetric spinnakers'. This was looking like a tough ask when day 1 dawned with blue sky but zero wind and perfect reflections on the lake. Fortunately, there was plenty of theory to cover first and by the time we were ready for land drills there was just enough breeze for some demonstrations.



With land drills completed, we rushed to get on to the water to make the most of what little wind there was - with the forecast being so light we weren't confident how much spinnaker work would be possible. However, with a judicious amount of towing the 2000 and Quest upwind to maximise the time downwind we got a lot more practice that I thought might have been possible. With the breeze being so light it actually enabled everyone to focus on the skills and techniques rather than worrying about boat balance and potentially capsizing.



Spinnaker course report – March 2025

If fact the weather worked out perfectly with Day 2 having significantly more wind (but still glorious sunshine!). This allowed the practice of some of the more advanced principles such as sailing an 'S' shaped course downwind – heading up in the lulls and down in the gusts.



Over a few decades at CMYC I don't think I have ever seen so many spinnakers flown so consistently and for so long.



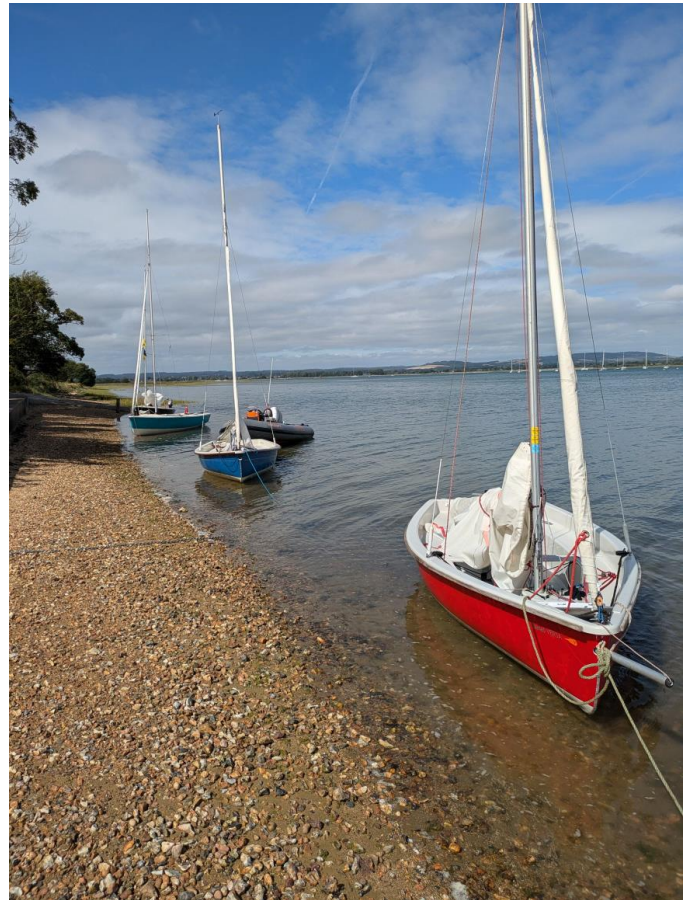
Many congratulations to Maksim, Philip, Liam, Ester, Ian, Charlotte and Thomas for learning so quickly and contributing so much to a successful course.



Strictly Dinghy Cruising

The weather is finally beginning to warm up and the clocks will have changed by the time you read this. That of course means that it is time to think about dusting off your boat and trailer and thinking about our upcoming cruises. We lost quite a few cruises due to inclement weather last year so fingers crossed for a better season this year. My boat is at Cobnor in Chichester Harbour and is ready for the season. Is yours ready yet? Chichester Harbour is indeed beautiful and a very sheltered area for sailing small boats.

As in previous years I will send out emails to those members who have expressed an interest in cruising early in the week preceding a planned cruise. If you do not receive these emails and wish to then please let me know. I then analyse the replies and attempt to match up helms with prospective crew. I am very happy to answer any queries you may have about how to get involved.



The cruises coming up are as follows:

Sat 05 th April	Chichester	05.20	4.0	2.4	Np
Sat 12 th April	Chichester	12.24	4.5	3.6	Sp
Sun 27 th April	Chichester	11.46	4.9	4.3	Sp
Sat 17 th May	Chichester	15.24	4.2	2.9	Mid *

Novice Cruisers and Slower Boats especially Welcome.

I hope to see lots of familiar faces and some new ones on the water this year.

Fair winds

[Donal](#)



Training & Development

Upcoming Training & Development Opportunities

- Greber Club - Together - Sunday 6th April
- Junior Saturday Club - 12th April - [book on WebCollect](#).
- Adult Saturday Club - 26th April - [book on WebCollect](#).
- Powerboat Level 2 - 20th & 27th April - contact MikeS (see handbook)
- RYA Levels 1&2 (adults) - [book on WebCollect](#), see separate flyers for more detail.
- RYA Stages 1&2 (juniors) - [book on WebCollect](#), see separate flyers for more detail.
- Cobnor Weekend - see below

Feedback

Please give feedback on any CMYC training, click [here](#) to complete the form, there is a link to form on the club Website in Members Area – Policies and Documents.

Cobnor weekend - 17th - 19th October

The Cobnor Activity Centre is now booked for 17th to 19th October, thank you to those who completed the expression of interest form, without their input this would not have gone ahead. A few details need to be sorted out then registration will be opened on WebCollect. These are great weekends that give our young and sometimes adult sailors the opportunity to experience sailing in Chichester Harbour in different dinghies. Hopefully this will be the recommencement of our annual visits to Cobnor.

Grebe Club - report by Richard

The Grebe Club's first ever session was held in March. The theme was Safe & Sure to help both the adults and juniors that attended explore the facilities and had fun learning about the basics such as where the telephone is. We had our first Hall of Fame winner (see future newsletters) and everyone left knowing more than they arrived. April's event on 6th is about exploring what is at the heart of our Club, its community and looking at how double-handed sailing is all about working "Together".

Junior Saturday Club - report by Jeff

This was the first Saturday Club with the new timings, which worked well with sessions getting started promptly after the general briefing.



Training & Development

It was a very cold start to the season, relatively quiet in the morning but busy in the afternoon. It was great to see that one of our first time Topper sailors ventured out onto the water despite the conditions.

Thanks to all our instructors and helpers who made the day a success.

Adult Saturday Club - report by Jeff

There was a good turn out of both new members and instructors plus a few regulars. We were able to provide one-to-one instruction for those just starting to sail.

Thanks to all our instructors and helpers who made the day a success.

Two Comets and a Gull stayed on for the Beginners Race, there was some close racing with positions changing and a few lessons learned. Results can be seen [here](#).

Spinnaker Course

See elsewhere in this newsletter for a report on the highly successful Sailing with Spinnakers course, thanks to Geoff for running the course and to Alison for providing powerboat support.



Junior & Youth Sailors back in Action

I hear that the final Race Coaching Day went well. There was a good breeze and everyone was able to get in some great sailing practice. To keep the momentum going, when you book in for next Junior Saturday Club, why not book in for Race Coaching. This is new initiative which will be held alongside the other AM session.

Our first Junior Saturday club was relatively quiet as it was still very cold and the lake water has not yet warmed up. However, we were able to run the Fun Race at lunchtime as two sailors were happy to take part, one in an Oppie and the other in a Topper.

April Saturday Club bookings have just started to come in, and it was good to see that some members have noted from Jeff's article that there have been several changes to times and sessions, these include briefings before AM and PM sessions (just like Junior Helm). Several people have noted the Race Training option in the morning and have already booked in for this, and the half hour Fun Race between AM & PM sessions.

When you read this the CMYC Topper Open meeting will have taken place, with currently 22 sailors booked on from many different clubs in the London and South East Region. About seven sailors from CMYC are taking part and hopefully they will have a good sail with slightly less wind than last year and perhaps win some prizes.

2024 Awards Presentation: It was great to see so many of our youth sailors receive prizes and trophies for events both at home and away in 2024.

Szymon and Sebastian received RYA London & SE Youth Performance Bursaries. These are to help in developing their racing, clothing and equipment. When applying they have to write about their achievements so far and what they hoped to do in the next few years, plus how they hoped to inspire and help newer sailors at their own club.

NSSA President's Award: When the older sailors are approaching their final year of sailing at these regattas there is the opportunity for nine sailors to attend a whole week sailing onboard one of the Tall Ships. It is a wonderful opportunity to try something really different and exciting and for several years CMYC sailors have been awarded a place. Last year Oliver was fortunate to be offered one and, although a little nervous, he had a great time. So fingers crossed we will be lucky again this year. After returning home Oliver booked onto a DI course at Cobnor and having passed this has since come along to help at Saturday Club and coaching for the fun race. This year he hopes to become an RYA Level 2 Race Coach, so hopefully when he achieves this we will see him at the club encouraging and helping our youth and junior racers.

(Diana)

