



Breaking Wind

The Newsletter of Frensham Pond Sailability

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In Memoriam - Dennis Maisey

Mark Greenwood, FPS Membership Services



It is with sadness that I have to inform members and helpers of the passing of FPS sailor Dennis Maisey. Dennis had been unwell for some time, suffering from pneumonia. Dennis joined FPS 2 years ago, not having sailed before and he quickly progressed to race training.

Last year he purchased "Peggy" from the Club and with servo-assistance fitted to handle the main sheet he enjoyed sailing solo on the Pond. Dennis, with wife Victoria, her sister Sol and nephew Alejandro all supported our social events and raised funds for FPS with their cycling exploits. I am sure you will join me in sending sincere condolences to Vicky and the family.

A Message from the Chairman

Kate Richardson, FPS Chairman

The 3rd Frensham Pond Sailability Forum took place on Thursday 14th November. We were very pleased to be joined by Geoff Jeal, President of Farnham Lions. It has been a very busy & successful season with lots going on, our membership now stands at 143 with 35 new members this year.



We have continued to have youngsters from five local schools sailing on a Thursday morning and have reduced the number of one-off groups to ensure the quality of the experience for our adult sailor members. The continued success of FPS relies on balancing the needs of our sailors, the availability of helpers and the funds required to support our activity.

Helpers: There are many helper roles and the success of Sailability relies on us working together as a team, whether it is at the reception, on the jetty, buddying sailors, driving the safety boats, running the galley, editing the Newsletter and the various committees that work tirelessly throughout the season. The weather is not always favourable...



...but there is always time for some fun...



Brian Grimwood agreed to take on a new role as Helper Coordinator and this has enabled us to manage the demand and helper availability in a session. I would also like to make a special reference to Carol Clibborn. Carol has tirelessly run the galley through the season (making a total of 1198 lunch rolls!) and has catered for our socials, the TT and helpers' lunches.

Funds: It has been a very positive year for FPS finances thanks to the hard work of our Fundraising Committee and local sponsors.



Rather than sourcing sustainable funding the committee agreed that future fundraising should be project based.

Significant capital investment has added a 2.3, 303W and an additional Laser Stratos to the FPS fleet.



Sailors: FPS sailors have had a very successful year, winning the UK Access National Championships in the 2.3 class (Lindsay Burns) and the 303 singles class (Paul Phillips). Lindsay also became our first European Champion in Switzerland earlier this summer. FPS 2.4mR sailors Peter Gregory and John Brooker participated in the 75 strong fleet at the 2.4mR World Championship held in Poole Harbour. John is also a member of the RYA development squad and is achieving excellent results. All of our experienced sailors are excellent role models for new FPS members and for the Youth Group.

The highlight of the 2013 FPS sailing season has to be the success of Youth Project. The success of the project and achievement of the youngsters has been amazing. The young sailors have enjoyed a "club like" experience and enjoyed sailing together each week throughout the season. The group is more than just

sailing – it is about friendship, peer support, and achievement at all levels.



Youth Group Members with their Achievement Certificates

In the past we have talked about morning and afternoon sailors as two separate groups. Over the course of the 2013 season we are seeing more sailor development, with some sailors moving on to independent sailing and others bridging the gap into the race training.

Possible future projects raised in the Forum were: resurfacing limited areas of the car park for more suitable disabled access, electric push button access to the Clubhouse and a third hoist. The feasibility of each of these will be reviewed over the winter.

I would like to thank the Management Committee members for their time and commitment over the past year. I would also like to thank all of our helpers and sponsors who have enabled FPS to operate on and off site over the past year.

Thanks to the support of our helpers and donors, FPS has built on the Paralympic Legacy and enabled the participation of 137 disabled sailors and 1875 attendances at Frensham Pond Sailing Club. We look forward to another successful season in 2014.

Farnham Lions Endeavour Trophy Presentation 2013



The Farnham Lions Endeavour Trophy for 2013 was presented jointly to Anne Marie Slavin and Marilyns Frazier by Geoff Jeal, President of Farnham Lions.

Farnham Sports Council Awards

Jo and Sam Dyer were joint winners of the Disability category. Jo and Sam started sailing with FPS in 2012 with their school and are founder members of the FPS Youth Group. Despite significant learning difficulties both girls have gone on to become independent Access 2.3 sailors.



Yvonne Cockett was recognized for her services to Sailability. A founder member of FPS, many of you will know Yvonne as a reassuring presence on the jetty and at the hoist. Sadly she will be leaving us to move to Devon next Spring, we wish her well.



Wisley Youth Endeavour Trophy



This was awarded to Harry Kennington, one of our youngest members of the Youth Group. Harry has shown real determination and commitment to sailing.

FPS Achievement Certificates

Certificates were awarded to students from the Abbey & Ridgeway schools, Stepping Stones & the Youth Group



The Laying Up Supper

A sell out occasion once again, with a superb two course meal courtesy of Carol Clibborn and her hard working galley crew. Our guest speaker this year was Lizzy Foreman, a member of the Artemis Offshore Academy, set up in 2010 to bring up and coming British sailing talent through the ranks into the highly competitive world of offshore solo sailing.



Lizzy (daughter of FPS sailor Margaret Foreman) talked about competing on the Mini 6.50m offshore circuit and showed exciting videos of her recent exploits, including three Fastnet races in 2013! She has since been providing shore support for the 2013 Mini Transat, a solo Atlantic race of 4000 miles from France to Guadeloupe. Lizzy is aiming for the 2015 Mini Transat and you can keep up with all her exploits here: <http://lizzyracing.blogspot.co.uk/>

Fundraising News

Brian Grimwood, FPS Trustee responsible for fundraising

I am delighted to report good 'year-end' news on the fundraising front. This largely centres on the funding of two new Access 2.3 dinghies which should be available for the start of the 2014 season. These boats will help meet the increasing demand for 2.3s seen at Frensham over the past 2 seasons, not only from our Youth sailors on Saturday mornings, but also from our 'more mature' sailors on Thursdays. One of the boats has been funded by money already in-hand, raised by the students and staff at Cranleigh Prep School as reported in the Summer Newsletter. The boat's very appropriate name 'Running on Water' (*) was chosen by the students. The second boat, as yet un-named, has been part funded from a further grant of £3,700 for 2014 from the Wisley Foundation. This will be the third year of financial support from the Wisley Foundation for our Youth sailors, which is greatly appreciated. We are hoping to hear very shortly of a positive outcome from a grant application for the balance of the second boat cost.

(*) clues in the Summer Newsletter!!

Finally, as said before, we always particularly appreciate donations which are the result of group or

individual 'perspiration'. So lots of thanks to Stuart Griffiths, a carer for Sailability sailor Colin Freeman, who raised a magnificent £467 for FPS in December.



Stuart entered the annual GRIM Challenge at Aldershot, which involves running, wading & crawling over the 8 mile Army Vehicle Testing Track, which he completed in a very creditable 65 minutes!! Stuart: very many thanks, same again next year??

In the same vein, the photo below shows Mark & Brian receiving a cheque for £215 from LIDBA, which was on top of the £1190 raised in sponsorship by 'Team FPS' participating in the cycling event. Our thanks to LIDBA and of course to Team FPS!



A New FDSAD Chairman

Farnham & District Sports Association for the Disabled appointed a new Chairman, Alan Taylor, at the AGM on 16 November 2013 to succeed the Past Chairman, Michael Blossie, after his 11 years' service.

Alan's wife Jenny was elected Secretary to take over the role previously filled by the late June Bonner, who was instrumental in the formation of the Association in 1981. Although not a keen dinghy sailor Alan, being a past Commodore of the Ocean Cruising Club, sailed about 60,000 miles in his own cruising boat including one single handed Atlantic crossing.



Alan wishes to develop a stronger relationship with Sailability and to encourage Sailability members to take

advantage of our Saturday morning swimming session at Farnham Leisure Centre. Also of interest to our members is our relationship with Sportability, who offer other sporting activities including shooting, gliding & powered flying, quad biking and archery free of charge. Their website www.sportability.org.uk shows the full range of activities. FDSAD also arranges social events such as skittles, quiz nights and outings which you are all welcome to join in, don't forget the New Year lunch on 26th January.

Access Competition News

Peter Etherton, Hansa Class Captain ()*

The 11th event of the 2013 TT series was held at Oxford's Farmoor reservoir, where Lindsay Burns prevailed in the 2.3 class to retain her Northern, Southern and Overall TT championships. The 303 singles class this time went to Paul Phillips, finishing just ahead of Monique Foster and Tessa Watkiss with Martin Renouf 4th and Alison Grant 5th.

The 303 doubles was hard fought with Andy & Ced Sheath, Peter & Peta Etherton and the Tideway pair of Leslie Phillip & Hugh Lansdown all taking a win in the first three races. The last race was a tense tacking battle with the Ethertons finishing just ahead of the Sheaths and the Tideway pair closing in 3rd.

The 12th and final event was hosted by FPS on 16th October. With visitors from Rutland, New Forest, Whitefriars, Oxford and Tideway SC we had an impressive entry of 21 boats. Conditions afloat in the morning were not very welcoming, with intense rain and a cold easterly breeze.

European, UK National & 2.3 TT Champion Lindsay Burns took 3 straight wins to secure her 9th TT win of the season.



Rutland's Pat Crowley claimed 2nd with Chris Hole 3rd and Oxford's Les Clyne 4th. In the larger 303 fleet, Tessa Watkiss, Paul Phillips and Monique Foster were all in contention for the Southern and Overall 303 singles titles and the competition was intense.



Tessa got off to a flying start, winning 3 of the 4 races

to take the TT win with Paul 2nd, James Woosnam 3rd & Monique 4th. With 4 wins and 2 2nd places each as their 6 best scores, Tessa and Paul were equal on points so Tessa's win in the final TT clinched the Overall and Southern area titles.



In the 303 doubles class the Ethertons had to win the TT to retain their Overall series title from Rutland's Chris Emmet & Malcolm Kirk.

A very close contest saw the honours even with 2 wins & 2 2nd places each so the Etherton's win in the fourth race was crucial in securing their 5th TT win and the Overall & Southern titles. The Rutlanders came in 2nd followed by the Sheaths in 3rd & the Tideway duo in 4th. In the Liberty class, New Forest's Tom Harper won the first race with Whitefriar's David Durston 2nd and Vince Barton (also New Forest) 3rd.

David Durston won the remaining 3 races to claim the class win and the Overall and Southern titles with Tom 2nd & Vince 3rd.



The FPS success on the water was somewhat muted by sad news of Martin Renouf.

Having secured 5th and 3rd places in the 303 singles morning races, Martin suffered a stroke at lunch. Fast action by Alison Grant & Terry Teale ensured that he was hospitalized quickly and he is now making good progress in Farnham's Stroke Unit. Our best wishes to Martin & Kathy for the very best possible recovery.

Our thanks to all the helpers, admin team, galley crew, Race Officer & results team, safety boat drivers and sailors for making the event run as smoothly as ever and a big thank you for all the help at the away events.

Tessa, Lindsay & Paul with the Ben Ainslie Team Trophy presented to FPS for a record 7th consecutive year by Andy Sheath, Chairman HCA(UK)



Full results here: www.hansaclass.org.uk.

Thursday afternoon race training saw 20 helms taking part over the season, including 4 new helms. With 11 different race winners Paul Phillips had to work harder this year but was the overall winner once again, with Martin Renouf 2nd & Peter & Peta E 3rd.



Craig Winskil-Hales was awarded a prize for the most improved helm this year, progressing quickly from sailing with a buddy to sailing solo and winning a race in his first year of sailing.

A "fun mini Regatta" was held on the final Thursday race session, with both Laser Stratos, 303W singles & doubles and 2.4mRs competing in three handicap races. In deference to the 2.4's, Race Officer Nick (ably assisted by Peter F & John R) set a westerly windward/leeward course.

The starts and first beat saw some extremely dubious tactics, leading to the inevitable pile up at the windward mark!



Overall winner was Paul P (303) with Christine David an excellent 2nd in another 303 and Tony Goodall 3rd, saving some face for the 2.4's! The two Stratos finished a lowly 13th and 14th. Our thanks to Nick, who provided the prizes, and to Carol who once again served up delicious home baked cakes for tea.

(*) – Finally, if you are wondering what the Hansa Class is, the Access Class (and the Access Class Association UK) has changed its name in line with the change of name of Access Sailing Systems to Hansa Sailing Systems. More details of why this change was made are here www.hansaclass.org.uk.

2.4mR Competition News

Peter Gregory, 2.4mR Class Captain

6th - 14th September saw one of the main events on the 2.4mR calendar when the International 2.4mR Class World Championship was hosted by the Poole Yacht Club. There were 75 boats competing in this year's championships including 4 Frensham sailors.

Saturday and Sunday were for measurement and registration. As this was the Worlds we had a strict measurement process, every boat was weighed, complete with a set of sails and had to be plus or minus 1 kilo of the weight limit. All measurement marks on our hulls were checked, masts were measured and weighed and all sails were measured.



Monday saw the last boats measured and then we had a practice race in the afternoon to be ready for the championship start on Tuesday. Unfortunately a high pressure weather system passed over at night and in conjunction with low tide caused some of the boats moored in the marina to sink down into the mud.

The organisers realised this at 7:15 and by 9:30 had arranged for a second crane to be ready to help lift all 75 boats out of the water to check for mud on the keel. A team of divers were also on hand for helms who were happy for the keel to be inspected in the water.

This was an example of the magnificent organisation we experienced for the whole event. Many said it was possibly the best organised 2.4mR Worlds. An overseas sailor said that the British should be very proud to have put on such a marvellous event!



So 2½ hours later than planned racing started on the Tuesday and our first three races were completed in 30 degree wind shifts, some fluctuating breezes and choppy conditions. Wednesday was another three races in shifty wind conditions. Thursday saw us endure a 2 hour delay on the water as we waited for the wind to fill in before we managed to sail two races.

Three more races were held on the final day on Friday; the most memorable race was the first when 23 of the 75 boats were disqualified for crossing the start line too early when a black flag had been displayed for the preparatory signal! The championship was won by Sweden's Stellan Berlin with GBR's Paralympic Gold Medallist Helena Lucas second and regular Frensham visitor Megan Pascoe third.

Of the Frensham sailors, Bruce Hill and Simon Hill were 33rd & 34th and FPS sailors John Brooker and Peter Gregory were 64th & 68th. One of the big privileges of sailing in this event is that full time and club sailors race together. Within that mix are disabled and able-bodied sailors and the 2.4mR is the only class of boat where disabled and able-bodied sailors compete on a truly level playing field. Finally, the Oxford "Frostbite" on 30th November/1st December was the 11th and final event of our year, congratulations to John Brooker for winning this year's Travellers Trophy. We will see less of John now he has taken up his place at Southampton University. We wish him well with his studies and his continued progress in the British Sailing Team Podium Performance Squad.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY:

18TH - THE 10TH & FINAL ANNUAL FPS SUPPER DANCE

26TH - FDSAD NEW YEAR LUNCH

FEBRUARY:

8TH - RYA SAILABILITY CONFERENCE & DINNER

Pond Life



Peter Fitzpatrick took this photo of the club entrance after the storm on 28th October

Tail Piece



FPS Helper & Farnham Lion Graham Day won the Lions Auction to take part in the London-Brighton Run as a passenger in this lovely 1904 Wolseley Tonneau