

# Breaking Wind

## The Newsletter of Frensham Pond Sailability

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Summer 2016



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### FPS Honoured With an Award

*Michael Buttler, FPS PR & Communications Officer*

*Photographs courtesy of FPS Helper Tony Machen*

On 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2016, it was announced in the London Gazette that Frensham Pond Sailability had been honoured with the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. This is the highest award a voluntary group can receive in the UK and recognises outstanding work in their community.

The official presentation of the Award was made on Thursday 4 August. The Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey, Michael More-Molyneux, accompanied by Vice Lord-Lieutenant, Bill Biddell DL, brought the Royal Certificate from the Queen and an engraved glass trophy for the presentation.

A number of local dignitaries also attended the event, including the High Sheriff of Surrey, Richard Whittington, the Mayor of Waverley, Councillor Chris Storey and Farnham Town Mayor and his Consort, John and Gillian Ward.



After a formal welcome to the Sailing Club from Club Commodore Colin Dutton, who explained how important Sailability has been in the life of the Club since 2001, the Vice Lord-Lieutenant read out the wording on the Certificate.



The Lord-Lieutenant then presented the Certificate and Trophy to two of our Saturday Youth Group helpers, Lucy Edgar and Hattie Owen. He went on to thank all the volunteers on behalf of Surrey and to emphasise what a difference the work of volunteers makes to the community.



Responding on behalf of Sailability, John Richardson, Chair of the Trustees, expressed everyone's appreciation for a really special honour. As the organisation approaches its 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary he



noted that it had provided more than 20,000 sailing experiences to disabled people and those with a long term illness. He concluded by recognising that it was all started by Ted Bonner back in 1982 when, through Farnham & District Sports Association for the Disabled, sailing for people with disabilities began at Frensham.

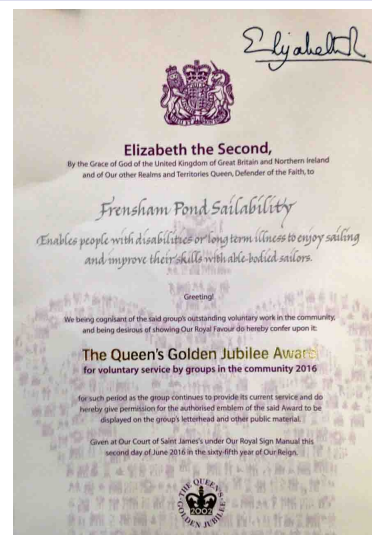


It was a bright, sunny day with a good wind for sailing, an ideal day for a party. Following the formal speeches everyone adjourned to the Clubhouse for a celebratory drink and some light refreshments prepared by Carol Clibborn and her hard working Galley team.

While all were relaxing, the guests were able to enjoy a display of racing skills put on by a number of our sailor members.



Acting Chairman Brian Grimwood said "I am absolutely delighted with the Award. It reflects the hard work, commitment and enthusiasm of our volunteer helpers and sailor members over the past 15 years."



## Fundraising News

*Brian Grimwood, FPS Trustee responsible for fundraising*



### Replacement Boats

It was stated in the Spring issue that three new Hansa dinghies were expected early in the new season. Two boats successfully arrived (see below) and are now fully operational in the Frensham fleet.

However, the third, on unpacking the import container, was found to be a Hansa 2.3 Wide instead of the standard 2.3 Single as ordered! Unfortunately its replacement will not arrive in the UK before the end of the 2016 season. Our thanks to the forbearance of the generous donor!



Hansa 303 "Breeze" and Hansa 2.3 "Ellie 2" were successfully launched in April. "Breeze" was generously funded by COINS in association with Stepping Stones School, Hindhead.

'Ellie 2' was funded by six local Rotary Groups, Camberley, Farnham, Farnham Weyside, Farnborough, Fleet and Hart, plus the local Rotary District 1145.



## Extension to Jetty 7 and the provision of additional personnel hoisting points

We are almost there on this very significant £34,500 project! Planning permission has now been received, with construction expected during October and a 'grand official opening' on the last Saturday in October (provided all goes well!). It has been a tortuous process - evaluating the optimum format (floating vs rigid wooden jetty) and the design & planning process.

It was finally decided that a rigid format extending the existing fixed jetty by 11m, and double the width (at 4m) would provide the best operating platform. This required an additional £9k funding. Our appreciation to funders Wisley Foundation (an extra £2k on the already committed £15K), Farnham Lions, £4k, and FPSC (up to £3k). Our thanks particularly to helpers Tony Machen and Graham Wheeler for all their hard work on the project.

## The Farnham Lions Summer Spectacular 2017

We were delighted to learn that Sailability had been selected as one of four local youth related charities to benefit from the a major fundraising 'Spectacular' being organised in 2017 by Farnham Lions to celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the Centennial of Lions International. More details can be found on <http://www.farnhamlions.org.uk/summerspectacular.html>

**Put the key date Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2017 in your diary now.** There will much more information on this in due course.

## Schools Group News

*Bridget Woodhouse, FPS Schools Group Coordinator*



Lisa Skirrow and I had a lovely day at the Stepping Stones summer concert held at Sundial House in June.

We took the COINS funded new boat "Breeze" with us and met with the parents of many of the sailors.



On 21<sup>st</sup> July I went to Ridgeway Community College with Lisa to award well-earned certificates to Luke Holland, Jordan Rowland and Matt King. We were made very welcome by head teacher Daryl Morgan and enjoyed a chance to see all the other awards that the students had achieved throughout the term.



## Youth Group News

*Lisa Skirrow, FPS Youth Group Coordinator*



After a busy start to the season July and August have been a little quieter, but we still have had a good attendance from the youth group sailor members.

We have been very fortunate with the weather on Saturday mornings and have had some excellent coaching from our young instructors, Lucy Edgar in particular has shown huge dedication to the group. Some of our Ridgeway students have shown an interest in taking part in the youth group on Saturday mornings which is great and we are very pleased to welcome them to the Group.

Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> August is our annual Youth Fun Day, a morning of fun and games on the water followed by a picnic lunch in the clubhouse. Planning is well under way for this popular event. Any young sailors interested in joining in for the day, please contact me at: [lisaskirrow@hotmail.com](mailto:lisaskirrow@hotmail.com)

## A Visit To Lymington Sailability

*Michael Everitt, FPS Sailor & Helper*

The Royal Lymington Sailing Club is tucked away at the back of a car park, making it hard to find. If you haven't been there before, the Sailability club is near the toilet block!

I met up with the Secretary and the Bosun, who told me what would be happening and which boat I would be going in. They have 3 boats, each can take 3 people or 2 people with one needing the hoist. The boats are all trimarans, the Windrider WR17 class, looking powerful and stable on land and in the water.



After helping one person get into the boat via the hoist, they went out onto the water, sailing back and forth in the harbour waiting for the other two boats to get afloat. I went in the last boat sailing with the Bosun and a lovely lady who sat in front of me. After making our way out of the harbour, we went down an inlet with protected water (no waves and strong wind) toward the Solent.

Leading the charge into the Solent the waves were much bigger than I expected and the wind was so strong we were flying along the water, crashing into the smaller waves and dodging the larger waves although I still got wet from head to foot!

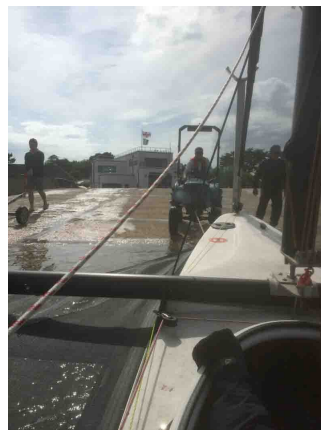
The waves got too much for the other two boats so they turned back to the inlet. Meanwhile we were about halfway to the Isle of Wight before we started to make our way back to the harbour when we came across 4 Oppies being towed by a powerboat one after the other like ducklings following their mother.



There was a tall ship that you would not be able to see from land and we also had a very close up view of the IOW ferry before one of the other boats came in, towed by the safety boat into the waiting trailer to get them back onto land.



After about 10 to 15 minutes, we got the 'we're ready for you' call over the radio. The Bosun expertly guided our boat onto the trailer with two guys in the water standing by.



They were ready to strap the boat to the trailer and align it before giving the go ahead to the tractor which was waiting to pull us out of the water.

After getting out of the water via the slipway and being given the all clear to get out of the boat, we dismantled the boat and pulled the boat out of the way so that the tractor could bring in the last boat trailer.

I should mention that I was the most able sailor and there were no helpers in the boats, only in the 3 safety boats. One came out into the Solent to keep an eye on us. I had a huge amount of fun out on the water and met a lot of amazing guys and ladies. I would suggest that if you can, contact them for a chance to sail, you won't regret it, it's only about an hour to 2 hour's drive away from Frensham Pond. More information here:

<http://lymingtonsailability.com>

## Competition News

**Thursday Club Racing** continues to thrive with a large group of Hansa 2.3's in John Townsley's training group and the 303's in Nick Clibborn's group



have been joined by a 2.3 helmed by former National Champion Ann Lewis and the Liberty's of Paul Phillips and Tessa Watkiss. Locally adjusted PY's have been successful in equalising performance and the Early Summer series was closely contested with James Woosnam (303 1P) and Paul's Liberty joint 1<sup>st</sup>, Peter & Peta Etherton (303 2P) 3<sup>rd</sup> and Ann's 2.3 in 4<sup>th</sup> place.

**The Hansa Traveller Trophy & Grand Prix** series has seen 8 events take place to date in a wide variety of wind conditions, some very challenging! Good results for FPS sailors include wins for James, Paul, Tessa, Alison Grant, Lindsay Burns and the Ethertons. It was especially good to see less experienced racers Lara Sturgis gain two 2<sup>nd</sup> places and Greg Parker a 3<sup>rd</sup>, all results gained in some very tough conditions.



*On the Run at the Chesil GP, WPNSA Portland  
(photo courtesy of Nicky Mathew)*

**The Hansa World Championships:** the biggest event on the 2016 Hansa calendar took place in Medemblik, Holland in June. Six FPS sailors helped to make up a 19 strong Team GB, with a total of 83 entries from all over Europe, Brazil, Malaysia, Australia, Tasmania, Japan and New Zealand. Strong Northerly winds created very challenging choppy conditions, not something our sailors are used too.



*James Woosnam in "Andy the Bear" at the Worlds*

The competition was as tough as the conditions but Lindsay Burns (5th 2.3 class) Paul Phillips (5th Liberty class) and James Woosnam (7th 303 1P class) were the first GB sailors in their classes, with Tessa Watkiss 10th Liberty, Kate Hedley 17th and Alison Grant 20th in the 303 1P class, a very good effort. A big thank you to all our travelling helpers, tow car drivers & supporters!



*Paul Phillips & Lindsay Burns navigating the chop*

A full report of the Worlds can be found here:

<http://www.yachtsandyachting.com/news/190346/Team-GB-reflect-on-Hansa-Worlds>

**2.4mR Update:** This year's Inland Championship at Rutland was held in very gusty winds. Megan Pascoe took a convincing win with FPS sailor John Brooker finishing an excellent 2<sup>nd</sup> just ahead of Will Street 3<sup>rd</sup>. Kate Hedley was 10<sup>th</sup> and Paul Phillips 19<sup>th</sup>.

## Visitors from The Antipodes

After competing in the Hansa Worlds in Medemblik, South Australians Bob Schahinger, a Vice President of the International Hansa Class Association (IHCA) and his wife Deirdre (a former IHCA Committee member) visited FPS. They are pictured below with Richard and Lindsay preparing boats for a TT.



The Schahingers were invited to attend the QAVS presentation and were joined by Neal Rodwell, Commodore of the Wynyard Yacht Club, Tasmania.



## Kate Whyatt's Global Adventure

Kate has now completed her circumnavigation of the world and was able to join us at the QAVS presentation before jetting off to visit her daughter in California. Kate will be our guest speaker at the Laying Up Supper on 28<sup>th</sup> October so don't miss her fascinating tale of adventure on the high seas.



Read Kate's blog and you can still make a donation to her fund raising for FPS and Ocean Stars using the links below:

<http://katewhyatt.blogspot.co.uk/>

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/KateWhyatt>

## Boccia Is Coming To Farnham

*David Gill, Chairman Farnham Sports Council*

Farnham Sports Council is initiating a new sports club in Farnham for Boccia (pronounced 'Bot-cha'). Boccia was initially designed for people with cerebral palsy and was introduced as a Paralympic sport in 1984. The activity is now much more inclusive and the Farnham club will be open to everyone, of all ages.



The club will start on Sunday 25th September in the

sports hall at the David Lloyd Club. It's proposed to have the club running at this top class venue on Sundays from 6.00pm to 7.30pm at least initially.

If you're interested in trying out or taking up this fun game, all the Boccia equipment will be provided and the activity to start with will be free as a taster session. Just turn up at the David Lloyd Club around 6.15pm to register! Sailability and Farnham Swimability members are most welcome. The contact is David Gill and there is more information here:

<http://gb-boccia.org/>

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS AUGUST - NOVEMBER

### AUGUST:

31<sup>ST</sup> – YOUTH GROUP FUN DAY

### SEPTEMBER:

8<sup>TH</sup> – FIRST SCHOOLS DAY

9-11<sup>TH</sup> – HANSA NATIONALS CARSINGTON

21<sup>ST</sup> – HANSA TT FRENHAM

25<sup>TH</sup> – BOCCIA TASTER AT THE DAVID LLOYD CENTRE

28<sup>TH</sup> – HANSA TT FRAMPTON

### OCTOBER:

5<sup>TH</sup> – HANSA TT OXFORD

20<sup>TH</sup> – LAST SCHOOLS DAY

27<sup>TH</sup> – LAST SAILABILITY THURSDAY

28<sup>TH</sup> – LAYING UP SUPPER

29<sup>TH</sup> – LAST SAILABILITY SATURDAY

### NOVEMBER:

3<sup>RD</sup> – LAYING UP WORKING PARTY & HELPERS LUNCH

24<sup>TH</sup> – SAILABILITY FORUM

## Tail Piece



Some of our female members & guests found it hard to resist the handsome men in uniform!

Many thanks to all our contributors, especially to Tony Machen and Nicky Mathew for the excellent photographs.

