



Breaking Wind



The Newsletter of Frensham Pond Sailability

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Winter 2011

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A Message from the Chairman

Kate Richardson, FPS Chairman

Happy New Year to you all! I am writing this looking out on all the snow and finding it hard to believe the season will start again in 8 weeks on Thursday 5 April.



Even for those most hardy 2.4mR sailors amongst us the Pond is frozen and they can only look longingly from the Club House and wait for Spring!

Our last season seems long ago. Many of you were able to come along to the Laying Up Supper and were inspired to hear Paul Burns from BLESMA (British Limbless Ex Service Men's Association). For those of you not there, Paul was injured in Northern Ireland and became an amputee in the late 1970s.

However, he remained in the army and later became a member of the Red Devils Parachute Team. He then took up sailing in the 1990s, completing the BT Global

Challenge with an all disabled crew. An inspiration to us all! Yet again we are indebted to Carol Clibborn and Sally Townsley and their team in The Galley for another warming supper – thank you.

I was introduced this year to the supper dance in Crondall on 21 January, the 8th year this event has run. Very many thanks to Brian and Maggie Grimwood, Peter Galliford, Sarah Louise Jeffries and Lois & Jeremy Hudson for arranging this very enjoyable evening with a fish and chip supper, charity auction and a lively band. Brian had said this was the last but I am pleased to hear that he may be prevailed upon to repeat this winning formula again next year. I would highly recommend it you all.

For those keen to get back on the water I know that many people are working away preparing for the season: the various committees, both Class Captains and all those involved in the winter maintenance of our boats. I look forward to seeing many of our helpers on the 22 March to prepare the boats for the coming week. Remember your brushes, wellies and gloves! We will be rewarded with lunch in the clubhouse for our morning's work.



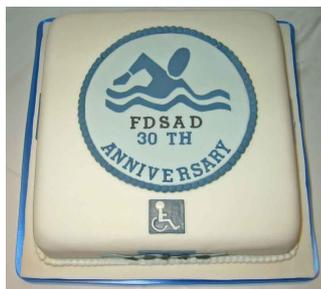
On a final note I would like to wish our sailors Tessa Watkiss and Lindsay Burns good luck at the Access World Championships in Sydney. Bon voyage to you both and to Angela & Richard Smallwood and Terry Teale, who are also going out for the Championships to support our sailors. Looking forward to catching up with you all early in the season.

FDSAD's 30th Anniversary

The 2011 FDSAD Christmas lunch also marked the 30th Anniversary of the Farnham & District Sports Association for the Disabled. The club was inspired in 1981 by double amputee Peter Hooper (June Bonner's late husband) & John Wise (Chairman of Farnham Swimming Club) and offered canoeing & dry sports.



In 1982 Ted Bonner introduced sailing for the disabled at Frensham, which has since evolved into Sailability as we know it today. It was also FDSAD that brought Ted and June together following Peter's death.



FDSAD Chairman Michael Blossie paid tribute to Ted & June for their support over the years. A superb cake was presented to mark the occasion.

Farnham Lions Endeavour Trophy Presentation 2011

Kate Richardson, FPS Chairman

Following the enjoyable FDSAD Christmas lunch, the Farnham Lions Endeavour Trophy was presented to Peter and Peta Etherton by Mr Jim Lawson, President of Farnham Lions.

Peter and Peta have been a great example of perseverance in adversity: not only have they been regular sailors throughout the season but they have also taken their own boat to TT events throughout the country. At the last event in Derbyshire they beat two of the best crews in the country to win their class.

They have both become a mainstay for FPS, organizing the program of lectures & race coaching on Thursdays throughout the season. As Access Class Captain, Peter also took on the extra responsibility of arranging the Access National Championships at The Pond in June, taking the lead in all the arrangements

and ably supported by Peta.



Peter also took on the editing and production of this quarterly Newsletter, "Breaking Wind". They have both been a great example of perseverance in adversity and are worthy winners of the Endeavour Trophy for 2011.

Free Membership Award

You might recall that a year's free membership was offered as an incentive to those who submitted their 2012 subscriptions before the end of the year. The first name out of the hat is Kieran Benham, a new member for this year who lives in Fleet. Our congratulations to Kieran and to mum Sue.

Fundraising News

Brian Grimwood, FPS Trustee responsible for fundraising
The 8th Annual Sailability Supper Dance was held in Crodall Village Hall on 21 January and was a very successful event yet again, attended by nearly 160 'paying guests'. With an Olympic/Paralympic theme, the super table decorations were made by our sailor students of Stepping Stones School, Hindhead.



Apart from being one of our major social occasions, it makes a very significant contribution to Sailability's fundraising needs. The profit from the evening is expected to be over £3000. Our grateful thanks to all, particularly to those who bid so generously in the auction.



Contrary to rumour, it will not be the last. Crondall Village Hall & The Full House Band have been booked again for Saturday 19 January 2013 (diary date!!).

Other Progress to date: We are delighted to report an excellent start to the year. The major task set for our fundraising team in 2012 was to find the money for two new Access 303W dinghies, on order for March/April delivery. One will be a replacement for 'Nick', the other will be an addition to the 303 fleet

The following grants were confirmed in January: Farnham Town Council (£3,000), The Headley Charitable Foundation (£3,000), Frensham Parish Council (£250) and Cartridge World Limited (£1250). A very big thank you to all of these very generous benefactors.

However, our fundraising needs in 2012 will total around £24,000. So, three particular fundraising related dates to bring to your attention are:

Saturday 19 May – 'bucket' collection outside of Sainsbury's Water Lane Superstore. This is being led by Kaz Kawamura.

Sunday 10 June – Liphook and District Businessmen's Association 25 mile sponsored bike ride. There will be a 'Team FPS' this year led by Sol Ocampo – more cyclists wanted!

Sunday 16 September – Farnham Weyside Rotary Pilgrims Marathon & half Marathon run – FPS will be one of prime nominated beneficiaries this year. So helpers will be required (and runners!)

More information on the above events will be issued nearer the date. If you would like information now, please contact Brian: brianmag@btinternet.com

Breaking News – Adam Davison is taking on a number of physically demanding events in 2012 with the aim of raising £2000 for FPS. Many thanks to Adam for this very generous gesture, we look forward to following his progress and to seeing him at the pond. The events are listed on Adam's JustGiving page below and all donations will be most welcome:

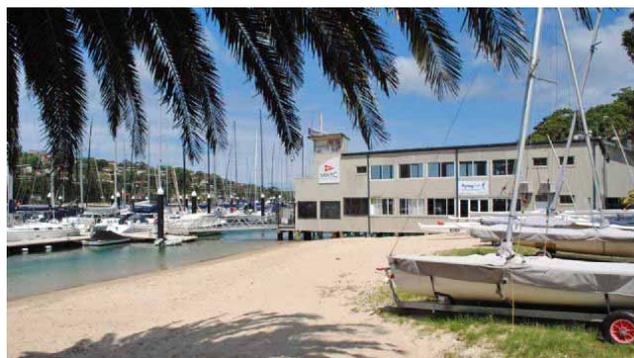
<http://www.justgiving.com/ajdavison2012>

Competition News

While the Access boats and most of their sailors are in winter hibernation mode, our hardy 2.4 colleagues have continued racing regardless of the weather, only recently being halted by thick ice on the pond. In the Early Winter Series (November-January) Major League, Paul Holzherr continued his summer form with 6 wins from 11 races to head the table from Richard

Smallwood and Myron Prosser. In the 2.4 Handicap series, FPSC's very own ancient mariner Jim Morley took the honours from Nick Cook & Paul Holzherr.

The major Access event of 2012 is the World Championships to be held on 9-13 April at the Middle Harbour Yacht Club in Sydney, Australia. Frensham will be represented by Lindsay Burns in the 2.3 Class and Tessa Watkiss in the Liberty Class.



Middle Harbour Yacht Club, Sydney

We wish Lindsay and Tessa the best of luck and you can follow all the action here:

<http://www.2012accessworlds.mhyc.com.au/>

The UK Access TT season kicks off at Notts County SC on 4th April and the Frensham TT takes place on Wednesday 18th April. The UK Access Nationals will be held at Ringwood on 28-29 April. Boats are being snapped up quickly for these events so if you are thinking of competing please contact Peter Etherton as soon as possible.

Nick Craig – 2011 UK Yachtsman of the Year!

Congratulations to FPSC sailor Nick Craig who has been named as the Yachting Journalists' Association (YJA) Yachtsman of the Year for 2011.



The announcement was made at an awards ceremony held at Trinity House, London. Nick not only won the highly competitive OK World Championship in 2011 but in doing so also became the only person ever to hold the World, UK National and Inland championship titles. He also won the

RS400 National championship. To conclude an outstanding year, Nick's fifth Endeavour Trophy victory drew him level with Mike Holmes and Geoff Carveth as the most successful sailor in the event's 50 year-history and, by extension, the most successful British amateur dinghy sailor of all time.

The Endeavour Championship is an annual invitation only event, held at Burnham-on-Crouch, to determine the overall dinghy champion of champions from the UK's most popular dinghy racing classes. Winning the Endeavour Trophy is and always has been recognised as an ultimate dinghy racing achievement. So to win five times, representing different classes throughout the years, puts Nick amongst the most versatile and talented dinghy sailors in the world.

Also nominated for the award were Ben Ainslie for his successes in the Finn class (which last year included victory in the Olympic test event Sail for Gold at Weymouth) and Dee Caffari, who became the first triple, female and non-stop circumnavigator when placing sixth in the Barcelona World Race. The trophy was presented to Nick by Geoff Holt MBE, the 2010 YJA Pantaenius Yachtsman of the Year winner.

Flying To Australia

Chris Emmet, Rutland Sailability

Editor's Note: FPS racers will know Chris from his numerous successes in the 303 2 person class with crew Malcolm Kirk. A keen sailor and an intrepid traveller, his experience will make especially interesting reading for those heading to Sydney!

There are three ways to endure the 23 hour plane trip to Australia:

1. Mortgage the house and buy a first-class ticket.
2. Join the masses in the economy class.
3. Have your brain surgically removed, and then re-implanted on arrival at your destination.

My wife Gwyndra, adult son Mark and myself in a wheelchair, decided on option number 2 when going to visit our daughter who lives near Sydney.

This is the fourth time we've done long haul, and our experiences may be handy for others. Although it was expensive to hire a taxi from our home in Loughborough to Birmingham, we saved the huge airport parking fees, as well as the stress of worrying about what time to leave home.

When I booked the tickets, and at the airport check-in desk, I made it quite clear what disabilities I have, and I was transferred into an airport wheelchair as my manual wheelchair is taken away as baggage. (I would

not risk taking my expensive electric wheelchair on the plane and had pre-booked a power chair from a hire company in Australia).

As usual, people with mobility problems are expected to be at the boarding gate half an hour before other travellers, and as usual, we totally ignored this advice and hid behind a pillar until most other people had boarded, saving us another half an hour of cramped seating on the plane!! To get to my seat, I had to transfer to the narrow, elbow bashing, knuckle scraping aisle chair.

We had pre-booked vegetarian meals, not because we dislike meat, but because we knew we would be served first and therefore enjoy hotter food. Trips to the loo were not as frequent as on terra firma, because of the plane's relentless air-conditioning system.

When the time came, it was back into the aisle chair, to be dragged to the jumbo jet's toilet block. The very helpful air stewards curtained off one of the tiny little toilets, to enable Gwyndra to help me.



Dubai Airport Duty Free Shopping Area

After 8 hours of watching endless videos and eating strange meals from plastic trays, we landed at Dubai for two hours to change planes.

I was transferred into another uncomfortable airport wheelchair, pushed at breakneck speed by a surly, non English speaking attendant, to the connecting plane. Although I had lost my independence, Gwyndra and Mark were with me, and none of us had to endure the stress of finding the way through the airport. (We also missed the gold section of the duty free shops!).

After another thirteen hours at 40,000 feet, we finally reach Sydney. It took us a little longer than the others to disembark, because disabled people have to leave the plane last, and my manual wheelchair (virtually unmarked) would arrive on a different carousel to the cases.



Smiles at last as the family was reunited!

"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover." - Mark Twain

From Light Airs To On Air

Mark Greenwood, FPS Membership Secretary, Sailor & Disc Jockey

Radio has been a passion for me for as long as I can remember. The evidence! In the 70's - recording Fluff and 'Pick of the Pops' with a mike in front of the radio and a 'Keep Out' sign on the bedroom door!

Second-hand reel to reel for 12th birthday and lots of editing with a chinograph pencil and cutter (which I still have!) – great fun.

Portsmouth Hospital Broadcasting, mobile discos – and lots of stories, Radio Victory, BBC Bristol, St Mary's Hospital, Bedford - whilst doing the Masters at Cranfield and more recently, The SkillSet 'Route Into Radio Programme'.

Looking back, to be honest, I blame the Careers Master!! (part time as he was also the Music teacher!). There I was with Grade 1 English Lit and Language and great feedback on my stories and essays – and the Careers Master suggests I should do English at A-level...and teach.

So some years later and I am a Chartered Engineer, MD, NED etc – and wishing I had continued to write and talk! I worked my way up the qualification and career greasy poles with some success – so lots of real life experience there - then came some unexpected challenges.

Around 2002, whilst I was an MD in the UK and VP in Europe, flying endlessly, I got a pain in the neck...then I developed what I called a 'John Wayne walk'. After months of tests they found a 'fatty lump' in my spinal

cord, just where the neck pain had been.

We practiced 'wait and see' until the neck pain was unbearable and the airport trolleys were holding me up! Operations followed – the last on my 50th birthday, having 'Happy Birthday' sung to me by 2 physios! Another challenge was that all this meant I became a wheelchair user.

Friends suggested I go back to radio – as they said – "we all know you can talk, and you can do radio seated - mostly!" Importantly, they also muttered something about being great at connecting with people and winning over an audience.....

I saw the **SkillSet 'Route Into Radio'** course advertised in Radio Mag – the course was the 3rd pilot nationally and to be held in Hants and IOW. The programme was sponsored by SkillSet in conjunction with SEEDA. Before I applied for the 'Route Into Radio' placement, I never thought I could get back to radio, with the shifts in technology and the turbulence from legislation, rationalisation, etc. From nowhere I actually managed Distinctions for both the Units I took as part of a Diploma in Media Studies, which were required for the Route Into Radio course.

My in-station placement was with the BBC in Southampton. Just by 'being around' at the joint radio and TV studios, I have been involved in undercover radio and TV features on the trains, written and presented a series called Radio Coach. My work and interviews went to air on BBC Solent, national BBC Radio 4 ('You & Yours') and BBC South Today TV.



So – What about the Express FM Sunday Breakfast Show? I was really excited to be offered the Sunday Breakfast Show – I have been able to design the format, features and even the jingles, using ideas I have had for many years for a breakfast show!

I like to give our listeners a fast moving, feature-rich Show. There is just 1 rule on the Sunday Breakfast

Show, if I am up, everyone's up! Musically we have 4 tracks from a Featured Artist, 2 tracks from the Express Archive. We go 'Under the Covers' – a special track as listeners wake and may like a cuddle!

Each week we also have a Comedy Spot and a 'Take 2' spot where we play 2 different treatments of a well known song. Features include Famous Birthdays, the Showbiz update (prepared and presented by the brilliant Vicki Hemmings) and the Boating Spot, where we provide the day's tide times and a selection of news for all who enjoy their boating in our beautiful area and don't forget the 'Tea Spot', our '1st Foot on the Floor' and the pesky neighbours with their noisy collection of chickens!

Mark Greenwood presents the [Sunday Breakfast Show](#) on Express FM from 7am to 9am. If you live in or near Portsmouth, tune in to 93.7 FM. Everywhere else, you can listen to ExpressFM via the website www.expressfm.com and click on 'Listen Live'. The web service is available globally. Mark welcomes your requests and messages, email: markgreenwood@expressfm.com Thanks for listening!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FEBRUARY – MAY

FEBRUARY:

25TH – RYA SAILABILITY CONFERENCE, WYBOSTON

MARCH:

22ND – BOAT FITTING OUT, HELPER TRAINING, LUNCH

25TH – FPSC SUPER PRIX

30TH – FITTING OUT SUPPER ☺

APRIL:

4TH – NOTTS COUNTY TT (1ST NORTHERN EVENT)

5TH – SAILABILITY SEASON STARTS ☺

9TH-13TH – ACCESS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, SYDNEY

18TH – FRENHAM TT (1ST SOUTHERN EVENT)

27TH – ACCESS TRAINING DAY, NEW FOREST

28TH - 29TH – UK ACCESS NATIONALS, NEW FOREST

MAY:

16TH – CARSINGTON TT (2ND NORTHERN EVENT)

19TH – BUCKET COLLECTION SAINSBURY'S WATER LANE

19TH - 20TH – FRENHAM 2.4MR OPEN

30TH – BURGHFIELD TT (2ND SOUTHERN EVENT)

31ST – WOODLARKS GROUP VISIT

The Origin of Nautical Terms No.7

The Bitter End – not a seasonal reference to the wintry weather but as in “to the limits of one's efforts or to the last extremity”.

Captain Smith, in his publication *Seaman's Grammar*, 1627, is the earliest known citation of the phrase in print:

"A Bitter is but the turne of a Cable about the Bitts, and veare it out by little and little. And the Bitters end is that part of the Cable doth stay within board."

A bitt is a post fastened in the deck of a ship, for fastening cables and ropes. When a rope is played out to the bitter end, it means there is no more rope to be used. So if the water was deeper than anticipated the anchor rope would pay out to the bitter end . . . ooops!

Pond Life



"Are you sure 'Ladies First' is appropriate in this situation Lionel?"

Comments & Contributions

Our thanks to all the contributors to this issue. If you would like to contribute an article or photos please contact the editor: peter_etherton@btinternet.com

Tail Piece



A Spectacular Display of the Northern Lights