



SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE SAILING CLUB

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Good News Friday - 24th April



HEADLINES

- > Annual Flamank inter-fleet team racing Trophy TOMORROW
- > Mark 'Batman' Nichols and volunteers help but up bat boxes around Gailey
- > Please pick up your Membership Address booklets from the Club
- > Members needed for Powerboat Safety Course




← SATURDAY 16 MAY →

RYA
PUSH THE BOAT OUT


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Duties this weekend

	Event	OOD	Assistant OOD	Safety Boat Driver	Safety Crew
Saturday	Flamank Trophy	Tony Hotchkiss	Martin Warburton	James Croxford	
Sunday	Spring (7)	Will Croxford	Richard Booth	Steve Line	Michelle Evans
	Galley Supervisors	Galley Assistant	Galley Assistant	Bar Duty	Bar Duty
Saturday	Charlotte Davies	Claire Warburton			
Sunday	Martin Lawrie	Dawn Allen	Nicky Howard	Annette Fitzpatrick	Michelle Evans

Flamank Team Racing - Tomorrow

The briefing will be at 11:30am with the first race at 12:00pm.

Come along and see this year's Flamank Trophy, the club's annual interfleet team trophy. Sailors from each of the fleets will battle it out in a series of three boat team races, leading to a head to head final to determine the top fleet of 2015. Last year's event proved to be great fun for all and some close racing. The galley will be open for lunch from 11:30am so why not come down and watch the action!

Cheese Seller (Sailor) of the Month

Congrats to cheese auctioneer extraordinaire Phil Barnfield (ably assisted by crew Tim Crossley) who has shown the biggest improvement in results in recent weeks and has been judged to be Sailor of the Month by the Sailing Committee.

What's on during those long summer evenings?

The Weather is far too good to be watching telly
Gardening / washing the car / maybe some DIY?
Or would you rather be sailing at South Staffs.

Did you know that over the summer months
The club is open three evenings a week

From Tuesdays racing fleet,
Wednesdays learn to sail and plus 1 activity's and
Thursdays race training and coaching.

Sailing to suit everyone.

So come along and join in and really enjoy those long summer evenings on the water,
and in the bar creating the south staffs buzz!

See you on the water.

Mike Warbrick
Commodore

Safety Boat Course

There are still vacancies on the Safety Boat course which is being held on Thursday 21st May (theory,7-30pm ~9-30pm) and Saturday 23rd May (practical, 9.00am to 4.00pm) and we need a couple more to sign up for the course to be able to run so please sign up if you are interested.

Candidates need to be 16 or over, already hold a level 2 PB certificate and be able to attend both sessions. If you are interested in doing the course sign up on the poster on the noticeboard on the right hand side of the white board in the clubhouse or get in touch with Steve Finney.

Steve Finney
Powerboat Training Co-ordinator

All Fleet Training Session

The third all fleet training session of the season proved, once again, to be a great success. The session focussed up upwind sailing with Martin 'Spielberg' Evans filming boats tacking in the morning (and also his feet/fingers/floor of safety boat) with the footage reviewed and pointers given at lunch by Ed. There were 5 GP14's, 3 Larks, 2 Ok's, 1 Solo and 1 Topper so there was good cross fleet representation. Thanks to Ed Bradburn, Chris White and Martin Evans for running the session. The next on will be on 9th May and looking at mark rounding.



Going Batty

On Thursday 23rd the Canal and Rivers Trust visited to put up bat boxes around the reservoir with the help of willing Volunteers Mark 'Batman' and Robin (Harper), Steve Line, Brian Waymont and Roy Alexander who managed to get all 45 boxes up during the day. As part of the project there is going to be a special camera installed in the boathouse to record the bat activity and then in the Autumn, we are going to review the success of the project checking which, if any, of the boxes have been used.



Best of the Web

The **Staunton Harold @GP14sailing** Midland Bell event was last weekend with 16 boats taking part in all and 5 of those from South Staffs. Congrats #sssc sailors Sam Watson and Andy Hunter who came 2nd, Dodge and Sam Pickering who were 4th, Ian Willis and Keith Dutton in 5th, Derek Fleming and Cobby in 10th, Nick Brandon and Vicky Ford in 11th. You can read the write up in Yachts and Yachting [HERE](#).

Opportunity to be the best (virtual) sailor in the world! SailX is a multiplayer online racing simulation used by some of the world's best sailors, coaches and teams to train and teach the strategies and tactics of inshore sailboat racing. While it's not sailing, SailX is a credible and highly competitive testing ground for the racing sailor and they have just announced the first ever Virtual Sailing World Championship. The Virtual Sailing World Championship will start on Sun 26th April and conclude on 31st May with a Grand Final - a single regatta between the Top-30. Winner-takes-all. Entry is fully-open and free here: www.sailx.com

Following on from her visit last week, congrats to **Sarah Norbury** for being selected for the 420 Worlds and Europeans:



And finally...over the past few weeks we have been 'Naming and Shaming' the ruthless exploitation of your fellow sailors. This week it isn't the crew or the helm we feel sorry for, it's the boat! This poor GP14 wanted to carry on racing and wanted to feel the wind beneath its sails but its neglectful crew and helm were too busy chatting to put it back up right.....



If you ever have anything you want to share with other Club members or the world at large you can post directly [Facebook](#), tweet [@SSSCTweet](#) or email: publicity@southstaffssailingclub.co.uk

Membership Address Booklets

These are now available at the club, so could as many people as possible pick their copy up from the club in the next week or two?

New Members

The Learn to Sail Courses started last week and this means an influx of new faces. I am sure everyone remembers it can be quite daunting to become involved in an established club so if you see someone around that you do not recognise please introduce yourself and say hello.

The courses will run on a Wednesday evening although we will also be trying to encourage everyone to come down at the weekends and to social events. Given that Tuesday sailing is about to start, that is a perfect excuse to change your beer drinking night to a Wednesday (or more likely have two beer drinking nights), so why not come down and help create the buzzing and welcoming atmosphere that we do so well!

James Croxford

Membership Secretary

Duties 2015/16

The end of April is fast approaching - any duties not covered by then will be allocated. If you still haven't signed up for any or all of your duty commitment, please do so as soon as possible to avoid duty allocation (you will be responsible for fulfilling these or arranging for someone else to do them on your behalf).

Note: The above does not apply to new members joining the club via the Learn-to-Sail courses.

Please contact me via email: martinlichfield@gmail.com or mobile: 07805 056797 if you have any problems using Dutyman or are not clear on anything.

Martin Lichfield
Duty Co-ordinator

Spring Series Details

	Total Series Races	Races To Count
AM Series Races	10	5
A Series Races	10	5
B Series Races	9	4

Sunday 26th April

	Race No	Start Time
AM Race Series	7	11:30am
A Series Race	7	1.45pm
B Series Race	7	3:30pm

For more information on Club racing, click the following:

[Spring Series](#)

[Beginners Guide to Racing](#)

Good News Friday Submission Deadline

If you have anything for inclusion in Good News Friday **please submit it to publicity@southstaffssailingclub.co.uk** (this goes to Neil Hawkins and Michelle Evans) by 9pm the day before (e.g. **for next week, submission deadline is 9pm 29th April** for 30th April's newsletter), we cannot guarantee any items submitted after this will make that week's GNF. There is a publicity schedule so if you have anything you want adding on for promotion in the press, GNF or social media please let us know.