



SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE SAILING CLUB

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Good News Friday - 20th November



HEADLINES

- > Congrats to Mike and Liz Senior on winning the Lark Winter Champs
- > Junior Christmas Party - 5th December, 3pm book your place with Tim asap
- > New Annual Direct Debit option to pay your 2016 Membership
- > Mark Fleming stands down as GP14 Fleet Captain :(Thanks for 3 great years!



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◀ RACE RESULTS ▶



◀ FULL SAILING CALENDAR ▶



HERE

◀ JOIN THE FORUM ▶



IN ADDITION TO THE FACEBOOK PAGE, WE HAVE A MEMBERS ONLY FACEBOOK GROUP FOR POSTING PICS, CREWS & HELMS NEEDED, ASK QUESTIONS etc.

◀ WEATHER FORECAST ▶



HERE

Duties this weekend

	Event	OOD	Assistant OOD	Safety Boat Driver	Safety Crew
Sunday	Frostbite Race 10	Chris White	Nic Booth	Mike Senior	Liz Senior
	Galley Supervisor	Galley Assistant	Galley Assistant	Bar Duty	Bar Duty
Sunday	Martin Lichfield	Bev Wells	Volunteer Needed	Michelle Evans	Annette Fitzpatrick
Tuesday	-----	----	-----	Michelle Evans	Annette Fitzpatrick

Junior Christmas Party - 5th December, 3pm

2015 has been a bumper year for Junior training and the fun hasn't ended yet!

Come along on Saturday 5th December, catch up with friends and enjoy party games, party tea and a special (seasonal) guest.

This is your end of terms party so it would be great to see the Club house packed. It's only £3 per child plus a contribution to the tea.

To book your place please contact **Tim Coleshaw** (07817 154910) by 30th November at the latest.

South Staffs Social

The list for Christmas dinner will be up this weekend, it fills up fast so please get your name down asap if you want to come. If you aren't down at the Club and want your name adding get in touch via the publicity email or Club Facebook.

Musicians Needed for Martin's Musical Masterpiece!

The annual South Staffs Carol Singing and Mince Pie night is fast upon us so I hope you are all practicing your vocal exercises in preparation?!

As usual we need as many musicians as possible to help out by with the music. No matter what you play, or what your standard is, you will be welcomed into the fold by band conductor Martin Evans. Ideally you will need to be able to come along to a practice session or two before the main event (20th December) but we understand that these are pretty relaxed affairs and the bar usually gets opened!

So, whether you bang the drums or blow your own trumpet we need you!

All sheet music will be provided and it will be a lot of fun, promise. If you're interested collar Martin at the Club for more info or you can [email](#).

2016 Membership Renewals - New Annual Direct Debit Option

As the nights have drawn in and the weather is turning miserable, we are coming to the end of another fantastic year at South Staffs. As I am sure you are aware, entering a new calendar year also signifies that the membership fees for 2016 will soon be due. In addition to a one-off online payment, and the good old fashioned cheque, the General Committee have decided to introduce an annual direct debit option for payment of the membership fee.

I strongly encourage members to consider this payment option as it is simple, safe, and means one less thing to worry about during the aftermath of Christmas. Payment would be taken on 31st January however your official renewal date would be 1st January meaning a seamless membership and the ability to count all your January race results! This will also dramatically reduce paperwork and admin for both members and club officials so would be greatly appreciated.

Find out more about paying by direct debit [HERE](#).

James Croxford
Membership Secretary

GP14 Fleet Meeting - Review

It was the annual GP14 Fleet Meeting last weekend with Mark Fleming announcing he is stepping down as Fleet Captain. Mark has done a fantastic job over the last three years and his efforts have been greatly appreciated by old and new GP14 sailors. Well done Mark and thanks for all the emails! You can read Mark's summary of the meeting [HERE](#).

Barbados Entry Fee

For those that haven't entered yet for Barbados, the entry fee goes up after 30th November by \$150 per boat so get your entries in!

Neil Hawkins ([e-mail](#)) has offered to collate some entry fees and make one payment to hopefully reduce transaction charges. Please let him know by e-mail if you plan to enter in the next 2 weeks and he will send you the entry form and liaise with you to ensure all details and payments are sorted in time.

South Staffs on Tour

Lark Winter Champs at Staunton Harold SC were last weekend and South Staffs was represented in 7 out of the 17 boats! Well done to Mike and Liz Senior on the win, our results are below and you can read Mike Senior's write up [HERE](#).

1st	Mike Senior	Lizzie Senior
5th	Chris White	Chris Warburton
8th	James Goss	Emma Mackley
9th	Jon Woodward	(Ally Morish)
10th	Ross Kearney	(Chloe Felton)
13th	Dave Young	Nic Booth
15th	(Kate Merritt)	Karen Alexander

Coming up there are a few localish winter events that may be of interest to members:

- Blithfield Barrel: 6th Dec 2015, 10th Jan, 14th Feb 2016
- Draycote Dash: 21st & 22nd November
- Steve Nicholson Trophy (Northampton): 30th Jan 2016
- Tiger Trophy (Rutland): 6th & 7th Feb 2016

Don't forget, if you're taking part in any open events and want to let everyone know how you got on, email us at: publicity@southstaffssailingclub.co.uk

Best of the Web

The 2016 **OK** Dinghy World Championships will be in France next summer and the class have recently set up a web page for the event and added on the notice of race, more info [HERE](#).

Yachts & Yachting are offering a pair of free Gill sunglasses if you subscribe to 12 months (£37.95) by direct debit. View the offer [HERE](#).

As mentioned last week a new stock of **GP14 clothing** has been released, you can also get the kit personalised so you could have the Club name, your boat number etc. stitched under the GP14 logo. You can view the full range [HERE](#).

And finally...

Last Sunday provided too much material to only go with Capsize of the Week so here are a few South Staffs un-Awards to make you smile.

The Homer Simpson Doh! Award

For the second race on Sunday a couple of boats decided to launch from the opposite side of the jetty to the rest of us (and on the inside of the two jetties). There must have been a slight shift from when they put their boats in the water because the viewing gallery in the Club House were treated to some fun. As **Graham Bower** launched, a nonchalant **Lawrence Creaser** was lying back in his boat with his feet up waiting for the path to clear. They then watched as Graham sailed backwards and alongside them. As Graham drifted further backwards and towards the disability jetty Lawrence and **Andy (Hunter)** launched. They too mis-judged conditions and ended up being blown in the wrong direction and having to do an emergency tack with a panicked looking Andy protecting the P&B boat from hitting the jetty railing as a result. This put both boats on either side of the jetty with Graham inching closer to shore. The whole thing was great viewing and made standing there holding onto the boat waiting for the helm to rig it a lot less boring. Same again next week guys?!

Special mention also to **Andy Holmes**. Returning to South Staffs after a summer of mountain biking Andy looked like he'd lost none of his thirst for speed, just his ability to stop. As he was coming into the jetty there were two boats already moored up so he was aiming for the slot in front and closest to slipway. Andy came tearing in and seemed to be unable to turn the boat head to wind and looked destined to fly straight up the slip way in what would have been a fabulous recreation of a moment of South Staffs folklore. Thankfully for Andy's boat a catcher was on hand on the jetty to assist and the crisis was averted.

The Bear Grylls No Fear Award

This inaugural award is going to **Dave Morgan** and **Richard Hodgkins**. This pair officially have no fear! They are never put off by conditions and were excited to get out there last weekend and enjoy the 40 mph gusts. Wherever you were on the water all you could hear were whoops of delight as they planed down the reaches along with laughter at every close capsize. The No Fear attitude is definitely paying off with this pair with a handicap now in the late 1200s they are improving with every race.

The If At First You Don't Succeed Award

Repeating the same action and expecting a different result can be seen as both the definition of insanity and as an admirable application of persistence. On Sunday **Lisa Carpenter** and **Steve Horton** were hoping that persistence would pay off but it didn't quite work out that way.

It was pretty gusty on Sunday so for this inexperienced pair of helms to give it a go was admirable. In the first race Steve helmed with Lisa as crew and they enjoyed one chilly swim. However for the second race they swapped over and Lisa was steering the good ship topsy turvy. They then attempted to break the South Staffs record for most capsizes in half an hour with 6! The highlight was in the bar later when Lisa was asking advice on how you capsize a boat. I was a little confused as they seemed to have that nailed but it turned out that on one occasion Steve fell out of the boat (he blamed Lisa's "crazy driving") and Lisa was sailing off on her own ironically unable to capsize the boat.

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

Autumn & Winter Social Programme

- Tue 24th Nov - Tuesday Night Dancing - FREE
- Fri 27th Nov - Wine Tasting - Price £9
- Sat 5th Dec - Junior Christmas Party
- Tue 8th Dec - Tuesday Night Dancing - FREE
- Sun 20th Dec - Christmas Dinner - Price TBC (but cheap!)
- Tue 22nd Dec - Carol Singing & Mince Pies - FREE

Frostbite Series Details

	Total Races in Series	Races to Qualify
AM Race Series	12	6
A Series Race	14	7
B Series Race	14	7

Sunday 22nd November

	Race No	Start Time
AM Race Series	8	11:00
A Series Race	10	1:15
B Series Pursuit	10	2:45

For more information click the following:

[Frostbite Series](#)

[Pursuit Race information](#)

[Beginners Guide to Racing](#)

Good News Friday Submission Deadline

If you have anything for inclusion in Good News Friday **please submit it to publicity@southstaffsailingclub.co.uk** (this goes to Neil Hawkins and Michelle Evans) by 9pm the day before (e.g. **for next week, submission deadline is 9pm 26th November** for 27th November'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.