

NSSA is a non-profit, voluntary organisation that runs a programme of sailing courses and activities, at Filby Sailing Centre, for children and adults of all abilities. Charles Winton-Hare commented: “Our goal is to teach young people to sail. We’re delighted to have been appointed an OnBoard centre. We’re working with these youngsters from Filby and we have others who come regularly from Cobham School in Great Yarmouth. Apart from teaching the youngsters we offer a variety of RYA adult dinghy catering from beginner to advanced levels. We have Optimists, Toppers, Splashes, Lasers, RS Visions, Leaders, and Wayfarers.

“Membership is open to all over the age of eight years, which is the minimum age for application to any of our youth courses. Membership is currently £35.00 a child a year and covers administration costs, regular newsletters, and allows members to attend any of our youth courses, subject to availability,” he explained.



(Youngsters start off in pairs in Optimist dinghies before graduating to single-handed sailing then on to the larger Toppers)

Holly Hancock now has three OnBoard centres on her patch, Horning, Whitlingham and now Filby and another is due to be signed up by the autumn. “Lot’s of schools are keen to get involved and are virtually pestering me to sign up. It’s all a matter of getting the centres signed up to OnBoard and then ensuring they don’t get swamped and that they have sufficient resources to meet what is a growing demand,” said Holly.



(Charles instructs a youngster in the intricacies of rigging a topper)

To find out more about RYA OnBoard in Norfolk contact Holly Hancock Tel: 01692 670539. Mobile: 07926 396418. E-mail: hollyonboard@btinternet.com
Run by the RYA, OnBoard is a grass roots programme, which introduces sailing and windsurfing to young people aged 8 to 18, through schools, youth groups and training centres. Over a ten-year period OnBoard aims to introduce a minimum of 500,000 children to sailing and windsurfing in the UK, converting over 10% of them into regular participants. So far it’s nicely on track. For more information about how to get involved visit www.rya.org.uk or www.ruob.co.uk