

RYA EAST NEWS

December 2008

KEEPING EASTERN REGION SAILORS INFORMED



FOR SALE **SIX TOPPERS**

RYA EAST IS LOOKING FOR A GOOD HOME FOR A FLEET OF SIX TOPPERS.

Well maintained to a highly safe standard. They are being replaced with a new fleet.

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RYA EAST

BOATING INTO THE FUTURE

RYA EAST FORUM **HAVEN PORTS YACHT CLUB** **SUFFOLK YACHT HARBOUR** **LEVINGTON**

Saturday, March 21, 2009

Speakers include:

Rod Carr, OBE, Chief Executive, RYA
Richard Langford, Chairman, RYA
Gus Lewis, Head of Legal RYA

NEW FEATURE

Choice of afternoon sessions that turn the spotlight on Club Management and Development, Racing and Cruising

Cost £25, includes lunch, tea, coffee

Advance tickets only
Ticket applications by 7 March, 2009

Details on RYA East website at www.ryaeast.org or contact

Peter Woods on 01621 853015 or email: pwandsw@btopenworld.com

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NEW REGIONAL WEBSITE LAUNCHED

www.ryaeast.org

Thanks to the combined efforts of web constructor Colin Shead of Sunrise Web Design and regional webmaster Gerry Askham we have a new, bright and easy to navigate website.

Below is a screen grab of the new RYA East home page. Some sections, such as Training are still being developed.

News items are featured on the front page with latest at the top in date order. As they reach the bottom of the page are they moved to the News Archive. This will be cleared of the oldest articles periodically.

When you visit the website don't forget to have a look at our new News Snippets section. Shorter or less dramatic news stories are posted here again in

date order with the latest at the top. As they pass their sell-by date they get switched to the archive and then later on are ditched altogether.

Some stories are important, but not strong enough to make "the front page", these are spotlighted in the Web Site Latest box on the right. With any of these articles clicking on *more...* will open a pdf file in a new window to give you the complete article and pictures.

Under Regional Organisation you'll find out who's who at region. Each member of the regional committee is featured with picture, biographical note and contact details. Making contact with your representative on the regional committee couldn't be easier.

We've introduced a range of new

services, including live weather reports and forecasts at a variety of east coast locations, tidal data essential for passage planning, and that all-important wind speed and direction!

An important component of the site is the Events section. This is a form of calendar to which you can send in details of events, conferences, training courses and regattas. It's a service we are keen to see widely used so that major clashes of events in the region can be avoided. We want every club with a website to link with us. Contact the webmaster through the site and let him have the details, and add us to your list of links.

Put us in your favourites listing too to ensure you keep up to date with what's happening in RYA East.

GET CONNECTED TO www.ryaeast.org FOR THE LATEST BOATING NEWS IN THE EAST



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[Weather](#) | [Tides](#) | [Pilotage](#) | [Clubs & Associations](#) | [Links](#)

Latest News



BBC Sports Personality of the Year The 2008 BBC Sports Personality of the Year takes place at the Liverpool Echo Arena on Sunday, 14 December and voting will take place by phone only during the live show. The number to call to vote for Ben Ainslie will be revealed on the programme after 7pm, so make sure you tune in on the night! [more >>>](#)



Aaron's Two Minute Trophy Canvey Island Yacht Club member Aaron Lowther (15) won the senior class in the Honda RYA Youth RIB Championship at the national final held at the recent Southampton Boat Show. He was presented with his prize at a recent ceremony at the club. [more >>>](#)



Proposed Alcohol Limits

The Government wants to bring in drink-drive alcohol limits for yachtsmen. The regulations are posted on both the RYA and BMF websites: www.rya.org.uk or www.britishmarine.co.uk. There is a 12-week consultation period. [more >>>](#)



Seago Recall A reminder for yachtsmen in that product recall has been issued by SEAGO Yachting Ltd concerning a defect in some 150 and 175 Newton lifejackets, which could result in serious injury. Faulty Lifejackets will be replaced. Full details can be found on their [website](#).



They've Won £50,000 !! Horning Sailing Club won their £50,000 from the Big Lottery Fund People's Millions. Thanks to all who helped by voting last Tuesday. [full story >>>](#)

[News Snippets ...](#)

[News Archive ...](#)

Please Note: The links to the more detailed news items require the Adobe Acrobat reader to be installed. If you have difficulty reading these items please refer to our [help](#) page.

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Site updated - 19 December 2008

Web Site Latest

'Boating into the Future' Forum
Order your tickets now for the RYA East 'Boating into the Future' Forum, March 21, 2009 to avoid disappointment

[More...](#)

RYA East Instructors Conference
To be held on March 15th at Bradwell Outdoors

[More...](#)

Training Page

See our new training pages for anything related to training in the Eastern Region

[More...](#)

Blackwater Sailing Club

BSC have signed up to RYA OnBoard

[More...](#)

Waldringfield Sailing Club

Olympic double silver medallist sailor Joe Glanfield joined young prize winners at a recent prize giving supper.

[More...](#)

HONDA RIB CHAMPION AARON THRILLS CLUB SUPPORTERS

Island Yacht Club, Canvey, Essex, member Aaron Lowther (15) won the senior class in the Honda RYA Youth RIB Championship at the national final held at the recent Southampton Boat Show. His prize was a 4.5 metre Ribcraft RIB, complete with Honda four-stroke 50hp outboard, built-in Icom VHF radio set and Indespension road trailer, worth £11,000. Unfortunately he didn't get to keep the RIB as he won it on behalf of his club!

First he took charge of the boat from RYA event organiser Keith Ellison (pic 1) and two minutes later handed the boat over to IYC Commodore Bill French, watched by RYA Motor Boat Events Manager Andrew Norton (pic 2), over 80 family and friends in the club braved a cold blustery wind at Canvey Point on Saturday November 29 to see the hand-over and to watch Aaron display some of the skills he showed in the national final (pic 3).



MORE CHANCES TO COMPETE

The Honda RYA Youth RIB Championship (HYR) is being expanded in the Eastern Region to give more youngsters a crack at the Southampton Boat Show national final.

Three Honda RIB kits have been won in the region in recent years; two of them in an unprecedented first this year.

The 2009 final is being staged at Blackwater Sailing Club on the River Blackwater at Heybridge, near Maldon, on Saturday, 4 July. Prior to that event three area heats are being organised.

One will be at Paxton Lakes SC, near St Neots, there will be one at Alton

Water near Ipswich and the third will be at Island YC, Canvey.

Clubs within a 30 mile radius of each of these sites are being encouraged to send youngsters along. Winners, seconds and thirds in each of the two classes will go to the final. The two class winners will represent us at the national final.

Full details of the competition and the dates of the area heats will be announced in the New Year. Clubs interested in taking part should contact RYA East Communicator, Garth Cooper by E-mail on garthword@btinternet.com.



John Ramuz, for many years the Regional Committee representative for North-West Norfolk Sailing Association (NWNESA) has retired. John (75) was a past commodore and for many years president of Blakeney Sailing Club, as well as a past chairman of the Eastern Region. A keen winter shooter, he sails a Najad 332 out of Levington.

Minutes of the Eastern Regional Committee meeting of December 6, 2008 can be downloaded from the regional website at http://www.ryaeast.org/new_site/minutes.shtml



Junior members of Horning SC pose with Robert Hancock (left) principal of the club's training centre and ITV Anglia News reporter Sacha Williams with the £50,000 cheque they won from the Big Lottery People's Fund.

Training Centre principal Robert Hancock said: "This grant will enable us to get a floating classroom for use when teaching, which will provide the better facilities that are desperately needed. The Broad that they regularly use for training is 20 minutes away from the main Clubhouse, they face a cold and wet journey back after capsizing.

"It will allow them to have a dry teaching area, disabled access, and somewhere for children to change and warm up. We hope to have it ready for our new season in May."

SEASON KICKS OFF WITH A VISIT TO ALLY-PALLY FOR DINGHY SHOW



There's something for dinghy sailors of all ages and abilities; the latest boats, kit, unique coaching sessions and a wealth of advice. In all, the show covers some 11,000 sq metres of exhibits, practical activity and lecture areas.

Book your tickets before the show and you will automatically be entered in a free prize draw to win a fantastic RS-Tera dinghy, courtesy of LDC Racing Sailboats.

If you are coming as part of a group why not get a few extra people to come with you. If you put together the biggest advanced booking group you'll be in with a chance of winning a Suzuki 2.5 hp outboard engine for your club.

Jenny Curry, event manager said: "We have some great new features lined up for the 2009 show, including a dedicated fitness area in the RYA Hall and a wonderful display of International 14s from the 1900s to today, you can see just how dinghies have changed over the years.

"So whether you're an aspiring dinghy sailor or have years of experience, the show really has something for everyone."

From the latest dinghy designs and innovations to kit and equipment, as well as specialist coaching sessions and advice from some of the leading dinghy experts in the world, the RYA Volvo Dinghy Show is an essential for any sailor. On top of this there are cutting edge demos and lectures from leading

The 2009 sailing season kicks off with the RYA Volvo Dinghy Show at Alexandra Palace, London on the weekend of March 7 and 8. The new title for the world's premier dinghy show reflects the close relationship between the RYA and Volvo with the announcement that Volvo Car UK is the new title sponsor for the Dinghy Show for the next three years.

figures in the dinghy sailing world.

Among ground breaking new features is a special fitness area in the RYA Hall, where you can pit your fitness against Olympic sailors and get information on how to get yourself fit for the new season; including sets of exercises that will help you increase your enjoyment of dinghy sailing and improve your performance.

And this year even the grub's going to be better with new catering facilities offering fantastic food from around the world.

Events already booked for the Volvo Main Stage include visual presentations on the new dinghy racing rules from the RYA. Paul Goodison will be sharing some of his tips for sailing faster; then there's "fast Forward" a fascinating look at the history and development of the International 14 dinghy since its inception in 1906 to the boats we see today.

At last year's Dinghy Show, Blackwater Sailing Club, at Heybridge, near Maldon won the raffle draw prize of a fabulous club safety package consisting of a Rigidflex

Newmatic 360m safety boat, Suzuki 15 hp outboard on a Mersea Trailers T-frame road trailer, and worth over £3,500! It's well worth buying a ticket!

Worried about getting your new boat home? Volvo is putting on a demonstration of trailing and car topping, covering the latest regulations and techniques involved with transporting your boat in the UK and abroad.

Save money and beat the queues by buying your tickets in advance. Tickets cost just £10.50 for adults / £9.00 for RYA mem-



bers. Youngsters go free on Sunday, child tickets on Saturday cost only £5.00 (5-16 years) / £4.00 for child RYA members.

For groups over 10 people prices are £9.00 adults, £4.00 child. Tickets will also be available on the door at £12.50 for adults and £6.25 for children.

Book your tickets now by calling the ticket hotline on 0845 345 0424 and be in with a chance of winning the RS-Tera. Advance ticket hotline closes Tuesday 3rd March at 5pm.

"It's a must for all dinghy sailors. I'll be there with some of the other sailors from the 2008 Olympic squad," said Joe Glanfield, Skandia Team GBR Silver medallist at the 2008 Olympic Games. Another Olympian who's signed up to be there is Paul Goodison.





BLACKWATER SAILING CLUB COMES ONBOARD

Blackwater Sailing Club is the latest Eastern Region sailing club to sign up to the RYA OnBoard scheme. The club received its certificate and plaque from RYA OnBoard Development Officer for South Essex, Steve Jones on Saturday, December 6.

The club is an RYA Training Centre and owns a large freshwater lake behind its large boat park, where young members first learn to sail; as well as a purpose-built classroom for dry-land instruction. Cadets range from eight to 18 and the club's annual Cadet Week attracts over 120 youngsters every year.

Under the OnBoard scheme the club will get help in offering sail taster sessions to local school children who have never sailed before. The club will work closely with the OnBoard hub at Essex Outdoors, based at Bradwell.

Club Commodore Michael Foster said: "We're delighted to have been chosen as an OnBoard club. We've already established close links with a local school, the Plume School at Maldon. We're a Volvo Champion Club so we're doing things properly; we've got 900 adult members and 180 Cadets and we run two training schools during the summer.

"Our facilities allow us to teach youngsters in complete safety on our lake behind the club house before taking them onto the tidal waters of the Blackwater. They start in Optimists and

progress to Toppers and on to the wide range of classes we race –including Wayfarers, Fireballs, Lasers, 505s, 420s Toppers and Sprites (the Club's own class)," he added.

Steve Jones said: "We're delighted to have signed up Blackwater Sailing Club to the scheme, which has been successful in giving youngsters across the country the opportunity to have a go.

"So far, in the three years the scheme has been running we've given 160,000 children a taste of the sport, and 4,000 of those are now sailing regularly. If boating is to continue to grow then we must catch them early and encourage them to stay with the sport. We want them to become lifelong sailors."

During the sailing season the club runs several different groups to cater for all levels from beginner right through to advanced; each group having its own Lead Instructor. Students are given the opportunity to take RYA qualifications.

PICTURED TOP:

Steve Jones, OnBoard Development Officer for Essex, with Blackwater Sailing Club Commodore Michael Foster proudly holding the OnBoard plaque. On the right is the club's Senior Instructor, Ewan Harris, who is also a teacher at the Plume School in Maldon, the club's first OnBoard partner.

SAFETY AT SEA EPIRB UPDATE

Offshore sailors who carry either an on-vessel EPIRB or a transportable Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) are reminded that from end January 2009 the 121.2/243 MHz waveband ceases to be monitored as an alert frequency.

After this date, beacons transmitting on this frequency will only be used for localised homing, so for the most part they are redundant.

RYA Cruising Manager Stuart Carruthers explained: "Nowadays modern beacons transmitting on 406 MHz offer many advantages over analogue 121.5/243 MHz beacons.

"With a 406 MHz beacon, the position of the distress can be relayed to rescue services more quickly, more reliably and with greater accuracy. These will not be affected by the change.

"However, some of the older devices transmit on 121.5/243 MHz only and it is these that will become redundant as a means of emergency alert following the decision to discontinue monitoring this frequency.

"The important thing is that people check their beacons and make sure that they are not redundant. From a safety point of view, this is paramount," he added.

The frequency on which your EPIRB transmits should be clearly marked on the casing so it's an easy matter to check. Cospas-Sarsat, the organization that runs the satellite system supporting these alert devices, has decided to cease satellite processing following recognition of the limitations of the 121.5/243 MHz beacons and the superior capabilities of the 406 MHz alerting system.

In addition, only about one alert out of every fifty on the analogue system was a genuine distress. This has a significant effect on search and rescue resources and was a major factor in the decision to discontinue the service.

However, 121.5/243 will continue to provide a short-range homing signal once an initial call for assistance has been made and rescue services are in range of the casualty.

For further information the MCA's Marine Guidance Notice gives you a full overview of the changes.

EASTERN REGION VOLUNTEERS AMONG RYA AWARD WINNERS



Don Rayson from Winchmore Hill, North London, Frank Reed from Colchester, Essex, Gordon Harris from Cransford, near Woodbridge, Suffolk, and Peter and Denise Grant from Earsham, near Bungay, Suffolk were presented with one of the boating community's most prestigious awards, a Royal Yachting Association (RYA) Lifetime Commitment Community Award by HRH the Princess Royal, President of the RYA at the organisation's annual awards ceremony held at London's One Great George Street.

A total of 57 awards were presented to winners hailing from across the UK from as far afield as the Isle of Man to Plymouth.

Peter and Denise (top right) were put forward for the award by Beccles Amateur Sailing Club (BASC) where they started the club's sailing school in 1961, at a time when the club was desperate for new members. Since then BASC has seen a steady influx of new members, 60 per cent of them largely as a result of their encouragement.

The club's citation read: "Over the years they have been known for their calmness and patience. They explain and demonstrate in a clear and understanding manner and they are highly respected by pupils, parents and fellow club members alike. A truly lovely couple."

Don Rayson (second right) was put forward for the award by Fishers Green Sailing Club (FGSC), where he has been a long serving member of the club committee. The club's citation read: "It is not sufficiently appreciated how much sailing clubs like FGSC rely on the skills, talents and knowledge of a few members who are prepared to give up their time to apply them to the running of the organisation. From the day he joined FGSC, Don has done all that has asked of him and more. There are many who are too willing to join a sailing club, sail, socialise, and leave the work of running

Lifetime Commitment – average is 35 years of service. Average age of volunteers is 67. Oldest that we know of is 86.

Outstanding contribution – average length of service 10 years. Average age 52.

Youth Category – Youngest volunteer is 15.

the club to others. Don has proved himself to be anything but one of those. Even after illness he continued to work tirelessly for the benefit of FGSC and its members."

Frank Reed (Centre right) was put forward for the award jointly by the Royal Ocean Racing Club (RORC) and West Mersea Yacht Club (WMYC). Frank was a key member of the RORC race management team on the water. Apart from being a race officer he was also an RORC measurer. At club level he was always happy to share his vast experience and help out younger race officers. He represented the East Coast on the LHS Council and the GBR IRC Owners' Association, and he remains an honorary member. A recent stroke has curtailed his many activities but he's still actively dispensing advice.

Gordon Harris (Bottom right) was put forward for the award by Waldringfield Sailing Club (WSC), where he was responsible for setting up formal Cadet class and junior training at the club. Under his encouragement WSC Cadet class sailors have become highly successful on both the national and world circuits.

The Club's citation for Gordon reads: "He was instrumental in giving the club a proper club house and a base for sailing and is the official arbiter of Rules infringements. Gordon established the cadre of course setters and guidelines. His achievements both on and off the water have been immense and with

continued next page



BRAVE CHARLY IS OUR YOUNG SAILOR OF THE YEAR

Charlotte (Charly) Sissons from Essendine, near Peterborough will pick up one of youth sailing's most prestigious awards in the New Year, the RYA Eastern Regional Young Sailor of the Year Award 2008, in recognition of her determination to succeed in the face of a traumatic life-change.

On January 10th at the PSP London Boat Show, Charly will join 12 other RYA Regional YSOTY Award winners from all over the UK for a VIP tour of the show and the eagerly anticipated awards ceremony at which they will receive their trophy.

Charly Sissons (15) had her life turned upside down when she went blind at the beginning of August. A dedicated and enthusiastic windsurfer she is a member of the East Zone windsurf squad, a member of Rutland Water Windsurf Club and also Alton Water Wipeouts T15 club, whom she joined when she was picked for the squad at the beginning of the season. More recently she's joined Rutland Sailability.

From the outset she has refused to give in to her disability, going back to renew her studies in preparation for GCEs at Robert Manning College, Bourne, Lincs, where she works with a teaching assistant (she gets frustrated when teachers use graphic illustrations, especially in one of her favourite subjects, geography). She plans to go ahead with her full range of subjects.

On the water Charly has not let her disability slow down her progress, if anything it's made her even more determined to succeed. As an example, she took part in the final of the regional inter-club T15 competition and came fourth in her class out of 10 competitors,



using a radio link with a friend (who had broken her wrist and couldn't compete) to guide her round the course from the start boat.

At the national windsurf finals she again competed for her team Alton Water Wipeouts but this time with a fellow team member acting as her buddy to guide her round the course.

On her home waters of Rutland and using the same radio link technique she now sails Access 303 dinghies, and Challenger Trimarans solo; she's also learnt to drive one of the rescue ribs and at the time of writing had been checked out on a Windrider tri and was hoping to go solo.

In the short time she was active in the Zone Squad she had progressed to trials on the RSX board and normally competes on the Bic Techno and Starboard 6.8 m boards.

The RYA Eastern Regional Committee nominated Charly for the Raymarine Young Sailor of the Year Award because of her strength and positive attitude at a time of extreme adversity and because she is a shining example to other youngsters of how to turn disaster into triumph.

Broads Authority bows to pressure

Thanks to pressure from boating bodies on the Broads, led by the NSBA, the projected nine per cent increase in Broads private boats tolls have been reduced to six per cent.

Tolls on small boats, such as Mirrors, Toppers and Optimists used by clubs largely for youth training, have been cut

from £43.60 to £30.10 in a bid to increase youth participation in the sport. Large yachts and motorboats will pay an average increase of £12.54 a year to £222.61. To meet the shortfall in the tolls the BA is threatening cuts in navigation services at the same time as it moves into plush new headquarters.

continued from previous page

Volunteer Awards

out his contribution WSC would be a very different club in terms of the physical environment and its ethos of training and competitiveness as well as fairness on the water."

The RYA Awards and Community Awards acknowledge the importance of volunteers within the sailing and boating communities. They recognise the outstanding contributions, time, effort and experience individuals have made to making it possible for others to enjoy boating and sailing, from establishing clubs, committee participation, to boat maintenance and training.

HRH the Princess Royal presented all the winners with a commemorative medallion and certificate last Friday, at a lunch prior to the Association's AGM. She commented: "It is really important to make volunteers feel valued for what they do. Often they just get up and get on with things and these awards are just one way to recognise the work these people do."

NEW FACES AT NSBA

Mike Evans, a past RYA chairman and Secretary General of ISAF, has stepped down as chairman of Norfolk and Suffolk Boating Association. New Chairman is Mark Wells, and Mike who has had been chairman for seven years becomes the new President.

Mike was largely responsible for growing the organisation from an inter-club regatta organiser to represent over 46 Broads and North Norfolk sailing and yacht clubs, at local and national level. He has led the fight to prevent the Broads becoming an over-regulated, bureaucratic theme park.

SHERINGHAM SHOAL WINDFARM

Britain's fourth largest wind farm has received the go-ahead from the Government. The 108-turbine 315 MW (178,000 home potential supply) Sheringham Shoal wind farm being built by Scira Offshore Energy, will be sited just inside the 12-mile territorial limit NNE of Sheringham on the North Norfolk coast. It will cover 14 sq miles.

KEEP UP TO DATE WITH WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE REGION.

There have been a number of significant changes to the management of the RYA Eastern Region over the past year. Among these changes is the development of a new website, which is at the heart of the region's communication policy.

We have stopped sending out bulky packages such as the minutes of the regional committee meetings via snail-mail and we're using electronic communications for most general mailings. For several years now we've issued this publication via eMail and it's proving a success.

This is all aimed at making us more efficient and further improving our regional as well as inter-club communications.

However, to be able to keep you better informed we need

up-to-date eMail addresses!

Ideally we would like each club to notify us of their official eNews recipient, a good way is to set up a standing eMail address to "secretary@(name of club and ISP)", so if the secretary changes at least the club will still get the all-important news.

We'd also like club flag officers and or committee members to receive personal copies of RYA East News. And there is no reason at all why personal members shouldn't apply as well. We're already eMailing REN to a growing number of personal members in the region.

And principals and SI's of RYA recognised training centres can also keep up to date with the region by letting us have their eMail details as well.

Just drop an eMail to regional

communicator Garth Cooper on garthword@btinternet.com with any details you may wish to reveal, just the subject line "add me to the RYA East eMail list" will suffice.

WHO'S WHO AT RYA EAST

Chairman: Chris Edwards	01621 868834
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Secretary: Jim Ensom	01206 386197
Treasurer: Peter Woods	01621 853015
Chairman Training Panel: Terry Corner	01473 730970
Windsurf Liaison and T15 co-ordinator: Graham Colam	01733 222119
Sailability Regional Organiser: David Wilding	01223 843769
High Performance Manager: Paul Wren	07909 994642
Dinghy Fleet Hire Manager: Laurie Mason	01702 292581
Regional Race Management Training Co-ordinator: Edwin Buckley	01621 783480
Regional Rules Advisor: Trevor Lewis	01603 621126
Environmental Co-ordinator: Chris Edwards	01621 868834
Regional Communicator: Garth Cooper	01362 699195
Regional Development Officer: Robbie Bell	07747 563298
RYA Council Member: Chris Edwards	