

# SailTime

A photograph of a sailboat with a white, red, and blue sail on a body of water. A person in a blue life vest and black wetsuit is standing in the water next to the boat. The background shows a grassy shore with trees. The entire image is framed by a decorative border of autumn leaves.

Nov 2021

## *IN THIS EDITION...*

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# Commodore's Thoughts

## COMMITTEE REPORT 2021

**A gradual, but steady emergence is probably the best way to describe the year. By the end of the summer season in October the facilities are fully open, a reduced racing programme has been completed, and participation has improved since the early months. The dinghy and powerboat training programmes got up to speed early on and the strong demand has worked the instructor team hard throughout the year, whatever the weather threw at them!**

Membership numbers are at an all-time high, with an increasing interest in paddleboarding and kayaking. The Club has bought three new SUPS to add to the fleet of craft for use by the members. The new on-line booking system, set up during the height of the pandemic, has proved its worth and is now our normal booking operations.

Ensuring the safety of us all when enjoying water sports is the top priority for the Committee. The new path from the Robinson building to the boat park is now complete, and will make it a lot easier to move outboard motors between storage and the boats. The path includes a Bio-Security washdown area so that craft returning from another location can be cleansed before going on the reservoir and our thanks to the Army Welfare Fund for their generous funding support.

As COVID restrictions have reduced, the orange Rigidflexes are back in service and the blue safety boat is principally for Instructor use. Early next season there will be a big programme to ensure that members are capable and confident in helming or crewing the safety boats when carrying out their duties. Dinghy sailing, for all abilities, and racing training will follow when the weather is a bit warmer. A defibrillator has been purchased with help from Yorkshire Water and the NYCC Locality Budget, and will be installed on the exterior of the Clubhouse as a public asset for users of the reservoir. Over the winter period we are hopeful the Army Divers will be able to complete their inspection of the buoys and ground tackle so that refurbishment can take place.

The Pandemic Lockdown has had a significant impact on the Infrastructure Project planned to add disabled changing, increase the size of the existing changing rooms, and add a training room. Normal funding mechanisms have been on hold and costs have gone up substantially, for example by 30% for the Boat Park path. Delay has been inevitable, but the intention is to push things forward in 2022. Negotiations of a new lease with Yorkshire Water, a key requirement to get funding, are nearing completion and are not a cause for concern.

As the season closes there are changes to the Committee membership. Nick Hatch has retired from the Company Secretary and Committee members position, as has Jonathan Stephenson who looked after the Safety and Safeguarding area. The Club is very grateful for their dedication and efforts over the last few years. Merrin Froggett and Philip Cosson have been co-opted onto the Committee prior to nomination at the AGM in FEB 22.

The success of the Club for everybody depends on the selfless efforts of its members; we are all volunteers. So, it is a real pleasure that John Knopp has received an RYA Community Award - Lifetime Commitment this year. Congratulations and well deserved !

There will be more detail of the highlights in 2021, and more about the plans for 2022 elsewhere in this edition of SailTime. Use of the reservoir will continue throughout the winter, though there are no formally organised activities, and there is no rostered safety boat. Let's look forward to the next season and the opportunity for us all to enjoy our water-sports at Thornton Steward Sailing Club.



*by Phil Gamlen*





# SAILING PROGRAMME 2022

*By Annabelle LePage*

*Sailing Secretary.*

As I sit to write this it's dark outside, the fire is burning brightly in the stove and time spent messing about in boats already seems a long time ago. Not that I managed to get out in my own boat much this year – I had a rubbish season!! But plenty of people did manage to get out and enjoy the reservoir, either for the first time in our training sessions, pottering about in a boat or SUP, or enjoying a spot of racing.

In fact, when I look back at how much has been achieved, it almost looks (on paper) like a 'normal' season. Both TSSC and CG-SC ran sail training courses – with the CG-SC youth weeks in the school holidays being particularly successful. There's been a programme of Wednesday evening racing and monthly Regattas; these may not have been as well supported as in previous years but still attracted 20 participants. Club membership has blossomed and lots of people have enjoyed cruising, paddling – and picnicking! Indeed the 3 new TSSC SUPs have been really popular and it's great to see this relatively new sport taking off. With a non-sailing husband and daughter, I was delighted to find something that finally tempted them both out on the water this year!

But already plans are being drawn up for 2022. Let's hope it really will be more 'normal' next year. Although we've actually got plans for a lot more activity than 'normal', so perhaps I should say let's hope it will be a really exciting 'new normal'.

So how is the 2022 offering shaping up? With fantastic input from the 'Sail Planning Group' and Instructor team, here's what we're working on:



## New sailors

- RYA Level 1 and 2 courses to get adults/families started in sailing.
- Youth courses for beginners and improvers – run by CGSC in the school holidays.
- NEW! 'Happy Helper' bookable sessions for new or rusty sailors - help get people out on the water after completing a course, re-learn old ropes etc.

## Improvers

- NEW! 'Happy Helper' sessions for one-to-one help to develop skills
- NEW! 'Kickstart' racing – fun sessions to bring new entrants into the racing scene with coaching sessions and buddy support from more experienced sailors.

## Power Boat

- NEW! RYA Power Boat 2 – Direct Assessments (1 day) and full course (2 days) – the formal qualification for our Safety Boat helms
- Safety Boat familiarisation – a starter session which all adult members are asked to complete before carrying out Safety Boat duties.

## Racing

- NEW! Weekly Sunday race series (replacing monthly Regattas)
- Wednesday Sunset handicap racing
- NEW! Race Officer training – learn how to set a good course, run a race, calculate results.
- NEW! Kick-start racing (see above) – to include sessions on racing rules, tactics, improving your starts etc.

Yes, it's ambitious. Probably the busiest programme we've had for many years. But it's not going to happen without lots of people helping! We're going to need more than the usual (very dedicated) band of volunteers, so the load is shared and we have more people actively taking part both on and off the water.

So please let me know by e-mailing me [here](#) if you can help make this vision happen. Your club needs YOU!

In particular:

Paddleboarders – how about some activities to bring SUPers together? Ideas and volunteers to organise activities are WANTED!!

Experienced racers – could you lead a Kick-start session to enthuse new racers and build racing skills? Or buddy a new racer in a double hander?

Number crunchers - could you help collate and record race results?

Socialites! Could you help organise and deliver some social activities? Water based, family fun, shore-based winter warmers etc

And on that note, I'll end by wishing you a very Happy Christmas and look forward to seeing you at the February AGM/prize-giving/social (don't forget to vote for your preferences on the website poll [here](#)).



# Membership renewals....

Yes, that time will soon be upon us!

But, firstly a warm welcome to the many new members who have joined us during the 2021 season, including family members and those that have joined the club to enjoy Paddle-boarding or Kayaking as an alternative to sailing....We hope you and your families will be members of the club for many years to come.

As we move towards the end of the 2021 sailing season, our membership year also ends on Dec 31st, so renewals will fall due as from 1st Jan 2022.



## 2022 membership rates

Our membership renewal rates for the 2022 season are as shown to the right >>>>

For next year the committee have applied a small increase to fees in a bid to offset the expected rise in running costs of the club. Having remained static for 3 years, we feel our new fee scale still represents very good value and is one of the lowest sailing club membership fees in the area.

Membership Class	2022
Adult Membership	£110.00
Family Membership	£145.00
Social membership	£20.00
Junior/Cadet Membership	£35.00
Boat Berth Rental	£30.00
Yacht Boat Membership	£30.00

## There is however good news!

We will be retaining our popular "£10 - Early renewal discount scheme"\*\*\*

....for all renewals completed up to Dec 31st 2021.

(\*\* Applies to Single Adult and Family Membership renewals only)



Membership renewals and boat berth rentals can be completed through our on-line Membermojo portal - Membermojo click link [here](#), or you can also access the renewal link through the club website Join us page [here](#).

All renewals are now available for next year.

Discounts where applicable are deducted from your renewal fee automatically at the checkout stage.....

**So grab a discount and renew now before midnight on 31st Dec 2021!**



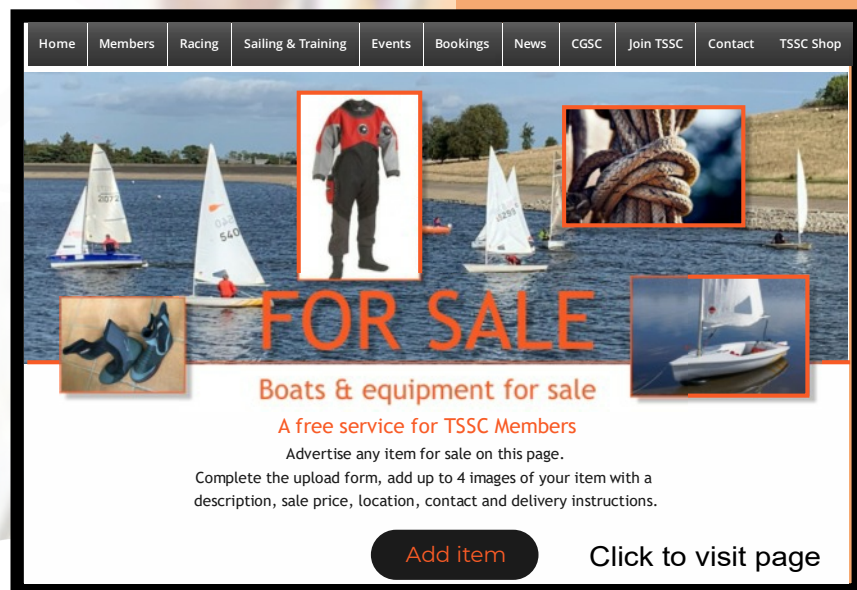
Commodore's Cup winner

*Mike Smith*  
*Membership Sec*



# SAIL IT • SORT IT • SELL IT!

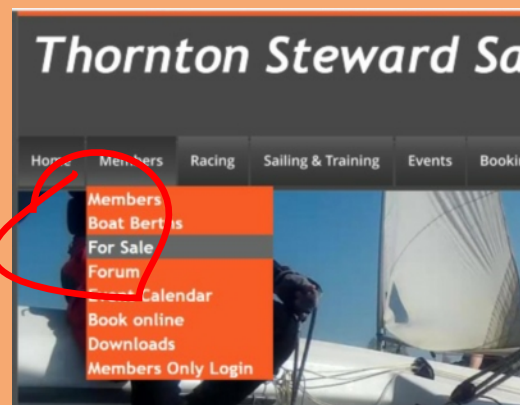
A new free service for club members....We now have a For Sale page on the club website for Boats, Sailing Equipment and Sailwear.... or any related item that members may wish to sell.



Items can be published to the page, by completing a simple on-line "For Sale" Form.

Adverts may include up to 5 images per entry. Click the **Add Item** button on the For Sale page, to be linked to an upload form, where you can describe the craft, equipment or accessory you wish to sell:

- Describe your item
- Set a price
- State delivery
- Add Contact
- Upload images



Visit the For Sale page from the members tab.  
Or....get started straight away?

Click [Add item](#) to add an item for sale now!

## Have you tried our other More website features?

### Webshop



### Racing Results




### Paddleboarding



### AGM members poll



### Photo Gallery





# BOSUN'S CHAIR

Our boats have been well used this year and we have received positive feedback for the new layout in the Robinson Building, having tried to create a safe working environment whereby members can get the sails and equipment in and out easily. May we ask members not to store personal kit in the Robinson Building please.



So far this year there have been minimal damage to the boats and we'd like to thank those members who have informed us of any damages.....*If we don't know about it we can't fix it!*

The day book has been a great help in keeping us informed of who has used what equipment, so thanks for keeping the book up to date.

If members still have boats berthed on their road trolleys in the boat park, as well as launch trolleys, please put their road trolley behind the Robinson Building.

Keeping road trolleys on the boat park blocks the aisles and makes it difficult for other members to get boats out.

We found a large mast abandoned on the boat park so we have put it on the eastern side of the Robinson Building for safe keeping.

We will shortly be getting the boats ready for winter by taking the wheels off the trolleys and turning the following boats upside down; Fusions, Toppers and Oppi's.

You can still hire these boats from the booking system as we will leave the wheels in Robinson, but please return equipment as you find it.

Members should be reminded that there is a pump in Robinson to pump up the tyres on the trolleys.... it is there for you to use

*“ We don't appreciate being left messages for us to pump up the tyres on a boat you have used! ”*

There remains some routine maintenance to do on the club boats during the winter season, to keep everything ship-shape and in Bristol fashion!



*Bob & Syd - Bosuns*





During the autumn the new access ramp from the Robinson building to the boat park has been completed.

This will make the handling of engines, boats and equipment safer and easier for all.

See a gallery of images taken throughout the build by our on-site early morning riser, photographer and dog walker -

**Lesley Zimmerman!**

Fantastic sunrises - Ed



All set for next season.....  
our new access ramp has been completed

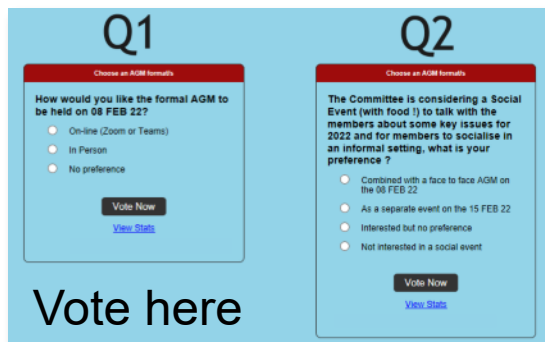


# Notification of AGM 2022

The club's Annual General Meeting will be held on the evening of Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022, either via a face-to-face meeting or via a TEAMS on-line "meeting".

We are conducting a poll of members to decide whether the social activity, that is usually integrated into the AGM, should become a separate social event.....So here's your chance to voice an opinion, by completing our website poll on your preferred format.

Click below to access poll and vote



**Q1**  
Choose an AGM format  
How would you like the formal AGM to be held on 08 FEB 22?  
☐ On-line (Zoom or Teams)  
☐ In Person  
☐ No preference  
[Vote Now](#)  
[View Stats](#)

**Q2**  
Choose an AGM format  
The Committee is considering a Social Event (with food!) to talk with the members about some key issues for 2022 and for members to socialise in an informal setting, what is your preference?  
☐ Combined with a face to face AGM on the 08 FEB 22  
☐ As a separate event on the 15 FEB 22  
☐ Interested but no preference  
☐ Not interested in a social event  
[Vote Now](#)  
[View Stats](#)

**Vote here**



## Statutory Notice:

Members are entitled to request items be added to the AGM agenda by e-mailing the Club Secretary [here](#)  
No later than 6 weeks prior to the AGM i.e. by 28 December 2021.

If the committee agrees to add these items, they will be included on the agenda which will be issued to members by 9<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Any member unable to attend the AGM or virtual meeting may nominate another member to vote on his/her behalf by applying for a proxy vote to the Club Secretary [here](#)

All completed proxy vote forms must be returned to the Club Secretary [here](#) not later than 48 hours before the meeting.

Can you help?

We have several vacancies on the working committee to be filled and would welcome any nominations or offers to join us:

- **Committee member with responsibility for Safety and Safeguarding**
- **Committee members**

If you have a particular skill to bring to the club, we would love to hear from you, all assistance accepted!

The committee meets around 10 times per year and it's understood not everybody can attend all meetings, so no pressure!

Use the nomination form link to propose yourself or another member to join the committee from 2022. >>>>



**Thornton Steward Sailing Club**  
**AGM**  
Nomination form for appointment to the committee  
AGM 8th Feb 2022

Please nominate a member (or yourself) for any position on the working committee using the form below.  
Use this form for up to 3 nominations (multiple forms maybe sent). Save and send this nomination by e-mail to the club secretary.  
secretary@thornton-steward-sailing-club.co.uk  
in time for the AGM on 08 Feb 2022. Voting will be completed as part of our AGM meeting (or virtual online)

**Click to nominate**

**NOMINATION 1** I nominate the following person for the position listed below  
Add nominees name here

**NOMINATION 2** I nominate the following person for the position listed below  
Add nominees name here

**NOMINATION 3** I nominate the following person for the position listed below  
Add nominees name here

Click the save icon in your browser window to save a copy of this document.  
Send this copy attached to an e-mail to the Club secretary:  
secretary@thornton-steward-sailing-club.co.uk [Send](#)



# RYA volunteer awards 2021

Congratulations to John Knopp, our chief instructor for CGSC and TSSC, who was recently awarded a lifetime commitment award by the RYA for his outstanding contributions to sailing.

John has just returned from the ceremony in London, where a number of volunteers were honoured for their services to the sport and their clubs.

Dave Strain - Interim CEO commented....

“For the past 9 years I have been privileged to be part of and witness the annual RYA Volunteer Award Ceremony and each year the contribution from all recipients is simply outstanding.

This year is no different. Each one of you listed in this booklet has been nominated by your fellow volunteers, club members and members of the boating community in appreciation of your dedication which has exceeded expectations.

We understand that this year has been extremely challenging, and we have been grateful to see activity restarting and people getting back afloat, none of which would be possible without the support and expertise of volunteers. It is my pleasure to acknowledge and celebrate your work through these awards. Thank you.”



## JOHN KNOPP

**Catterick Garrison Sailing Club and Thornton Stewart Sailing Club**



John has made an outstanding contribution to sailing throughout his life, sailing from an early age and throughout his time in the Army. Amongst other appointments he was the Secretary for the Army Sailing Association Germany, and Principal of the British Roermond Sailing Club. Since his retirement from the Army, he has given 25 years of absolute dedication to members of the Thornton Stewart Sailing Club and Catterick Garrison Sailing Club.

He has built and maintained the relationship between the two clubs, which not only share the same water, but also the club house, facilities and fleet. As a Senior Instructor, First Aider and Powerboat Instructor and Assessor, he has trained soldiers, families and children. An outstanding role model with boundless energy, he has developed junior instructors, coaching them to improve their skills and motivating them.

Diligent and action-orientated, John uses his wealth of knowledge, experience and connections to support charitable requests to buy new equipment and maintain the existing fleet. He often assists the Bosuns with maintenance when he is not instructing.

*Well done John!*