

SailTime

Mar 2023

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Eddie was as surprised as anybody!



Commodore's Thoughts

By Phil Gamlen



It is that in-between time of the year. Not enough warmth in the few hours of daylight to tempt any but the very hardy onto the water.....

Perhaps, not even enough to build up an anticipation of enthusiasm. Instead, time to Plan and Prepare. To be ready.

Our Committee and the Bosuns have their plan and in the next couple of months we have to undertake:-

- Grounds maintenance around the Clubhouse. Mainly weed-ing; painting and tidying up,
- Sorting out the trailer park. In particular disposing of zombie trailers and the proliferation of unused tyres.
- Reviewing the Boat Park and Berths. Checking berth allocation and occupancy. Dealing with the encroaching marram grass in the access lanes.
- On the water, replacing the buoys and their ground tackle, and setting up the new pontoon.
- Repairing the damage caused by the leak over the Ladies Changing Room.

It would be very much appreciated if Members could help with these preparations. See the dates for Working Parties in [page 2](#) of this edition so please dig out your working clothes and tools !

Specifically, if there is anyone with plastering skills, we would really love a hand with the leak repair, if so drop us an [email](#).

It is hoped a contractor will be replacing the fence and some gates around the Clubhouse before the season gets underway. As your Committee, our role is to ensure that the Club and its assets are in good shape and continue to be developed, ensuring that TSSC is a safe and welcoming place for water sports.

With that ambition in mind the last year has seen:-

- The signing of a new, 30-year lease with Yorkshire Water. The completion of the YW/TSSC Beyond Nature Management Plan for Thornton Steward Reservoir.
- The publication of a new edition of the Club Handbook and Standard Operating Procedures
- A new access road through to the boat park, courtesy of Yorkshire Water.
- Installed new furniture and audio-visual equipment for training, courtesy of the Army Lived Experience Innovation Fund.
- Arranged a cleaner for the Clubhouse interior.
- Held a successful social evening and trophy presentation at the end of the summer season.
- All this and more is recounted in the 2022 SailTime newsletters.

The new season is rushing towards us. I do hope we can make 2023 another memorable year for the Club. I wish you all an enjoyable season.

....Look forward to welcoming you all again 2023!

“ As your Committee, our role is to ensure that the Club and its assets are in good shape and continue to be developed. ”



Our new access road has been completed, making life easier for all!



An excellent job by Yorkshire Water!



A walking time, rather than a sailing time!

AROUND THE CLUB I

• News from around the club • Tuck Shop • Keeping ship us shape •

By GRAHAM WHITTALL



TUCK SHOP

I've agreed to take over the running of the Tuck-shop, so would welcome any suggestions from members regarding any variations / different food and drinks to try. I intend to have fresh milk available in the season and also decaf tea and coffee.

There will be a sheet for suggestions with the payment book to mark down your purchases.... or folk can send me an email to grahamwhittall@gmail.com with requests.

It may be a good opportunity to remind everyone that they need to PAY for the system to work! Lesley, our last tuck shopkeeper told me that a load of sweets disappeared without any money being put into the honesty box at the end of last season.

MERRIN REMINDS US....



SCRUB THE DECKS



The clubhouse was sparkling last season when the monthly cleaning service started.

You might bump into Emma at the club but she'll do her best to work around your need for changing facilities if that happens.

This doesn't absolve members from the usual care of the premises, so please continue to wash your own mugs, take home the rubbish and recycling bags when the club has been busy and refresh towels and tea towels etc....

It's a cleaning service not a tidy service!

“Graham says... Don't forget you do need to pay for Tuck Shop items!”

A great suggestion was made at our recent committee meeting..... To set up a prepaid option to buy Tuck shop credit. A few members were always finding themselves short of change or cash on a sailing day to pay for their Tuck shop purchases, then ending up trying to remember to make a lump sum payment into the cash jar at a later time.

“TuckCred” was born!

James Proctor suggested he would prefer to buy advance Vouchers for - £10 ahead of visiting the club, safe in the knowledge that he didn't need to remember cash, but could still enjoy a snack fix!

Graham will add a note book to jot down any snacks taken, allocating a page per person, who can then spend up to their “pre paid credit voucher limit”

A novel idea, so we're giving it a go!

You'll soon get a note through our regular e mail news service explaining how to buy a “Tuck-Cred” through our membership portal.



AROUND THE CLUB II

Opening Work Days Sat 18th & Sun 26th March

WORK DAYS - SOUP DAYS!

Volunteers required to set the club up for the new season on:

**Sat March 18th &
Sunday 26th March
From 10:00am each day
Look out for regular reminders!**

There will be a number of tasks to be completed in preparation for the reopening of the clubhouse.

If you're available and can lend a helping hand a Wheelbarrow a spade or some elbow grease, we would welcome any assistance on either days.

We will be tidying up and removing around 90+ old car tyres for disposal, so if you know anyone who is wanting to re-purpose old tyres let us know and....If you want another tyre to prop your boat, do that on or before Saturday 18th March please.



The weeds around the site will be attacked to clear access routes around the boat park and up to the clubhouse, whilst a boat berth audit will be conducted too, ensuring all craft are on the right berth and registered to the correct owners.

Any boats or trailers remaining in an unpaid berth will also be removed.

Please check your membership record is up to date and correctly marked.

What's in it for you?

We're hoping to make this a sociable day and the club will be laying on Hot Soup....Maybe a cake? for willing participants, to meet up with other fellow members and make an afternoon of getting the club ready for 2023



If you can help please contact the committee [here](#) and let us know you're up for it.... Thanks.

WATER WATER EVERYWHERE!

Following the cold snap in late February, the ceiling of the ladies changing room suffered a burst pipe and water damage.

Plastic piping expanded with frost and caused a broken joint, resulting in significant water damage to the ceiling.

Calling all Plasterers? Can anybody help to restore the plaster board and skim the ceiling to make good?

Just another job to be sorted in time for the season!



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Welcome Back!

A big thanks to all members that have renewed for the 2023 season!

By Mike Smith



As I write today the club has over 100 paid memberships, comprising more than 190 individual members as part of a family or group membership. This represents more than 80% renewal rate at this time of the year....Unfortunately a few members leave their renewals until just before our sailing season begins, but I'm hopeful we will again reach the levels of membership that we have been enjoying over the last few years by the time our programme of events begin in late March.

The on-line automation of the membership renewal process has significantly increased our membership numbers at an early point within our membership year, with many members taking advantage of a small discounted renewal completed before 1st January....Early renewal helps the club with budgeting and managing our resources more efficiently.

Membermojo...Our system, also allows for regular e-mail communication to the members, with the ability to send personalised messages seamlessly, keeping everybody up to date. I hope you're all receiving notifications, copies of SailTime and other regular messages.

E mail address change....Have you updated your record?

Our membership system holds all information relating to your membership of the club, this includes your contact details, boat berth numbers, craft insurance policy numbers and expiry dates for easy reference. We are now introducing a new feature to allow the addition to your member record a designated emergency contact name and number. I. C. E.

In Case of Emergency

In the event that the club needs to contact a family member or a nominated emergency contact you can now add these details to your member's record.

We also recommend these details are added as a contact ICE in your mobile.

Updating your ICE details on line can be done by visiting your MYMembermojo page, scrolling to the relevant section, adding a name and number, clicking save to update your record.

Is your boat insurance cover up to date?

A good opportunity to check you're covered for the 2023 sailing season. Our sponsor Visicover offers competitive Dinghy, Canoe, Kayak and SUP insurance.

It is a condition of membership that all members using their own craft must be fully insured with a public indemnity value of at least £5M



Keep your membership records up to date! Add I C E contact details



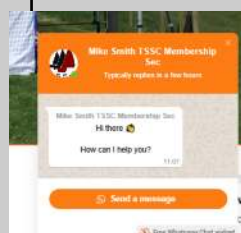
Visit our Sponsor for a competitive boat insurance quotation

The club operates an existing Whatsapp group of hardened ~~criminals~~ members that use this group as a way of communicating in real time and for keeping up to date about weather conditions on site, who's coming out to play and news from around the club!

If you wish to be added to the **SAILING** Whatsapp group, Please send your request to the membership secretary via our new WhatsApp button to be found on our



Contact Us page of the club website. Mike will then add your name to the Sailing group.... Posting rules apply, see our safeguarding officer's advice later in this issue.



VISIT MY MEMBERMOJO to update your record

BOSUN'S CHAIR

Working hard to ensure all equipment at the club is as user-friendly as possible!

By Syd Nye & Bob Scorer



Stranded Trailers remain an issue. If you're storing a road trailer behind the clubhouse it must be clearly marked and identified with your name. Un-marked trailers will be scrapped otherwise!

At the end of the season we "winterised" the club boats by taking the wheels off, de-kitting and tying down. We also dried and checked the sails, dagger boards and rudders and serviced where necessary. Once the better weather materialises all club boats will be restored to their summer sailing condition ready for use.

May we ask that anyone considering using a Wanderer check with us first please. Last year one was damaged by a member going out in weather beyond their capability, luckily only the boat was hurt. The Wanderers are manufactured in fibre glass which means they are more easily damaged than the single-handers. We will have the boat repaired and ready to go for when the season starts again.

By removing some of the lower overhanging branches of the trees at the rear of the club, we have made the area more accessible for the new compound fence creating a bigger, clearer and more user friendly trailer park. To that end could we ask that once the new season starts and the new fence has been installed that all road trailers are to be stored in this area...rather than on the boat park. The road trailers are generally longer and can often obstruct the route to the water's edge.

You may notice that some of the Marram Grass has been cut right down making a smooth surface for transiting to boat park, if any willing souls are seeking a bit of exercise we would all appreciate anyone having a go at removing the rest, it will make moving the boats onto the water so much easier.

Having worked in conjunction with the Garrison Bosuns, John Knopp and Kirk Lester and gratefully assisted by Graham Whittall over the winter, we've tried to make everything as member friendly as we can for the new season! However, if there is something amiss or not right with any of the club boats or equipment please let us know, put it in the Day Book, because if we don't know about it we can't fix it.

Over the past few months we have regularly put members boats back on trailers and trolley's, re-attached and tightened securing lines and replaced covers that were flapping in the wind following the storms, may we suggest you check your boats before the season starts so that you sail carefree from the first day of the new season.



Syd Says.....

Last year one or two members commented that the Honda 10hp was difficult to start, it is a quirk of Hondas that if the throttle is not exactly in the right place it will not start. The little triangle on the twist grip has to line up exactly with the rear of the image of the tortoise on the tiller, if it's a mm out it won't start, so if after a couple of pulls the engine hasn't started change the twist grip a bit. We will highlight the triangle to make it easier to see.



** GOOD TIP FOR STARTING THE HONDA 10HP ENGINE **



Prize Giving December 2022

Were you a winner? Our 2022 trophy presentation evening followed by an interesting talk by Trevor Thurlow, was very well received! Check out the full list of winners >>>

A great evening!

30th November was selected to hold our first ever social & prize giving event to celebrate the successes (and failures!) achieved during the sailing season of 2022. We booked out the function and bar area of the Countryman's Inn-Hunton, recently bought out and now operating as a new community pub. A lovely warm and welcoming atmosphere greeted around 40 members attending..... all looking forward to learn if they had triumphed in any of the prize giving categories.

Our soon to be outgoing Sailing Secretary - Annabelle, began the presentation with an overall summary of the events that took place during our '22 sailing season, including our hotly contested "Sunset" racing series held on Wednesdays evenings through the spring and summer together with a round up of our Sunday racing events and other highlights of the year.

Some notable winners were presented with 1 or more cups and trophies. Our congratulations go to all of the members that took part in the 2022 events.

Special awards were presented to selected members for their work and dedication to the smooth running of the club, Eddie Fearnside, our "go to maintenance Guru" who's services will be sorely missed when Eddie and Di move to their new home Scotland.

Syd Nye for his outstanding support of the safety boat training scheme.

Our retiring Treasurer, Rob Wyatt was soundly applauded for his long serving service as a Committee Member, Treasurer, RYA trainee and sometimes fund-raiser over the years.

Of course the evening would be complete without the 2 most important trophies of the night: The fishes Trophy, awarded to Ruth Pink for a very sinking feeling!

Mike Smith maintained his crown and achieved the tortoise trophy again in 2022, for the most races NOT won!

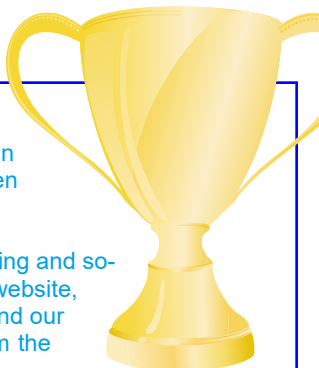
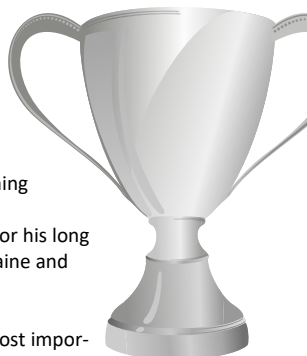
As an added bonus to the evening's proceedings, our

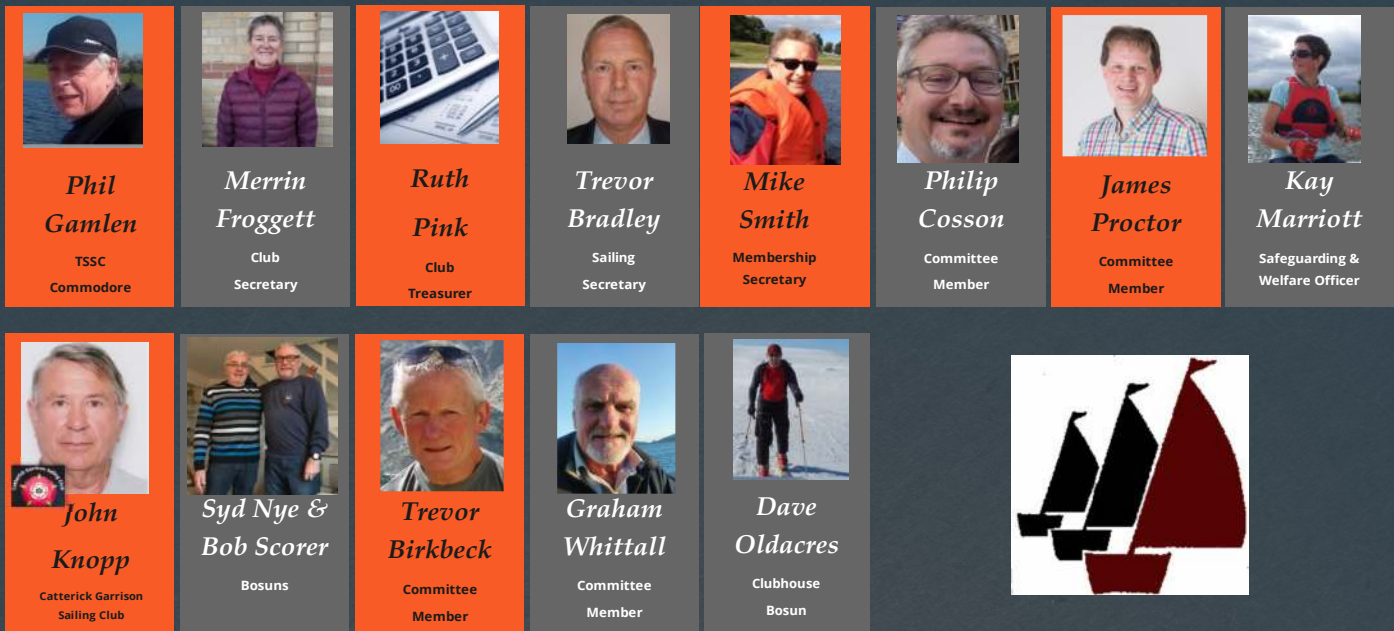
Trevor Bradley has now picked up the reins (or should that be main sheet?) as Sailing Secretary, but I'm handing over by providing an outline of our 2023 programme which has been developed over the past few months.

More information on Training, Racing and social events can be found on the website, including a racing event guide and our pocket foldable programme from the downloads page here.

A big thanks to Dan and Lisa at The Countryman's Inn, Hunton for the welcome and superb supper for our prize giving evening. They are still busy renovating and aren't able to offer regular meals yet, but keep an eye on their special events page [here](#)...

[Facebook link: The Countryman's Inn - A community owned pub.](#)





CLASS OF '23!

Following our successful virtual AGM held on 8th Feb, our committee team was appointed for a further 12 months, with a few changes and fresh faces this year!
Meet our new committee members below



Trevor Bradley

I learnt to sail in an Enterprise dinghy at Thornton Steward Sailing Club in 1990. At that time I was tutored on the Racing Rules so that I could compete in the Joint Services Team Racing as part of the Army Team.

In 1998 I bought my first Laser 2000 and soon afterwards starting competing on the national circuit in order to gain experience in sailing an asymmetric. Since 2000 I have been on the 2000 Class Association committee initially as chairman and since 2007 as Honorary President.

I enjoy coaching and I am always happy to advise on how to improve sailing technique or tactical use of the racing rules.

Sailing Secretary



James Proctor

I have been sailing since I was four years only on the sea at Saltburn with my grandad, in a Drascome and Sunday Times Signet.

From that age, I released that messing around with boats was incredible. I progressed on to sailing in-land at Scaling Dam Sail Club, sailing a Pico. At the same time, my Grandad gave me the Sunday Times Signet, which he built at night classes in the 1960's and I still sail (on nice days) at the club.

I have previously sat on the SDSC committee and ran the safety boat scheme, so I hope to bring some ideas to the club. You'll find me always messing around with boats or having a coffee, so feel free to chat!

Committee Member



Ruth Pink

I have no formal sailing qualifications, but spent many summers crewing our family Enterprise, and launching her from the beach into the rolling waves of the north sea, so spent a lot of time being wet!

Thornton Steward is generally a lot calmer, and I have yet to be tipped into the drink although I was very proud to receive last year's award for the most memorable moment, by completing a race whilst sinking (having failed to put the bung in the club fusion). Having attended some of Trevor's briefings on racing rules, I'm hoping to do rather better this year.

Club Treasurer

<https://www.thornton-steward-sailingclub.co.uk/>

Sailing Sec & Programme

Events • Racing • Training • Power Boat • Sailing



By Annabelle LePage & Trevor Bradley



Casual Sailing/SUPing

Although everyone is free to use the water at anytime of year during daylight hours, we're kicking off the 2023 programme with two Sundays dedicated to 'Casual Sailing' on Sunday 19th and 26th March. People will be around at the club for TSSC Safety Boat training on 19th and the Work Party takes place on the 26th.....So why not come down to meet other members and take the opportunity to dust off the cover and get out on the water early season while others are around? And ideally join the Work Party on the 26th too!

There's also an ambition to provide some 'Supported sailing' cover once a month on Saturdays where an experienced member or Dinghy Instructor is on hand to offer friendly support and advice to help people get on the water, potentially with Safety Boat cover as well if there are enough people around to help launch and recover it. These sessions will be particularly useful to new members, recent graduates from RYA 1 & 2 courses, people with rusty skills, or anyone who wants to use the water on a Saturday with company. More info and dates to follow.

Racing

We're continuing the format of weekly Wednesday evening Sunset series (26th April – 6th Sept) and weekly Sunday racing (23rd April – 22nd October). However there will be a pause in the Sunday racing over the summer holidays as attendance in this period was very low last year. The weekly racing will be divided into Spring, Summer and Autumn series with 50% of races to count towards your overall result. We also have one-off race days for the Commodore's Trophy & Junior Trophy, Laser and Fusion championships, together with the charity event - 'Bart's Bash' for the [Andrew Simpson foundation](#). Please see the [Racing page](#) on the website and [Pop Up Racing Calendar](#) for more details.



If you're nervous about joining in with the racing scene please don't worry, just come along! The racers are a friendly bunch and it's definitely the more the merrier. It's an excellent way to improve your boat handling skills. And there's trophies for the best capsize and most races sailed but not won (the Tortoise trophy, currently coveted by Mike Smith), so everyone has a chance of winning something!

Running races needs Race Officers. We're relying on volunteers again and if you want to refresh your skills or learn the ropes (that should be flags), then RO training is planned in March and April. It will start with an evening online session on 22nd March by Mark Meadows, followed by opportunities to practice on Sundays under expert supervision. Similar training last year was very well received.

Safety Boat

Safety Boat cover will again be provided all day on Sundays and Wednesday evenings through the active season. There may be some additional cover on Saturdays linked to the 'supported sailing' mentioned above. It relies on volunteers [booking a duty online](#). You need to have completed the TSSC Safety Boat course (and ideally the RYA Powerboat 2 qualification). **All adult members are obliged to carry out at least 2 safety boat duties per year as a condition of membership.** We'd like to widen the cover to more Saturdays if we can, but that relies on building a larger pool of Helms than we currently have, so please please sign up for training.

Training



With thanks to the amazing Instructor teams at TSSC and Catterick Garrison SC, we have a great range of power boat and sailing courses on offer this year. Two RYA Level 1 and 2 course for beginner sailors, a full programme of RYA Youth Stages in the school holidays for beginners to advanced sailors, a large number of dates for TSSC Safety Boat training and potential for RYA Powerboat Level 2 and RYA Safety Boat courses later in the season. For more information on powerboat courses see James Proctor's section [here](#), and for training overall the website [Training page](#). To book any course please go to our booking page and follow links [here](#).

And that's it from me.....

A huge thanks to everyone who has supported the programme during my tenure as Sailing Secretary especially the extremely talented Dinghy and Powerboat instructors who give up so much of their time selflessly, the Bosuns for keeping our fleet ship shape and Bristol fashion, and Mike Smith for the huge amount of work he puts in to managing the website, booking system and duties which keep our programme running....

Lastly, thanks to everyone who's volunteered for duties or just provided a helping hand. Trevor has a great base of people to work with and he'll do a fantastic job driving forward progress at TSSC.



Looking forward to getting on the water in 2023!

Powerboat Chit-Chat

“We hope to continue in the same vein as last year, getting club members up to speed with Powerboat skills.”

By James Proctor

Well, the season is due to start again soon, and we hope to continue in the same vein as last year, getting club members up to speed with Powerboat skills.

The PB instructors already have a Continued Professional Development day arranged with an external instructor on the 25th Feb which will help us keep up with the latest approaches and techniques to running a course.

Although our team can run Powerboat Level 1 and Level 2 courses along with Safety Boat courses, we will start the season off by running more TSSC Safety Boat courses.

Q What is a TSSC Safety Boat course, you may be wondering?

A The course is aimed at everyone, whether you have never driven powerboats or have been driving a powerboat at Thornton Steward for a while.

Our TSSC course isn't certified by the RYA but gives you a good introduction and whilst it's called a TSSC Safety Boat course, it covers the whole day and what to expect from a safety boat duty. This includes opening up the club and clubhouse, preparing the boat, your responsibilities, launching and recovering, basic driving of a powerboat and some simple rescue techniques.

All this is aimed at giving you confidence and showing you the best practices to use during a SB duty. An essential job is a crew, as they need to know how to carry out the rescue. The helm gets the boat into the correct position.

Q Do you know how to throw a throw line, tie a bow line, or use an oar to right an upturned boat?

A These are just a few of the things we will cover.

Watch the theory presentation at <https://vimeo.com/526654130> to learn more.

So hopefully now you know a bit about the course you will realise why it's even more critical to attend. We should have firm dates soon, but we are looking at two course dates in March and two in April.

We will let all members know as soon as possible, so that you can book a place through the booking system.

Check the events page for a full list of all Safety Boat and other event dates [here](#).

Welcome to our Power Boat Instructors:

- James Proctor
- (Chief Instructor)
- Robert Wyatt
- John Knopp
- Syd Nye
- Mark Meadows
- Roger Anstay
- Kirk Lester



James Proctor - Profile

I realised how much I liked instructing and passing on my knowledge, so 12 years ago became a powerboat instructor and did my day skipper and yacht master theory. I even won a prize as the best student in my year for my Yacht master course.

Around the same time, I did my advanced powerboat course, as I was working at the University of Hull as a Project Manager in IT, but I became friendly with the Dive Team and realised they often needed a helm.

After that I moved to TSSC and became a Dinghy Instructor and, last year, a Senior Instructor and hope to pass on my knowledge and experience to a wide range of students.

TSSC Safety Boat Familiarisation Days		
Sat 10.00 - 4.00		4-Mar
Sat 10.00 - 4.00		11-Mar
Sun 10.00 - 4.00		19-Mar
Sun 10.00 - 4.00		1-Apr
Sun 10.00 - 4.00		8-Apr
Sat 10.00 - 4.00		15-Apr
Sat 10.00 - 4.00		22-Apr
Sat 10.00 - 4.00		29-Apr

Safety Boat • Safety First •

Safety Boat • Safety First •

Safeguarding

“ Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility ”

By Kay Marriott



I am in the process of updating the Club's Safeguarding policy and procedures and you will be hearing a lot from me about this as we get ready for the start of the sailing season.

It is easy to think 'I just sail my own boat so that's nothing to do with me' but Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility so it is important that you are aware of the dos and don'ts. Safeguarding can feel onerous, something else to be aware of in a world already full of rules, but it protects adults as well as children and so it is as much about you as the children / young people.

As detailed on [page 4](#), the use of the Club's WhatsApp Group is open to all members.

Use of the Group is subject to the following rules:

- Behaviour in the group reflects the Club's reputation and it is everyone's responsibility to uphold this.
- The content of everything posted in the Group must be appropriate for all who may read or access it and must not be upsetting or offensive to anyone. This includes any links forwarded or shared from any other sources.
- The content should be limited to sailing and club business – e.g. saying if you will be at the club on a certain day to encourage buddy sailing, information about the weather and water conditions, any issues noticed in the boat park, sailing events.
- For children (those under 18 years of age) to be members of the Group their parent/guardian must give written consent to the Club Welfare Officer.
- No adult member should communicate online outside the Group with any child member, other than those administering a course / other event which will be subject to separate rules and guidance.
- Any photographs posted in the Group should be general - e.g. showing activities on the water - and should not feature any children in such a way that they can be identified by anyone who does not already know them. References to children should be by their first name only.

Any queries about this or any other Safeguarding/Welfare matter please contact me.
Kay Marriott,

TSSC Welfare Officer
07930 340649
kaymarriott1@gmail.com
or
welfare@thornton-steward-sailingclub.co.uk



Our safeguarding policies can be downloaded from the members are on our [website](#)



Keeping us all safe and enjoying our club!



Are you paying too much for boat insurance?

- ✓ Get a quote and buy online
- ✓ Tailor make your policy to your needs
- ✓ Update cover online whenever you want
- ✓ Interest free instalments
- ✓ Agreed value or market value options
- ✓ Discounts for experience, boat security etc

For an instant quote visit our website today www.visicover.com