

GWSC Flying Fifteen Fleet Newsletter May 5th 2021

GWSC year to date

Its great to be back on the water after lockdown 3 and clearly we're not the only one that thinks so. So far the turnout for the Flying 15 fleet has been fantastic - with 9 Flying 15's out for the last of the Sunday restart series. Its great too to welcome new fleet members Tom and Ruth.. Please say Hi and introduce yourself if you see them in the boat park (in a socially distanced way of course!)

Club Duties

Good to see the fleet represented in the duty rosters across Sunday and Wednesday racing plus open meetings. Racing only happens with volunteers for committee and safety/mark layers – please all help share the load. . You can sign up for duties through duty man or contact the office and they will help.

The club also hosts a number of open meetings during the year and each fleet has been allocated an open meeting – we have the RS200/RS400/RS800 Inlands on 2/3 October and more details of roles to follow when it is open on DutyMan.

Race Results – Spring Restart Series and Easter Salver

The results for the Spring Restart series and the Easter Salver are in and are as follows:

Easter Salver (18th April - 3 races with 2 to count)

4 competitors
1st 3794 Dave Philpott.

Spring Restart Series (April 2021 – 9 races with 4 to count)

14 competitors
1st 4042 Geoff Floyd and Colin Gilbert
2nd 4012 Jonathon and Trish Knight
Handicap 3853 Peter Wolstenholme and Cameron Torbett

SSI changes

Please read the SSI's. As lockdown eases, the rules for the Sunday series are likely to change from one series to the next and the latest SSIs and NoRs are at <https://webcollect.org.uk/grafham/event/sunday-club-racing-1>

Upcoming Events

There is a Flying Fifteen fixtures list at <https://flying15.org.uk/fixtures-and-results/fixture-list> and the next few events are:

22 nd and 23 rd May	Burton Flying 15 Open	Contact : Malcolm Hall, BSC FF Fleet Captain Email: all.hall47@btinternet.com Mobile: 07759 294969
12 th and 13 th June	Flying 15/Merlin Rocket Grafham Open Classic and Silver Championships, with separate starts	Will take place at the same time as the
12 th and 13 th June	Classic and Silver Inland Championships GSWC	Its at GWSC so please sign up with the office Entry forms and Notice of Race should be available shortly. Please contact the organiser Graham Lam FF617) with any questions and as a courtesy to let him know you will be attending Email: Graham.lamond@btinternet.com Mobile:07751 042774

Note : Classics are classed as sail numbers 0-2700 plus Wyche & Coppock and Copeland McIntosh with sail numbers higher than this. Silver fleet boats are 2701-3400 excepting those counted in the classics fleet.

24-27th June National Championship Royal Northern & Clyde YC

Rule Change Debate

I recently circulated an opportunity to contribute to the debate on rule changes. Thankyou for your contributions which I collated and passed through to UKFFA as part of their activity to coordinate an overall UKFFA response. I'll keep you posted.

News from Doug Brown – Life after GSWC!

Doug Brown is an old member of the GWSC FF Fleet, and a previous Commodore - back before our time but he wrote to Barry in response to the January 2021 newsletter. Barry has the Wind Vane Doug refers to and it is his intention to repaint it and (with the Coxswain's approval) to have it mounted on the shed.

From: [Doug Brown](#)

Sent: 23 March 2021 08:56

To: b.wyatt@btinternet.com

Subject: Re: Newsletter - January, 2021

Thank you Barry,

It is nice to be remembered. I was presented with the wind vane for winning the Easter regatta. I don't remember the year. After the tumultuous time during my tenure as Commodore I gave up sailing in '92. Yvonne and I took up motorcycling and attended many race meetings including several Isle of Man TT's. I finally let my last motorbike go 6 months ago at the age of 77.

For 21 years I was Race Officer for the Ajax Fleet championship events at Royal Harwich YC sailed on Dovercourt Bay. One year would be the Area Championship (a 2 day event) and the next the National Championship (a 3 day event) alternating. Because of fleet dwindle they are no longer holding a regatta with "Olympic" courses at RHYC but using fixed buoys and run by a local race officer so I am now the retired race officer. I am an Outport Member of RHYC so still some contact with sailing. This gives me somewhere to have a coffee and watch the River Orwell go by when I go back to Ipswich (my home town), although that hasn't been frequent during the last year!

I did return to competitive sailing in 2003 with Nic Brooker. We jointly bought a 3 year old, multi championship winning Mader Tempest and after only a few sails together competed in the 2003 Tempest Worlds at Grandson on Lac Neuchatel in Switzerland. We came 13th out of 53 boats and were ahead of some former World Champions so not too dusty. However for business reasons Nic had to back out after that so we sold the boat to some Dutch sailors. I did sail it a couple of times with them in a training capacity and helmed a few races with them at Weymouth for the Worlds in 2008. The Dutch helm was recovering from an incapacitating illness and couldn't sail 2 races a day so I stood in for him with permission from the RO. We didn't do very well.

*All the best to you and yours,
Doug*

UKFFA News Highlights from the April Newsletter

Those of you who are members of the UKFFA should have received the April Newsletter directly, but for the benefit of the whole fleet, here are the highlights

Our own Tim O'Brian wrote a fitting tribute to the death of our fleet patron HRH Prince Phillip

HRH Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh

Tribute to our class Patron

By now many will have read and seen the sad news that our class Patron HRH Prince Philip has died – much will be written about his significant contribution to many walks of life whether science, industry, commerce, environment, sport, and family. Through his concept of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme, launched 65

years ago, he encouraged the youth of the day to build skills, confidence and resilience that equipped them for life – in many cases through outdoor activity.

Prince Philip's other main passion was the sea and his link with sailing was prominent throughout, none more so than during Cowes week when the Royal Yacht was anchored off Cowes with many of the Royal family actively involved in the week's racing. FF192 Coweslip was a present from Uffa Fox to Her Majesty The Queen and Prince Philip on the occasion of their marriage in 1949, and Uffa and Prince Philip were often to be seen sailing Coweslip throughout the 1950 & '60's, and frequently with significant racing success.... fun times.

All UKFFA members will have their own personal thoughts and memories of HRH Prince Philip – our collective thoughts are with the Queen and her family at this moment, and we wish them many happy and fond memories that will hopefully bring smiles to the fore.

Happy Sailing Days..

Tim O'Brien



2022 Worlds Postponed

Flying Fifteen International in conjunction with Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club have announced that the 2022 Flying Fifteen World and Australian Championships would be postponed to 9th to 23rd March 2023.

How to service your bailers – Ronstan, distributors of Andersen self bailers have sent a couple of information sheets available for download from <https://flying15.org.uk/news/leaky-bailers>

UKFFA membership renewals were due on 1st April - if you haven't rejoined yet please do so at your earliest convenience! <https://flying15.org.uk/news/1st-april>