

SCUTTLEBUTT

SUSSEX POLICE OFFSHORE SAILING CLUB

NEWSLETTER



Skipper's Letter

Alwyn Evans thanks his stalwart crew for a job well done!

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U.K.F.S.C. EDITION

Alwyn's letter to his crew

Hi everyone

Hope you have recovered from the event? ***Well done to all for your efforts.***

For me the learning curve was how enjoyable Tuesday was in light winds with only five on board, compared to heavy winds Wednesday when we were all somewhat tired with heavy winds and not enough crew on board. This really made a difference in our own ability, stamina and resilience over 4 demanding races each day. Up against crews somewhat younger and with 8-10 persons on board. We were always going to struggle against teams who can swop crews around on the winches in 17-20 knots of wind.

Under those circumstances we were somewhat disadvantaged with less crew weight and power on board and this showed in the results.

Well done to Owen for his solo performance on the foredeck. Annie and Peter during the numerous tacks and continuous grinding in of the sheets with me always asking for a few more grunts and grinds when they had exhausted themselves over the hours of racing. And lastly Bob, coping with me calling for "ease's", "big ease" and "f'ing big ease", to help me miss the couple of buoys as the gusts suddenly took us upwind when rounding various marks.

However we did maintain our position as detailed on the final results below. Not only in White sail class but also overall in the event against the more ably and heavily crewed boats and teams. 3rd in Class and 13th overall so I believe we can pat ourselves on the back!!

Once again well done and thank you for your great company and efforts.

Look forward to the NCA with you all hopefully!!.

Alwyn Evans



Editorial Note

Please remember that this is your magazine and should reflect your views and experiences for the benefit of other members. If you have any comment, articles or photographs you feel are appropriate for inclusion then please forward them to me, terryclothier@hotmail.com for publication.


The opinions expressed in articles within Scuttlebutt are those of the individual only and not necessarily those of the Sussex Police Offshore Sailing Club. No responsibility can be accepted for any inaccuracies or omissions.



SCUTTLEBUTT

UKFSC Results






UKFSC

UKFSC

8th-9th May 2018



Yacht	Team	Skipper	Mate	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	Race 5	Race 6	Race 7	Subtotal	Discard	Total Points	Overall Result
4029	Dorset & Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service	Stevie Thomson	Colin Rainbeck	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	9	3	6	1st
4011	The Real Medics of Cheshire	Pete Walters	Matthew Scott	2	4	2	1	6	4	2	21	6	15	2nd
4006	Hampshire-Boon Hangers	Adrian Murphy	Nail Odin	7	2	4	2	16	2	5	38	16	22	3rd
4024	Met Police	Andrew Moore	Jason Cranmer	3	3	3	7	9	9	3	37	9	28	4th
4010	West Sussex	George Wright	Neil Hill	13	5	9	4	2	5	10	48	13	35	5th
4012	Hampshire Phoenix (Fire)	Nick Burchall	Shaun Coote	11	8	14	8	3	3	4	51	14	37	6th
4018	Siren Sisters	Sue Antonelli	Heen Jones	4	7	6	11	7	8	8	51	11	40	7th
4028	Team Cosmo	Gordon Alder	Roy Ashman	8	13	5	6	19	10	6	67	19	48	8th
4014	London Pride	Dave Sharnan	Mick Norman	24	9	13	12	4	6	7	75	24	51	9th
4022	Hampshire Zero	Alex Rhodes	Pete Clark	5	29	8	16	15	12	10	95	29	66	10th
4003	Renck	Gary Bettesworth	James Brown	9	6	17	15	11	13	13	84	17	67	11th
4005	West Yorks 2	Eric Bottomley	Colin Blakeley	10	12	22	10	5	14	20	93	22	71	12th
4027	Sussex Police	Alwyn Evans	Bob Travis	6	15	7	9	20	23	14	94	23	71	13th
4008	London 4 (Dragon)	Chris Richards	Ray Wallis	21	11	10	13	17	15	9	96	21	75	14th
4001	Tower RNLi	Nick Harding	Steffan Ciccoiti	14	29	24	5	8	16	17	113	29	84	15th
4019	Warrickshire Police	Henry Scott	Andrew Barker	17	14	18	23	13	7	16	108	23	85	16th
4016	LAS3	Martin McTigue	Lesley Ann Clyde	19	10	16	14	22	22	15	118	22	96	17th
4030	West Yorks 3	Chris Clarke	Mat Thomas	15	29	20	26	14	11	11	126	29	97	18th
4007	Teddington RNLi	Tim James	Mat Alchurch	26	29	12	24	10	24	19	144	29	115	19th
4017	London 3	Phil Leese	Gary Pyle	12	29	19	17	12	29	29	147	29	118	20th
4050	West Yorks 1	Jim Mudd	Graham Farnshaw	18	29	23	22	18	18	23	151	29	122	21st
4021	Hampshire 3	Graham Reeve	Lee Giffard	25	29	15	18	23	17	25	152	29	123	22nd
4025	LAS1	Jon Knott	Graham Chalk	22	29	25	20	21	20	22	159	29	130	23rd
4023	LAS 2	Ian Pulles	Karen Tapp	20	29	11	25	29	29	18	181	29	132	24th
4004	Divine Wind (LAS 4)	Alex Tulridy	Adrian Speller	23	29	27	19	24	19	21	162	29	133	25th
4026	Clusarduck	Neil Withers	Mark Coupar	16	29	21	27	26	21	24	164	29	135	26th
4013	London 2	Oliver Stalworthy	Gary Rowlinson	27	29	26	21	25	25	26	179	29	150	27th



WHEN
Fire &
Water
COMBINE



The Editor wishes to extend his grateful thanks to the UKFSC Committee especially Pip Dwyer, for kindly permitting the use of their event photographs in this issue of Scuttlebutt.

SCUTTLEBUTT

Alwyn Evans reports on the 2018 UKFSC event!

SPOSC entered a team for the UKFSC event for the third year running competing against 26 other teams from Fire, Ambulance, Police & RNLI Services. Unfortunately 3 crew members were unable to attend and so SPOSC was represented by a team of 5 comprising of Annie Darling and Peter Ewen (pit & trimmers) Bob Trevis (main sheet trimmer) Owen Poplett (foredeck & anything else!) and myself (skipper & helm).



As in past years racing took place on Sunsail F40 yachts which have a more extensive sail area to the normal cruising boats the club charters making them a powerful craft to handle.

Ideally they are raced with 8+ persons to fulfil all roles and provide ballast on the windward rail. These yachts are 'used and abused' for racing all year round and unfortunately not always, if ever now handed over without defects. Amongst a number of other issues, our particular yacht 4027 suffered with severe leaking water tanks into the bilges so we had to keep them empty. Normally for racing we empty the tanks of water, however being short of crew and with heavy gusty winds forecast over coming days this did nothing to compensate us with onboard weight.

Training day took place on Monday 7th May in the Solent and with high

temperatures, light winds and blue seas we could have easily been sailing in the Med. How things were to change!

As we know Fire Brigade Officers tend to be physically fit! and most of them were! Also many of them and the other teams had majority of crew in their mid 30's to 40's. However this did not deter the 'silver haired' (sorry Annie!) SPOSC team as we waived our bus passes at them and laughed!!



At the start of racing on Tuesday, 13 yachts elected to race in the 'White Sails Class' which means they do not use their spinnakers. All these crews and the 'Spinnaker Class' had between 8 & 10 persons on board, so with only 5 crew it made sense for us to race in the White Sail Class.

Winds varied from 7 knots in the morning increasing to 15 knots+ and gusting in the afternoon with some yachts reefing for the last race. With a 'fresh and fit' SPOSC crew we managed to hold our own against the other teams, who with seemingly endless crew were able to swop their trimmers around and bring in fresh muscle to grind the winches. At the end of Day 1 racing we were positioned 3rd in White Sail Class with an all girls Fire Brigade team and professional Italian yacht skipper in first place and second place occupied by 'beefy' northern team of fire fighters.

Winds on the Wednesday were between 15-20 knots and gusting higher. Without

doubt we were seriously disadvantaged. SPOSC team were aching all over from previous day's racing and certainly this heavy weather racing pushed everyone to the limit, probably further than they had known before! All other yachts had minimum of 6+ crew as 'rail meat' we could only manage at the most 3 and many other times less. By the end of the day after 3 arduous races we held onto our 3rd position in White Sail Class and 13th overall. Not a 'shabby' result considering our crew numbers and heavy winds racing.

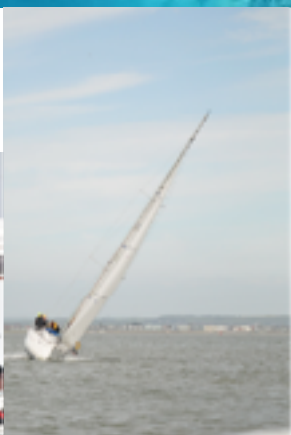
As in past years, the social events each night were very enjoyable with curry evening, BBQ and Fire Service Band 'Snatch'. The Wednesday evening prize presentation and gala dinner in Cowes Event Centre had as guest speaker UK Olympic paraplegic sailor Hannah Stoddell.

Once again a very good and well attended event which raised a lot of money for the Fire Service Charities and also RNLI.

SPOSC has the opportunity each year to enter 2 Emergency Services Race Events. The PSUK which unfortunately lacked Police support for several years has again regenerated itself by joining in with the National Crime Agency Race Event which takes place in the Solent each September. SPOSC Committee will review which events we should enter when the 2019 calendar is agreed upon later in the year.



Pictures of the event



SCUTTLEBUTT

Hi all SPOSC members

The date for the SPOSC August Charter 2018 to lands afar (possibly Frenchie land or Channel Islands) has now passed and the crew list is thus closed.

Eight members have expressed interest who have been notified of their accepted application for this journey.

It maybe under the Brexit talks we will be the last Club members to visit the Channel Islands if we have to give them to the EU in order to keep Gibraltar. Heaven knows I worry enough about the Irish Border and impact to the Club Sailing Calendar.

I thank all those who read the message and also those who responded in thanking the Committee for their invite but unable to attend due to prior engagements.



Right and subsequent pages you can read Bob Trevis's take on the ageing issue of Sussex Police Sailing!



Time and Tide Wait for No Man

The questions is are the crews on the SPOSC racing boat getting older? the following reflections may tell.

The early morning collection to drive to the Solent is no longer a struggle, I'm usually up at that time nowadays!

I generally have Bran Flakes not a fry up

Don't forget the tablets and hearing aids, reading glasses, distance glasses as opposed to jeans and a snazzy shirt for evening pub excursions.

Meeting the crew rarely has a surprise face or a face of surprise come to that amongst them.

The talk is no longer of how long to retirement but how long until we have been retired the same amount of time we served.

Conversation is more NARPO than Federation

Memories and stories of races and regattas past seem to get blurred into the confusion of time.

The sailing is underway

Secretly you are hoping the wind stays below 15 knots

Good job the buoys are brightly painted, are they further away this year

Commands are louder from the skipper..... they need to be!

to be continued

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Bob Trevis continues!

Every opportunity taken for "ooh yes, put the kettle on for a cuppa"
Steer clear of the egg sarnie at lunchtime... can do the indigestion thing
Choccy bars are definitely smaller....
"who remembers a Marathon?!"

Sailing done

That mainsail is a pig to fold, sure its bigger
Moor up, beers out. Only a couple though
Just the four races but I feel like I have been 2 cycles in the tumble drier
Social put on tonight, BBQ and live band..... great! or is it Oh..... great
Don't sit too near the music so we can watch the dancing but still hear ourselves talk
Best not drink too much getting out the sleeping bag is a pain.
Port and cheese? Just one and only a slither
Sure the phone calls home used to be longer?

And so to bed

Why does the party on the Cornish boat have sing so loudly. I hate the

Wurzels and their 'kin brand new combine harvester. It is 11:15 after all!!
Remember when it was in then charts I know we have to raft but can't next door tread more quietly
And the first one to snore is.....
And the loudest snore is
The first visitor to the heads is soon after, it then appears to be a relay
Before you know it 06:00 and the kettles on.

Marina Morning

We seem to be the only crew about
The showers are almost clear
Seats are still cool..... you know what I mean
Some satisfaction from talking loudly as you pass the Cornish boat with no sign of life
Break out the Bran Flakes and repeat..... the day ahead

And So Home

A peaceful hour or so with everyone out, probably best not sit down as I won't get going again
Dogs happy to see me
At last a meal not involving processed meat and bread
Try and make conversationin fact its an effort to stay awake

Settle down into your own familiar comfy bed

For two minutes at least, woken to the information that I'm snoring..... loudly (I don't snore??)

Out on the landing, pillows under my arm heading for the spare room

To be fair I could sleep on a bed of nails

I love sailing!

So is the race crew older? Of course but it is wiser. We just need some young blood to add to the numbers, rejuvenate us and listen to our old war stories

We need the race crew of tomorrow..... today

Bob Trevis

