

SCUTTLEBUTT

SUSSEX POLICE OFFSHORE SAILING CLUB
& DINGHY SAILING CLUB



NEWSLETTER

A Welcome Back

The Commodore is back in business with the 2022 FROSTBITE trip

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PSUK Opportunities

Both Dinghy & Offshore events are set to run in 2022, don't miss out

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Bavaria 32'

Sharon Ford reports on her and Mark's first voyage on their new Bavaria 32'.

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Minutes

Minutes of the Committee Meeting, 10th January, 2022

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LET'S GET AFLOAT

As record winds sweep the South Coast, let us hope they are the winds of change and 2022 will see a return to sailing for the SPOSC.

The last SPOSC charter was the Griffin Regatta in September 2019! I am therefore pleased and excited to announce that we will be running charters in 2022.

I propose to run a SPOSC five day charter from 25th April to 29th April 2022 in the Solent. Hopefully we will be able to get on the boat during the evening of Sunday 24th so we don't waste time on the Monday.

The cost will be £20 per day.



Despite the government relaxing the COVID regulations, SPOSC will be taking precautions to try to prevent infection during the trip.

If you would like to take part in this charter or part of the week please email me.

If you would like further information, especially if you haven't sailed with SPOSC before, feel free to ring me on 07729229750 or email me to ring you.

I look forward to seeing many of you in April..

Owen Poplett. Commodore



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 or Dinghy Sailing Clubs. No responsibility can be accepted for any inaccuracies or omissions.



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Provisional PSUK Dinghy Championships - 15-16 June 2022

Avon & Somerset
Sailing Section have
offered to organise
this year's PSUK
Dinghy Sailing
Championships.
The provisional
dates for the regatta
are Wednesday/
Thursday, 15-16th
June, 2022

Dusty Miller

Vice-Chairman SPDSC

PSUK Offshore Championships

To all SPOSC Members

Happy New Year to you all and hoping you and your families had a healthy and enjoyable Christmas in these challenging times.

The annual Griffin Yacht Racing Regatta for all Law Enforcement Agencies takes place in the Solent over 5 days usually in September.

In 2022 due to a shortage of available yachts in September the event has to be divided into one group consisting of Law Enforcement agencies and the latter group Police Services, in effect the PSUK.

Disappointing as this maybe, PSUK Offshore Championships will take place on 9th - 14th October 2022 using Sunsail yachts.

The regatta will be run in the same format as the Griffin regatta with boat pick up Sunday evening 9th October from 17:00 at Port Solent. Monday practice day and passage to Cowes with the first race at 15:00 on a Cowes start line. Racing Tues - Thurs with boats returning to Port Solent by midday Friday.

Irrespective of your sailing or racing experience if you are interested in being part of the crew for this event then please email me alwynevansuk@yahoo.com by 24th January 2022.

Depending on the level of response we can then decide if there is enough interest and commitment to enter a team.

Regards and best wishes for 2022.

Alwyn Evans
SPOSC Vice Commodore & Treasurer.



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The Ford's new Bavaria 32

July 2021 we decided to upgrade our 1st boat a 22 foot Catalina trailer sail, for a Bavaria 32. After finding our dream boat and a few weeks for the survey, test sail, minor repairs we were ready to sail her back from Weymouth to Brighton on 23rd July.

I have always been a nervous sailor gripping the side and my eyes widening whenever we heeled as a wave or a gust took us momentarily.

There was very little wind so the sail back was reasonably uneventful under motor sail and was completed over 2 long days, stopping mid way at Gosport.

We had lots of sails over the summer and although I love sailing my nervousness didn't change and if the waves were over half a metre or the wind over 15mph I would go but the feeling was always there. I'm not inexperienced we have sailed flotilla in the Ionian Islands last year and had a smaller boat for 3 years. Our options would be limited at this rate



The return journey to Brighton

we set off, and the wind had gusted up contrary to all of the sailing apps. As we left the safety of Brighton Marina coats zipped up to the top, the waves were over a metre for the entire journey and the winds never went below 22 and constantly gusting to 30 but once we were on our way we were all in agreement it was safe to continue. The genoa and main sail were double reefed and we were racing along at 6-8 knots. We

depths giving me a chance to ready some lunch. Then we had to get through the lock which was a new experience for us. It was a tight squeeze as the staff had crammed in as many boats as they could to reduce the queue. Fenders both sides and communication between crew to get us out the other side without damage was needed.

Although the photos don't show the wave heights well, the decks were very wet. This was the sail that cured my nervousness and showed me what a boat can do and more.

The return journey a few days later was just Mark and I. It took a lot longer and we had to motor sail for the last couple of hours to beat the outgoing tide to get into the Marina as we have a deep keel.

I've watched so many youtube videos and seen how boats can heel without broaching or at the very worst to right her if that was about to happen. As well as Mark constantly reassuring me but that wasn't enough. My advice would be go on one of the sailing club Scuttlebutt events with experienced sailors in safe but testing weather if you get the chance. Seeing and feeling how a boat responds to stronger winds and waves worked for me and now all I think about is sailing and getting out there to learn as much as I can. I feel that I have finally achieved competent crew and find it exhilarating 😊

Sharon Ford



Mark & Brian at the helm en route to Chichester

After a lovely summery weather sail at the end of August, we sat that evening having a few drinks on the boat with retired officers Gill and Brian Sole. We decided to set sail for Chichester the next morning leaving at 0600hrs with the tide. Both Brian and my husband Mark are experienced so I knew I would be ok. It was cold and dark as

rocked and rolled the whole way, literally singing along to the radio. Making drinks was interesting to say the least with some spillage and left me a bit queasy for a while so I remained in the cockpit after that. We made it to Selsey in a cracking 6 hrs. The last hour of the journey through Chichester was slower and flat as we navigated the

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SPOSC COMMITTEE MEETING

1930hrs Monday 10th January 2022

(Meeting during Covid Pandemic, held via 'TEAMS').

- 1) **Welcome.** Present: Owen Poplett, Kevin Claxton, Richard Bates, Annie Darling, Alwyn Evans Peter Ewen. Apologies of absence – Cathryn Pedersen
- 2) **Minutes of last meeting.**
There was discussion around whether a meeting was held in June July last year? The last minutes on record were the meeting on 23rd Feb 2021. All actions for this meeting had been concluded, and the minutes were accepted.
- 3) **Commodore's update.**
Due to COVID very little to report. The October charter didn't take place due to high winds. Terry Clothier has managed to produce Scuttlebutt through the pandemic and Dusty had continued to maintain the website keeping it fresh and informative.
- 4) **Treasurer's update.**
The Club accounts are healthy, there not having been any sailing activities due to the pandemic.
- 5) **SPSA update.**
The Club received a small amount from SPSA early this year. We are awaiting details of SPSA meetings / end of year forms etc.

Action: Owen to E-mail Dave Gaylor re SPSA Updates.

- 6) **AGM.**
After Discussion, the Committee agreed there would be little desire of members to attend a physical AGM, again due to the pandemic and a physical meeting would risk spreading the virus. Another consideration being that an AGM venue could be booked and all arranged only to have further restrictions brought in preventing it from taking place. It was agreed that the Committee would hold the AGM via Scuttlebutt, as was the case last year. (This will include an opportunity to ask questions).

Action, Treasurer and Secretary to forward reports to Owen for sending all reports to Terry Clothier for Scuttlebutt and Dusty for the website.

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7) COVID Risk Assessment.

The Committee discussed and agreed minor changes to the draft Covid risk- assessment which was drafted last year. It was agreed that any further changes should be notified to Alwyn ASAP so that the document can be signed off.

8) Training courses and subsidies.

There has been some take up to the clubs offer of support with training courses. One member has completed their Coastal Skipper course, and other members want to complete the diesel engine course.

9) 2022 Cruising Calendar.

There has not been a lot of take up re skippers for trips other than Committee members. Agreed to try and mount trips for Frost-bite and in June.

10) 2022 Racing Calendar PSUK.

There have been about 7 replies from members wanting to crew the PSUK this year in October.

Discussion re whether the club could support trying to get a crew together for the Fire Service Challenge Regatta. It was agreed not to support this event.

11) Securing Skippers for Charters and familiarisation charter.

There has not been a lot take-up for skippers to do refreshers. It was agreed we do need to try and get something together, for 2-3 days. It was agreed that the training budget should support training the skipper's refresher.

Action – Alwyn to look at dates for this training.

12) AOB

After discussion it was agreed that the club should approach the SPSA re accommodation on land to accommodate the PSUK crew.

Action – Alwyn to also mention this to Dave Gaylor.

