



## Gravesend Sailing Club Newsletter - April 2017

Well Spring is certainly here. And with boats back in the water and the sailing season beginning, there is an explosion of activity around the club. So much so that I couldn't fit all of April's events onto one side! In fact the whole season looks packed. There's something happening at the club pretty much every weekend between now and September.

### **New Member**

Please give a warm welcome to new member Nils Langgaard if you see him. He lives very locally, but divides his time between here and Aberdeen. He has already joined in with knowledge & nosh and was very useful during Lift-In. Welcome, Nils!

### **Sail Past**

Just two weeks til Sail Past! This will be on Good Friday, April 14th. It will be a busy weekend! On the Friday itself, there is a dinghy race. Sail past will be at 1500. This will be followed by the Commodore's Reception where you can eat and drink at my expense! We hope to be unveiling the crane plaque at the same time. If you've never been to sail past - do come down. The idea is to get as many boats as possible onto the water, and as many people as possible onto those boats. The sailing past itself is quite a short event, as we pass the club line and salute the club. And it's usually fairly chaotic. Bring a friend or a guest!

Often after sail past, a few cruisers drift down to Holehaven for the night. Please join us if you can - the more the merrier! As it's Easter Weekend, those that have the time might like to continue down to the Medway on Saturday for a night or two at anchor.

If you're still around the club over the weekend, Harriet has arranged one of her famous Dinkabout days on Sunday, followed by a Kids Fun Day on Easter Monday.

### **Agnes and Clifford**

Both boats have had a full refurbish over the winter. If you find any defects, please log them in the list in the race box, but it also makes sense to talk directly to someone in Works or Training as well.

When you use them, please be careful with shutdown procedures. On Clifford M we have to flush with fresh water using the muffs and empty the petrol out of the carburettors (by running the engine without the fuel hose connected). It looks like the engine had been run without cooling water as the impeller was totally destroyed needing a few replacement parts etc.

### **Sailability AGM**

Please support our Sailability group at their annual general meeting. This will be Saturday 22nd at 8pm in the club house. Contact Chris or Pat: [sailability@gravesendsailingclub.co.uk](mailto:sailability@gravesendsailingclub.co.uk)

## **Club Book**

The club book has (just!) been printed. Copies are in the club house in labelled envelopes. If you are able to get down to collect yours it would be helpful. Otherwise they will go in the post.

When you do get yours, please note that there is a new section on Rules for Using the Crane. Please take the time to read them.

There are of course some errata already:

- Apr 8th we have erroneously listed Hayley's talk on her Clipper Round the World adventure. This should be on Sat May 6th.
- May 13th we have listed Cruiser Race 1. This clashes with Open Day so will be rescheduled.

## **Lift in**

Huge thanks to all who helped with lift in. Especially those able to stay to the end. This was our first time with a new company, but all went well.

## **MVS Disability Day**

The local MVS group are running a disability day on Wed 12th April. This will be a high profile event with a large number of disabled guests. They would dearly appreciate any help and support we can give them - helping with buoyancy aids, paperwork, serving tea, crewing a boat, first aid, providing good cheer. Contact Michael Hegarty if you are able to help - [m.hegarty.12@btinternet.com](mailto:m.hegarty.12@btinternet.com)

## **Crane Fund**

In the last newsletter, I totally forgot to mention the latest state of the Crane Fund, and in particular the sale of the Jacob Brooch. From my address to the AGM:

*Over a quarter of members have contributed to the fund, alongside contributions from partner or related organisations. Donations are currently standing at: £10,338. In addition to that, we expect to recover a further £1,065 through gift aid.*

*And then we have the Jacob Brooch sale. ... Six members expressed an interest in the brooch... I am very pleased to say the sum raised from the sale of the brooch was £1,300. And the winner of the auction was Deb Struthers.*

*So adding the brooch sale into the donations, we raised a staggering total of £12,703. That's 75% of the total cost of the crane, and a huge testament to the generosity of members of the club.*

April Tides	
01	04:29 (6.5m)
Sat	16:56 (6.3m)
02	05:13 (6.3m)
Sun	17:40 (6.0m)
03	06:02 (6.0m)
Mon	18:29 (5.7m)
04	07:01 (5.7m)
Tue	19:33 (5.4m)
05	08:21 (5.5m)
Wed	21:01 (5.2m)
06	09:50 (5.5m)
Thu	22:23 (5.4m)
07	11:01 (5.8m)
Fri	23:28 (5.7m)
08	11:59 (6.1m)
Sat	
09	00:21 (5.9m)
Sun	12:48 (6.2m)
10	01:07 (6.1m)
Mon	13:31 (6.3m)
11	01:46 (6.1m)
Tue	14:09 (6.3m)
12	02:22 (6.1m)
Wed	14:44 (6.2m)
13	02:55 (6.2m)
Thu	15:16 (6.2m)
14	03:26 (6.2m)
Fri	15:47 (6.1m)
15	03:57 (6.1m)
Sat	16:17 (6.0m)
16	04:29 (5.9m)
Sun	16:47 (5.8m)
17	05:03 (5.8m)
Mon	17:20 (5.7m)
18	05:44 (5.6m)
Tue	18:01 (5.5m)
19	06:33 (5.4m)
Wed	18:52 (5.3m)
20	07:34 (5.2m)
Thu	19:56 (5.1m)
21	08:54 (5.2m)
Fri	21:18 (5.1m)
22	10:17 (5.4m)
Sat	22:38 (5.4m)
23	11:20 (5.8m)
Sun	23:38 (5.7m)
24	12:12 (6.1m)
Mon	
25	00:28 (6.0m)
Tue	13:00 (6.3m)
26	01:15 (6.2m)
Wed	13:45 (6.4m)
27	02:00 (6.4m)
Thu	14:29 (6.5m)
28	02:46 (6.5m)
Fri	15:13 (6.5m)
29	03:31 (6.5m)
Sat	15:56 (6.4m)
30	04:16 (6.5m)
Sun	16:40 (6.3m)

## GSC Events for April 2017

### Sat 8th

#### Small Craft First Aid course.

You should already be signed up for this, but contact Harriet to go on reserve list for next course.  
training@gravesendsailingclub.co.uk

### Sun 9th - Training Team Building

Are you one of our fantastic volunteers? If 'yes' then this date **must** go in your diary!

It's a day about you. Kicking off with breakfast, we will be putting on a day of fun and food giving you the chance to enjoy your club as well as trying out some skills you might not have done before. Lots of things planned, so please do ensure you come down! You \*must\* let Harriet know though - numbers and skills affect the plan for the day....

training@gravesendsailingclub.co.uk

### Wed 12th - MVS Disability Day

Please support MVS as they get 40 children on the water. Help needed shoreside and on the water.  
Michael Hegarty: m.hegarty.12@btinternet.com

### Thu 13th, 1900 - Knowledge and Nosh

Topic to be confirmed. Followed by a light meal and a natter.  
Please let Harriet know that you are coming so she can ensure enough nosh!

training@gravesendsailingclub.co.uk

### Easter Weekend: Good Friday, 14th

**1300 Spring Plate**  
Dinghy handicap race

**1500 Sail Past**  
As many boats as we can get on the water to sail past and salute the club.  
Come down, blag a place on board!

**1530 Commodore's reception**  
Refreshments at the club, and unveiling of Crane Donors Plaque

Followed by **Easter Cruise**. All cruisers (and dinghies if you can sort out berths) invited for a short Cruise. Join us for just one night at Holehaven, or stay for another night or two in the Medway.

#### Easter Sunday 16th - Dinkabout

Come on down for a dink! from 1400.

#### Easter Monday 17th - Kids Fun Day

We've hired the teras for a youngsters day of fun and games on the water!

### Sat 22nd - Epoxying

Adam Gray is giving us a talk and a demo on epoxying! Time to be confirmed.

training@gravesendsailingclub.co.uk

### Sat 8pm - Sailability AGM

Please support our Sailability group at their annual general meeting.

sailability@gravesendsailingclub.co.uk

### Sun 23rd, 1000 - Dinghy Series Race 1

First race in the Dinghy series. There are 12 races in the series; 8 to count.  
Get together! Hire a club Wayfarer!

sailing@gravesendsailingclub.co.uk

### Sat 29, Sun 30 - Powerboat 1 and 2

RYA Powerboat level 1 and 2 course.  
Contact Harriet to pre-book your place.

training@gravesendsailingclub.co.uk

### Preview: May

Sat 6, Sun 7 - RYA Stage 1. Youth sailing with Teras  
Sat 6th - Hayley's talk about Clipper Round the World.

*Tidal information is indicative only and not to be used for navigation.  
All times are local (BST or GMT as appropriate).  
High tide times in italics are before sunrise or after sunset.*

## Navigation News April 2017

### Dangerous wreck - Crouch

The Crouch HM has reported that the charted obstruction on the southern edge of the Buxey Sands, north of the Buxey Edge Light Buoy in position 51°40'.659'N 001°03.487'E, now appears to be in a slightly different position, 51°40'.924'N 001°03'.660'E. It is believed to be a wreck, possibly up to 70 feet in length; stanchions have been sighted at low water approximately 1m above the water. Mariners are advised to remain within or close to the Fairway between Swallowtail No 4 and Buxey Edge buoys when navigating in this area.

### Fambridge Yacht Haven improvements

Additions at Fambridge this Spring include a new dredger, with which the management aim to provide all-tide access in Stow Creek and within the marina. A new 40-ton boat hoist is expected too, replacing the old 25-ton hoist which will be relocated to North Fambridge Yacht Station.

### Sail Royal Greenwich, 12-16 April

Thirty or so tall ships visiting Greenwich for the Tall Ships Regatta over Easter weekend. Keep an eye on <http://www.pla.co.uk/Port-Trade/Ship-movements/Ship-movements> to see when they might be passing the club. Also see Thames NtM: <http://www.pla.co.uk/assets/m29of2017-woolwichgreenwichreaches-sailroyalgreenwich-12th-16thapril2017.pdf>

### Notices to Mariners

#### Thames Portwide

No.7 of 2017 - Bridge Manning Requirements

#### Thames Lower

L1 of 2017 - Canvey Island - Wash and Draw-off Dangers on Public Beaches

#### Medway

*No new notices*

See: <http://www.pla.co.uk/Safety/Regulations-and-Guidance/Notices-to-Mariners/Notices-to-Mariners>  
<https://www.peelports.com/marine-information?port=london-medway>