

June Newsletter

Dear Members,

It is great in the present times to be able to report that at least one club organised event has taken place in the last month. Following a lot of hard work by a small band of club volunteers the RCC Youth Squad event, held during the half-term week at Fairhaven, was a major success and attended by eighteen club junior members. The weather was almost perfect, and it was great to see the youngsters demonstrating that they had not lost any of their enthusiasm for sailing during the 18-month absence from the lake.



Club dinghy sailing has also been taking place on the tidal weekends at the clubhouse and there have been many cruisers out on the river enjoying the good weather so far this month.

Social Events

Following the recent Government announcement of the postponement of the final release from lock-down we have had to review several of the social events published in the club handbook.

Regrettably, we have had to postpone the proposed grand reopening of the clubhouse bar and the proposed barbeque at the dock planned for the weekend of the 25/26/27th June.

We have decided to postpone these social events to the weekend of the 24/25th July at which point we hope that we will be able to fully enjoy meeting friends without any restrictions.

The grand reopening of the clubhouse bar is therefore now to take place on the Friday evening 23rd July. John G has arranged a special evening and is keen to show off the bar refurbishment which has been completed during the lock-down.

The barbeque at the dock on the Saturday afternoon of the 24th of July will commence after the sailing has completed, which will be around 3.00pm.

Fairhaven Sailing

As many will be aware Fylde Borough Council have been undertaking the refurbishment of the lakeside buildings at Fairhaven. Their original intention was to complete the creation of the new Watersports centre by early June at the latest so that users such as us could enjoy the changing facilities through the Summer albeit with some compromised access to the lake. However, complications with the rebuild of the Café and other additional works and delays mean that our planned 'Boat shift' on Sunday 20th and the first member's session on Wednesday 23rd June will have to be postponed. At this stage it is not clear when we will be able to access the facilities or equally importantly when we might have access to the new boat storage area. It is conceivable that if we are granted access to the Lake, we may be able to arrange for a members' own boat sailing session on future Wednesday evenings. Obviously, we are in close dialogue with FBC and will update members as soon as we get news.

Dinghy sailing from the Clubhouse.

Club organised dinghy sailing has been taking place on the river from the clubhouse, the weather has mostly been benign with on most occasions a gentle breeze and sunshine. So far, mostly due to Covid restrictions, the dinghy racing has not restarted. A small band has begun resetting the race marks, several of which have gone walkabout during the eighteen months since we last used them. The team organising the racing would like to hear from members on how they would like the racing, for both cruisers and dinghies, organised, or even if at all. As ever, the perennial challenge is to find volunteers willing to help in the various roles; safety boat, race management, launching assistance, tractor driving etc, please get in touch (simply reply to this email) if you are interested.

Sail training, especially the tidal dinghy training should re-start as programmed in the handbook.

Presently a couple of intrepid cruiser sailing members are away on an adventure sailing down through the Menai Straits, heading for the far southwest of the United Kingdom, we wish them fair winds.

Looking ahead, a small band of committee members are researching potential speakers for the 'Last Tuesday Talks' series. Mike Briers used to organise this event on his own for well over a decade and it is a testament to his hard work that the club benefitted from some fascinating talks during the winter months. If you are interested in helping to organise these events, please get in touch with Jeanette Richardson.

Hopefully we'll see you all soon at the club.

Ribble Cruising Club