Osprey Class Newsletter

February 2017

Osprey Class Association

View latest class news on Osprey website at

www.ospreysailing.org/cms

and on Sail Osprey and Osprey Facebook pages.

Sign up to events there.

Post your own chat, news, videos, pics etc. Tell everyone about the class.

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End of Seasons, Rutland

The Osprey End of Seasons at Rutland on October 22/23 was the last of the Osprey class's 2016 national traveller series. Feathers were ruffled by a cool F2/3 coming from the north east, over the dam. A class of 17 Ospreys shared the waters with Contenders and Hornets.

Adrenaline levels rose as rigging was accompanied by stirring music from the PA system (Dambusters ?!!). The racing was close and exciting for 5 races over the weekend, but was well behaved and good natured. There was little shouting, the only problem was when two bunched fleets arrived at the leeward mark together but on different legs.
On the first day, Alastair Raynard and Rob Burdekin, who only joined the class a couple of months before, led the way with wins in the first two races, while new combination Ben Hawkes and Peter Greig also showed promise by winning the third race. Raynard led overnight from Hawkes in second, with Chris Gould and Nick Broomhall close in third.

Martin Cooney and Peter Frith hit form on the Sunday with the best scores of the day, but Raynard and Burdekin took top three places in both races to secure their first Osprey open win, and the first open win for a Mark V Osprey, the new epoxy Osprey which was launched in 2016. Cooney and Frith just edged into second overall ahead of Gould and Broomhall. Showing the variety of boats at the front, Cooney was sailing a wooden boat, while Gould competed in an FRP Mark IV.
Results

1. Alastair Raynard and Rob Burdekin, Carsington, 7pts
2. Martin Cooney and Peter Frith, Poole YC, 13pts
3. Chris Gould and Nick Broomhall, Blithfield SC, 13pts
4. Ben Hawkes and Pete Grieg, Wimbleball SC, 14pts
5. Emma Stevenson and Tim Bowden, Weymouth SC, 21pts.



Phil Meakins/ Andrew Eggett, 2nd at the Tiger, with winners Ian Walker/ Keith Bedborough. Pic Tim Olin.

Ospreys Starring in Winter Racing Events

Well done to Osprey sailors, showing the flag in the SailJuice Series, and taking some great results.
SailJuice Draycote Dash. Terry Curtis/ Peter Greig 23, Ben Hawkes/ Sam Woolner 38
SailJuice Datchet Flyer. Emma Stevenson/ Tim Bowden 9, Phil Meakins 26.
SailJuice Grafham Grand Prix. Phil & Bryony Meakins 4.
SailJuice Bloody Mary. Phil Meakins 122. Terry Curtis/ Peter Greig 129. 287 boats competed.
SailJuice Tiger Trophy. Phil Meakins/ Andrew Eggett 2nd. Winners of Shere Khan Trophy. 118 boats.

SailJuice Series. Phil Meakins and crews currently in **8th overall**. Go Phil!! One event to go.

Largs November Open series. Alan Henderson/Alastair Barrie 2nd.
Steve Nicolson Trophy, Northampton. Roger & Jamie Blake, 20 from 65.
Starcross Steamer. Colin Stephens/ Mike Greig 4; Emma Stevenson/ Ben Hawkes 10; Paul Roberts/ John Clark

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Hartley Boats supply complete new or used Ospreys, and can supply all spares, sails, covers, trailers, and clothing.

Quote your membership number to get a 15% discount on chandlery, sails and spars.

Why Choose Osprey?

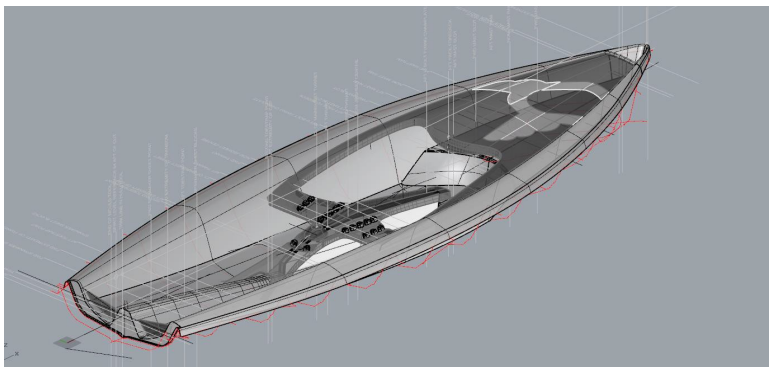
- Fast exciting boat to sail
- Long hull and generous genoa gives upwind power
- Great boat to crew, with trapeze and symmetric spinnaker
- Old boats compete equally with new ones
- Fantastic value for money
- Training programme with top coaches
- Busy nationwide and regional racing circuits

The Osprey

A fast 2 person boat with single trapeze and symmetric spinnaker.

Length; 5.35metres
Beam; 1.75m
Hull weight; 134kg
Mainsail area; 9.3 sq m
Genoa sail area; 4.65sq m
Spinnaker area; 17.19 sq m
Hull; Epoxy, GRP/FRP, GRP or wood

Carbon mast and boom permitted.
Wide crew weight range.
Free choice of sailmaker.



In 2016, six Mark V Ospreys were built by the class's sole builder, Hartley Boats. Hartleys allowed these early buyers to specify their own layout and fittings. This meant that a good deal of labour time went into each boat, restricting production. The next Mark V will be for the Hartleys themselves to test and hence firm up layout of fittings. This will then feed into the development of a standard boat, which will enable production to speed up, and will let Hartleys make inroads into their healthy order book for Mark Vs.

Osprey Class clothing

You may buy any of a wide choice of products, any time of the year, no need to await Nationals! Go to
http://www.ospreysailing.org/cms/index.php/news/41-osprey-class-clothing

Class Survey results

In late 2016, we invited members to give their opinions on our class circuit, and to offer any other ideas to the committee. We had 31 replies to our short questionnaire. Most members seemed pretty happy with our circuit and training days. Last year there were seven **WS events** with four to count, and members were happy with this. They also felt that **three free coaching days** was the right number. Re choice of **venues**, most wanted a **mix** of sea and inland venues. No one preferred inland venues, but a good number (8 from 29 responses) preferred **sea** venues. Re whether we should go to **existing or new venues**, most respondents were **neutral**, but a substantial number wished to try some **new venues**. A very small number wanted to just stick to the same venues as usual. The two **most popular** venues were Mounts Bay & Weymouth/ Castle Cove both getting 8 mentions, followed by Blithfield & Poole with 5 mentions.

There was no clear winner in the **unpopularity** stakes apart from travelling time/distance and venues with strong tides / muddy estuaries! What would persuade you to attend events **more often**? "Good quality racing; nice social, friendly atmosphere; turnout," "The fellowship of Osprey people mixing together and above all including the non frequent and new flyers." "The sailing, the social is good but a great day out is more important which involves the venue being as important as the race team's ability." Race management, food and accommodation were also important.

More Survey Quotes

"After (too) many years away, I am enjoying competing (attending?!) the Osprey National Championships – for a special event I can free-up a very long weekend.

But I struggle with the Wilkinson Sword circuit – both I and my crew struggle with full weekends away, I don't own a camper-van, and the motorway distance is discouraging. The area circuit works much better for me – now that Portishead and Bristol have been annexed by Wales I enjoy the South Wales circuit. Two-day events at venues like Mumbles and Tenby – especially with something a bit different like the Round Caldey race, and some one-day events such as Sully. Also the winter events – Starcross Steamer, Roadford Rocket. So what would I suggest?..... **I think we need to get down to club level – that's where all the sailors are** that we need to convince that the Osprey is their next boat.

The local area circuits should be good for that – Ospreys are impressive boats and always get noticed, especially if a few turn up together. Perhaps where there are one or two local Ospreys that need encouraging, or perhaps descend *en masse* at regattas run by clubs lacking in Ospreys."

Re the **Nationals**;

"The Nationals have to come over as not elitist, as a great way to improve your sailing, as a really enjoyable time both on and off the water."

Most respondents would always attend the Nationals, but for a few it was venue dependent.

2017 Nationals Preview– *by Chris Playfair*

Thursday August 10th to Sunday August 13th
Poole Yacht Club, Dorset

At Poole we plan for upwards of 40-50 boats for this, the class's 60th Nationals. Entries will include many of the fabulous looking Mark V's, as well as many well-tried, older models.
Accordingly, we are planning evening entertainments, great food and wonderful sailing.
The first and last days will be in Poole Harbour, while Friday and Saturday will be in Poole Bay.
Parking for camper vans can be arranged through the club.
A few of the local sailors may be able to provide accommodation and Poole has a wide range of places to stay. The club has extensive facilities and excellent catering.
We aim to provide good competition for those at the front of the pack, an excellent experience for those new to the Nationals and the usual Osprey camaraderie to all.
In addition, Poole and Dorset offer stunning surroundings for your family to enjoy, while you sail. Book via the Osprey web site and you will not be disappointed.
Peter Frith is the best person to call regarding accommodation from club members. PYC number is 01202 672687 re camper vans which need to be booked in advance. Beacon Hill camp site is the cheapest and about 3 miles away.
For a preview of our excellent facilities and sailing conditions at Poole, come and join us for our **open meeting** on the weekend of the **24th & 25th June** when we have a combined event with the Contender class and again promise good food and evening entertainment.

Further info:
www.pooletourism.com
www.visit-dorset.com
www.pooleyc.co.uk

If you have any questions, contact Chris Playfair; 01202 668000, chrisplayfair@gmail.com.



Sailing at Poole. Pic Mike Millard

Class coaching in 2017

Two class training days are planned so far; if you have any further ideas re training please contact Terry Curtis.
First training day will be immediately before our first Wilkinson Sword (WS) meeting at **Blithfield**, so will be on **Friday 31st March**. **Tim Rush** will be the coach.

The second training day will be at **Castle Cove SC**, again the day before a WS meeting, so it will be on **Friday 7th July**. Coach will be **Adam Bowers,** who made a dramatic return to the fleet last year by winning the Nationals.



Adam Bowers and Tim Rush will lead coaching days



2017 Grafham Grand Prix © Tim Olin

Phil and Bryony Meakins in the SailJuice Series at Grafham. Pic Tim Olin/ SailJuice



Come and meet your fellow Osprey enthusiasts on our **class assn stand** at the **Dinghy Show**, Main Hall A4, beside Minorca Sailing.
We will be showing a new epoxy Mark V Osprey, and will be publicising our 2017 fixture list. All Osprey sailors, past, present and future are very welcome to visit us on the stand and catch up with class news.
We have a star speaker visiting, the multiclass champion **Ian Pinnell**, who will be giving a **talk on tuning** on our stand at **3.30pm** on the **Saturday**.

He will demonstrate the rig controls and effects on our show boat, and will be available to sign copies of his new book "Tuning to Win" , published by Fernhurst Books. Sailors from all classes are welcome to join us.

Allen Bros have developed a series of new products recently, including one especially for the Mark V Osprey, the jib cleat platform. **Vince Horey** of **Allen** will give a talk about their kit on our stand at **2.30 Saturday**. Allen- supply the fittings on the standard Spec Mark V. Their stand C82 in Main Hall.

Another Osprey Mark V will be on the Hartley Boats stand at C50 in Main Hall. If you have sales enquiries re Mark Vs, visit the Hartley stand. Look out for special Show offers.

Tickets for the Show may be booked at www.dinghyshow.org.uk or call 0844 858 9069.



Author Ian Pinnell will speak on our stand . Come and hear his tuning secrets.

The Importance of Crews– *by Pete Mallaband*



An Osprey crew "dangling from a wire trying not to get washed away"

Recently a certain class failed to name the crew in the results of a major series. I felt really disappointed so I thought I'd write a few words. I've mostly sailed 2 man boats, these days generally as the stick wiggler. In my early days, however, I got into sailing by begging a ride up front in the fastest boat I could find. Before my shiny new Mk 5 Osprey arrived, I decided to try my hand again at crewing, firstly in a Comet Trio and then in a Merlin. In only a few races, I soon saw how I affected our overall result by either getting it right, or via a snarled kite drop, getting it wrong. The single hander which nicked inside us at the last mark just beat us over the line, which hurt!! It was my fault and I felt I had let our team down. In a single hander it's ok, you can pretend it doesn't really matter. As part of a team, it really does matter. I once heard Joe Glanfield outline how he and his helm divided up the roles.

In a high performance boat like the Osprey the crew has a massive workload. Upwind checking on other boats, calling the gusts, our progress, what's happening on the compass, when to tack and so on whilst dangling from a wire trying to keep their balance and not get washed away. Downwind gets really exciting, firstly kite hoist at the windward mark, my crew and I have a little game as to whether I can get the kite up before the pole is sorted. If I can grab the kite sheet first, then I win! Also the crew has to sort the board, get twinners in the right place while dangling from a wire calling gusts and waves to surf. Then comes the gybe, if the crew and the helm work together, then with luck the kite stays filled, the boat stays fast, and stays ahead, but lose the kite, slow down – only one outcome!! Then the drop, too soon and the other boat nicks past, too late and you leave a space at the mark – just right and then you can harden up and start the beat with happy smiling faces!!

Dear crews, we couldn't do it without you!

Classics and Vintage Corner—*by David Downs*



73 before restoration

1957 was a good vintage for Ospreys (and Osprey sailors), though I would like to think that the intervening years have treated me rather better than they have Osprey 73. Perhaps if I had spent several years outside in a farmyard in Devon I wouldn't have fared that well either. So with the 60th anniversary Championships at Poole this year, the plan is to see if we can get Osprey 73 sailing so that it can compete at Poole.

So what prompted this mad scheme? Well after forty years of work I needed something to occupy my increased leisure time and so I, and hopefully Ros, am going back to college to do a course on Traditional Boat Building Skills starting in August at the Boat Building Academy in Lyme Regis. Clearly we needed a project boat on which to practice our new found skills. The observant amongst you may now have noticed a slight flaw in the timing of the plan. The conventional approach might have been to do the course first and then use what we have learned on the project, but convention is boring so we are going to do the project first and then learn how we should have done it! Progress to date is that the (loose) centreboard case is out and I have started making a new one, the hull is upside down the rotten and delaminated bits of plywood have been cut out and new patches inserted, transom openings have been cut and I have started making a new keel piece. Look out for updates on Facebook.

WS Series results 2016



Curtis/Greig. Well at least one of us is looking where we're going!

1. 1281. Terry Curtis and Peter Greig, Weymouth SC, 6pts
2. 1290. Martin Cooney/ Peter Frith, Poole, 13 pts
3. 1356. Ben & Simon Hawkes, Wimbleball, 16 pts
4. 1291. Alex & Nick Willis, Hayling Island, 21pts
5. 1343. Richard Marshall/ Andrew Edmonds, Poole, 22pts
6. 1350. Alec Mamwell/ Arthur Butler, Coniston, 24 pts
7. 1292. Paul Heather/ Jonathan Osgood, Aldenham, 26 pts
8. 1338. Ken Brown/ Chris Butters, Isle of Sheppey, 41 pts
9. 1311. Chris Gould/ Nick Broomhall, Blithfield, 46 pts
10. 1337. Rob Shaw/ Ian Little, Kielder, 48 pts.

Other recent WS Series winners;

2015 1281 Terry Curtis/ Peter Greig
2014 1290 Martin Cooney / Peter Frith
2013 1291 Alex & Nick Willis
2011/12 1348 Mike Pickering/ Mike Priddle
2010/11 & 2009/10 1317 Rob Shaw/Ian Little
2008/09 1290 Peter Frith/asstd helms
2007/08 1317 Rob/Anthony Shaw/ Ian Little
2006/07 1276 Alec Mamwell/ Ian Little
2005/06 1317/1292 Rob & Anthony Shaw

Regional Osprey Circuits

South Wales series

In 2016, we welcomed many new members to the South Wales fleet. This year, there are other new entrants to the Osprey class, in parts of the SW very close to S Wales, and we hope to see them join the South Wales, as well as the national, circuit. Last year's new faces included Alex Shaw and Richard Woffinden in 1278 and Alistair Ramsden and Steve Ace in 1263, both Mumbles, while at Portishead Paul Roberts acquired 1357 the last Mark IV. At Tata, 1225 "Return of the Pink Panther" went fast in the hands of Paul Bambridge and various helmsmen, while Andrew and Rebecca Jenkins bought 1336, a nice Mark IV. Latest news is that Alistair Ramsden's boat has migrated to Africa, just like a feathered Osprey!

In 2017, new boats close to South Wales include Pete Mallaband, sailing a Mark V at Whitefriars near Cirencester, and Nigel Young, who has bought the Mark IV Uzi Jane, and sails at Bristol Corinthian, where there are two other Ospreys, one sailed by Boris Morrice, and the other, 1246, by Johnny and Alice Allen. In both locations, the Ospreys are impressing sailors of slower classes, so we hope for more new entrants.

The South Wales Series in 2017.

(Also note; Blithfield SC, 1/2 April. Welsh & Midlands Championship and WS series. Not part of S Wales series.)
Mumbles May TBA. South Wales series.
Tata SC 20/21 May. South Wales series and WS series
Tenby SC 24/25 June. South Wales series. Includes Round Caldey Island race.
Pembroke YC 1/2 July?? South Wales series. Includes 7 Forts race.
Other fixtures are being considered. Check with David Downs, or on class website, for latest news.






New boats in South Wales last year

L to R ; Alex Shaw/ Richard Woffinden, Mumbles. Alistair Ramsden/ Steve Ace's boat, now flown off to Africa.
Paul Roberts/ John Clark, Portishead in 1357, the last Mark IV. Andrew and Rebecca Jenkins, Tata, 1336, a Mark IV.

Lakes & Borders series

Three events were held in 2016, at Largs, Ullswater and Kielder. Series winners were Rob Shaw and Ian Little. Biggest entry was 8 at Kielder. There are now new boats at Kielder (the Mark IV 1340, Graham Thumwood), Yorkshire Dales (Jonathan Andrews 1183), and Carsington (Mark V 1363, sailed by 2016 End of Season Champions Alastair Raynard/ Rob Burdekin) which will help grow the fleet. Other new boats in near future will include the Hartleys in the Mark V 1361 at Carsington, and a mystery Merlin sailor in a Mark V at Blithfield. At Prestwick, Alan Henderson/ Alastair Barrie will be sailing the first Mark V built in 2017, s/ no 1367.



Ospreys at Kielder, pic Angela Mamwell.



New for 2017 near S Wales– Pete Mallaband's Mk V

2017 Lakes & Borders fixtures will include the Scottish & Northerns at Kielder. Others TBA.

Thanks to all who have allowed use of pictures in this newsletter; Simon Edwards, Colin Jenkins, Angela Mamwell, Alan Henderson, Pete Mallaband, Tim Olin, Mike Millard. And thanks to Chris Playfair, David Downs and Pete Mallaband for stories.

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Treasurer; Kevin Francis
Fixtures; David Downs
Training; Terry Curtis
Dinghy Show; Mick Greenland
Membership Sec; Phil Male
Youth rep; Harry Odling

Buying an Osprey?

Join a friendly class, with a boat which suits all ages and both genders.

Hartley Mark 4s

1345, built 2010. Selden carbon rig, JJ foils, Two suits. Complete with strut, furler, compass covers and combi. £5000 Contact Paul Redford 07971 289437.

Woodies

52. Bell Woodworking, 1957. One of earliest Ospreys in existence, good cond for age. Contact Douglas McIntyre, 07943 316130.

555. Lightly used P & B sails. All rope renewed. Alloy rig, spiro, combi. £1750. Contact lee"at"iossc.co.uk .

1272. Chipstow. 2nd overall in the 2015 Nationals. Carbon SuperSpars mast and boom. 2 x suits of Norths 1 other suit. £3500 Road trailer also available for sale if required. Sarah Beckwith – sarbeckwith@gmail.com, or call 07738271153

Check class website at **www.ospreysailing.org** if you are searching for an Osprey. Or ask Hartley Boats, they sometimes know of boats about to come on market.

The Osprey Class Association—key benefits to members

- **15% discount for assn members on purchases of chandlery, spars and sails at Hartley Boats.** Not applicable to foils and rudder stocks.
- Organises class circuits and Championships
- Organises **free** training days
- Communicates with members and public via Class website, Facebooks, newsletters, Forum etc
- Publicises the class in yachting press and websites, and at the RYA Dinghy Show
- Provides measurement certificates
- Maintains class records and trophies
- Advertises Ospreys and gear for sale
- Underpins the value of your Osprey.

Next events– the SW Spring Series

Feb 5 Starcross Steamer Pursuit
Feb 26 Roadford Rocket Pursuit
Mar 19 Exmoor Beastie, Wimbleball Lake.
All of these are mixed fleet handicap events. Ospreys are sure to show their paces.

Osprey Class 2017 National Circuit

Apr 1/2 Blithfield SC. WS event 1 and Welsh & Midlands Championship
Apr 29/30 Mounts Bay SC. WS 2.
May 20/21 Tata SC. WS 3 and S Wales event 1.
May 27-29 Coniston SC. WS 4
Jun 10/11 Carsington SC. Inlands and WS 5
Jun 24/25 Poole YC. WS6.
July 8/9 Castle Cove SC. WS7
Aug 10-13 Poole YC. Nationals.
Aug 26/27. Burnham. WS8
Sep 9/10. Kielder WSC. Scottish & Northern Championships and WS9
Oct 28/29 Rutland SC. End of Seasons and WS10.

Carsington, Tata and Coniston are new venues this year.

Best 4 to count. The scoring system (new this year) will be:-
The winner of each event shall receive a score that depends upon the number of entries at that event i.e.:-

Up to 15 entries	1 point
16—19 entries	0.9 points
20- 24 entries	0.8 points
25-29 entries	0.7 points
Over 29 entries	0.6 points

The second, third, fourth and fifth boats shall respectively receive 1, 2, 3 and 4 points more than the winning boat. Sixth place competitors and below shall receive points equal to their position.
This new system aims to reward the top guys for getting in the top five at the bigger events while still allowing the more middle of the road sailors to pick up useful points at the smaller events.

See page 5 or class website for updates on **Regional circuit events** in South Wales and Lakes & Borders.

Other non circuit events which some Osprey sailors may go to;
Apr 14-17 Rock SC. Easter Chase
April 15-17 Ullswater YC Easter Regatta
July 15/16 Roadford Lake, Devon. CVRDA rally. For classic & vintage boats of all classes.
Are you thinking of going to a non circuit event? Why not post on FBk/ forum to see if other Osprey sailors can join you?