



HURST CASTLE SAILING CLUB NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2025

Dear Members,

Happy New Year! Welcome to the first newsletter of the year. Sorry it is a bit later than usual. Hopefully everyone received the earlier notice about our first social event of 2025, the winter talk by Chris and John Chaundy on Wednesday, January 15th.

Note the start time of 19.30 hours. Refreshments will be available.



Other winter talks will be on Wednesday February 19th, with a talk about the coastal birds by Anthony Knox, a local expert.

And on Wednesday March 19th, when the Sailing Committee will be taking the floor.

Looking ahead, the other big event which you should have in your diaries is the club's **Annual General Meeting on Saturday March 15th**. **Come and make your comments about how the club is run. Even more importantly, we are looking for volunteers to the join the General Committee and to take on Flag Officer positions of Commodore, Vice-Commodore and Rear Commodore, Social.** January and February are the time of year when we start actively looking for people to take on roles and bring a fresh pair of eyes to our admin and activities. Please think about how you could help.

RECENT EVENTS

December 7th saw us celebrating the 2024 season in great style at South Lawn Hotel. The hotel did us proud with the standard of catering and service. This was followed by the HCSC awards for 2024 and then dancing till late.



Thanks must be given to Anne O'b who ably managed all the arrangements for the prizes. This included collecting trophies from last year's winners, arranging engraving and for other prizes procuring unique bespoke bowls, with a line drawing, hand thrown and decorated by the Vinegar Hill Pottery in Milford -on-Sea.

This event was quickly followed by the festive Bring and Share lunch on Saturday December 14th. The usual HCSC table laden with food, was followed by entertainment and carol singing with our in-house group, the HCDC.



Sustainability and our Environment.

Our Commodore recently sent out an email about the Hurst Spit 2 Lymington latest strategy for managing our coastal edge, bearing in mind the effect of climate change and increasing erosion. There is a lot of concern about the effect on our local waters and the opportunities to sail if the Hurst Spit were allowed to be breached. Please have a read of Paul's email and access the web site which will give you more information: Hurstspit2lymington@environment-agency.gov.uk. Although there is a deadline for comments the project management will accept some comments for a short time beyond then. The HCSC general committee will be considering a formal response but comments from individual voters may possibly have more impact.

Information from our treasurer, Alan;

Now that the club has switched our energy supplier to Octopus Energy, if you also want to switch if the club refers you then both you and the club will receive £100 off your bill. If you want a referral link, please email me at treasurer@hcsc.org.uk and I will send it to you. If you have already started the switch then you can still do it by entering my email (treasurer@hcsc.org.uk) in a field on your Octopus account page.

Club member to receive RYA Long Service Award

We are delighted to say that Ian Day, a member since he was a teenager c60 years ago, with other club member Martin Rayment, a pioneer of foil and kite sailing and winner of a sailing speed record, 10 years Commodore of HCSC, instigator of Junior Sailing and generally a stalwart of the club throughout his membership, will receive an RYA Long Service Award at the RYA Dinghy and Watersports Show on 22 February. This is richly deserved and followed a successful nomination by some club members. The Dinghy Show on 22 and 23 February will be the Farnborough Exhibition Centre adjacent to the airport.



New Club Website

You may remember that this was referred to recently when we had a few glitches with our emails. A small group has been steadily working through 2024, alongside our Contractor, to create a more modern web site for the club. Interface with the public is all important these days and the new web site will also lighten the load on Alistair H who currently uploads news of our events because it will make it easier for key people to upload information about their areas. Training for these key people is being rolled out now and we hope the new web site will be on line at the end of February. So look out for more information about this development.

Finally some reminders

Membership fees are due in January. Did you update your Standing Order in line with the changes agreed at last year's AGM? If you do not pay by Standing Order have you remembered to make the payment? Please make life easy for our Membership Secretary and Treasurer.

The Gear store will be having a clear out. Make sure you have marked your property stored there so it is not thrown out.

We need volunteers for the General Committee and Flag Officer posts. Can you help to run the club?

Wishing you a successful 2025 and hoping for some sailing and kayaking even in the cooler months!

Paul M, Commodore

JW Editor.