



**Datchet Water
Sailing Club**

**RYA
PUSH THE
BOAT OUT**



From the Commodore

What a fantastic weekend we had.

I believe that this was the best Open Weekend that I have seen and we all need to be proud of that. We are a members club run by our members for our members and you are all proof of that. We have a very positive attitude within our club and people see this looking at us as a club from outside. We had loads of feedback on what a friendly club we are and how much everyone enjoyed our facilities

We had 86 people who went afloat, many trying different boats and some coming both days. It appears we signed more new members and taken more enquiries for courses than ever before. Others have booked onto the Learn to Sail package and signed up to the Thursday night/ Friday morning "This Girl Can" sessions.

This is only the start, people who visited the weekend will come back and join us and we will follow up with all of the weekend participants

A huge thank you to all those who helped make this a success – both on the day and in preparing for it. It made me very proud to watch the efficiency of our club, that I am lucky to be Commodore of, and the smiles on people's faces all weekend - even though Saturday threw us some not so pleasant weather and we were greeted by a flat calm on Sunday.



Sunday morning before the crowds (& wind) arrived. Photo by Richard Jones, club member.

"Janet and I had the pleasure of seeing all the grins which can only be surgically removed when they came off the water and hearing all the sincere praise for everyone waterside who were 'just wonderful'. A great weekend with a fantastic buzz around the club"

Helen Beecham

There is a hard core of members who step up for club events – but it is always great to see new faces helping out. There is already a plea for more assistance for this event next year - don't feel intimidated because the old hands look so slick at what they're doing!

Put next year's event in your diary now – 19th & 20th May 2018

Mike Beckett, Commodore DWSC

Special 'Thank You's

Organising such events is hard work, but when you end up with a very successful event it does make it all worthwhile. A number of people had never been on the water before and were very anxious, but not a single person left without a smile. Particular thanks to the following:

Jon Senior for organising taster sails for two days, never leaving his post and always with a smile on his face. No matter who we put before him, Jon coped cheerfully and gave all our visitors a great experience.

Helen Beecham and **Janet Pepper** manned the registration desk and **Bridget Winkfield** assisted in the kit room on Saturday afternoon.

"It was a great weekend - lots of laughs with the visitors who came through the door. I'm full of admiration for everyone who helped but especially for Jon Senior and his team, and all the helms, for doing such a cracking job"

Janet Pepper

The helms, who took out visitors in their own boats and in club boats.

Mervyn Wright, Simon Etter, Mike Firth, Mike Robinson, Denise Lyttle, Stuart Jones, Daniel Goodman, Tom Taylor, Ralph Singleton, Sebastian Camisuli, David Tugwell, John Patterson, Wayne Richards, Paul Elliot, David Fulcher, Ben Lodge, Martin Wilson, Lance Coppock, Nick Harris and Mike Sheppard.

Particular thanks are due to the **Wayfarers**, led by **Tony Cooper**



The club's new training Wayfarers – heavily laden!



Taster sails in a Flying Fifteen



The cat gets the cream (too corny?!)

The **Brunel University Sailing Club - Tom Hayes, Niall Tutt, Ben Williams** – helped the entire weekend with safety and ferrying duties with **Harry Wilson** from the Club. We were so busy that helms stayed afloat and visitors were ferried to the boats from shore!



Datchet water taxis

Glenn Truswell - 2 times International 14 World Champion and designer of the Fusion assisted with taster sails all weekend by kindly bringing 4 down to the club.

Thanks must also go to our affiliates the **Radio Controlled Yacht Group**, and the **Sea Cadets** who all gave their time to support us all weekend.

The Office did a great job to make sure the club looked its best and put together some very impressive publicity.