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March Newsletter

There is a smattering of sunshine and warmth in the air and it's the time of year that I always start wanting to get sailing. This year is no difference, if anything worse! Once again this newsletter is jam packed, so read right to the end!

There has been some impressive planning by members of the Gen Comm to work around the challenges that Covid keeps throwing at us. The effort they have all put in is immense and i'm really excited that sailing is starting imminently! We are pleased to say that the sailing, social and training programmes have been pulled together by Paul Robbins, Claire Perkins, Sean Coomber and their respective teams - well done and thank you to you all. The programmes will be sent out as soon as possible and will be subject to change.

First things first:

Lift In has been rescheduled to Thursday 29th April.

Dinghies however can get sailing! Hurrah! In addition to the three club wayfarers available to hire, in a break from tradition (for this year only....) **we will welcome dinghies down to the club at any point from now.** They will be stored where ever there is space including on the front of the club and between lifted vessels. If you are bringing your dinghy down before lift in please drop Adam Gray (bosun@gravesendsc.org.uk) an email so that we can keep an eye on space and arrangements. If you don't think you will sail your dinghy before lift in, *please don't bring it down*. There is limited space. If this catches you out on a day you want to sail, please contact me and i'll find you a boat to borrow if the club wayfarers are all out.

Next events (subject to gov guidelines):

- **Saturday 13th March:** Pictionary-style zoom. Contact Claire (social@gravesendsc.org.uk)
- **Thursday 18th March:** Virtual K&N: Dinghy Cruising: Escapades in the Estuary. Contact Kevin (K&N@gravesendsc.org.uk)
- **Thursday 8th April:** Virtual K&N: topic TBC. Contact Kevin (K&N@gravesendsc.org.uk)
- **Sunday 11th April:** GSC Safety Boat familiarisation day. Contact Sean (principal@gravesendsc.org.uk)
- **Saturday 17th April:** Dinghy 1. Contact Paul Robbins (sailing@) or Chris Smith (raceduties@) if you can help with safety/race officer
- **Wednesday 21st April:** Dink about evening. Contact Sean (principal@gravesendsc.org.uk)
- **Saturday 1st May:** Spring Plate and Sail Past (N.B. due to restrictions, we will focus on starting the season as we mean to go on: by sailing. We will hold the Commodore's reception later in the season)

A big well done to our Publicity Officer, Liz James, who has hit the ground running and got an article in the Kent Messenger already! For those who haven't seen it, [it is also available online](#). **Please do share the article,**

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wonderful little club on the Thames. It'll help you fulfil the challenge I set: for all members to bring a non-member down for a visit at some point in 2021.

I wonder who will get their boat to the club first and whether they will beat *Ozone Friendly* down there...

Harriet

Do you have a GSC trophy lurking in your house? If so **please return it to Paul Robbins, via the West Wing.**

Do you have a club locker? If so, **please contact Adam Gray** with the number of your locker ASAP (bosun@gravesendsc.org.uk or 07756112824)

In preparation for the sailing season, we want to give the club wayfarers a spring clean. **Can you help?** Please contact Adam (bosun@gravesendsc.org.uk)

Sailability

We are excited to be working on the sailability project: a project aimed at providing a supportive and inclusive sailing programme that helps those in our community with physical and emotional disabilities to learn the skills and gain the confidence needed to learn to sail and have fun on the water.

The project will need a variety of volunteers to support learning both on and off the water, as well as programme development. Whether you have a few ideas you think might be helpful, want to get involved in the delivery of the project or simply have some time to be apart of the committee, please do let us know and **get involved in this amazingly rewarding, worthwhile project** that will bring people with or without a disability together as one community!

The Sailability AGM will be held mid-end of April and nominations for committee members will be needed.

Sarah (Hutchinson)
sailability@gravesendsc.org.uk

For Sale

Green Dragon: Snapdragon 747

Green Dragon is a Snapdragon 747, she has a bilge keel and was built in 1974; the dimensions are 7.47m in length, 2.45m beam and 0.76m draft or 24' 6" long and 8' berth, and a draft of 2' 6". Her displacement is 1.678 Kg or 1.652 tons. She has four berths. There are two suits of sails, Tan and White, together with various side dodgers. She is equipped with a Beta 16 Marine Diesel motor with a 10 gallon fuel tank and two 12v batteries with a Forgen Wind Generator and a solar panel.

Other equipment is included ;- GRP dinghy, stern ladder, many mooring lines and fenders, roller reefing on fore sail and much more....

PIRO £4000.

Contact current owner David Rouse (patanddavidrouse.60@talktalk.net)

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Wind-vane system believed complete, originally from a Nicholson 26 and very well engineered - available to view in the Marina Office, offers looked for.

For more information contact Roy (facilities@gravesendsc.org.uk)

Proposed Development

The working group led by Richard Twyman are still hard at work engaging with the developers regarding the neighbouring development. Thank you to all who have volunteered their time and skills so far. You have all been a great help and much appreciated.



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