

OFFSHORE LOG

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WWW.OFFSHORE.ORG.UK
SAILING@OFFSHORE.ORG.UK

WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER

WRITTEN BY LADY SEAWHISTLE

This is an exciting time for Offshore as we take on the new and exciting world of newsletters and email news! It's about time we give you an insight into what is going on in the organisation and celebrate the many fantastic things that are going on. This will be a monthly affair so note the date in your diary and if you have any news that you would like to share - send it onto us!



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

WRITTEN BY ADRIAN SLIM

Welcome to the our refreshed newsletter, and thanks to our editor for taking on the job.

We are now very much into our closed season, with both boats in maintenance out of the water at Fox's marina. However, there is still plenty of activity behind the scenes, moving the organisation to a more volunteer run charity, and controlling our cost base.

With the end of COVID restrictions we were able to run staff training in May and evening sails in June, day sails in July, then a full programme in late July and August and into the Autumn, which got our skippers and mates back "into the groove" and provided much needed revenue. Both our boats headed down to the South Coast, and as far as Dartmouth.

We ended the season in a positive situation and we are now looking forward with enthusiasm to the 2022 sailing season. A huge thank you to all our volunteer staff who have enabled us to restart our operation, with retrained staff, and well maintained boats.

We have also launched our 2022 programme, which can be viewed on our website, and we are already taking plenty of bookings and expressions of interest. From weekends out of Ipswich to longer trips to the Channel Islands, there is something for everybody.

THE 2022 SAILING PROGRAMME IS HERE!

Get your calendars ready.... because here is our programme for next year!
Just email sailing@offshore.org.uk - we can't wait to welcome you onboard





Some news regarding our volunteer staff - Dan Weaver has recently taken over all afterguard management duties from Adrian Randall, who is concentrating on managing our ongoing vessel maintenance and refits. We have also now formed a core maintenance team, consisting of 5 suitably experienced people, who will be on hand throughout the year to repair reported faults, and lead refit days. We will also be restoring our annual training day, AGM and evening dinner, to take place on 19th March 2022. Full details will be issued in due course, but save the date!

In the meantime, have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Look forward to seeing many of you in 2022!



THE WINTER REFIT

WRITTEN BY ADRIAN RANDALL

Both our boats were hauled out in November and we immediately got to work with normal routine work.

This winter we are carrying out a relatively light refit, due to a combination of only had a seasons use, plus a lot of work carried out during periods we could not operate due to COVID restrictions. However the costs still have to be managed, with ongoing rigging replacement, a new mainsail for Offshore Scout, and new anchor chains for both boats on the shopping list this winter.

A big thank you to those who have joined refit so far, and a reminder we will need a few volunteers each weekend in January and February too! The kettle is always on, cake and biscuits available, and a great chance to learn more about how the boats work.



WELCOME TO THE AFTERGUARD

WRITTEN BY LADY SEAWHISTLE

A big welcome to all those who have become volunteer afterguard over the season, we are very excited to meet you all and sail with you in the new season!





CONGRATULATIONS!

WRITTEN BY LADY SEAWHISTLE

Congratulations to Alistair, Linden, Neil and Neil for their successful completion of the RYA Yachtmaster Coastal ticket on one of the last voyages on Ocean Scout. They will now be promoted to first mates onboard offshore voyages next season.

If you are looking to gain more training and qualifications please make sure to let your interest known to the office as then they can inform you of upcoming trainings with others interested.



VOLUNTEER WITH US!

Volunteering at sea is an incredibly rewarding experience. It can be a fantastic way to get out on the water, build your own experience, and pass your experience and enthusiasm for sailing on to participants.

Our voyages are run entirely by volunteers so you are sure to be in great company and amongst like minded people. We are always looking for more volunteers to sail as skippers and mates on our boats.

Volunteers sail with us in a variety of sea-staff roles, from trainee mate through to skipper. Which role is right for you depends on how much experience you have, and whether you have any maritime qualifications, ideally a minimum of RYA Day Skipper qualification.

SCOUTING FOR AN ADVENTURE?

Are you a scout leader and looking for an original and exciting adventure for your scout group next year? Come sailing with us for a weekend or even a whole week!



BOOK A VOYAGE WITH US!

Looking to go on the best adventure ever? Come sailing with us! Never sailed before? No problem! Our experienced volunteers are there to keep you safe and make it fun! Whatever you are looking for a challenge, meet new people or a group holiday or even a bit of personal development we cover all these things! You might even meet me-the Lady Seawhistle of the Offshore Newsletter.