



HYSTS Management Committee / Trustees' Annual Return for 2024

Years come and years go – some are good, some bad and some just best forgotten. Our year will be remembered for hard work, a celebration, excitement, achievement, but tinged with profound sadness.

The celebration came in the form of the Scheme's 50th Anniversary. From those who helped Dave Loader (1922-2010) in the early years of the Havant Youth Sail Training Scheme (HYSTS), to the 8-year-old young person who started sailing this year, to those from past and present, all joined the celebration at a recent well attended event held at the Bedhampton Community Centre. A finger buffet was enthusiastically received as were two sponge cakes elaborately decorated with confectionery sail boats. Around the walls, photographs of the founder of HYSTS, Dave Loader were displayed along with ones of his long serving colleague, Peter Bee who sadly passed away in April, he would have been highly delighted to attend the evening. Peter had been a legend within the HYSTS community. He knew all the characteristics of the young people who came to sail. He was very encouraging and patient with beginner sailors gently enabling them to believe in themselves, to work as a team and improve their sailing skills.

Many people dream of owning their own property and although we are only a small charity it has also been our dream for some time. We are presently finalising our purchase of the sailing base and agreeing the arrangements to lease the boat compound from Hampshire County Council. With ownership of property naturally comes responsibility and in the case of a charity, the need to further protect our Trustees. To achieve this aim, we have recently 'Applied to Register a Charity' in order to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). Energetically leading this whole project is Bill, our Principal; who from the outset has worked tirelessly and with great diligence researching the various rules and regulations to achieve this change, compiled a new Constitution and completed the application documentation, and somehow managing at all times to keep Committee members fully conversant with proceedings. Nigel joined us earlier in the year. He is experienced in the organisation and governance of charities and assisted Bill to navigate us through the complexities of becoming CIO. Nigel has taken over the vacant, important post of Bosun responsible for the maintenance of the sail and power boats.

During an exceptional high tide in April, Langstone Village was flooded including the HYSTS shore base and although we thankfully did not suffer any significant damage many properties in the village were badly flooded resulting in considerable damage to their ground floors. The Royal Oak pub was forced to shut for two days following the incident, and the landlord said that it could take up to two weeks until the venue was fully operational once more. The building was without power and had appliances - including six freezers and eight refrigerators destroyed, with its kitchen closed.

Digital media students from St Vincent Sixth Form College, Gosport, led by their tutor Cath, used their creative talents to design six sample promotional leaflets for the Scheme with one eventually chosen as part of an annual promotional drive. As a thank you the students were invited to a day's sailing at Langstone, where Sail HYSTS is based. A spokesperson for Sail HYSTS said: "The students were all very polite young adults and a credit to St Vincent's, it was a pleasure to introduce them to sailing." One of the students said: "It was the best day ever. It was good to see for ourselves what Sail HYSTS does and I am excited that our leaflet may encourage more young people to have fun on the water."

Hilary, our Chief Instructor, and members of her family have contributed immeasurably to the operational effectiveness of the Scheme taking time and patience to teach the fundamental skills of sailing very effectively. We have also been enthusiastically supported by experienced young people from a local sailing club who have stepped in to take complete novices out in a sailboat for their first time afloat.

Of the sixteen sessions we planned this year, eleven were achieved; weather difficulties, usually high winds, resulted in the cancellation of four sessions. The average attendance of young people was eight per session, RYA rules allow nine afloat in sailboats. It is always good to receive feedback whether it is good or bad, from that information we can ensure our teaching and the facilities we provide are up to date, relevant and hopefully fun! Here's a few anecdotal quotes: "Your Scheme is so special and creates such incredible core memories for my kids. My son in particular, who really struggles getting out the house and doing extracurricular activities, says he can never wait to come back to HYSTS." Another one: "Can I just take this opportunity to thank you for all your time, effort and kindness in organising these sessions, and can you also pass on our gratitude to everyone involved! My son has absolutely loved every session he has attended and we have watched his confidence grow. I know he will continue to be eager for the following year."

As an RYA Recognised Training Centre, we follow the RYA Youth Sailing Scheme syllabus which provides an enjoyable and progressive way to learn with a certificate awarded for the successful completion of each stage. This year we have awarded an encouraging number of certificates. Harry, one of our more experienced young sailors is also a Sea Cadet and took passage, as a crew member, on Training Ship Royalist when she escorted the Freedom Flag to Normandy this year for the 80th Anniversary of the D Day landings. Wearing a uniform, polishing his shoes, standing a watch at sea and running up the rigging were just part of his possible 'out of comfort zone' but nevertheless, positive, self-affirming life experiences – he thoroughly enjoyed it!

Graham, a newly joined RYA Senior Instructor, offered to take on the important role of webmaster. In this year peppered with unusual events coupled with unique activities it has been essential that the Scheme's website and social media outlets displayed quick and accurate information. Graham achieved those aims.

It is heartening for us all to see how popular learning to sail a dinghy has become. Whether it is the very reasonable fee we ask or that parents and carers can observe the positive benefits their children gain from learning a pastime which takes them away from a screen and into the open air, we are not sure. However, what we do know is that it encourages young peoples' teamwork, resilience and self-confidence, whilst enjoying a unique, activity they can take into adulthood. We have identified 17 sailing sessions for the 2025 season. We are fortunate to have committed Senior Instructors, keen young people, enthusiastic volunteers, and reasonable financial stability, all suitable ingredients for another successful year on the water.

| 2024 FINANCIAL REPORT BROUGHT FORWARD FROM 2023 £13,507.50 | |
|---|----------|
| EXPENDITURE | |
| | |
| Core And Operational | |
| | |
| Base Maintenance and Equipment | 1079.38 |
| Safety Boat Maintenance and Equipment | 518.75 |
| Dinghy Maintenance and Equipment | 54.98 |
| Safety Boat Fuel | 83.34 |
| Clothing | 45.00 |
| Sailing Instructor/Authorised Helm Fees | 1377.50 |
| Authorised Payments To Volunteers | 00.00 |
| RYA Certificates/Logbooks/Handbooks | 00.00 |
| Publicity Printing | 51.00 |
| Staff Expenses | 302.50 |
| Volunteer DBS Checks | 15.00 |
| Website Support | 106.97 |
| Bedhampton Community Centre Room Hire | 193.95 |
| Bank Account Administration Charges | 66.50 |
| Insurance | 3178.16 |
| | |
| Fees And Affiliations | |
| | |
| Harbour Conservation Dues | 66.37 |
| Harbour Federation Membership Subscription | 40.00 |
| RYA Recognition Fee | 370.80 |
| Community First Membership Subscription | 10.00 |
| Havant Borough Sports Association Affiliation Subscription | 20.00 |
| | |
| Utilities | |
| | |
| Water | 190.53 |
| Electricity | 855.79 |
| Business Rates | 187.13 |
| | |
| INCOME | |
| | |
| Donations | 1536.20 |
| HMRC Charities (Gift Aid) | 00.00 |
| Havant Community Lottery | 378.50 |
| Hire Of Sailing Base | 550.00 |
| Sailing Fees/Logbooks | 990.00 |
| Sale Of Redundant Assets | 320.00 |
| | |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE | 8,833.65 |
| TOTAL INCOME | 3,774.70 |
| BALANCE CARRIED OVER TO 2025 | 8,448.55 |

Sailing Report

Sailing season: 20th April to 19th October 2024

Breakdown:

| | |
|------------------------------|----|
| Scheduled sessions | 16 |
| Sessions run | 11 |
| Sessions cancelled - weather | 4 |
| Session cancelled - no SI | 1 |

Age spread 8 - 15 years, 25 Young people - 12 girls, 13 boys

Attendance:

Average attendance per session:

8.4 in 2024; 8.8 in 2023; 5 in 2022; 6.5 in 2021; Nil in 2020; 7 in 2019; 5 in 2018; 6.3 in 2017; 8.3 in 2016; 6.8 in 2015; 7.2 in 2014; and 7.5 in 2013.

| Certificate | Started | Completed |
|-------------|---------|-----------|
| One | 2 | 2 |
| Two | 3 | 3 |
| Three | - | - |
| Four | - | - |

Recognition of Charitable Status

HYSTS' address is: Havant Youth Sail Training Scheme, c/o The Bedhampton Community Centre, 21 Bedhampton Road, Bedhampton, Hampshire, PO9 3ES.

HYSTS' Trustees: Peter Bee, Geoffrey Lynch BEM, Owen Davies, Mary Milton, William Walworth CBE, Ian Earle, Catherine Burton and Sophie Gray

The HYSTS Constitution (as amended 10th March 2014) requires the overall responsibility for the Scheme shall be vested in the Management Committee elected by the Patron and Sailing (Senior) Members at the Annual General Meeting each year.

HYSTS' Constitutional objectives are:

1. to improve the quality of life of young people through the provision of sailing opportunities and qualifications as a challenging activity;
2. to provide a secure environment for the self-development of young people through qualified and professional guidance;
3. to work in partnership with statutory bodies and organisations within the community;
4. to deliver youth work through the medium of sailing and waterborne activity;
5. to facilitate training opportunities for young people and adults wishing to work with young people.

These objectives are further expanded to include:

1. to introduce young people to sailing and seamanship as an activity in a way that facilitates personal development;
2. to provide affordable opportunities for young people to experience dinghy sailing with qualified RYA instruction and procedures.
3. to provide a membership system by which young people can regularly participate in sailing in order to develop confidence, personal skills and teamwork;
4. to provide planned and progressive opportunities for youth groups to initiate and develop sailing for their members;
5. to provide 'come and try' sessions for young people who would otherwise not have the opportunity to attempt sailing as an activity;
6. to provide opportunities for young people to fulfil requirements of external organisations with regard to sailing (e.g. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Scouts, Guides, RYA certificates etc.);
7. to provide training opportunities in order to develop the HYSTS programme;
8. to raise self-esteem and develop personal and social skills;
9. to support the development and positive personnel relationships with both peers and adults;
10. to enable the sharing and acting on ideas and issues;
11. to recognise the voluntary involvement of young people with a range of experiences and views;
12. to take part in outdoor education activities.

Planned Outcomes for young people include:

1. Young people can gain RYA Awards for members and RYA Taster Certificates.
2. HYSTS members completing 3 or 6 months of regular attendance will receive an Access Credit and Certificate for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.
3. Through their involvement with HYSTS activities young people will develop greater self-confidence and self-esteem as well as improving their team work skills.
4. Participation in the Members' Sailing Committee leading to young people having the opportunity for full involvement in the organisation of HYSTS.
5. HYSTS will provide a progression of sailing experience in line with the current RYA modules.
6. Young people will:
 - feel more confident;
 - relate more effectively with both peers and adults in a variety of circumstances and settings;
 - be able to use their skills effectively;
 - learn how to express their views effectively;
 - experience a new and challenging activity;
 - have the ability to work with others and influence opinion and decisions;
 - know when their views have made a difference;

- develop and maintain effective relationships;
- choose to be involved in positive activities and avoid crime, anti-social and hazardous situations.