

Overall Winners- Exe Sailing Club



Exe Sailing Club is situated close to the mouth of the Exe estuary in Devon, and is the largest of a number of clubs on the river.

With a full membership, and a current waiting list, the club offers year-round racing and training for both dinghies and cruisers as well as a wide

range of 'fun' activities.

At the beginning of 2009, the club tripled the size of the ladies changing rooms, adding three new showers which has resulted in an increased number of ladies sailing throughout the season.

A vibrant social calendar ensures that there are plenty of 'off the water' activities for members throughout the year – including a Christmas pantomime!

Key to the success of this club has been their commitment and ability to attract and retain a well qualified and motivated band of volunteers. Employing a Club Pro from April last year has also proved a very successful initiative that has become integral to the development and running of the training centre.

Bury Lake Young Mariners



Bury Lake Young Mariners is based in Rickmansworth Aquadrome, in North London.

Their primary objective is to give local young people access to dinghy sailing, and achieve this by keeping sailing fees low and offering

affordable membership for the whole family. A diverse fleet of over 70 modern sailing dinghies are available for members use, thus ensuring that not owning a boat is no barrier to getting on the water.

Over 100 volunteer deliver a range of 'on the water' activities, both training and racing. During the past season over 3500 young people experienced sailing at BLYM, and nearly 800 Dinghy Sailing Certificates were awarded.

A dedicated Youth Committee ensures that the views and needs of young people are taken into consideration, and young people are encouraged to get involved in all aspects of the running of the club.

Donaghadee Sailing Club



Donaghadee Sailing Club is located on the east coast of Northern Ireland about 18 miles from Belfast.

In 2005, the members, recognising the need to 'move with the times' created a five year development

plan, and set about raising funding to build a brand new clubhouse. The facilities were completed early in 2009 and were opened officially last September. These new facilities have enabled the club to reach out to wider sections of the community, clearly demonstrated by a staggering 45% increase in membership in the past year.

Attracting new young people into sailing and their club has been a long held focus for Donagahdee. With nearly 40% of their members being under 18, and the Friday evening sessions regularly attracting around 50 young sailors they are clearly doing this well.

Spinnaker Club



Spinnaker Club, based on the edge of the New Forest in Hampshire offers a wide range of sailing activity to the whole of the local community. They pride themselves on being a friendly club which encourages sailing for all ages and abilities. A range of

training, racing and more 'social sailing' activities are offered to encourage people out on the water.

2009 proved a hugely successful year for the club with their Annual Open Day in May attracting nearly 1000 visitors, giving over 400 people an opportunity to get out on the water. This resulted in over 50 new memberships in the following three months alone. Overall membership is up by 24% on last year with 105 new families joining.

Spinnaker Club put a large element of their success down to the number and calibre of its volunteers, without whom just could not manage.

Yorkshire Dales Sailing Club



Yorkshire Dales Sailing Club is located high in the Dales National Park at Grimworth Reservoir.

The state of the art clubhouse opened in the Autumn of 2009, after many years of 'making do' now means that the 'on shore'

facilities match the outstanding 'on water' experience - on the biggest, cleanest, and windiest stretches of water in the North of England

The club has also successfully developed a complementary arrangement with two other organisations which use the same water, providing seamless transition from taster experiences, RYA courses and qualifications to regular racing. Bewerly Park Outdoor Education Centre – provides RYA Training courses and GYBE is an organisation giving youngsters (mainly from deprived backgrounds) the opportunity to sail and windsurf.

This complex but extremely successful partnership between the three organisations enables the sharing of resources, equipment, facilities, knowledge and skills, to the mutual benefit of all. And provides opportunities that no one party could offer alone.