



To add something to the next edition please email: rachel.grayson1998@hotmail.co.uk

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Description	Sailing Schedule:
3, 10, 17, 24 Feb	Winter Series Event Elton Sailing Club	Mirrors will be having their own start. A handicap start so parents and siblings can bring along other boats and join in.	First Race at 12
9/10 Feb	NYDS North Squad Training Elton Sailing Club	Session 5 of squad training. Only for members of the NYDS North.	Agreed on by coach, you'll be informed by email
9/10 Feb	NYDS South Squad Training Itchenor Sailing Club	Session 5 of squad training Only for members of the NYDS South.	Agreed on by coach, you'll be informed by email
10, 17 Feb	NYDS South-west Squad Training Restronquet Sailing Club	Session 1 of squad training Only for members of the NYDS South-West.	Agreed on by coach, you'll be informed by email
16/17/18/19 Feb	RYA National Junior Squad WPNSA	Session 4 of squad training. Only for members of the RYA National Junior Squad.	Agreed on by coach, you'll be informed by email

Please note that squad training is only for members of that particular squad. Over the winter there is mainly squad training but everyone is welcome to the Elton Winter Series.

In January, we didn't make a newsletter so Happy New Year for last month! ☺

World Championships

I was 10 when I competed in my first World Championships in Pwllheli, Wales. I had been sailing a Mirror with my sister for less than a year. World Championships are the best events I have ever competed in, not just for the competitive sailing side.

For those people who haven't decided whether to go to the Worlds in Ireland in the summer, I suggest everyone goes! No matter what level of ability you are, they are a fantastic opportunity to represent Team GBR and meet people from all around the world. I am still in contact with a friend I made from Australia 2 years ago.

Experience is the best teacher; a well known saying and it's so true! You get a fantastic opportunity to experience big fleet sailing and huge start lines which you can't get from anywhere else. Also, there is training before the competition which is not exclusively for squad sailors, anyone can join and benefit from top class coaching in the venue.

Then there's the social side... Nations night is always fun. Each country performs an act, the South Africans (in my opinion) are always the best but I think we'll have to sort that out this year!

All together it's an amazing opportunity to extend your sailing to big fleets and gain some experience that can only come from being there but also some incredible stories and experiences that you will never forget and you'll be telling your grandchildren!



For more information go to: ukmirrorsailing.com



To add something to the next edition please email: rachel.grayson1998@hotmail.co.uk

Thinking of moving on? Make sure you do it at the right time!

It is inevitable that most sailors will join a class as a junior sailor and move to a new class as they grow and become more experienced, this normally happens between the ages of 14 and 19. As a RYA recognised class, we fully support the transition to the RYA Youth Classes. The RYA Youth Pathway classes are the Laser Radial, Laser Standard, 420 & 29er. There is a wealth of guidance and advice in the RYA Youth Racing Handbook, or alternatively you can speak to the RYA Double Handed or Single Handed Manager.

<http://www.rya.org.uk/racing/youthjunior/information/Pages/WhosWho.aspx>

It is important that sailors plan their transition and consider not just what their friends are doing, but also their physical development, temperament and longer term plans – a 70Kg sailor is unlikely to be the ideal helm for a Youth class two man boat, but may well be an excellent crew. A 420 is a natural step to make from the Mirror, but it's also worth considering the other options and your sailing style – there is a considerable difference between the way you sail a 420 and a 29er for both the helm and crew. If you are in a squad, your coach will be happy to talk about your transition options with you.

In addition to the RYA Pathway classes, there are other options including; Coaching – a chance to give something back to the Mirror class, Keelboats and other, non-pathway classes, some of which offer good youth training.

New Event – Junior National Championships

The class is going to run a Mirror Junior National Championships on the 11th & 12th May at Northampton SC. Everyone under the age of 18 on 31st Dec 2013 is welcome. There will also be a regatta fleet, starting 5 min after the main fleet for new and/or less experienced sailors to come along and join in. (the regatta fleet will allow adult crews) NeilPryde is the event sponsor so look out for some excellent prizes! Please encourage all the new and less experienced sailors at your club to come along and join in.



Membership

Rejoin the MCA, your membership is now due; follow the link on the homepage of www.ukmirrorsailing.com. Thank you to everyone who has already rejoined.



For more information go to: ukmirrorsailing.com



To add something to the next edition please email: rachel.grayson1998@hotmail.co.uk



NeilPryde Nationwide Series 2013

We are pleased to announce that NeilPryde are going to be the sponsors for the 2013 Nationwide Series. All the venues and dates are now booked please see the calendar on the website.



RYA Dinghy Show - Alexandra Palace,

Plans are well under way for this year's Dinghy show on 2nd & 3rd March. It a big year for the Mirror class as we are celebrating our 50th birthday and will be displaying Mirrors in the West corridor. As Mirror sailors we need your help, please could you come along to the show and help out on the stands, everyone who signs up to help will get a free T-shirt with the new 50th logo on it. A link to sign up should have been email to you. If you didn't receive it please follow this link: <http://www.agreeAdate.com/9D83694763C2A7660418DCD67C5E3A8FCE>

North Sails

North Sails are putting together a group order for Mirror sails in order to keep the price down, if anyone is interested in ordering new sails please contact Tim Rush at: tim@od.northsails.com



Facebook

The Mirror Class Association Facebook page is going to be changed from a Secret group to an open group; this means anyone can see the group and who's in it and what members post. This change is being made to bring us into line with other Class Association and also means sailors outside the class can see the activities of the Mirror class. Please make sure you have the correct privacy settings. If you would like to join the Facebook page please go to:

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/ukmirror/> or follow the link on the left hand side of the Mirror Class websites homepage.



For more information go to: ukmirrorsailing.com