

BUSINESS
NAME



Mainsheet

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Sailing Week
3rd—7th August
- EGM Friday 7th
August
- Paddys Expedition
Sat 8th August
- Cadet Week
24th—28th August
- Laser Open
5/6th September



JULY 2009



Rupes Ramblings...

I hope you all enjoyed our 'do' to celebrate the Freehold. It's a long time since I've seen the clubhouse so full, I think there were close to 200 people. - We must find an excuse to do it again some time!

Sailing Week is approaching fast, and with the recent excellent weather and big racing fleets on Sundays and Wednesdays, a good weeks racing is expected. The social calendar is being prepared, and provisional details should be in this Mainsheet. Make sure you have the correct dates booked off work - **Saturday 1st August to Sunday 9th August**

The number of people using the club recently is a huge encouragement. Each time I go to Piddinghoe, the banks and water are busy with lessons, courses and potterers. I had to queue up to use the slipway last week! The racing fleet at Seaford is increasing as well, with new faces (and some old ones) joining us in a wide variety of boats from Stephen Long in his Europa (Squib with a lid) to Jamie Lynch's RS700 (bonkers boat, but very entertaining watching him practice).

Thanks to Laurence, we have regular results published at the clubhouse and on the web. From these I see we had 43 boats and nearly 60 competitors take part in the first AM series, and a Wednesday night attracted 22 boats for one race. The trophies decided so far have seven different winners, which shows a good competitive mix with no one person dominating the results.

Well done to the Junior Federation Cup team, who managed to convincingly return the Trophy to its correct position over the bar at Seaford. Now we just need to work on retaining the senior Federation Cup. All in all, its been a pretty good year so far.
Rupert

FOOD HYGIENE INSPECTION SEAFORD GALLEY

On the 22nd June a representative from the Council carried out a Food Hygiene Inspection at the Seaford Club House Galley with Jane and Clive in attendance...and it passed with flying colours. This was the first inspection for many years and it comes after the recent renovation work and the installation of new equipment. Thanks must go to all those who contributed to the renovation but in particular mention must be made for the contribution of John Lawley for the design and drawings and Clive for obtaining the equipment.
Club Secretary

Memorandum and Articles of Association

These were produced in 1976 when the Club was incorporated and original hard copy versions are available. However, no software version was available, which is not surprising since software as such was not around in 1976! PDF versions were made available but of course they cannot be edited. I managed earlier this year to type the Memorandum and Articles of Association and after various proof reading sessions I believe they are an accurate reproduction of the hard copy and of course this makes the capturing of changes that much easier.

There have been two formal amendments which were agreed as follows:

- Article 25 – Quorum for a General Meeting agreed at an AGM on the 7th April, 2001;
- Article 51 – Greater options on dissolution to accommodate Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) Membership at an EGM on the 24th August, 2005.

On the latter CASC Membership was also agreed at the EGM and Articles of Association are required as part of the registration and it was the intention to take the opportunity to update the Articles to relate to reality since it was clear that this was not the case. The copy in the Seaford Club House along with a copy I have is marked up with modifications to reflect that reality and these further modifications have been formally agreed in recent Management Committee Meetings.

The intention now is to hold an EGM with a Special Resolution detailing all the proposed amendments and this is enclosed within this copy of Mainsheet. The date has been set for the 7th August, 2009 in the Club House (during Sailing Week). Section 9 of the Companies Act 1985 permits a company to alter its Articles of Association by such a special resolution, and an amended copy must be with Companies House within 15 days from the 7th August.

Apart from the two amendments above they all relate to reality on what is taking place with the exception of a two new Articles as follows:

- Article 10 (f) – To register Life Members, agreed at an AGM, as a Membership Category;
- Article 44 (4) – To ensure that, now the club owns the freeholds for both the Seaford and Piddinghoe sites, that any proposals to sell or significant develop are put before the Membership with alternative facilities being made available.

Note that copies of the amended Memorandum and Articles of Association will be available at the Seaford and Piddinghoe Club Houses and additionally copies are available on request from me and a copy will be put on the website for download.

Jim Skinner,
Club Secretary

PADDY'S EXPEDITION SATURDAY 8TH AUGUST

This is an NSSC "not to be missed" highlight that, due to the weather conditions has not taken place for the last 3 years.

Everybody – good or bad sailors – are welcome to join in.

We sail from NSSC clubhouse to Cuckmere Haven as a fleet – take the boats on the beach there or anchor off the beach and have a picnic on the beach, then sail back as a fleet.

Full Rescue coverage will be available and the event will not be held if the conditions are difficult – so any reasonable sailor is welcome.

Picnics can be transported on Ark.

There will be no other sailing on that date.

This is a very social and enjoyable event – ask any "older" member.

Muster on the beach at 9 am ready for a 10 am start.

NSSC's Sailing Week (and more)

THE POSSIBILITY OF 9 DAYS OF SAILING, SOCIALISING AND FUN IN
BRITISH SUNSHINE!!

Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd August: The Seaford Games Tourney – and open event involving 4 races.

SAILING WEEK: From August 3rd to 7th.

Morning: there will be **fun races** in the morning for adults and serious racing for the **Len Miller Trophy** for the cadets. This year these races will be for 1 hour only so that we are sure to start on time in the afternoon.

Afternoon: Each afternoon there will be two back to back races. At the end of the week, prizes will be awarded for fast and slow fleets. You can take these races as seriously or as little seriously as you wish – come along for the fun and mess around or come along and aim to win.

Evening: Each evening there will be a social programme which is still being organised. – but events will include: Quiz night – too popular an NSSC event to leave out - , an evening of folk singing and music and a games evening

Saturday 8th August: The Expedition – see elsewhere in Mainsheet for a description of this great event – that could actually happen this year!!

Many people camp at Seaford for the 9 days – its better than being in the Med – without the hassle of travelling and much cheaper – the ideal holiday for a recession.

This is a family event and we aim to have events for children and adults.

Jane and Clive will be catering for our
nutritional needs!!

SCHEDULE OF RACES

Games Tourney:-

Saturday 1st August	Race 1	14:00
Sunday 2nd August	Race 2	11:00
	Race 3	14:00

Sailing Week

Monday 3rd to Friday 7th August	Miller Cup	11:00
	Morning Fun Series	11:00
	Afternoon Series 1st race	14:00
	Afternoon Series 2nd race	ASAP after 1st race

**NEWHAVEN & SEAFORD SAILING CLUB, THE CLUB
HOUSE, MARINE PARADE, SEAFORD, EAST SUSSEX, BN25 2QR
TEL: 01323 890077**

Notice is hereby given that an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting of the Members of The Newhaven and Seaford Sailing Club Limited (the "Company") will be held at the Registered Office on

Friday 7th August, 2009 at 19.00

Special Resolution

1. To adopt the proposed amendments to the "Memorandum and Articles of Association"

The proposed amendments are as follows:

Memorandum of Association

3 (B) – To change "yachting" to "sailing"

3 (G) – To change "yachting" to "sailing"

3 (K) – To change "yachting" to "sailing"

Articles of Association

Membership

Article 7 – To change "October" to "December"

Article 9 – To change "150" to "100" and add aftercontinue as members, "hereinafter referred to as Associate Members"

Article 10 (a) – Add after ...Seaford, "or participating in Sailing Courses organized by the club"

Article 10 (b) – To change "non-sailing" to "Social"

Article 10 (c) – To change "service" to "Associate"

Article 10 (d) – To reword from "Cadet members (persons in receipt of full-time education or holding a recognised apprenticeship)" to "Persons (greater than aged 16) in receipt of full-time education or holding a recognised apprenticeship (hereinafter referred to as Student Members)"

New Article 10 (f) – "Life Members (subject to agreement at an AGM)" as a new membership category

Article 11 – Add aftercandidate for election "as a Member" and add afterHonorary Secretary "or Honorary Membership Secretary"

Article 13 – Change "country and overseas members" to "Associate, Student, Social" and delete "restricted, non-sailing, service, cadet"

Article 14 – It is proposed that this Article is deleted. It refers to the need for written notice of a member's intention on membership by 31st October otherwise liable for membership in the next year. The following numbering of the Articles to remain as currently exists.

Article 15 – To change "31st December" to "last day of February" and "1st February" to "1st April" for both of these occurrences within this Article.

Article 16 – To add between "Extraordinary Meeting" the word "General"

Proceedings at General Meetings

Article 25 – Change "fifty members" to "10% of the Membership (as at the end of February). This change was previously agreed at the AGM on the 7th April 2001.

Article 32 – Change "overseas, country, non-sailing, service" to "Associate, Student, Social"

Article 35 – Change "off shore racing group" to "Newhaven".

Article 36 – Change "off shore racing group" to "Newhaven".

New Article 44 (4) - The Directors shall lay before the club, in General Meeting for agreement, any proposals for disposal or significant development of any land assets. Any such proposals to ensure that alternative land and facilities are made available to enable the club to continue to function for sailing purposes;

Dissolution

Article 51 – To delete “or any part of the assets of the club in trustees upon such trusts for the benefit of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution as the trustees shall determine”, and add “assets for approved sporting or charitable purposes as determined by members in a General Meeting or by members of the Management Committee. Examples being related Community Sport, another Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC), or Charity”. This change was previously agreed at the EGM on the 24th August 2005.

Dated this 8th July, 2009

Jim Skinner, Secretary

Notes

1. A Member entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and on a poll to vote in the members place. Such proxy need not be a member of the company;
1. Proxy Form is below and extra copies are available from the Secretary;
1. Copies of the current Memorandum and Articles of Association and those showing the proposed amendments are available at the Seaford and Piddinghoe Club Houses.

.....
The NSSC Limited - Form of Appointment of a Proxy

I, _____ Membership No. _____ being a full adult member of The NSSC Limited, hereby appoint

_____ of _____

(address)

as my proxy to vote for me and on my behalf at the Extra-Ordinary General Meeting of the Company to be held on Friday, 7th August, 2009 and at any adjournment thereof.

(Signature)

(Date)

General Race Signing On Instructions

Please remember to sign on and PRINT your name and the crews name.

If you are using a different number on your sail, make it clear which boat number you wish your points to be awarded to.

Several boats have no sail numbers, your class rules and the club rules require a number so please put a number on your sails or your points may not count.

Helms undertaking a duty may be awarded 3rd place for the race missed.

(Only 2 duties will count in each series. Points not awarded for a cup race)

Helms wishing to claim their points in lieu of a race must notify the recorder by clearly stating their name, boat class and number on the bottom of the results sheet or they will not be awarded any points. R.O.s

The sailing season so far :

Racing to date has been very good this year with 48 boats listed in the first Sunday AM series with some very close racing. Rupert and Chris sailing 'Comfortably Numb' won.

Matt Springall won the Laser series and Chris Turner won the Radials.

The first PM Series was won by Steve and Charlie sailing 'Phenomenon'.

The Wednesday Evening Series was won by Ed in his Finn with five 1st places.

Ed has also won most of the cup races including the Pursuit Race which was one of the most enjoyable races with perfect weather and a good fleet of 21 boats.

The second Wednesday series has got of to a very good start with 23 boats starting in the first race.

If your wish to see a breakdown of all of the results then visit the clubs website or take a look at the Results notice board at the club. I also hope to publish a full set at the end of the season.

Laurence. Recorder.

NEW ALARM PANEL AT SEAFORD CLUB HOUSE

To activate or de-activate the Seaford Club Alarm simply hold the key Fob against the Alarm Panel Display box situated at the bottom of the stairs (where the old panel used to be). All sets of club keys will have their own Key fob attached.

ROUND THE ISLAND RACE 2009

There are some events which encourage both amateur and professional entries and come off the sports pages and into the general news: one is the London Marathon, another is the London to Brighton Bike Ride and yet another is the Round The Island Race. This year the owners of Ambitious Alice, Mike Woollard, Julian Scott and Bill Giles, along with a colleague of Bill's - Kevin Tucker - sailed her in the RTI Race. (Regrettably the fourth owner, Mike Beaumont, was still laid up with a badly damaged leg.) Ambitious Alice is a Bavaria 36 and really very much a cruiser and not very much a racer but we were in a handicap fleet so we compete against similar boats. Indeed this year's overall winner was a Folkboat of uncertain vintage so the results are really up for grabs.



We did the race 2 years ago in a hastily put together effort, where we were late for the start line and generally did not plan well. So this year we did our hasty planning but did manage a pretty good start - on time and at the right end of the line! After the start there was a goodish breeze up the Solent from the Needles so it was a beat along with the 200 or so boats which started with us, behind the 1000 or so which had already started while we were followed by another 600 totalling just short of 1800 yachts. These ranged from tiny little 19 foot cruisers crewed by families up to 80 foot out-and-out racers with professional crews. The advice 'seek clear wind' is good - but impossible to follow sometimes!

Fortunately there was a good tide pushing us down the Solent where we rounded the famous chalk pinnacles of the Needles and avoided the numerous rocks and wrecks which have bought many hopeful racers to an abrupt end. As we cleared the hazards we spotted the local lifeboat waiting like a vulture for unlucky victims! Then we were freed as we headed off on a broad reach under our big colourful cruising chute. Half the fleet went inshore for the tide and the other half stayed out to sea to get better wind. We went out and arrived at St Catherine's Point (the most Southernly point on the Island) with those we had rounded the Needles with but had gone in close. Suddenly there was general excitement as a Mayday call came from one of the competitors near us when one of their crew fell overboard. Disappointingly we were not called on to effect a heroic rescue as the lifeboat was on the scene within a minute.

St Catherine's was exciting with wind over tide and the sea very confused making it hard to steer especially on a run with constant risk of accidental gybes. We got around in one piece on Starboard after meeting two big yachts on Port who had apparently not read the rules and seemed determine to hit each other and us all in this big, confused sea. But we escaped unscathed to reach gently along past Shanklin and Sandown in the lee of the Island.

We were soon at the Benbridge Buoy at the east end of the Island in light winds and lots and lots of other boats. Then we were beating back up the Solent against the tide in increasing gusty wind. We thought of reefing but settled for easing the mainsheet in the gusts which worked well. Julian's efforts at easing and tightening the mainsheet were hard work but paid off well. We stayed in close to the Island initially to get out of the tide but soon found ourselves in shallow rocky water and gradually eased out into and across the Solent. All this was on Port tack with lots of boats returning to the Island side of the Solent on Starboard. This was very frustrating as every time we ducked someone's stern we lose a few yards of hard earned upwind distance. However, we found that Kevin could accurately judge whether we were going to pass ahead, behind or were on a collision course - although we still had a few terrifying moments and near misses Mike's cool steering kept us out of trouble.



With many boats hugging the Island shore again to benefit from less tide we stayed out and enjoyed more wind and I am sure picked up many places. Eventually we crossed

the Solent to the Island side towards hundreds of other boats struggling in an adverse tide and light winds towards the finish lines. Eventually we crossed the line just under 12 hours after starting. We were please with our results - and although we came in 596th it should be remembered that there were 1779 entries. We were also first in our group of 9 Bavaria 36s' - a very pleasing result. Next year we are planning to plan well ahead and not to lug all our cruising kit (including a 10 foot inflatable dinghy, an outboard motor and a thankful of water) around with us!

Bill Giles Reporting direct from Ambitious Alice.

Minutes of the Annual General meeting of “The Newhaven & Seaford Sailing Club Limited” held at the Registered Office on Saturday 2nd May 2009 at 19.30 hours.

There were 24 voting members in attendance (and 24 in total). The required quorum was 17 (10% of 168 as at end Feb)

1. Apologies for Absence – Nick Woolgar, Penny Springall, Andrew Barns, Heidi Robinson, Ruth Rhodes, John Lawley, Ken Bourne, Paddy Turner

2. Notes last AGM held on 5th April 2008 – The Secretary indicated a Matter Arising – an EGM had not been held to agree changes to the Articles, to enable CASC Membership. They had been typed up (no electronic version) with proposed changes to reflect past EGM agreements, and reality (copies were available for members), and it was the intention to review further in Committee and hold an EGM in Sailing Week this year. Notes last AGM agreed – proposed Met Metcalfe and seconded by Richard Mitchell.

3. Company Report and Accounts - Presented by the Commodore (Rupert Smith), Secretary (Jim Skinner) and Vice Commodore (Chris Turner) and following points noted:

- Club finances were healthy with turnover comparable to previous year;
- New Ark engine was under Assets;
- Fishing Club charges potentially could increase since fishing capacity had – research considered necessary to check comparable rates elsewhere;
- Number of Members opting out of Duties considered a concern with impact on those carrying out duties;
- Advertising was down and suggestion made that Newhaven Council be involved with the Mayor since they will conduct their own advertising;
- Income for Sailing Week was down due in the main to the poor weather;
- Met Metcalfe suggested inviting the Lord Left Lieutenant to some event;
- Seaford Freehold purchase negotiations were progressing and getting closer – main issues Cycle Path, Restrictive Covenants, Boundary with Buckle Caravan Site and Sea Wall maintenance which were all close to being resolved. Much of the delay seemed to be with the Sellers Solicitors (3 different people involved);

Report and Accounts were accepted – proposed by Terry Jones and seconded by Met Metcalfe.

4. Election of Company Director’s & Officers

Director’s & Officer’s – With no more than one person nominated for the various positions it was proposed that they be voted together. It was noted that the Treasurer and Sailing Secretary would remain in the role until replacements were found. It was not clear if Steve Knevett would be able to carry out Piddinghoe role but the name was proposed pending subsequent clarification. Proposed Ian Lambert, seconded Mike Woollard. Vacancies existed additional for the PR position. For the Officers proposed Stephen Clapham and seconded Sue Marks.

5. Election of Reporting Accountants – After discussion it was agreed that Harts should continue - proposed by Mike Woollard and seconded by Bob Corbett, as Independent Reviewers of the Accounts.

6. Open Forum - Questions and Discussion around:

- **Work Parties** – Mentioned that same people turn up and it was suggested that there should be some reward similar to the Bar Voucher for re-joining;
- **Email Use** - Suggestion that more use is made of the medium to save on costs e.g. for Duty Rota. It was indicated that the current Membership Secretary was sending email to confirm receipt of membership and in the process was confirming email addresses which has been one of the problems. Suggested that people send an email to obtain the Bar Voucher;
- **Two Man Fleets** – The introduction of a two man fleet with crewing opportunities was discussed perhaps driven by Fleet Captains and the committee agreed to see what could be developed.

Meeting closed at 9.15.p.m.

Jim Skinner, 14th July, 2009 – Issue 1

Entry form for NSSC Sailing Week & Games Tourney

Saturday 1st – Fri 7th August 2009

Boat Number	Boat Class
Boat Name.....	Hull Colour.....
Helms Name.....	Sail Number.....
Crew's Name	Date of Birth (if under 18)
Club (Non NSSC Members only)	

Contact Address (Non NSSC Members only)

Duties: What duties are you qualified/competent to do: please tick (list any days you cannot do duties)

Bar	Assistant Race Officer	ARK Skipper	Rib Skipper	Ark/Rib Crew

NOTES:

1. There is a penalty for sailors who do not do a duty. If you want to do a duty on a specific day then sign your name on the list in Seaford Clubhouse BEFORE sailing week otherwise you will be allocated a duty.
2. Cadet rates only apply where the crew are all cadets
3. Adult rated boats are not eligible for cadet prizes

Tick/circle overleaf which series is paid for and if camping is included and sign below.

THIS DECLARATION MUST BE SIGNED

Entry is conditional on acceptance of the following by the Owner/Competitor racing the boat listed above:

1. The race organisers (including Newhaven & Seaford Sailing Club) shall not be liable for any loss, damage, death or personal injury howsoever caused to the Owner/Competitor, his helm or crew as a result of their taking part in the race. Every Owner/Competitor warrants the suitability of his boat for the race or races.
2. The provision of safety equipment and boats by NSSC is neither guarantee that assistance can be rendered to any Competitor in need, nor an acceptance of any responsibility for rescue of competitors. Further, in the event that assistance is rendered to any Competitor, no liability for any loss, damage or injury to the Competitor and/or the boat and its equipment is accepted by either the Club or the crew of such safety craft.
3. RRS Fundamental Rule 4: A boat is solely responsible for deciding whether or not to start or continue racing.
4. I agree to be bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing and by all other rules that govern this event.
5. I declare that I hold a valid certificate of insurance which also covers me whilst racing (including Third Party liability cover of at least £2,000,000) and which will be valid for the duration of the event.
6. I understand that if the boat is in the charge of any person other than the undersigned, it is the responsibility of the undersigned to bring the attention of the person in charge of the boat to the provisions of this entry form. In addition I will also make the crew aware of these undertakings.

I have read the above conditions and accept the responsibilities contained therein.

Signed.....

Name in BLOCK CAPITALS.....

Date:

Declaration for competitors under 18 years old:

Under law this helm (name), is my dependant and I accept para 2.1 of the Sailing Instructions, which excludes my dependant's right to claim compensation in certain circumstances. I declare that during the event the boat will have third party insurance of at least £1m. I confirm that my dependant is competent to take part and that I am responsible for my dependant throughout the event. During the time that my dependant is afloat I will be in or around the NSSC or I will inform the Race Committee in writing who will be acting in loco parentis.

Signed:

Date:

Please return form to P. Springall, 16 Eastport Lane, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1TL or bring to registration. For queries call 01273 471895.

FEES: NOTE: fees are charged per person. For the Purposes of race fees for this Open a member of an RYA affiliated club is considered as a member.

Seaford Games Tourney: Sunday 3rd August only. Under 10s will be free.

Per Person	Adult	Cadet
Expedition	£2	£1
Games Tourney Both Days		£2

Fees for Sailing Week: Monday 4th to Friday 8th August (must be paid by Tuesday 5th to qualify)

Per Person	Adult	Cadet	None Member
Daily Rate	£6	£3	£10
Sailing Week	£22	£11	£35

Camping Fees: (camping is free for people paying sailing fees)

Price per person	Adults	Children	Non members
Daily Rate	£5	£3	£7
8 day Rate	£15	£5	£25

For NSSC Club Use Only:

Fee Paid: Yes/No Amount:..... Initials: Camping Fee paid: Yes/No

FOR SALE
LIGHTENING 368 SAIL NO:229

G.R.P. LIGHTWEIGHT SINGLE-HANDER WITH CENTRE BOARD. TWO MASTS, ONE SAIL AND LAUNCHING TROLLEY. VERY FAST IN LIGHT WINDS. EASY TO RIG AND WITH CONTROL LINES LED TO SIDE DECKS FOR EASY OPERATION **£350**

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110 PHYLLIS AVE, PEACEHAVEN, BN10 7RQ



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PLEASE CONTACT RUTH RHODES

NEWHAVEN AND SEAFORD**SAILING CLUB****Cadet Section****Cadet Week 2009****Monday 24th to Friday 28th August****Provisional Timetable**

Here is a provisional timetable for this year's Cadet Week. This will be finalised nearer the time:

Monday to Friday

9.00am	Register and rig boats
9.30am	Race briefings
10.00am	Topper Senior
10.00am	Oppie Senior Racing
11.00am	Topper Junior and Development Fleet
11.00am	Oppie Junior Fun Races
12.00pm	Lunch
12.30pm	Team Games
1.30pm	Race briefings
2.00pm	Topper Senior
2.00pm	Oppie Senior Racing
3.00pm	Topper Junior and Development Fleet
3.00pm	Oppie Junior Fun Races
4.00pm	De-rigging and packing away.

On Friday there will be racing in the morning only and after the team games there will be the prize-giving ceremony.

Lunchtime Team Games (provisional)**Other Activities**

Monday	Walk the Plank Team quiz sheet
Tuesday	Oppie Relay Colouring competition
Wednesday	Treasure Hunt Pick-a-stick
Thursday	Surf the Boards Quoits
Friday and more.....	Dragon Boat Racing

**LOOK AT THE WEB FOR MORE
INFORMATION OR CONTACT
CLAIRE CORNISH.**

Alex Mills-Barton update

With a busy year ahead Alex started 2009 trying to juggle his A-Levels, fitness, sailing, training with the Youth & TS Squads and a bit of social into a workable schedule, before the sailing season started in March.

The first three UK Laser qualifiers would determine places for the forthcoming Team GBR World and European team places at the 2009 events.. The first 2 regattas at Stokes Bay and Highcliffe saw Alex post a **17th** at both events and left him **17th** in the UK senior rankings but guaranteed the **17** year old a place at the Youth Europeans in Sweden.

Next up was a Grade 1 Olympic regatta in Palma, Majorca after a poor couple of days he eventually came to terms with light wind and started to put in some good individual results including a 2nd and a couple of mid teens to pull himself up the fleet for a reasonable finish.

From Palma Alex flew straight to Glasgow for the RYA Youth Championships in Largs which experienced some seriously weird weather conditions allowing only 6 races for the whole event, a freak gust eventually settled the medal places on day 3 before racing was finally abandoned for the week.

Alex picked up a Bronze medal presented by Beijing Olympian Sarah Ayton losing out by 1 point to joint leaders and fellow and TS squad members Phil Reynolds and Martin Evans.

After a couple of weeks of R&R and lots of studying Alex had his best senior event to date with an 8th at the Lowestoft Qualifier which pushed him up the UK rankings to 13th and in with a chance of a World and European place.

With A-Level exams in full swing Alex had a major boost qualifying for a place at both the senior Europeans (which unfortunately he had had to turn down as he had decide to concentrate on the Youth Euros) and a place at the Senior World Championships in Canada.

As the 17 year old embarks on a summer of World class sailing just an hour after his final A-Level exam on the 17th of June it will be an interesting 3 months of sailing culminating in the World Championships in Canada against the best in the World, it promises to be an another interesting year in his quest to get to the 2012 or 2016 Olympics.