

Newsletter

August 2012

Hickling
Windsurfing Club



www.hicklingbroad.co.uk

2012 Calendar

18th August - Free training Day

If you want to improve your windsurfing skills then this day is for you. Gareth, our RYA advanced level instructor will be on hand to provide advice on and off the water. All skills levels catered for. This replaces the come and try day, as we didn't have enough helpers.

22nd September - Club Fun day.

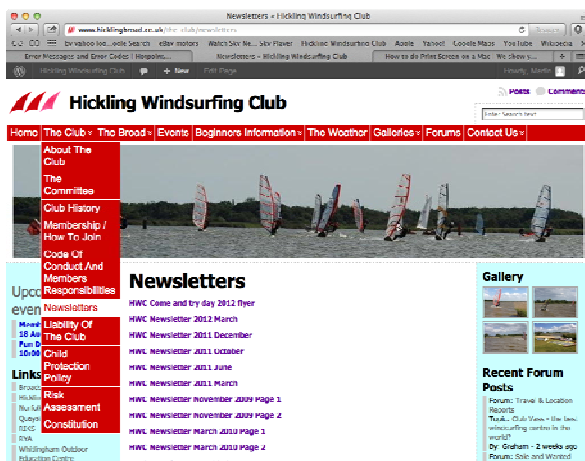


Sun, sausages, socialising on the beach, and sparing on the water.
Free lunch, fun guaranteed, and your chance to go for Gold, Silver or Bronze medals, in many creative categories. The highlight of the year at the club, we would love to see you there.

As always, keep up to date by checking the club website.

On-line Newsletter

With increasing postage costs and effort required to print and post newsletters to our growing membership, we have decided to provide the newsletter via the website from now on. We will email you to let you know when the newsletter is out. You can therefore access this via your smart phones, iPads, etc. from wherever and whenever you want to. *Committee members, I'll explain this last sentence at the next meeting ☺*



If anyone would prefer to receive copies via the post then please let me know (martinh@btinternet.com).

Dempsey takes Silver

The best ever Olympic medal for a GB windsurfer. Nick Dempsey, who has his roots in Norfolk, put in a fantastic performance to win Silver medal in the final race at Weymouth. The only sailor to swim across to the Nothe spectator area to celebrate with his supporters. A fantastic result and a real credit to the windsurfing community.



Nick Dempsey at Weymouth just after the medal race.

Bryony Shaw put in a brave effort despite suffering with a virus. She was in 2nd place for most of the final medal race but didn't make the podium this time. However, her BBC interview technique was greatly improved. After an exhausting final race in Beijing to take the Bronze medal all she could utter between the tears on live BBC breakfast TV was "I'm so f***ing happy".

Well done guys.



Bryony Shaw in 2nd place at the start of the final Olympic race.

Bill Castle. The club is very sad to hear of the loss of one of our oldest members (86yrs), Bill, a true gentleman. Our condolences go to Ros, who is one of our most active and capable lady windsurfers.

New lock code from 1st September



Code restricted for Member version of the newsletter.

A windsurfing paradise



I know that many members have had holidays at 'Vass', Greece, which has to be the most professional and well catered windsurfing centre in Europe, if not the world. Vass is run and staffed largely by Brits and attracts some of the best windsurfing instructors in the UK, including UK freestyle champions and those that compete on the world tour.

After a 4 year break, Wendy and I have just returned from a fantastic week at Vass, and I thought it would be useful to do a mini-write up for those who are unfamiliar with this awesome windsurfing playground in the sun. It comes highly recommended.

The powerhouse for the wind is 'Eric' the local thermal phenomenon that kicks in during the afternoons producing F3 to F7 winds. In the morning it's largely on shore F1 to 2, so ideal for beginners especially as it's shallow and sandy for about 40m from the shore. In the afternoon it's great for intermediates and advanced levels. The beauty of Vass is that the conditions are suitable for everyone, so ideal for families where perhaps mum and dad want to learn more advanced windsurfing skills while the children are absolute beginners. I guess the pupil to instructor ratio is about 8 to 1 so be assured there will be a group suitable for your level. It's this group of instructors and their support staff that make this such a fun packed holiday, they love being out there and make excellent hosts.

Vassaliki has a picturesque unspoilt harbour lined with good restaurants and a great place to eat in the evenings.

A couple of very special windsurfers were also there – Dave White (who opened our new changing rooms) was running his 'speed week' training so I joined this course.

Bryony Shaw, Bronze Olympic medal holder was chilling out in preparation for the London 2012 – what a compliment for the centre. Bryony had won the slalom race by the time the 2nd place had only completed about half the course. What an amazing athlete.



Olympian Bryony giving us and Dave some tips on technique

Most of the people we spoke to had holidayed there before. We will be back again next year!



Just some of the brand new boards available

Dave is also a very talented photographer – I love these pictures as for me they portray what windsurfing is all about – see what you think

<http://www.davewhite.me/news/2012/29-clubvass/clubvass.html>

<http://www.clubvass.com>

For more details checkout the full forum write up on the club website.

News Editor: Martin Harwood