

Hickling Windsurfing Club Newsletter June 2017

<http://www.hicklingbroad.co.uk>



Dave Black: a tribute



It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of club stalwart Dave Black on 24 May. Dave had been an active member of the club for many years. His energy and influence as our club Chairman between 2009 and

2014 led to major improvements in our offer to club members.

It was during Dave's Chairmanship that he experienced some misfortune, badly injuring his leg. However Dave's bad luck soon turned to the club's benefit, since enforced time on his hands for rest and recovery led to some serious thinking and planning. Very soon Dave had sourced significant investment in the club, by way of grants from Sport England and the Royal Yachting Association. This enabled the purchase of the Fanatic Viper beginners' boards and associated rigs that many members benefit from using, and a new rescue boat and engine to replace our ten aging Dory. Furthermore, the money paid for half a dozen members to be trained as RYA Start Windsurfing instructors, including first aid and powerboat training.

Dave's influence on the local windsurfing scene goes wider than Hickling. In his retirement he taught beginner windsurfers at Whitlingham Outdoor Education Centre, Norwich and I know many members took their first tentative steps on a board under Dave's careful and patient tutelage. For example, Glen Moore recalled, "Dave taught me at Whitlingham. He showed endless amounts of patience and a gentle sense of humour, which kept us motivated through the two days."



Of course there was much more to the Dave than Dave the windsurfer. He loved being in the open air, and travelling to committee meetings together he would always regale me with stories of his climbing exploits as a young man. As he matured, simply walking in the great outdoors became a passion, as well as keeping his allotment. And of course he was a deeply committed and devoted family man: our heartfelt sympathies go to Judith, his children and grandchildren.

As per Dave's wishes there will be a private committal ceremony and, in a few weeks, there will be a celebration of his life for family and close friends, with the date and venue to be decided.

In memory of Dave, his family has set up a Just Giving page for donations to the Outward Bound Trust. This is an educational charity that uses the outdoors to help develop young people, from all walks of life, to face the challenges at every stage of their education and transition into employment. A most fitting tribute that I'm sure many of you will wish to support:

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/windsurfingdave

Dave Black- it was an honour and a privilege to know you. You will be sorely missed.



Hickling Windsurfing Club Newsletter June 2017

<http://www.hicklingbroad.co.uk>



Come and Try Day: 21 May 2017



It seems somewhat appropriate that the most recent club event was probably our most successful Come and Try Day ever. In a sense it is part of Dave's legacy, since the kit we used and the instructors who led the event were all due to Dave's initiative and hard work.

What made this year so successful? Well the weather certainly helped, with sunshine and a mostly gentle southerly breeze. The commitment of 25 club members who kindly volunteered to help and make it happen certainly made a big difference. And getting 45 new windsurfers on the water has got to be seen as a phenomenal achievement by whatever measure you use. However, for me what made it so successful was simply the fun that everybody seemed to be having throughout the day. Even those guests who were just visiting and not stepping on the water seemed to be having a wonderful time, relaxing in our beautiful surroundings with a cup of tea, a slice of cake and chatting with new acquaintances. It was simply a lovely social occasion.

Thank you to everybody who made it happen. You're what makes our club so special. (And before I forget, a special thank you to whoever baked the chocolate cake. Fabulous!)



Future Events

Simon Bornhoft WINDWISE

Accelerated Progression

www.windwise.net [facebook.com/simonbornhoftwindwise](https://www.facebook.com/simonbornhoftwindwise) twitter.com/simonbornhoft info@windwise.net

Skills Training System Accelerated Progression

Hickling Freeride Course Sat 5th & Sun 6th August

Fast tacks, stance, straps, super early planing, quality control, gybing and our full SKILLS TRAINING SYSTEM PROGRESSION GUARANTEED

www.windwise.net

Back by popular demand! Simon Bornhoft, the UK's leading windsurfing coach. Last year's Windwise training event got rave reviews! For full details go to our website or Facebook page. Places are limited, so book early. Discount for members.

Also back by popular demand: Beginner Training Courses

Course 1: 17 & 24 June. FULLY BOOKED.
Course 2: 9 & 15 July. LIMITED SPACES.



The ideal next step if you took part in our come and try day, or even if you still haven't stepped on a board! A comprehensive two day course with qualified RYA instructors. But book quickly, places are limited and filling up fast. Full details on our website.

Last but by no means least, and of course back by popular demand! Club Training Day Sunday 11 June

Led by our advanced coach Gareth, just rock up on the day, and be rigged and ready to go by 10.30 am. Beginners upwards- we'll coach what you want to learn!

See you on the water!

Richard editorhwc@gmail.com