



HORIZONS' ENEWS

Horizons Children's Sailing Charity ~ Plymouth, Devon



September 2008

FRIENDSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

'Friendship' is now operational, we are now a fully coded vessel, and the boat has liferafts, lifejackets and emergency equipment for all eventualities and licensed to take up to 14 Adults.

The Wheelchair Steering platform is fully functioning and has now been tested for real (see below) as have all the wheelchair securing straps and positions.



DIANA PRINCESS OF WALES CHALLENGE

Horizons took part again in the annual Diana Princess of Wales Challenge a sailing event for the disabled run by Plymouth Rotarians and hosted by The Royal Western Yacht Club.

This event provides local people with a disability the chance of taking to the water in a variety of sailing craft for a not too serious "race" around Plymouth Sound and back for some supper and prize giving at the Royal Western YC. Each year there are a group of people that cannot partake due to their reliance upon wheelchairs, this enabled us to show off "Friendship" as we boarded four wheelchair "sailors" and carers and acted as spectator / support boat for the event.

In addition to the Friendship we took two Hawk 20's a safety boat and Peter Carpenter took his yacht "Bidwell". As usual this was a very well run and enjoyable event that ended with all participants

receiving medals from the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Plymouth.

WEEKLY SCHOOLS TRIPS

With the schools holidays over and a dark distant memory we are well into the autumn school term with a new group of children taking part in our daily Primary Schools educational trips. This is the first time the schools have had a chance to use the new boat and put it through its paces.



Currently we provide this facility to eight local schools [Mount Tamar Special School Secondary and Primary, Marlborough Primary, Mount Wise Primary, Morice Town Primary, Drake Primary, High Street Primary and Stuart Road Primary] there is only one spare session (Monday PM) when the boat is not being used.

Depending upon weather and tidal factors the children drive the boat up the Tamar River or into Plymouth Sound.

Plymouth Sound route takes a look at the forts, see the breakwater from both sides, into Cawsands Bay and closely inspect any warships etc.

The Tamar route goes past the warships, checking out the foreign boats then on to Saltash and under the Tamar bridges, have a look at Jupiter Point and once around the "sunken pirate ship" off of the Torpoint ferries.

All the children take it in turns to drive the boat, do some boat manoeuvres and take part in a Man-Overboard (MOB) exercise where each young person takes it in turns to throw the joined buoys overboard, use a boat hook to retrieve it and drive the boat to rescue "Mother and Baby".



CARGREEN YACHT CLUB REGATTA

This has now become a regular event in our social calendar, with a short race around Plymouth Sound, up the Tamar River to Cargreen for musical entertainment, BBQ and Prizes (if we are lucky).



Two yachts ("Bidwell" - Peter Carpenter, "Touzinauds" - Craig Shore loaned by John Dodd) and two Hawks (Jon Worster and Ray Clark) crossed the start and finish lines with Horizons Cadets on boards.

It was a challenging race for all of our young sailors as it was an up wind race throughout requiring them to hone their tacking skills pretty rapidly. Building up a healthy appetite for the excellent Beef Burgers we could smell over a mile away.

This is a very good event for our young people as it allows them to socialise and mix on an equal footing with other adult and junior members of the sailing "family"

MONEY/COLLECTING BOXES

Since April this year we have placed collecting boxes in shops, pubs, cafés etc, to date we have raised a staggering £450 from 18 boxes, anyone

with an outlet and wishes a box please let me (Craig) know.

WESTERN MORNING NEWS (CASH 4 CLUBS)

(20 Sept -17 Oct) We are collecting the Cash 4 Clubs vouchers, we need to collect as many as possible to give ourselves a better chance at winning the £1000 CASH.

Please ask friends and family to cut out the vouchers and send to me (Craig) before 25thOctober.

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