



Camel Estuary Youth Sailing

CEYS News

Summer 2023



SENSATIONAL SUMMER OF SAILING!



This season's cohort of CEYS students have been enjoying some fantastic weather and conditions for their sailing lessons and time on the water. For some, this is the first time they've ever been in a sailing boat. 32 students aged between 10 and 12 years old, from St Minver Primary and Wadebridge Comprehensive schools, are undertaking 10 weeks of three hour sessions with the aim of them all achieving RYA Level 3 sailing qualification at the end of it.

NEW HANDS ON DECK

Earlier this year, CEYS appointed a new chair along with four new trustees to drive the charity forward. The new CEYS chair, Nicky Roads, has lived in the area for 27 years, her three children all learnt to sail with CEYS and one of her sons recently crewed on a tall ship that sailed across the Atlantic and then south to Antarctica.

The new trustees all live locally and, along with treasurer Henry Gompertz, are getting involved with fundraising, promoting the charity and supporting CEYS students.

“Giving children the opportunity to get out on the water and sailing is not only fun and physical, but all the research shows that any form of sport and exercise has mental health benefits for children which is especially important when many families are under pressure.”

Nicky Roads, chair of Camel Estuary Youth Sailing



CEYS FUNDRAISING

We have a very busy schedule of fundraising activity this year and have been delighted with the response and generosity to date.

At Easter we were rattling buckets (and waving card readers!) in all weathers outside the bakery, the newsagents and at the ferry slipway. This is a regular fixture in the diary and is a fantastic way of not only raising funds but also raising the profile of CEYS in the community.

In May, we were involved with an art show at the Percival Institute. The revered local painter Elizabeth Smith exhibited an extensive collection of her life's work which included charming local scenes and beautiful still life paintings, and she generously donated a proportion of the sales as well as one of her paintings to CEYS.

We have also had the good fortune to receive a number of significant donations from local businesses and organisations as well as generous



individuals, many of whom sail or have sailed on the Camel – thanks to all of you. Every pound donated goes to funding the sailing lessons and supporting local youngsters progress in the sport.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Here are the stories of some CEYS graduates from previous years...

After learning to sail with CEYS, **Mary McWilliam** went on to teach sailing at Rock and is now sailing on much larger boats, working as a Bosun working for Cirdan sailing trust. She has been sailing around Scotland and is to take part in the tall ships races off Holland this summer.

Her brother **Ormy** also taught at the sailing school having learnt to sail with CEYS, raced several times during Camel weeks and then worked for Wavehunters on the driving sea safari trip boats. He now has a position as patrol officer and can be glimpsed at the helm of the Padstow harbour commissioner boat.

Ollie Bampton has had a very exciting international career so far, driving chase boats for various different teams racing incredible yachts at America's cup. Ollie also started his time on the water with CEYS progressing to an apprentice with Rock Marine, volunteering with RNLI and working for Wavehunters on the sea safari boats.



Ollie in action



CEYS SAILORS AIMING FOR GB TEAM

CEYS is supporting two keen sailors who learnt to sail with CEYS. Sylvie Carter and Jess Patterson, aged 14 & 15, have been selected onto the South West Regional training group for the RS Feva class, which is the pathway to the GB team. They have been taking part in various competitions, most recently the Regional Championships in Torquay where they came away with the title of second all girls team in the southwest.

Talking about their experience, Sylvie said:

“Over the past year, once a month, we have been travelling to different sailing clubs in the southwest to attend training sessions with RYA coaches. We have also been travelling further afield to enter Grand Prix events at Weymouth and a very windy weekend of racing in Draycote Water. Both of these were a huge step up for us but helped us gain valuable racing experience in tricky winter conditions.”



Jess and Sylvie at a recent regional training session

A WORD FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Every year CEYS funds sailing lessons for about 30 young people from local schools. Many of the students are from Wadebridge School and for some this will be the first time they've ever been on a sailing boat or indeed been out on the Camel Estuary.

Here are some words from Miss Tina Yardley, Headteacher at Wadebridge School, describing the impact that these sessions can have on the young people:

"As a school we are so grateful for the generosity and forward thinking of the team behind CEYS. The opportunities that our young people are given through the sailing courses are priceless and something that so many of our children just couldn't or wouldn't access. Alongside developing their love of sailing, being on the water and other water sports; we see these young people grow in confidence, resilience, teamwork and courage, skills that they need in order to become happy, healthy and successful members of our community. Thank you again."



Miss Tina Yardley,
Headteacher at Wadebridge School

SUPPORTING CAMEL ESTUARY YOUTH SAILING

CEYS is run entirely by volunteers and is reliant on private donations. It needs to raise around £15,000 each year to fund the sailing lessons for each new intake of students and to support those who go on to compete.

If you are able to and would like to donate, please contact us direct by email info@ceys.co.uk or go to www.ceys.co.uk.

Thank you