

WEATHER AND SAILING 2024



Saturday 9 November, 10:00-17:00



Royal Yacht Squadron, Isle of Wight, PO31 7QT

Whenever you go out on the water, you need to know about the weather.

A good understanding of the weather keeps you safe when cruising, and gives an advantage when racing.

Engage and learn from a line-up of expert sailors and meteorologists this November.

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Weather and Sailing Seminar 9-Nov-24

The Royal Yacht Squadron The Castle Cowes Isle of Wight P031 7QT

MORNING

Time	Name	Affiliation	Presentation Title and Bio
1000	ARRIVAL and REGISTRATION + COFFEE		
1020	Sir James Holman	Commodore RYS	Welcome to RYS.
1025	Prof Liz Bentley	Chief Executive, RMetS	Welcome and Introduction.
1030	Chris Tibbs	Chris Tibbs Weather	Weather Routing best practice.
			After 20 years as a professional sailor, which included 3 round the world races, Chris returned to university gaining an MSc. in Applied meteorology. After forecaster training at the Met Office Chris has been working with the yachting industry helping yachts with forecasts and weather routing. He is also involved with various races from dinghies and the Olympics to Volvo Ocean Race teams. As on-board weather router and navigator Chris helped set 7 world passage records, plus others as onshore router. He writes regularly for yachting magazines and is the author of the RYA Weather Handbook.
1110	Kirsten Neuschafer	Golden Globe Race	Winning the Golden Globe Race. (Interviewed on video by Paul Heiney)
			Kirsten has been sailing dinghies since her childhood and sailing since 2006 as a profession. From sail training to sailboat deliveries, she built a diverse set of skills and experience Kirsten recently won the Golden Globe Race 2022, a solo, non-stop, unassisted circumnavigation. This retro race is based on the first solo circumnavigation race that took place in 1968. In order to stay true to the original circumnavigation, boats are all older designs, no bigger than 36 foot- and modern navigational technology, like GPS, is not permitted.
1150	Paul Freeman	Tidetech	Wind, wave and current data for marine operations.
			Paul was born in NZ and am the son of a Master Mariner who introduced him to sailing from about the age of 5. He has competed in several Sydney Hobart races along with every major yacht race on the East Coast of Australia including international passage races. He is an RYA Yachtmaster Instructor and taught for several years out of Brisbane and Sydney. He is the Business development Director for Tidetech and has used their products extensively for racing and cruising for many years.

1230	QUESTIONS and DISCUSSION (Chaired by Liz Bentley)
1240	LUNCH

AFTERNOON

Time	Name	Affiliation	Presentation Title and Bio
1400	Anahita Laverack	Oshen	Autonomous micro-vessels for ocean weather sensing.
			Anahita is an aeronautical engineer, having studied at Imperial College London where she was awarded the President's Scholarship and graduated with first-class honours. She focused her Master's thesis on the development of design and path-planning navigation algorithms for a fully autonomous sailboat capable of crossing the Atlantic. This idea became the foundation for the start-up, Oshen, founded in April 2022. Oshen now has a fleet of 6 micro-vessels, funding from ESA, and leases their devices to ocean scientists to further our understanding of the world's oceans.
1440	Dale Smyth	Clipper Race Director	Running the Clipper Round the World Race.
			Dale Smyth is the Clipper Race Director. He gained extensive first-hand experience of the Clipper Race as Skipper of the 'Dare to Lead' team in the 2017-8 race edition. Dale is British born but regarded as one of South Africa's most respected offshore sailors after racing and instructing there for over 20 years. Dale says his love for sailing started aged eight after reading one of Sir Robin Knox-Johnston's books, and he decided to turn his passion into a career. He has run sailing projects in Mozambique and Croatia, and pioneering offshore sail training in South Africa where he has and amassed over 100,000 nautical miles of experience.
1520	Cameron Hicks James Scott	RNLI	Weather factors in RNLI operations.
			Cameron Hicks and James Scott have a combined service of 11 years with the RNLI and are Coxswain and Mechanic in Plymouth. The stations All Weather and Inshore Lifeboats respond to the variety of situations that arise on the shoreline, rivers, estuaries and surrounding coastal waters around one of the UK's major ports. For his day job, Cameron is the Marine Operations Manager at Cattewater Harbour (Port of Plymouth) and James is a Graduate Naval Architect with Babcock, working in HMNB Devonport. They are going to tell us about some of their experiences when serving in the RNLI – especially when weather was an important factor.

Time	Name	Affiliation	Presentation Title and Bio
1600	Tapio Lehtinen	Ocean Globe Race	Experiences on the 2023 Ocean Globe Race.
			<p>Tapio has been a sailor all his life and is one of Finland's leading single-handed sailors. His first circumnavigation took place in 1981, as he participated in the Whitbread Round the World Race as the watch captain onboard Skopbank of Finland. In the Golden Globe Race 2022, when he was in 2nd place, his boat sank in the Southern Ocean and after a day in his liferaft, he was rescued by his competitor Kirsten Neuschäfer. Even after such an experience Tapio says he is "keenly in love with the Oceans of the World."</p>
1640	QUESTIONS and DISCUSSION (Chaired by Paul Bryans)		
1655	Paul Bryans	Chair, RIN Small Craft Group	Closing Summary.
1700			