

**CYC RYA SAIL TRAINING CENTRE
REPORT FOR THE CYC AGM – 21 MARCH 2026**

The weather had a serious impact on sail training in 2025. Nevertheless, the instructor team delivered the following achievements of the RYA National Sailing Scheme with their students:

10 achieved Level 1

3 achieved Level 2

5 achieved Level 3

2 achieved Advanced Level Seamanship

4 achieved Advanced Level Start Racing

2 achieved RYA Assistant Instructor certificates

Of these, 7 were newcomers, and have joined the Club as new members.

The Sonata Activity Groups – Women on the Water, Blokes on Boats, and Sunday Sonata Sailing – continue to encourage newcomers to sailing, and support skills development particularly for those progressing through RYA sail training courses. The groups provide social contacts and new friendships, and allow prospective boat owners the opportunity to get informal advice.

The Sonata Activity Groups, as well as, of course, the sail training programmes, use the four Training Centre Hunter Sonatas. The maintenance of these boats, and the Instructor Launch ‘Sargeant’, is carried out by an outstandingly dedicated Maintenance Team to whom we are eternally grateful. During the 2024 RYA inspection, the only thing the inspector noted after inspecting the boats was some out of date first aid plasters!

Having been awarded an RYA Active Club of the Year in 2024, an RYA film crew attended the Club that autumn to make a video focusing on our Women on the Water group. This video was used extensively during 2025 by the RYA at conferences and seminars to encourage other clubs to develop more opportunities for minority groups to access sailing and other watersports.

Regarding finances, an annual budget is prepared which includes income from training and the Sonata Activity Groups, and the use of our Sonatas by individuals for racing or day sailing. Notable expenses include mooring fees, and repairs and maintenance. Our aim is to make a small surplus, before a significant contribution to club expenses for ribs, and other charges.

The training centre is very fortunate to have a dedicated volunteer team of RYA Keelboat Instructors who give their time and experience to share their love of our amazing sport. For RYA sail training, we are required to have present during all courses a qualified Senior Instructor. At present we only have two of these which is restricting our ability to put on more courses through the year.

We are also grateful to Jennie Collins, Principal of CYC Training Centre, for her ongoing enthusiasm and support.

Jane Long, Chief Instructor, CYC RYA Sail Training Centre