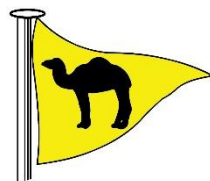


## Happy Christmas from the Commodore!



This Christmas, I write to you reflecting on the year that has passed, pleased that we were able to return to some semblance of normal activities at our Club. Thanks to positive support from our members, staff and volunteers, RSWSC weathered the storms we faced of a Global Pandemic, with the restrictions and rules that accompanied it. This past year, sailing, waterskiing and much of the social activity has returned, and has been gratefully received and opportunities grasped.

As you will be aware, Members were able to finally benefit from improved and new facilities such as the refurbished Changing and Crew rooms – work which was amongst those many tasks carried out safely and behind closed doors when tradesmen were permitted to work.

The introduction of our fine new safety boat 'Rock Delta' was an exciting time for all at the Club, and was a reassuring sight for all on the water this summer. A huge investment, made possible partly thanks to good and correct Membership subscriptions being paid, and excellent frequenting of the bar and Galley throughout the last couple of years, so thank you, and do please keep up your good work!

Plans are now drawn up, equipment ordered and specialist fabricators and fitters aligned for our next major project, that of a total refit of the Galley. The last refit of our Club kitchen was over twenty years ago, and it has been on our 'list of wishes' to carry out a complete replacement the entire facility. The necessity for this has been brought forward due to the increased demand on the Galley over the past two seasons where aged catering equipment is starting to fail, and cost-effective repairs are no longer viable. Our plan includes the complete removal of all contents, disposal of equipment (some of which has already been sold), installation of smooth and impervious wall, ceiling and floor surfaces, new extraction and air-balancing system, new ovens, fryers, sinks, work surfaces, commercial fridges and freezers, dishwasher etc... The proposed total refit will see the Galley fit for purpose for at least the next 20 years! 'Down-time' will be kept to a complete minimum in order to disrupt the use of the Clubroom for the least amount of time, but we will keep you informed of details. Whilst the refit is taking place, other decorating and general maintenance will be undertaken at that time.

Other necessary maintenance on the Clubhouse structure (including refurbishment of windows, gutters and galley fume extraction) is also in process which again should help to serve the building well for many years to come.

We have had a challenging time this year with staffing, especially as Covid hit some of our staff throughout the season at different times, as it did all hospitality premises locally. We were, in fact, one of the few food and beverage places in the village that did not have to close at some time or another, and I am delighted with the way in which our staff, when faced with shortages of other colleagues, worked the safety boats and immediately stepped from boat-to-bar & galley in a seamless, but often exhausting move.

Sailing and waterski activities were enjoyed throughout the season, with racing and the welcoming of visiting boats putting RSWSC firmly back on the map. The programme for next year is looking good, and would look even better with hopefully, the addition of a second new Safety Boat! That is our plan on the Management Committee to look towards providing another Safety Boat, which, together with 'Rock Delta' will stand us in very good stead for the years ahead.

My thanks and very best wishes as always to all of our Club staff, my volunteer colleagues from the Sailing, Waterski and House Committees, the Management Committee, and one or two other volunteers who give so much of their time and expertise to operate this Club for the good of the Membership as a whole. We have an exciting year ahead of us at RSWSC where we can build on what has been achieved this past season, safely and mindfully, with consideration for all.

Finally, may I take this opportunity of wishing you a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!



With my very best wishes,

*Stuart Robertson*

Commodore, Rock Sailing & Waterski Club

Christmas 2021