

## GET AFLOAT ON THE BROADS

The Norfolk and Suffolk Boating Association and its affiliated organisations (shown on pages 6–7) exist to promote and secure boating on the Broads and to encourage others to participate in it.

Boating activities for anyone interested, all without having to be a boat owner, provided by NSBA affiliated organisations, include:

- opportunities for people of any age to try sailing at open days of BASC, CHSC, GYGSC, HBSC, MBA, NBYC, NFSC, RBSC and WOBYC, to try sailing with HSC at the Horning Boat Show, and to try windsurfing at Come and Try It days of HWC
- opportunities to charter a skippered-sail in or enjoy a day aboard a historic Broads wherry with NWT, to enjoy a skippered-sail in traditional Broads yachts provided by NHFT or, if experienced, to hire these yachts, and to take part in a training cruise aboard a GWYC traditional Broads yacht.

Our clubs welcome anyone interested to come along and participate, even if not a boat owner. Join the club for:

- regular racing, casual sailing, cruising or social opportunities
- volunteering opportunities in the heritage vessels of the NWT and NHFT or in the Sailability centres of NOT, WSL and WSTL, or working with RWT
- training for adults and juniors (most clubs have their own boats for training, some funded by the BA Sustainable Development Fund).

As the sailing programmes within this book indicate (pages 73–96), many of the NSBA affiliated organisations are committed to training and run regular training sessions.

Some of them have RYA Training Centre status to provide RYA training courses in sailing dinghies or keelboats, handling power boats or general seamanship skills – contact BTAC, GWYC, HSC, NBYC, NHFT, NOT, NPC, NSSA, RNSYC or WOBYC.

Some have been recognised by the RYA as clubs with junior training and racing programmes dedicated to developing

skills in racing and have been awarded RYA Champion Club status. Within the NSBA, HSC, NBYC and WOBYC have gained this status.

Some of our clubs – NOT, RNSYC, WSL – are recognised by the RYA as specialists in delivering boating opportunities – even racing – to those who would otherwise find it difficult to get out on the water. They use specially adapted or specially designed boats or simply provide access facilities. WSTL provides similar access to the water.

The RYA OnBoard scheme to encourage juniors to start sailing is organised in this area by Holly Hancock. This scheme provides opportunities for young people not already associated with a sailing club to benefit from RYA Training Centre activities. Holly can be contacted at [holly.hancock@rya.org.uk](mailto:holly.hancock@rya.org.uk) – NSBA OnBoard clubs are HSC, NOT and NSSA.

The Broads is unique in the huge range and large number of boats available for day or weekly hire. You can hire a canoe, rowing boat, day boat, power boat or sailing craft (big or small) or have boating tuition outside a club. Throughout this book you will find examples of all the above activities amongst our advertisers: Colin Buttifant, Repps Staithe Boatyard, Waveney River Centre, Whispering Reeds, Whittingham Outdoor Education Centre. Eastwood Whelpton even provide their hire yachts of different rigs, sizes, ages and handicaps to participate in Barton Charter Yacht Regatta (7–10 October). For eco-friendly boat trips see page 28.

You can watch events on the Broads which trace their origins to before 1900; some of the competition craft may be even older. Two of the local boat classes began over a century ago and are still running class races. Nowhere else in Britain is there such a rich and active heritage of inland boating, racing and cruising, not just in the summer but all through the year. Most of the regattas can be viewed from the shore or bankside; programmes are included at pages 56–71. In particular, long-distance sailing races take place, involving special skills and teamwork where bridges and tides are involved. See the Open Meetings list on pages 50–53 for the dates of open days, races and regattas. Come and join us!



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