



# DYC 2025

## The Club

Dale Yacht Club continues to thrive with a strong and loyal membership of over 400. This support is essential in maintaining our facilities, including the Clubhouse, safety boats, racing marks, and our dinghy and tender parking areas.

We were proud to subsidise Junior Sailing tuition, enabling young sailors to experience the thrill of sailing, build skills on the water and work towards their RYA certifications.

The Club also remains the Voluntary Control Body (VCB) for the 180+ licensed moorings within the Voluntary Control Area (VCA) of Dale Bay — the largest VCA on the Milford Haven waterway. In addition, we continue to manage the slipway for the benefit of members and visitors.

## The Committee

This year saw several changes within the Committee. Both Nia and Stuart stepped down due to personal commitments. We thank them for their valued contributions during their terms. We are especially pleased that Nia continued to support the Club by managing the website and social media; also for organising Junior Sailing.

## Clubhouse

Our annual volunteer weekend in January once again demonstrated the commitment of our members. The Clubhouse received a full deep clean and the surrounding areas were refreshed, including power-washing the front and side access.

Our investment in greener, more efficient solutions continued. This year we installed PIR lighting in the changing rooms and upgraded to a more efficient boiler and heating system.

These improvements allowed us to remove the shower-token system — a change welcomed by our regular sailors.

New fire doors have also been fitted to ensure continuing compliance with evolving safety regulations.

## Catering

We thanked **CoCo's** who closed at the end of September 2025 after 5½ years of exceptional service. They resigned due to personal commitments. Their dedication and hard work have been hugely appreciated by the Club.

We are really pleased to welcome our new caterers, **Tân A Môr**, Jony and Kate who offer seasonal and foraged local produce, pizza, pasta, Sunday roasts and private-function catering. We look forward to working with them as they settle into the Clubhouse.

## Dinghies

During the year some of the dinghy bay markers were fully replaced, providing clear numbering and easier organisation of the bays. The Club's Toppers have had inspection and pressure testing to determine required maintenance or replacement.

Our safety boats continue to receive annual maintenance with grateful thanks to Lyn Jones and Dale Sailing. However, these boats are reaching the end of their service life and they are likely to need considerable sums spent in the new future and this remains a top priority — a key reason behind our ongoing fundraising efforts.

## **Fundraising**

Over the next few years, our focus is on raising funds to support continued investment in the Clubhouse and fleet.

In 2024 we launched a new range of Club clothing and merchandise, all available via the website. The 100 Club continues to grow, with over £350 having been paid out in winnings so far.

## **Commodore's Ball**

The Commodore's Ball, was held in October, and was a highlight of the year. It served jointly as the 2025 Laying Up Supper and to mark our Sapphire 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a Yacht Club.

Thanks to generous support and an outstanding sealed-bid auction, the event raised nearly £4,000. We extend deep gratitude to all donors, including Milford Haven Port Authority, Velfrey Vineyard, Ratsey's Sailmakers, Plunj, Dale Sailing Company, Point Farm Campsite, Stargaze Glamping, The Griffin, many local businesses and numerous Club members. All funds raised will directly support the development of the club and its facilities— helping ensure DYC's future for generations.

## **Junior Sailing**

Junior Sailing began in June, and with a remarkable stretch of settled weather, we successfully ran weekly sessions. An average of 25 sailors across the two groups has made for an impressive mid-week sight on the bay. It was wonderful to see all the sailors and their families support this. Congratulations to all sailors achieving their RYA certificates and certificates of achievement. The partnership with Celtic Sea Watersports continued to provide accessible, subsidised coaching for local children and visiting families.

This season also saw some outstanding "sail-aways," giving Junior Sailors the chance to explore beaches across the Haven, learn about local history and experience the wider waterway.

## **Dinghy Racing 2025**

Our regular Thursday and Sunday racing series attracted both local and visiting sailors.

## **Open Sailing Events**

- **Welsh Regional Junior Championships** co-hosted by DYC, Celtic Sea Watersports and Windswept. It was an action-packed event and attracted a total of 74 entries, including 18 sailors keen to develop their racing skills in the coached regatta fleet.
- **RYA Cymru Wales West Dragon Series**, hosted by DYC and Celtic Sea Watersports, and it ran 4 successful races.
- **Annual Regatta.** Unfortunately, high winds and unsafe conditions forced the cancellation of this year's annual Regatta. While disappointing for many, safety must always be the top priority. We were grateful to all volunteers who stood ready to support the event.

## **AGM**

At the end of the year we held our AGM. The key item was the appointment of Committee members:

- Commodore - Stephen McGrath
- Vice Commodore - Jonathan Milton
- Rear Commodore - Howell Davis retains this post
- Secretary - Christine Dawber
- Treasurer - no nominations so Terence Francis remains until a replacement can be found.
- Remaining Committee - Fil Marshall, Peter Morgan, Chris Cannell and Daniel Jones remain.
- New Committee member - Sophie Chambers

Fil Marshall continues to be Mooring Officer; Peter Morgan Racing Officer, Dinghy & Tender Park Secretary; Dan Jones House Officer.

Stephen McGrath, our new Commodore, thanked outgoing Commodore Max Barber & Treasurer Terence Francis for their service and leadership. Thanks were also given to Tina Rogers, Accounts examiner, Rosemary Royle & Fil Marshall for managing the moorings.

Stephen McGrath  
Commodore  
Dale Yacht

January 2026