

## GETTING AFLOAT ON THE BROADS

The Broads provide some 125 miles of lock-free waterways with some of the most picturesque and rural countryside in the country. The NSBA and its affiliates (contact details page 10) exist to promote boating on the Broads and to encourage more people to participate.

We're lucky to have so many boating activities available in the area, including:

- opportunities for people of any age to try sailing at the open days of: Beccles Amateur Sailing Club (BASC), Coldham Hall Sailing Club (CHSC), Horning Sailing Club (HSC), Norfolk Broads Yacht Club (NBYC), Norfolk Schools Sailing Association (NSSA) and Rollesby Broad Sailing Club (RBSC). Open Days are listed on pages 57-61;
- opportunities to charter or day-hire a skippered historic Broads Wherry with: Norfolk Wherry Trust (NWT), Wherry Maud Trust (WMT) and Wherry Yacht Charter Charitable Trust (WYCCT), to enjoy a sail on the 105-year old Lowestoft sailing trawler of The Excelsior Trust (TET), to join a skippered traditional Broads yacht provided by Norfolk Heritage Fleet Trust (NHFT) or, if you have sufficient experience, even to helm some of these boats;
- you can also take part in a training cruise aboard a Green Wyvern Yachting Club (GWYC) traditional broads yacht or The Excelsior Trust's (TET) sailing trawler *Excelsior*.

**Our affiliate clubs welcome anyone interested to come along and participate, and you don't even need to own a boat. You can enjoy:**

- casual sailing, cruising, regular racing and social opportunities with many of our affiliates;
- volunteering in the heritage vessels of the Norfolk Heritage Fleet Trust (NHFT), Norfolk Wherry Trust (NWT), Wherry Maud Trust (WMT) and Wherry Yacht Charter Charitable Trust (WYCCT), or in the Sailability centres of Nancy Oldfield Trust (NOT) and Waveney Sailability Ltd (WSL);
- training for adults and juniors – most clubs offer use of their own training boats.

Two clubs sail only in the winter – Norwich Frostbite Sailing Club (NFSC) on the River Yare and Snowflake Sailing Club (SFSC) on Wroxham Broad. Another two sail throughout the year – Rollesby Broad Sailing Club (RBSC) and Waveney & Oulton Broad Yacht Club (WOBYC) – both on broads. Most of our sailing clubs start activities in April and continue until October; some as late as Christmas or the new year.

As the sailing programmes later in this book indicate, many NSBA affiliates are committed to training and have **RYA Recognised Training Centre** status.

They offer training in general seamanship as well as helming sailing dinghies, keelboats and powerboats. They include:

Barton Turf Adventure Centre (BTAC), Green Wyvern Yachting Club (GWYC), Hickling Broad Sailing Club (HBSC), Horning Sailing Club (HSC), Nancy Oldfield Trust (NOT), Norfolk Broads Yacht Club (NBYC), Norfolk Heritage Fleet Trust (NHFT), Norfolk Punt Club (NPC), Norfolk Schools Sailing Association (NSSA), Rollesby Broad Sailing Club (RBSC) and Waveney & Oulton Broad Yacht Club (WOBYC). Hickling Windsurfing Club is RYA Affiliated.



Some of our clubs – Horning Sailing Club (HSC), Nancy Oldfield Trust (NOT) and Waveney Sailability Ltd (WSL) – are recognised by the RYA as specialists in delivering boating opportunities, with specially adapted boats for those who might otherwise find it difficult to get on the water. Waveney Sailability Ltd (WSL) can even provide racing opportunities at Waveney & Oulton Broad Yacht Club (WOBYC) and elsewhere.



The **RYA OnBoard** scheme encourages juniors to start sailing. It's organised in this area by the RYA's Jen Miller. You can contact her via email: [jen.miller@rya.org.uk](mailto:jen.miller@rya.org.uk)  
The scheme provides opportunities for young people, whether new to sailing, or

in the early stages of developing skills, to benefit from **RYA Training Centre** activities in an engaging and supportive environment. Horning Sailing Club (HSC), Norfolk Broads Yacht Club (NBYC), Norfolk Punt Club (NPC) and Norfolk Schools Sailing Association (NSSA) offer the **RYA OnBoard** scheme.

Two commercial training centres that offer a variety of boating courses, and are part of the **RYA OnBoard** scheme are: Whittingham Adventure Centre (NR14 8TR, 01603 632307) and Oulton Broad Water Sports Centre (NR33 9JR, 07480 834445).

The Broads is unique in the range and number of boats available for daily or weekly hire. You can hire a canoe, kayak, stand-up paddleboard, rowing boat, day boat, powerboat or sailing craft (large or small), windsurf, wingsurf, wingfoil. Examples of these can be found amongst our advertisers, including Colin Buttifant, Hunter's Yard, Oulton Broad Water Sports Centre and Phoenix Fleet. Eastwood Whelpton will even provide hire yachts of different rigs, sizes, ages and handicaps to enable you to participate in the annual *Barton Charter Yacht Regatta* (4-9 October).

For details of eco-friendly boat trips contact the Broads Authority Visitor Centres, listed below.

The historians amongst you will be excited to know the Broads offer events that trace their origins back to the 19th century; several very well-kept and still competitive craft do indeed date back to pre-1900. Two of the local boat classes began over a century ago and are still running class races.

Most of the Broads regattas can be viewed from the shore or bankside; the programmes are included on pages 69-82.

Long-distance sailing races take place involving special skills and teamwork where bridges and tides are involved. See the **Open Meetings (Fixtures)** list on pages 57-61 for the dates of open days, races and regattas.

*'Open Meeting' is an invitation for existing boat owners of specified Classes to race.*

*'Open Day' is for general public introduction to activities on offer, and to visit the club.*

**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 ...**  
**... so please, come and join us.**

*RYA's Eastern contact is Robbie Bell.*

*Contact him at: [robbie.bell@rya.org.uk](mailto:robbie.bell@rya.org.uk) or on: 07747 563298 [www.rya.org.uk](http://www.rya.org.uk)*

**RYA**