



Dear Folkboaters

We are always looking to improve our communications from the Folkboat Association (FBA) to support and grow everybody's Folkboat experience, and our committee is pleased to launch a new regular Quarterly Newsletter to all members to highlight our news stories across our broad range of activities, and events. The Newsletter will be mailed out to all FBA members and be posted on our Website in the News section. Naturally, we will have a focus on our Fleet Racing in the Solent across Lymington Yarmouth and Hamble, but as custodians of UK Folkboating we are also very keen to promote other Folkboating activities in the UK, so feel free to send us in your news and events.

Best Regards
Kim Morley
Folkboat Association Chair

FBA Newsletter Q1 2025

As we gently transition out of winter, the anticipation of our new Folkboat season starts to stir. To bring some warmth to your winter days in the UK, or to evoke happy memories of the Solent if you're abroad, we thought an early Folkboat Association newsletter might do the trick! Our First Newsletter of the year will remind us of our FBA Mission, let you know what's new this year and summarise our plans and events for the season ahead, which we hope will be one of the most enjoyable and busiest yet as our Folkboat community grows

Our Folkboat Association (FBA) Mission

Our National Association brings together clubs around the Solent and beyond, facilitating a summer series of races and social events that complement local club activities. Our mission is to provide racing and cruising opportunities for all Folkboats, from stunning cruisers to sharp racers, and everything in between, fostering a spirit of collegial competition and camaraderie. With both a focus on enjoying sailing, top racing, improving our skills and having fun together.

New For 2025

- We have many new Folkboaters who have joined us over recent years and we wish to ensure everyone has the chance to take part in the larger Folkboat Events without having to go straight into the more crowded start lines of the Nordic division. Therefore, for the Folkboat Week, The Nationals and Battle of Britain Regatta, where we have larger entries, if you have a Nordic Folkboat, you will be eligible to enter the Nordic division OR to race in the Classic Division on a Cruiser Racer handicap.
- ***There will be a new Annual PrizeGiving on 11th October at Lymington*** where in addition to awarding event trophies, we aim to acknowledge the entire fleet with accolades for the most improved boats, concourse awards, and the new Folkboater of the Year award. Further details of this event to follow
- We are launching a new ***Cross Solent Saturday Series*** - see details in calendar highlights below
- A ***New Training and Coaching support program*** for the fleet is being developed, including Rig tuning, training and on boat coaching to support all aspects of our fleet racing – Look out for more news on this in the coming weeks

THE 2025 SOLENT EVENTS SUMMARY - see attached calendar for details

1. Long Race Series (4 Races / 1 Discard)

This is pulling together 4 Saturday races in May and June which are run by different clubs across the Solent, to compete for the Bowen Cup. As the name suggests these are longer races where navigation is as important as speed. Starting times will be confirmed closer to the season.

2. Cross Solent Saturday Series (5 Races / 1 Discard)

Saturday afternoon racing run by Royal Lymington and Royal Solent in the 5 weeks before Folkboat week as a build to the main event. You will enter 3 races with Royal Lymington and 2 with the Royal Solent. Points will be collected by FBA to calculate overall winner, who will receive the Saturday Series Cup. Great chance to acclimatise to some larger numbers on start lines in preparation for Folkboat Week.

3. FBA Weekend Regatta Series

Three exciting events across the Solent offer perfect opportunities for socializing and racing with the fleet: the Competitive Nationals Regatta, the Taittinger Party Regatta, and the Friendly Regatta at Hamble. The Nationals at Lymington will crown the National Champion over two days of racing at the Royal Lymington Yacht Club. The winner will receive the prestigious UK National Champions Trophy.

The Taittinger Party Regatta at Royal Solent will challenge the stamina of all entrants, as they balance racing with the allure of champagne and the Towers party.

Finally, the Battle of Britain Regatta at the Royal Air Force Yacht Club in Hamble is the friendly, sociable event that wraps up the regatta season.

The overall winner of these events will be awarded the Solent Regatta Series Trophy.

4. 60th Anniversary Folkboat Week

This is the Premier standalone event in August which this year celebrates 60th Anniversary.

Emphasis this year will be to invite Folkboaters past and present to a celebration of Folkboating and to accommodate all levels of racing from cruisers to most competitive.

THE 60th ANNIVERSARY OF FOLKBOAT WEEK - Saturday 16th to Friday 22nd August 2025

- 60th Celebration Party Saturday 16th August - Folkboat Rum Party followed by a Celebration Dinner, Dancing and Live Band
- 60+ Folkboat Sailpast and Salute
- International Racing for the Walcon Cup Sat 16th Sunday 17th
- FB week for Classics and Nordics
- Daily Cruiser activities



FOLKBOAT WEEK

60TH

Supported by
**Lymington
Yacht Haven**

All Folkboats Welcome!! Racing and Rallies for our Cruising, Classic Racing and Nordic One Design Fleets, including International and National attending Folkboats.

Open Invitational National and International Racing Saturday 16th Sunday 17th – for the **Walcon Cup**

Folkboat week Classic and Nordic Racing - Sunday 17th to Friday 22nd

Logistics : International and National travelling Folkboats – free launch and storage at Lymington Yacht Haven and discounted entry fees . All Folkboats will be able to berth together in Yarmouth Harbour.

Please let us know if you have any feedback or ideas which can help us to further improve the Folkboat Fleet experience.

Best Regards,

Kim Morley, Chris Fox, David Fox, Cy Grisley, Nicky Henderson.