

RYA PRESS RELEASE

Monday 22 November

AWARDS JOY FOR DERBYSHIRE SAILING CLUBS AND VOLUNTEERS



A Wirksworth sailor who gives up hours of his spare time to give Derbyshire youngsters opportunities to learn to sail and Staunton Harold Sailing Club are celebrating after receiving top RYA (Royal Yachting Association) regional awards.

Carsington Sailing Club's Richard Daldorph was named Derbyshire's RYA OnBoard Volunteer of the Year while Staunton Harold SC picked up the Club of the Year accolade at the region's 2010 RYA OnBoard Awards, held at Carsington SC near Ashbourne.

OnBoard is the RYA's nationwide grassroots scheme providing youngsters from local schools, community and youth groups with opportunities to sail regularly at low cost and continue participating at specially-designated OnBoard clubs in their area.

Richard's has been rewarded for his work visiting schools and setting up school-club links for Carsington SC, to get more youngsters coming through the club's start sailing sessions and then encouraging them to regularly attend Carsington SC's Saturday Youth Sailing sessions, which he also organises and runs.

Meanwhile, Staunton Harold SC in Melbourne is leading the way in getting whole families involved in the sport following the introduction of their 'Friday Night Club' where the kids' OnBoard sessions are run alongside social sailing for parents and a BBQ. The club also holds junior racing training on the same evening to give the new young sailors something to aspire to while also hosting coaching presentations.

Harriet Baldock, RYA OnBoard Development Officer for South Derbyshire, said: "Richard has been into local schools and introduces sailing in assemblies. He obviously has a lot of enthusiasm for sailing and Carsington SC and his commitment to the young people who enjoy their sailing, is exceptional.

"Staunton Harold SC have really taken the OnBoard ethos of trying to get the whole family involved in sailing to heart and then taken it one step further getting the whole club involved too. The club has provided high quality sailing to OnBoard sailors and their families and managed to get the whole club buzzing on a Friday evening."

She added: "All of our OnBoard clubs in the area are really putting in 100 per cent to make OnBoard successful and these clubs would not be so successful without the help of all of the dedicated volunteers who give their time and enthusiasm freely to encourage people to get on the water. I wish we could reward more volunteers and clubs for their hard work and commitment to OnBoard over this year."

Over 10 years RYA OnBoard aims to introduce a minimum of 500,000 children to sailing and windsurfing in the UK, converting more than 10 per cent into regular participants.

For more information on RYA OnBoard in Derbyshire contact Harriet Baldock at harriet.baldock@nottscc.gov.uk or visit www.ruob.co.uk