



Civil Service Offshore Racing Club

CSORC - Affiliated to the Civil Service Sailing Association - Civil Service Sports & Leisure.

Newsletter September 2025



Pictured - six of the Zada crew with Neil (2nd left) after the RORC Centenary Race

The RORC Centenary Race on 20 September gave CSORC sailors the opportunity to compete in a senior level event. Club member Neil O'Leary skippered Zada, his own Beneteau First 40, in a Pursuit race format: each boat has a different starting time based on its handicap, with the expectation that all boats finish more or less together! The results are then simply the order in which boats cross the finish line. Coming 22nd out of 29 starters in the IRC class was a worthy outcome, given only two hours of training together the previous day. Next year we plan to enter more of the "senior" events - RORC and JOG races - now that we have Jeepster.



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Jeepster delivery

The Club's first outing in our newly acquired J/109 Jeepster was the delivery trip from Grimsby to Mercury Yacht Harbour on the River Hamble. Skipped by Club Captain Nick Bowles, four members sailed her via Wells-next-the-Sea and Lowestoft to Ipswich, where the passage was paused for a week due to adverse weather. The restart was at very short notice for the crew call, so Nick and Phil Armitage completed the trip two-handed, arriving at Mercury at noon on 31 August. Jeepster is now berthed in C68, just a few boats away from Sea Essay on the same pontoon.

Ready for action!

Preparing Jeepster for action is proceeding at pace. A few operational refinements have yet to be completed before holding familiarisation days during October. New lifejackets, additional safety equipment, domestic inventory and maintenance items have been purchased too, ahead of getting the boat appropriately coded and rated for the Hamble Winter Series during November. If you can offer time and/or expertise to help keep Jeepster in good shape, email Nick at nickbowles@csorc.org.uk. It's your Club, your boat!

Autumn programme

We are working on an IRC rating certificate (handicap) and RYA coding for Category 3 races, both needed for entry into the Hamble Winter Series. We may also offer familiarisation or training sessions ahead of or between racing events. Look out for invitations from the Crew Bureau to be sure of getting your preferred berth/dates!

CSORC Committee
September 2025