

# Sackville News

12<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Dear Parents

We have started the summer term at a strong pace and, first and foremost, I would like to wish our year 11 and sixth form students good luck as the **exam season begins**. I would also like to wish their parents all the best as it is undoubtedly a team effort! The teaching and support staff have dedicated themselves to preparing the students as thoroughly as possible, including a full range of Easter holiday GCSE revision classes which were well attended. Ms Wernham even took her class to Costas in Lingfield to revise their literature texts! As Headteacher, I cannot ask for more.

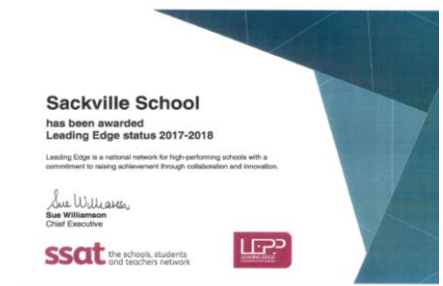
Election fever is in the air and I am delighted to report that Sackville's elections for Head Girl, Head Boy and Deputies has gone very smoothly with the new posts for 2017-18 announced in the sixth form assembly this week. Our new Head Girl will be **Charlie Main** and new Head Boy **Tom Dean**, with **Chloe Maraner** and **Chris Oglethorpe** as Deputies. The remaining Head Team is in the process of being confirmed. I know that these excellent students will continue the fine work of their predecessors in providing great leadership to the school's student body. We are also currently establishing a range of **leadership roles for our year 10 students** as they move into year 11.



Left to right, Jess Argy, Esmé Foreman, Joe Roberts-Percy, Angus Gallagher (Head Team 2016-17), Tom Dean, Charlie Main, Chloe Maraner and Chris Oglethorpe

I am very pleased to inform parents that, for the second year running, Sackville has been awarded '**Leading Edge Status**' by the national SSAT. The award reflects strong teaching quality and results and it is a real honour to receive it again. We will therefore be continuing in our professional development work within the school and with others beyond, all of which will benefit our students in their learning experience.

Our sixth form students and parents recently enjoyed a very informative  **futures evening** looking at the university application system and apprenticeship routes. Some students who have recently left the school returned to share their up-to-date experiences of university and the workplace and we enjoyed helpful input from Sussex University. Decision making at the 16 -19 stage does not get any easier, so such events are really crucial.



Our year 10 students have been actively enjoying trips within this country and abroad over the last month or so. Our year 10 **World Challenge group travelled to Sri Lanka** at Easter. On arrival, after a night on a beach-front hotel, the group moved on to their project near Kandy where they were based in a local school. There they assisted in some site maintenance, moving several tonnes of stones and bricks, and also worked in the classrooms teaching English to the students. They were given a fantastic send-off when leaving the school, with a show including a fire-eater. They were also presented with

an enormous hamper of local produce. What a wonderful experience for all! A write up and more pictures appear later in Sackville News.

More recently, a large group of year 10 students undertook their **Duke of Edinburgh practice expedition weekend** under the excellent leadership of **Mr Langford** and **Mrs Rawsthorne**. The students conducted themselves magnificently and prepared well for the summer challenge.



At the end of last term the year 12 geographers spent **five days in Pembrokeshire for their A level fieldwork**. A mixture of human and physical geography was studied, with the students often working late into the evening. Port Talbot was visited on the journey out, and students looked at the importance of regeneration both there, and later around Pembroke and Milford Haven. In between, there were two days studying coastal cliff and dune scenery. There was also time for recreation however, with Ultimate Frisbee being a particular hit. For this, and the excellent organisation of the whole trip, I would like to thank **Mr Attrill**.



On the sporting front, we are very proud that our boys' **U13 cricket team has been crowned Sussex indoor champions 2017**. This six a side tournament was organised by the Sussex County Cricket Foundation and many schools across Sussex entered. Sackville won its regional matches with wins over Warden Park and Burgess Hill. This meant they qualified for the Sussex finals at the BACA Cricket Centre in Brighton, where they defeated Felpham (a previously unbeaten side) and Durrington. Many congratulations to **Joe Sheridan (captain), Caspar Arthur, Olly Ally, Luke Peel, Jake Lingard and Liam Dawes and of course, Mr Watson and Mr Currie!** This week, we enjoyed a celebration in my office at morning break.

in memory of **Musa Mevlit** who sadly passed away just before the Easter break. Mr Mevlit was a very popular figure in our community, best known for selling ice creams in Bourg-de-Peage Avenue with such a friendly smile day in, day out. Our thoughts are with his family at this time and it was good to see such a strong turnout of support at the match, together with a great sum of money raised.

Finally, I would like to mention an article that appears later from **Mr Feist**, Deputy Headteacher, about his trip to visit the **Harambee project in Kenya**. Sackville has had a long association with this project and, together with Mr Feist's trip, we have experienced some assemblies this term from the project organisers showing the real benefits our fund raising has brought about. The sponsoring of youngsters has literally transformed their lives and it was deeply moving for **Mr Latus' year group**, now year 12, to see the fruits of their fund raising over so many years. Our year 7s and a group of support staff are now sponsoring children through this project.



Best wishes,

Julian Grant  
Headteacher

**Would you like to look after one of our visiting Spanish students in July? A few students will be joining the school on July 4<sup>th</sup> for three weeks. You would receive payment to cover the cost of looking after our visitors. If you are interested please email Silvia Sempere, our Spanish language assistant, on [ssempere@sackvilleschool.org.uk](mailto:ssempere@sackvilleschool.org.uk). Thanks!**



# LRC Report

Mrs Rose writes:-

**Reading Week** started on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April with the arrival of the **Book Fair** from Scholastic. There were over 200 titles to appeal to all ages across the school. Everything was half price which included some items of stationery, posters and some really fantastic bargains. This was available for students throughout the school to come and view from registration until 4pm, so hopefully those students who wanted to grab a bargain had the opportunity to buy.

A **competition to win £5 Book Fair Vouchers** was run the week before. Students had to write a **book review** and from the many entries the winners were Bea Chappell 7LWM, Mia Leahy 7KOR, James Walker 7PAS, Ciara Fitzsimons 7MBN and Maisie Barnes 9LHS. All great reviews which will be printed over the next few editions of the Sackville News.



Mrs Wogan and I had help from some sixth form girls, Hannah, Amy, Beth and Maddy who were brilliant helping students with the prices, monitoring the stock and making Easter bunting! We couldn't have run the Fair so smoothly without you. Thank you girls.



Later in the morning the **author Daniel Blythe** came to Sackville and did assemblies for year 7 and 8s, showcasing his career and skills as a novelist. Mr Blythe regaled students with stories of his childhood sources

of inspiration, mostly focusing on both his greatest obsession and his greatest success: writing for the **BBC Doctor Who** book series. After being offered a range of tips for young writers as well as some amusing anecdotes from the life of a published author, years 7 and 8 were thoroughly entertained and asked lots of questions which Mr Blythe was only too happy to answer!

Daniel also did a reading and signing session in the LRC at lunchtime for students which was very well attended and also had lots of questions asked. All the aspiring authors should have loads of useful tips which they were then able to use to enter two **national writing competitions** in their English lessons: the Young Writers 'Welcome to Wonderland' competition, and the Solstice Prize 2017. We await the results of our brilliant entrants with anticipation.

During the rest of the week, **teachers** were **reading** from their favourite books at lunchtime in the LRC. Many thanks to Mr Morris, Mr Roberts, Mr Byrne and Mrs Stromfield for their excellent readings. Students that came along heard readings from "Discworld", to "Harry Potter".



There was a great buzz of excitement from the students throughout the week. It was great to hear students' excitement about books and reading, discussing which books they have read and want to read. A very worthwhile week of activities.



The final activity was an **"Extreme Reading"** competition, to find the most unusual or extreme way to read. From the many, fantastic and unusual entries, the winner was **Natalie Rathbone, 7JMR**, on a rollercoaster, judged by Miss Pearson as it "took the most forethought and preparation".

There were also some interesting staff entries and both student and staff entries are on display in the school for everyone to see how extreme our staff and students reading can be. Here you can see Mr Scarfe and Mrs Leeves!



## World Challenge in Sri-Lanka

Mr Wilcox writes:-

For 14 days over the Easter holidays a group of 18 year 10 students enjoyed a life-changing experience travelling round Sri Lanka. This involved **four days working at a rural school painting a classroom** and helping to put up a new fence to keep out wildlife. This was also a great opportunity for the students to interact with the local children and get to know a bit about their lives and culture.



The next phase of the expedition was a **three-day trek**. This included a walk to "World's End", a 800m high cliff edge with a stunning view. The next trek day was a severe physical challenge for the team as they climbed Sri Pada (Adam's Peak), on top of which is the footprint of Buddha when he first arrived on earth. The trek up to the summit involved climbing 5872 concrete steps and took 7 hours in 30°C heat. The team pulled together and performed magnificently to all reach the summit together.

After the hard work of the project and trek the expedition ended with a **few days of culture, rest and relaxation**. This included a visit to the Buddhist temples in Dambulla caves, visiting a tea factory, visiting the Temple of Tooth in Kandy, watching a traditional dance show, climbing Sigiriya Rock, visiting Galle Fort and spending time relaxing by a swimming pool.

By the end the students had learnt a lot about life in Sri Lanka, made new friends, learnt organisational and communication skills, been challenged physically and mentally, had great fun and been a credit to themselves and the school.





## STEM news

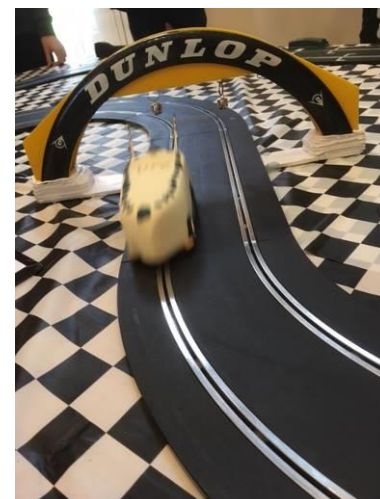
Mrs Wogan writes:-

Sackville students have recently participated in **two STEM events organised by Brighton University**.

The first was the **Slot Trucks challenge** sponsored by The Institute of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE) and took place at Brighton University on 13<sup>th</sup> March. Eight students from year 9 took part and competed with 15 other schools in a Slot Car Challenge event. Competitors gained a Bronze level CREST Award for taking part.

The teams, one consisting of four students and the other of three, had four hours to design and build an electric slot car that had to compete under a number of challenges. The engineering challenges were

- The slot car should be capable of carrying a weight up a steep hill
- The slot car should be capable of carrying a trailer and ring a strategically placed bell
- Design work showing team work, design solutions and dimensions.



Marks were awarded for time, course completion, aesthetics and team work. The team consisting of three students were placed joint third. Well done to all who participated and thanks to Mr Martins from D&T department who accompanied the students.



The second event was the **IMechE Schools Robotic Challenge** held on 28<sup>th</sup> March held at **Ricardo in Shoreham**. Ricardo is a world leading technology and engineering consultancy. Nine year 8 students took part in an exciting and hands-on way by building small remote-controlled robots and taking part in challenges. Sackville students were placed 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> out of 15 schools.

The challenge, led by **STEM Sussex**, encouraged participants to explore different aspects of engineering whilst developing team working skills. Teams were supported by STEM Ambassadors from Ricardo and the local IMechE Automobile Division. Students and staff also had the opportunity to tour the facilities at Ricardo and were exposed to engineering in practice. Well done to those students who participated and thanks to Mr Hayden who accompanied them.



# Guinness World Record Cross Channel Hot Air Balloon Flight

Ben Woodcock, year 12, writes:-



On 7th April I the opportunity to take part in a Guinness World Record attempt to cross the English Channel by **hot air balloon**. I flew with my father, who has a pilot's licence, and his uncle.

The winds had to be light and, of course, in the right direction so we had waited over a month for the right conditions. We set off at 2.30am and arrived at Lydden Hill Race Circuit at 4.15am, setting up our balloon in the pitch darkness. As dawn approached, the pilots met for a final briefing, donned a variety of wet suits, dry suits and immersion

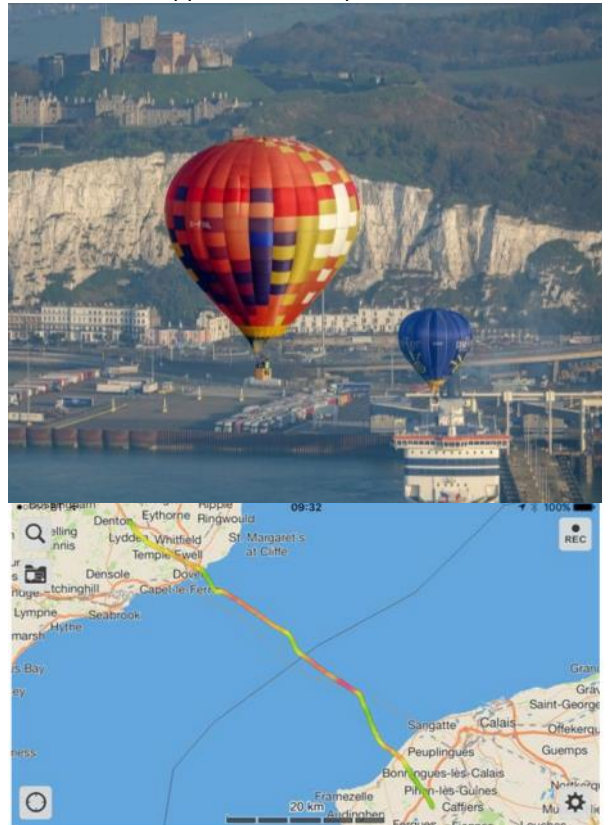
suits (just in case) and at 7.04am 82 hot air balloons lifted off and sailed slowly out over Dover Castle and Docks and out over the sea - an incredible sight!

The time from take-off to "feet dry" over the coast in France was just about 2 hours, with a total flight time of 2hrs 45min. I am a P.U.T. (Pilot Under Training) and piloted the balloon for over half an hour over the sea.

In the photo on the right you can see our blue balloon leaving Dover, flying low over a ferry.

We are hoping that once all teams have verified their flight tracks a new World Record will stand for 82 balloons crossing the Channel - an increase from 49 balloons in 2011.

The other image shows an overlay of our track from take-off to landing. The colours show height, (red being nearly 3000ft and the green being the lowest of 17ft over the breakwater in Dover docks).



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Ben also builds and flies drones, and his latest creation has a camera which transmits to a VR headset, allowing you to get a bird's eye view of what the drone is 'seeing'.

## Mr Feist helps celebrate Sackville's links with 'Harambee for Kenya'

Our former Community Police Liaison Officer, Lesley Dann, and her husband Roger established the 'Harambee for Kenya' charity in 2007.

Since then they have taken scores of vulnerable (often orphaned) boys who live on the streets of Kisi and Meru in rural Kenya into safety. They clothe and feed them. They commit to raising them as long as the boys complete chores around the safe house to develop life skills and crucially, that they go to school and work hard.

For four years, Mr Latus' final year group (now year 12) sponsored a boy called Carlos through his secondary schooling as only primary education, up to the end of year 8, is paid for by the Kenyan government.

We were therefore delighted this year to hear that Carlos had performed extremely well in his end of school exams and has been offered a place at university. His friend Reuben was also successful. The first boys to leave the streets and get into higher education!



I had the great privilege of travelling out to Kenya this Easter to see the work of Lesley and her team and meet the boys. They were inspirational. Education is not taken for granted and the boys work extremely hard to escape the poverty and harshness of their early childhood.

They could not do this without sponsorship by friends and family of Lesley and the students here at Sackville. Carlos recorded a video message, thanking the students and staff here for their generous support, which Lesley played in assembly on our return to the UK.

Our admin staff have been so touched by the stories that they have decided to change the life of another boy and take part in the sponsorship, another example of the big heart our school has.

Mr Morris's year 7s have also started to sponsor another boy. I met Simon and he spoke so warmly of Sackville's support in his ambition to become Kenya's first astronaut or space engineer!

I am sure it'll be a great relationship that will show our students what life in Africa is like for those children far less fortunate than themselves and hopefully Simon will become another success story for this incredible charity.



Simon (on the left) and friend Josphat



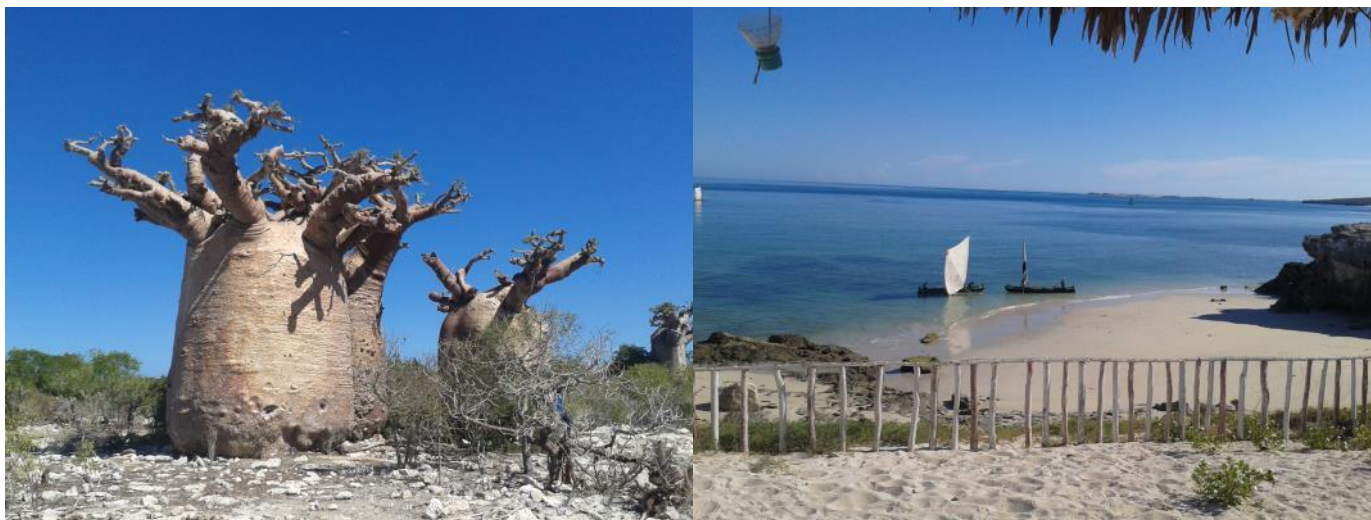
Carlos (left) and Reuben await the start of their university life

## Miss Yendell in Madagascar

Mr Feist is not the only member of staff to have been travelling. You may remember Miss Yendell left Sackville at Christmas to travel and take part in conservation activities. Here she writes about her experiences in Madagascar.

*Since Christmas I have been taking the opportunity to travel and I am currently volunteering for a marine conservation charity called Blue Ventures in South West Madagascar. The charity has been working for over a decade with volunteers to protect the coral reef in the South West of Madagascar, which has been over-fished for many decades. If this same level of over-fishing and reef damage continues the local people will no longer be able to fish to feed their families and a valuable habitat, the fifth largest coral reef in the world, will have been destroyed. I have been trained to identify important coral reef species and in scientific survey methods so that I can complete underwater surveys (while scuba diving) to monitor the fish and coral populations and health of the reef. This information is then used by the local community to help them to manage the fishing in the local area and ensure the reef and its fish survive into the future.*

*Some of the highlights of this experience have included seeing lots of shooting stars as there is little artificial light (called "light pollution") here from street lamps, and diving at night when you can see bio-luminescence - algae which glows in the dark. I've also been to visit a Baobab forest (pictured). The Baobab is Madagascar's most well-known tree and holds water in its massive trunk to survive in desert conditions.*



*For any Sackville students interested in volunteering or working in science, ecology, medicine, charity work or teaching in the future I would highly recommend a volunteering expedition with Blue Ventures as their work covers all of these fields.*

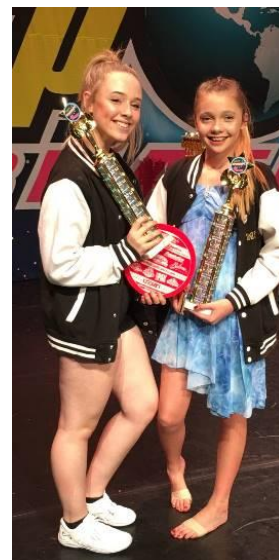
## Sackville students never fail to amaze!

I am constantly both surprised and impressed by the talents of our students.



First, there's **Maud Kendrick** in year 7. Here you can see her with the **Storytelling Cup** she won when acting out her own story about a Victorian chimney sweep at the East Grinstead Music and Arts Festival last weekend. She then she came second with a distinction in the **musical theatre category** with the comedy song called 'Mother Knows Best' from 'Tangled'. Finally she was highly commended with 86% for her monologue about child evacuees in the war. This follows her Distinction with a mark of 93% in her grade 2 LAMDA exam earlier in the year.

Meanwhile, two of our year 8 students were very successful in a recent dance competition held at University of London. **Ella Dean** and **Melissa Smith** competed at the annual **Starpower International World Dance Competition** and both won their age categories. Ella won the Cheerleading Dance category and Melissa won the Lyrical Dance category.



Well done to all three girls; we look forward to hearing about more success in the future!

## Sackville are U13 cricket champions

Mr Watson writes:-

Sackville School are very proud that their Boys' U13 cricket team has been crowned Sussex indoor champions 2017. This six a side tournament was organised by the Sussex County Cricket Foundation and many schools across Sussex entered. Sackville won its regional matches with wins over Warden Park and Burgess Hill. This meant they qualified for the Sussex finals at the BACA Cricket Centre in Brighton.

Earlier in the group stages, Sackville had convincing victories over Forest and Bexhill. They really demonstrated their outstanding bowling with Liam Dawes in year 7 taking fantastic wickets in both matches. Sackville subsequently qualified for the Semi Finals and met strong opposition in Felpham School, who had been unbeaten. Throughout the tournament Sackville and their bowlers were superb, reducing teams to minus runs in some matches. The semi-final was no different. Sackville's Captain Joe Sheridan was confident in his team's bowling ability and put Felpham into bat after winning the toss.





Some sensational early wickets and tight fielding reduced Felpham to just 8 runs. In addition, the solid and clever batting from Jake Lingard and Olly Ally got Sackville over the line to win the match.

In the Final Sackville met Durrington School, who are an extremely strong bowling side. Sackville lost the toss and were put into bat. After a challenging start, a good recovery from the next pairing of Jake Lingard and Olly Ally left the final pair Joe Sheridan and Caspar Arthur with the comfort of trying to keep their wicket and not having to hit out. Sackville posted twenty runs which was a target Sackville thought they would be able to defend. In the first five overs every single player took at least one wicket on their respective turns. This meant Durrington needed fifteen runs to win. Luckily, some quality line and length deliveries from Joe in the final over yielded two wickets and the match was won. Sackville's impressive bowling had once again won the day. Player of the tournament went to Liam Dawes. This was a fantastic achievement!

U13's team: Joe Sheridan, Caspar Arthur, Olly Ally, Luke Peel, Jake Lingard and Liam Dawes

## This month's pictures

Callum Stone won Gold at the Brighton mini-mile – again! The Sports Awards evening, with winners Adam Harris, Chris LeRoy, Aliya Harvey and Daisy Alleway with Julian Grant.





The year 7 celebration breakfast, and the Duke of Edinburgh weekend.



## SECOND HAND UNIFORM

The second hand uniform shop is now in place – all items £1 each.....

We have shirts, skirts, trousers and PE kits all waiting for a new home!

Please visit reception to ask to see the stock or ask your child to visit at lunchtimes.

We ask that you are patient if reception is busy at the time you visit.

Is your child now too big for the shirt you bought 6 weeks ago? Please give it a new home at the second hand shop, all clothes donations to reception gratefully received.

Janina Stromfield, [jstromfield@sackvilleschool.org.uk](mailto:jstromfield@sackvilleschool.org.uk)





East Grinstead Tennis, Squash & Racketball Club is offering free tennis coaching and play on Sunday 14th May.

Just come along to the club (opposite Waitrose on Ship Street) 11am-4pm and have a go. The bar will be open and refreshments will be available all day. We have spare rackets if you don't own one.

If you are interested, please email [tennis.chairman@egtsc.org](mailto:tennis.chairman@egtsc.org) and please share info with friends and family.

Sevenoaks Youth Council      HOUSE IN THE Basement      Sevenoaks town council

THEATRE FOR ACTION PRESENTS

**THEATRE WORKSHOPS**  
Hosted by Elise Van Den Hoek

5.00 - 6.30 PM  
4TH MAY @ THE  
HOUSE IN THE  
BASEMENT,  
SEVENOAKS  
TN13 1ZZ

FREE OF CHARGE, COME ALONG AND LEARN  
HOW TO DEVISE THEATRE AND CREATE  
CHARACTERS FOR THE STAGE!  
AVAILABLE TO ALL AGED 11-18 AND SUITABLE  
FOR ALL LEVELS OF EXPERIENCE

For details, contact Sevenoaks Town Council on 01732 459953 or  
email [council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk](mailto:council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk)

Priory Road,  
Forest Row  
East Sussex  
RH18 5HT

**Directions:**

A22 from East Grinstead at Forest Row, turn right at the church into Priory Road. After half a mile turn right to Weir Wood Reservoir and follow signs to the sailing club.

**Weir Wood Sailing Club**



## Open Day, Saturday 13 May

### 11am - 4pm



For more information  
[info@wwsc.org.uk](mailto:info@wwsc.org.uk)

Open to everyone! You will have a chance to have a trial sail, there will be racing, dinghy displays, model yacht racing, an all day BBQ and much more! As a club, we offer:

- No joining fee if you join on Open Day (conditions apply)
- Adult RYA courses
- Skills development sessions
- Club racing
- Strong youth programmes for children and young people from 8-18
- Coastal Cruising
- Social events

