

An Overview of Your New Directors for 2021

Stefan Bishop



I'm very pleased to offer my services to SYC at this historic moment for our Club. SYC is in my veins. My father, Doug Bishop, won national & world championships out of SYC in the 60s, and continued a long racing career as a member. My father-in-law Richard Ogden is a former SYC Commodore, and continues to serve the Club today. My wedding reception was at SYC in 1998, and over the years I've attended too many SYC birthdays/marriages/wake parties to count!

My wife and I have sailed all our lives and our children grew up on our boats, which have been kept at Littlehampton and Chichester. We have proudly flown the SYC blue ensign in so many different waters.

I live 2 mins walk from the Club. My daughters are now independent, and my wife is very busy as assistant head of a local primary school. Combining this with my dramatically reduced business travel, I now have the time and local presence to fulfil my longstanding desire to contribute more to SYC.

I'm an engineer by training, and after an early career in aerospace and defence, I now head a \$600m revenue global payments cyber & security business. I'm hard working and organised - you have to be in my job! I have a strong reputation for getting things done. I hope to gain a reputation for getting things done at SYC too, within our complex governance framework.

This year I've been attending main committee meetings to get a feeling for how things are run and am also a serving member on the Moorings and Maintenance Committee, seeking to make valuable contributions.

Looking ahead, there is a great opportunity to improve our Shoreham moorings (many of which are approaching end of life), bringing them up to the gold standard set by our new Clubhouse and the great redevelopment work recently completed at Southwick. Please do drive down to Southwick and see how good it is now looking and have a think how our Shoreham moorings / waterside environment could improve in the coming years. Most especially, imagine how much more vibrant our Club would be if we brought a lot more water-based activity options, through having more accessible mooring options. Yachts & dinghies & SMYC aside, we boast an active dive section, and the new paddle board section is a perfect example of the sort of initiative we need to promote to bring more activity and attract new membership. Consulting with many key players at SYC, I have started to draw up Shoreham waterside redevelopment plans, and would welcome your input.

In summary, SYC is very dear to me and I'd like to contribute my energy and expertise to help take the Club forward at this pivotal moment.

Long standing members Tony Curtis, Jonce Weeden, Terry Kinch, Kevin Headon, as well as Tim Leigh, Mark Sharp and Zoe & Alan Fry all know me – please feel free to ask them what they think I can contribute.

Pat Hill



I have been a member for approximately 34 years and have done two previous stints as a Director during that time, including 3 years as a Rear Commodore. Mostly I have served on House Committee, including as Chair, but have participated in several other committees and sub committees and given advice to Club and the Board in my profession as a Solicitor. I am currently on House Committee as a non Director member. I have also done quite a lot of sailing over the years!

I have retired from active practice as a Solicitor and feel that I can now contribute more time and energy in moving the Club forward. Also, having been a senior equity partner in my practice, I have experience of running a local business including having to maintain our buildings, be active in the local community, deal with a significant number of staff and market the firm's services, as well as providing legal advice. These are all skills which will be valuable to the Club in the future.

There are many challenges facing the Club. Obviously we have to continue to deal with the Covid 19 crisis in the short term, whilst getting the new Clubhouse ready to open and function efficiently. We also need to plan for the medium and long term future of the Club. There are many issues which need to be addressed in all areas and I am also serving on the new strategy committee to put outline measures in place for the future and which can be dealt with in detail by the Board and the various committees.

I do believe that the Club could do with some legal input at board level as many of these strategies have legal as well as financial implications. I also believe that we should always remember that we are elected to serve the shareholders and other members, that they collectively own the Company and pay the fees and enable our activities. To this end I am firmly of the opinion that the Board should encourage the members to voice their needs and concerns and should be as open and inclusive as it is possible to be within the constraints of the law.

I am keen that we make the Club a centre of excellence for its members. Our new building is an exciting opportunity to do this and to market our services, increase our membership and gain financial security. We also need to continue with and develop our waterborne and boatyard activities. I want to be a part of this at a practical level. Many thanks for taking the time to read this.

David Lee



I am 53 years old, have been a SYC member since 2001. Professionally I have been running my IT Consultancy for the past 23 years delivering projects & consultancy to government & major enterprises within Europe, Africa, & the US. I am currently working for UK Central Government. Whilst I can't give detail on what I do for security reasons, many of you will have seen the fruits of my labour on TV in the Govt & PM briefings during the current CV19 crisis.

I have 2 years previous Committee service on my record as Diving Captain 2010-2012. I have also been club Instructor since 2016. This means that I am fully aware of a director's fiduciary obligations to unselfishly represent the interests of all SYC members. I would like to become a SYC director to allow me to further enhance the delivery of the various new and existing projects on behalf of the club.

Dave Ramus



Work

1976 - 1980 apprentice MVT

1980-1985 sales manager at E. A. Opas LTD

1985 onwards Managing Director at Opas Southern Ltd.

SYC

I have been a member for 47 years. I have served on a variety of committees:

Dinghy section

Windsurfing section

Keelboat section

Main committee (House, Treasurer, vice & Commodore and currently President)

I was very privileged to be tasked with the design & build of the new bar, in the old clubhouse.

Hobbies

Sailing

Walking

Skiing

Wakeboarding

I have met many friends and sailing buddies over the years. I have been on many sailing events over the years including SYC's prestigious Royal escape, Round the island, Fastnet, Triangle. To name a few.

I wish to come back to the Committee to support our Commodore, maintain transparency, harmony and communication, encouraging member participation.

Graham Roberts



My professional career has always been in the building industry including running my own architecture consultancy for many years before moving into property management.

Boats, building and sailing them has always been my passion and I've been a member of the club for over forty years and have served on committees both as a director and flag officer. I live on Shoreham beach and currently keep my yacht Eleanor, built in the club yard, in the Solent in the summer, but usually returns to the club for the winter.

My motivation for seeking re-election is to help the restoration and improvement of sailing facilities and moorings around our new clubhouse.

Steve Vyse



On a whim my father decided that yachting was just the thing for his young family, and after consulting a library book on how to sail, he purchased E825 'Psychedelic', an already ancient wooden Enterprise dinghy. Although I added negligible righting moment, I became his racing crew at the incredibly friendly Pevensey Bay SC. I could have been no more than 10 when a squall, that my young imagination blew into a hurricane, nearly took us onto Beachy Head. After that scare my Dad decided that tending to classic cars was a safer pastime and flaky old E825 was sold, but I never forgot the frisson of excitement as sails fill, sheets tighten and the stem fizzes into a rising swell; as a result, whilst other teenage drivers got themselves furry dice, I saved for a tow bar and a succession of racing dinghies.

By '97 I was racing Merlin Rockets from Shoreham Sailing Club, so it made sense moving to Shoreham Beach with wife Karen and son Rob. A few years later, I went for a sail with Doug Beanlands to taste racing with a keel, and before long I'd joined SYC, bought the j24 'Juvenile Delinquent' and put together a team to try our hand at one design racing.

We trailed 'JD' all over the country and at times had more fun than was good for us, which is perhaps why I eventually decided to look for excitement closer to home and bought 'Barda', a yacht that delights in showing inshore and offshore fleets her shapely transom.

In 2008 I took over the organisation of the annual Royal Escape Race (which I have looked after ever since). In 2011 I also joined the main committee as a director, culminating in serving our club as Commodore 2016-2018. Since then I have remained very much in the background, supportive when asked for help, but generally quietly respectful of the huge efforts made on our behalf by those that have stepped up as volunteers.

During 2020 it became apparent to me that my knowledge of the club, its traditions and history, coupled with my perspective as a racing sailor and boat owner might be helpful in keeping SYC on course as a leading yacht club. It is common knowledge that I enjoy straight talking, sometimes to fault, but I strive to get things done. I believe that yacht clubs have to put the interests of their active members first, second and third. To prosper we must make ourselves attractive to those that want to get afloat; I want SYC to be the kind of club that welcomes newcomers like my Dad and his little boy, firing imaginations to get afloat and stay afloat. Sailing really should be all that matters.



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