



Go Affordable Boating Seminar

Boat Share Clubs

Access to Boats and Shared Ownership

This digi pack brings together a range of clubs, syndicates and organisations offering accessible and affordable ways to get out on the water without the commitment of full boat ownership.

From shared ownership to club sailing and group charters, these options provide flexible, practical routes into boating.

KSSC

Formed in 1964 as a dinghy racing club, it transitioned into a cruising club in the 1990s. It owns 2 boats: A Dufour 365 in Levington, Suffolk and a Bavaria 40 in Preveza, Greece. Membership is open to all, with temporary membership available for crew. Skippers are assessed for competence but once approved can book the boats via an on-line booking calendar. Annual membership subs are very reasonable, and the skipper makes a payment towards club funds when using the boats. Social sailing is a priority, including a club cruise which allows all members to participate. Last year's cruise was 8 weeks in Holland with 5 skippers taking a different leg of the cruise and 35 crew. The Dufour had a busy year with 130 days in use mainly sailing on the East Coast.

The Mediterranean boat cruise last year was from our previous berth in Fethiye Türkiye to Preveza over 6 weeks with 4 skippers and 21 crew.

The club has an active social programme with winter visits summer walks and a hired Wherry for Broads sailing while the UK boat is away on its summer cruise. While joining maintenance working parties is encouraged, it is not mandatory. Full information about the club can be found at www.kssc.uk.



Speedbird Offshore Yacht Club

Get aboard at the Cruising Association's Affordable Sailing 2026 event this March with Speedbird Offshore Yacht Club — and discover why we're one of the most affordable and active sailing clubs in the Solent.

Based at Mercury Marina on the River Hamble, we own two well-equipped yachts and sail year-round. Members enjoy regular outings in all seasons, build confidence, gain real experience and develop skills with an enthusiastic community of around 300 sailors.

Why join Speedbird Offshore Yacht Club?

- Great destinations: We run single-day trips to beautiful Solent locations including the Beaulieu River, Lymington, Newtown Creek and Cowes. Recent summers have featured mini-cruises to the Channel Islands, France, Poole and the West Country.
- No need to find a crew: Use our simple online system to book a trip or propose one for others to join.
- Training included: As an RYA Recognised Training Centre, we offer one-day Skill Bytes, two-day Improve Your Skills weekends, and RYA courses from Competent Crew to Yachtmaster.
- Excellent value: Annual membership is £165 (2025 price) with a £100 joining fee. Day sail rates are £53 in summer and £41 in winter.

Whether you're new to sailing or seeking more time on the water, the club offers a friendly, social and skill-building environment in one of the UK's best sailing areas. A Speedbird member and CA member will be at the Affordable Sailing Event to answer questions about membership, training and upcoming trips.

Visit www.SOYC.co.uk to learn more or come and chat with us at the event — we look forward to welcoming you aboard!

Special event offer: Quote "CA26" to waive the joining fee during March/April 2026.



Yacht Fractions

Yacht Fractions was founded in 1991 and is the UK's only brokerage dedicated to helping people buy and sell shares in sailing yachts and motor cruisers — both in the UK and overseas. While some brokers focus on fully serviced motor yachts, our expertise is firmly in practical, affordable yacht co-ownership for real sailors.

The yachts currently on our listings range from £1,500 for a 50% share in a small yacht based in Anglesey up to £140,000 for 1/8 share in a large motor cruiser. However, most of our yachts are at the lower end: the average sale price achieved over the last 18 months is just over £17,000, with two thirds of them being sold well below that level. The yachts we sell are mainly in either the Solent or in Greece, though we have a number that are based in other parts of the Mediterranean.

The amount of sailing you get each year and the monthly costs you pay depends on the size of the share you own. As an example, a 1/4 share in a 42-foot yacht in Greece typically costs around £300 per month, and typically getting about six weeks of sailing each year.

That means your annual running cost is roughly £3,600 for six weeks sailing. By comparison, chartering a similar (though newer) yacht for just one week would cost around £4,500. Co-ownership offers dramatically better value for anyone who wants regular, affordable access to a well-maintained boat.

We take care of the entire sales process for you: creating the advert, handling enquiries, coordinating with buyers and sellers, and preparing all the sale documents.

We also support clients who want to set up a new syndicate. This includes guidance on syndicate agreements and helping you find the right boat to suit your plans.

For more see: yachtfractions.co.uk



U3a

Bareboat Chartering with Sailing Network The u3a Sailing Network is a community of sailing members, open to anyone interested in sailing. During the winter months we offer talks and seminars to update our skills in boat handling and safety etc. Skippers and crew get together to enjoy sailing well into retirement. We sail in the UK but we particularly enjoy the warmth of the Mediterranean and to explore various beautiful islands with vivid blue waters and stunning anchorages. At the end of a long day's sailing we often get together over refreshments and dinner, sharing experiences of the day. We have been Bareboat Chartering for over four years and have sailed in Croatia, Mainland Greece and the Dodecanese. We charter a group of yachts at the start or end of season when good discounts can be found and when it's warm but less crowded. It's also much easier to find moorings in the evening. This year we return to Croatia in May for a 10 day trip, sailing from Trogir to Zadar to experience the beautiful Kornati islands and in September we sail in the Ionian on a 7 day trip. We are looking for newcomers to join us in future trips. All costs are shared equally amongst the group and the holiday is reasonably priced. You need to be in good health and fairly fit as you will help with all tasks on board such as sail trimming, helming and navigation. This is a chance to experience sailing, develop skills and make new friends. Each boat has experienced skipper and first mate on board to ensure a safe time aboard and help crew learn about sailing. Whether you are new to sailing or experienced, why not join us to enjoy the adventure.

Please contact us at: Susan.gibson@volunteer.u3a.org.uk



The Nancy Blackett Trust

Sailing doesn't have to mean owning a yacht, paying endless mooring fees, or spending every spare hour on maintenance. Many experienced sailors already know the pleasure of being on the water without the burden of ownership—and some find even greater satisfaction in sharing their skills with others. At the Nancy Blackett Trust, that's just what volunteering offers.

Based near Ipswich in Suffolk, the Trust maintains and sails Arthur Ransome's cherished yacht Nancy Blackett, the very vessel that inspired *We Didn't Mean to Go to Sea*. Around 350 members support her upkeep, and volunteers play a vital role in ensuring she continues to sail the same waters that Ransome once enjoyed. Joining the team means becoming part of a living piece of maritime and literary history.

Volunteers contribute in many ways, but experienced sailors are especially valued. Qualified skippers and crew help take members—some complete beginners, others simply unfamiliar with Nancy—out on the water. These trips range from gentle day sails to more ambitious inshore or even occasional offshore passages. Volunteer skippers may also book Nancy Blackett for their own use, making it possible to enjoy a classic yacht at a minimal cost.

There's a unique satisfaction in feeling Nancy heel to the breeze as she slips down the River Orwell, sharing that moment with someone discovering sailing for the first time. Volunteering becomes more than a day out; it becomes a way to pass on seamanship, keep a historic vessel alive, and inspire new sailors.

For those with experience, RYA qualifications, and a desire to give something back, the Trust offers a chance to do more than sail a modern production boat. It's an opportunity to contribute, to teach, to enjoy a classic, and to help keep Nancy Blackett sailing for generations to come. Come aboard—your skills can make a difference.

[Home | The Nancy Blackett Trust](#)



The North West Venturers Yacht Club (Beaumaris, Anglesey)

In the early 1960s a group of Silhouette owners used to travel to Beaumaris on Anglesey for week end sailing and after meet up in the local pub because they were lacking a local base. Determined to improve their lot, they obtained a parcel of land by the Strait from the Beaumaris town Council and so 1961 saw the start of the North West Venturers YC. By 1963 they had built a clubhouse on the site (a prefabricated wooden building). Drying mooring licenses were available from the Council for Beaumaris Bay which offers accessibility approximately HW+/-3. The clubhouse offered parking, a dinghy store and 24hr access to toilets, showers a DIY galley and lounge. So the costs of keeping a boat were; the mooring tackle, mooring license and club membership.

Today for a 10m boat on a drying mooring the costs are £1300 to buy and have the mooring laid (this should have a life of 5-10years). In addition there are annual fees of ~£275 license fee to the Council, £350 to have the mooring professionally maintained. Winter storage costs in the boatyard for a 30' boat are around £1200 giving an annual cost of ~£2000 which is a fraction of a marina berth.

There are many older but perfectly serviceable cruising boats from the past, which can be bought for a few thousand pounds. In this way relatively low cost boating is still readily available for those prepared to use a tender to get on board. Boating at this level may be less comfortable than a modern boat in a marina but it is likely to be much more fun. Indeed, Ellen MacArthur's 1995 round Britain voyage was just such a yacht – a 21' bilge keeler.

www.nwvyc.org.uk