



Rockley Reporter

Keeping you in touch.....

Winter 2006

Training Courses for the 2007 Season Huge Discounts on all courses for new and returning staff.

As a company whose business is people our greatest asset is our staff (that would be you lot!) and a key way to improve our holidays and courses and increase your enjoyment and satisfaction in your work is to provide training. For those of you who worked for Rockley sometime ago this will all be new but current and recent staff will be fully aware of the investments we make in them in terms of 'in-house' and on the job training and induction training.

Year 1 of employment
Year 2 of employment
Year 3 of employment
Year 4 of employment
Years 5, 6 & of employment
Year 8 & Year 8+ of employment

20% discount
35% discount
50% discount
75% discount
1 FREE course per annum
2 FREE courses per annum

To further encourage current staff and especially returning staff we also offer discounts on the cost of recognised training courses. These discounts are available to current and returning staff for yourself or may be used for direct family members eg parent, brother, sister or child.

RYA 2007 INSTRUCTOR COURSE DATES



RYA Dinghy Instructor

Feb 19, Mar 19, Apr 2, 9 May 28, June 11, July 9, 16, 30
Aug 6, 13 20, 27, Sep 3, Oct 22, 29, Nov 12.

RYA Senior Instructor

Feb 19, Mar 19, Apr 9, May 28, Oct 22, 29

RYA Powerboat Instructor

Feb 14, Mar 14, April 25, May 16, June 20, Sep 12, Nov 7

RYA Windsurfing Instructor

Feb 19, Apr 9, July 23, Nov 5



We also run the following courses subject to demand: RYA Racing Instructor, RYA Advanced Instructor, RYA Intermediate Windsurfing. Please call to check for dates on 0870 777 0541 or email: info@rockleywatersports.com



RYA INSTRUCTORS REQUIRED

DINGHY, SENIOR & WINDSURF CENTRE MANAGERS
FRANCE & UK SUMMER 07

We are looking for enthusiastic RYA qualified watersports Instructors for our 7 centres in France and the UK for the coming season.

We offer competitive rates and an excellent employment package including flexible start and finish dates from March to October.

For further information or an application pack, email: personnel@rockleywatersports.com or call the HR team on 0870 777 0541

Welcome to the first edition of the Rockley Reporter. As we have grown in size with more and more staff and students each year we felt it was important to (and we want to) keep in touch and keep you up to date with what and who's new in the Rockley family.

The Rockley Reporter is also your forum for staff news, views and stories so please contact us with your ideas, comments or features for the next edition. You can email us on reunited@rockleywatersports.com

Have your say 

We would like this section to become a regular feature of the Reporter as we are sure you are as interested as we are to hear everyone's news (should that read gossip?!) – so it is up to you to get in touch and let us know what you are up to!

Register online: www.rockleywatersports.com/reunited so that we have your current contact details and you can always send us news and (suitable!) pictures at: reunited@rockleywatersports.com.



2006 Season Roundup

This season was as busy as ever across all our centres in the UK and France with our school activity trips leading the way with a 15% increase on 2005.



UK News

Once again I am delighted to report another great 2006 season at Rockley base camp in Poole. Our Instructor courses were filled and a whole host of children and adults enjoyed a variety of watersports courses. At the tail end of this season we also started operating on Poole Park, offering sailing sessions to school groups. Next season we will be fully operational there offering courses and equipment hire to the public.

Our largest school group, BSN who faithfully come annually from the Netherlands was again great fun for everyone involved - children, teachers and staff.

I also finally made it on TV in September alongside Clare and Kate (who work in the office) where we featured (several times) on BBC Sport, promoting powerboating. Not quite James Bond but watch this space!!!

For 2007 it's back to the business of doing what we do best - teaching and having fun whilst doing so. I would just like to say a big **THANKS** to all of you who made the 2006 season such a success and to the permanent Instructors who are still here preparing for next year. *Andy*



French News

2006 was another great year in France and we just wanted to **THANK YOU** again for the amount of hard work you have all put in to making this season such a success. We hope you had a great time too.

With demo well and truly behind us, all thoughts are for next year. Rich and Emma are busy on the case filling all our centres with school groups and kids eager to get on the water.

With rumours rife about whether we would be returning to La Reserve, I can now confirm that we will be back there but on a slightly smaller scale. We are very much looking forward to setting up Mayotte - our latest addition to the French centres which will be offered to both school groups and also to families.

With such a great bunch of staff last year, we are hoping that many of you are thinking of re-applying for the 2007 season so please ensure you complete your application form and return it the office as soon as possible. If you have any questions please contact Richard Percy or myself on 0870 777 0541 or email: robc@rockleywatersports.com *Rob*

New Look Branding for 2007

Some of you (slightly!) older ex-members of staff still probably think of us as the sailing school at Rockley Point. Hopefully those of you who were able to visit Poole in March of this year for our birthday party will know now that we have moved on somewhat from the humble beginnings of the caravan and couple of Wayfarers on the Point. Over the years we have expanded the range of boats and courses and also the centres at which we operate. This organic growth (fancy way of saying 'slow'!) has meant we have, over the years, been through a number of incarnations. Our most recent development of our branding has enabled us to adopt a 'Rockley' style, which we can apply to new products and ventures. And Peter is happy because it's not too big (costly) a chance!

Rockley watersports
Rockley Watersports is the brand name for all our individual and family courses and holidays both at Rockley Point in the UK and at our La Reserve, AzuRivage and Mayotte centres in France.

Rockley adventure
Rockley Adventure is the brand name for all our school activity trips to all our centres (7 centres between the UK and France).

Rockley @ Poole Park
Rockley @ Poole Park is the brand name for the sailing and windsurfing taster sessions and hire that we offer at Poole Park.

Rockley reunited
Rockley Reunited is the brand name for our staff and ex-staff forum on our website and for the newsletter "Rockley Reporter"



Caption Competition
WIN ANIMAL VOUCHERS

Who says men can't do two things at once? It looks like whilst showing off his wakeboarding skills, Greg Haylock (aka Mini, Centre Manager at La Reserve) is also on his mobile phone chatting to someone. The question is: What could he be saying?
Email your answers to reunited@rockleywatersports.com and you will be in with a chance of winning £50 worth of Animal vouchers. Make it funny, inventive and as clean as you can! The winner will be announced in the New Year.

Rockley's Vital Statistics

There are lots of stats involved in running businesses and we have 4 that we use as our Key Performance Indicators (or Critical Success Factors or Peter Spending Too Much Time in Front of a Computer Thingy).

- They are (and in no particular order)..
- Maintaining Rockley Point's bookings at a certain level
 - Growing the Schools Business at a certain rate
 - Maintaining the high level of satisfaction from our customers
 - Monitoring staff turnover

Staff Turnover
Most businesses will measure staff turnover on the basis that all their staff are full time employees which is not the case in our industry, so we measure it by the number of staff that complete their contract, whether it is a 4 week contract or a 6 month contract. We feel that this is a good way to measure staff satisfaction (ie are they happy working with us, do we treat them well, listen to them, let them enjoy themselves in fact lots of things)

The majority of our industry looks at a 40% turnover of staff in a season, which means that 40% of their staff did not see out their contract.

The level that we have set ourselves is 10%, in fact we didn't set it, that was the level when we decided it was an important business measurement and is in fact one of the stats that we are most proud of – we know that we aren't perfect but feel that we must be doing something right!

30th Birthday Party 25th March 2006

This event was a resounding success and we hope everyone enjoyed it as much as we enjoyed planning it and tracking everyone down for it. In the end about 400 of us packed into the Lighthouse in Poole for a grand evening of drinking, dining and dancing. We also organised a regatta at the sailing centre at Rockley Point and a few hardy individuals braved the bracing March weather and thoroughly enjoyed their sailing and the racing.



....and the party continued until the early hours. We look forward to seeing you at the next one!!!



Our family continues to expand and we are looking forward, in 2007, to opening 2 new centres – 1 in France and 1 here in the UK. This will mark our biggest expansion in a single season and obviously represents a considerable investment in money, time and resources, ie it is going to be very busy!



Mayotte is based on Lac Cazeau, close to Biscarosse and on the same lake as La Rive. The campsite is a large 4 star site and is owned and operated by Yelloh Villages, a French holiday company with more than 30 sites. Mayotte will offer school activity trips as well as family holidays which with its great blend of superb facilities, idyllic location and relaxed atmosphere we are sure will be a hit with our customers and staff alike.

Poole Park is based right in the centre of Poole itself and Rockley @ Poole Park will be based on the UK's largest (we are reliably informed) inland saltwater lake. This centre will offer a quite different range of watersports experiences to our other centres and will enable us to offer short taster sessions and kit hire to the local community and also to Poole's huge influx of tourists during the season. We will also move our windsurfing from Rockley to Poole Park and be able to offer children's watersports activity camps during the school holidays.

Births & Marriages
Congratulations to:
Tom Ahrens (1991-1996) and Marie (neè le Berre) Ahrens (1991-1996) twins!!! Jeanne and Pablo.

Tom Merralls (1993-2000) married Jess in September 2006.

Good Luck to:
Tim Fisher (2003-2006) and Emma Casbon (2004-2006) who are getting married 24th February 2007

James Cowan (1994-2005) and Victoria Matthews who are getting married 26th May 2007.



Finally I have been left this tiny space to say a big thank you to everyone and to wish you all a Happy Christmas. We will be at the all new London Boat Show from January 5th and will love to see as many of you that can make it on Stand N551.

That's All Folks!
Peter and Lis