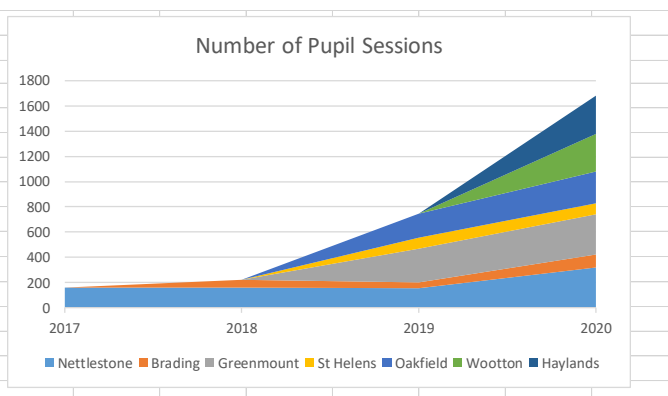




## Review of Seaview Schools Sailing 2020



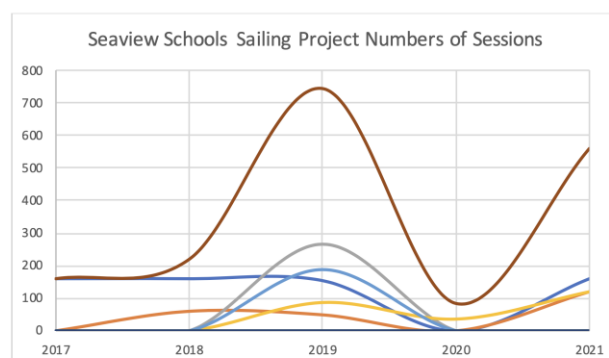
Sessions v Years	2017	2018	2019	2020
Nettlestone	160	160	154	320
Brading	0	60	49	100
Greenmount	0	0	266	320
St Helens	0	0	87	90
Oakfield	0	0	188	250
Wootton	0	0	0	300
Haylands	0	0	0	300
<b>Total</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>744</b>	<b>1680</b>



### A Difficult and Frustrating Summer

After a highly successful 2019 season, as the table and chart above illustrate, our plan for 2020 was to expand the Seaview Schools Sailing programme to include seven primary schools and teach a total of 1680 child sessions. Everything was in place for this but, unsurprisingly, despite our best-laid plans, 2020 had a very different result, as the amendments on the table and chart below show:

Sessions v Years	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Nettlestone	160	160	154	0	160
Brading	0	60	49	0	120
Greenmount	0	0	266	0	0
St Helens	0	0	87	36	120
Oakfield	0	0	188	0	0
Wootton	0	0	0	0	0
Haylands	0	0	0	0	0
Bembridge	0	0	0	48	160
<b>Total</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>744</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>560</b>



Thanks to the COVID-19 restrictions, unfortunately we were unable to run any teaching sessions in the summer term at all. Not only did the first lockdown's end-date in early July come too late in the term but also, even then, the schools had an enormous catch-up task on their hands. From our side, the permission for any UK sailing centre to resume instruction was not granted by our governing body the Royal Yachting Association until after the term had ended, by which time it was too late to run the programme. We were left with no choice but to cancel all SSS activities during the Summer.

### Some Happier Times in the Autumn

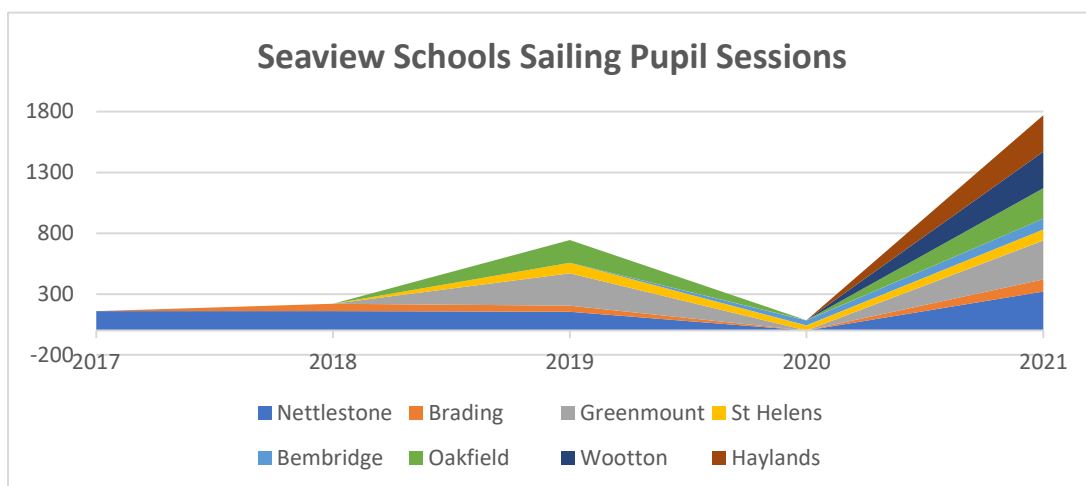
Fortunately we did manage to find a three-week window at the beginning of the Autumn term to run sailing sessions for children from two very local East Wight primary schools which were able to fit these sessions into their hectic COVID-affected timetables: St Helen's, which is one of the schools we started working with in 2019, and Bembridge which is new to the SSS programme. Twelve children from St Helens, all of whom had just moved up to Year 6 and had missed out on the opportunity of learning to sail at Seaview in the summer term when they were still in Year 5, enjoyed weekly sessions in September, along with sixteen children from Year 5 in Bembridge Primary.

Although their three sessions on the water were not enough for any of the children to gain a RYA Stage 1 qualification, they did all achieve a RYA Taster Certificate and received a very good grounding in preparation for what we hope and expect to be a full term’s course in summer 2021. Above all, these children had enormous fun on the water, after months of the lockdown restrictions, especially on sport, with which we are all too familiar. They learned not only about the basics of sailing but also teamwork, listening, coordination, courage and so much else besides.

Another piece of happier news relating to the SSS programme was that, in November Michael Smith, the former Commodore of Sea View Yacht Club was awarded the RYA Community Awards’ Outstanding Contribution Award for 2020, for his introduction of the initiative to provide free sailing lessons to Year 5 children from local primary schools in 2017 – the initiative which has grown and become Seaview Schools Sailing.

### Planning for 2021

As the chart below illustrates, we have ambitious plans for a great year for the Seaview Schools Sailing programme:



Like everyone else, we cannot be certain about how 2021 will unfold, but we are hoping and planning for the best possible scenario where the SSS programme will be up and running and teaching 1890 sessions to children from eight local primary schools in the East Wight. We have funding in place for four schools to participate in 2021, and, COVID situation and budget permitting, will extend the programme out to the remaining four schools for as many children as we can, during the summer term.

The table below shows the target numbers we aim to achieve in 2021:

Schools	Proposed Nbr of sessions				Total
	April	May	June	July	
Greenmount	64	96	128	32	320
Newchurch	60	90	120	30	300
Nettlestone	64	96	128	32	320
St Helens	24	36	48	12	120
Bembridge	32	48	64	16	160
Oakfield	30	70	75	75	250
Haylands	60	90	120	30	300
Brading	24	36	48	12	120
<b>Total</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>562</b>	<b>731</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>1890</b>

As we write, we will require further funding to enable us to fulfil our delayed expansion plan for the Seaview Schools Sailing programme but we are optimistic that the initiative should attract the required injection of further fund, given its excellent track record..

### **A Heartfelt 'Thank You'**

We would like to thank you very much for your continuing support, without which the SSS Programme cannot exist. Your contribution to the Programme's funding will, we hope and trust, enable us to pick up in 2021 from the downturn in the programme during 2020. We know from the fantastic positive feedback we have had every year of the programme's existence what a difference this programme makes to these schoolchildren, most of whom have never been on the water before and who benefit hugely from learning new skills, gaining confidence and, in many cases, a whole new outlook.

We very much want the programme to be able to reach and impact more children in 2021 as they are in desperate need to have structured outdoor activities after the disappointing COVID times in 2020 and Spring 2021. But we can only teach the number of child sessions for which we have funding and we would be extremely grateful if you felt able to continue with further financial support for this very worthwhile initiative. If you would like to discuss this or any aspect of the Seaview Schools Sailing programme, please do not hesitate to get in contact.

In the meantime we would like to send you our very best wishes for the festive season and for a happy, HEALTHY 2021.

Kate Broxham  
Vice Commodore

John Edwards  
Commodore