

# GXSA

GERRARDS CROSS SAILING ASSOCIATION

## **The off season club for boating enthusiasts**

For those interested in sailing, boats,  
maritime matters, anything that floats

**Come and Join Us  
Visitors Welcome**

**Illustrated Talks  
Wednesday evenings**

October - March

**Coffee and Bar open 7.45pm  
Talks 8.15pm – 10.00pm**

**Colston Hall**

Gerrards Cross Memorial Centre  
SL9 7AD



**Also social events, days out and friendship all year round**

## **Gatherings afloat in the Sailing Season**

Just turn up to talks  
[www.gxsa.org.uk](http://www.gxsa.org.uk)

For further details or enquiries  
[info@gxsa.org.uk](mailto:info@gxsa.org.uk)

## GXSA PROGRAMME – SPRING 2018

Wednesday 17 January	<b>Paul Barnett</b> <b>Disaster Waiting – the Severn Bridge Disaster</b> The tragic tale of the 1960 destruction of the Severn Rail Bridge by two runaway tankers. The talk will unravel several bridge myths and present recently unearthed documentary evidence relating to the bridge.
Wednesday 24 January	<b>Sailing the Baltic – John Rugg</b> John Rugg will tell how he and two other GXSA members brought his new boat home via the Kiel Canal, Friesian Islands and the Netherlands inland waterways standing mast route through the IJsselmeer and on to Dunkirk. Finally crossing the Channel to get home in what became a F7.
Wednesday 31 January	<b>Sailing the Indian Ocean – Bob &amp; Elaine Hazell</b> Bob and Elaine return from their successful circumnavigation to tell us about crossing the Indian ocean in 'Pipistrelle' focusing on the sailing aspects, their chosen route, some of the many high points together with what went wrong and how they recovered – and the lessons learnt!
Wednesday 7 February	<b>Tom Sowerby – First Aid and Sea</b> <b>Peter May – Accessible Sailing for All</b> Both from Bisham Abbey Sailing School, Tom and Peter will update us in nautical First Aid and tell us about current efforts to provide opportunities for people with a wide range of disabilities to enjoy sailing and other activities on the water
Wednesday 14 February	<b>What your Navy is doing – and why it matters! - Royal Navy</b> A team of Officers, sailors and royal Marines, all of whom have been on active service, will explain what they do, how they do it, where they do it and what the future holds. They will be willing to answer any questions you may have. <b>John Apps</b> <b>Saved from the RNLI</b> Entering the Western Approaches with salt water in your engine fuel system, why would you call out the RNLI just because it is blowing a gale. All you have to do is find a quiet anchorage to fix the problem. Why put the Penlee lifeboat at risk again?
Wednesday 21 February	<b>Chris Tarratt</b> <b>The Mutiny on the Bounty and the Loss of the Vergulde Draeck</b> Chris will describe how these famous events happened and the survival of some of the crews. Although more than 100 years apart, both these events are about getting to safety in an open boat over a large tract of sea.
Wednesday 28 February	<b>Old Father Thames: Cruising the non-tidal Thames - David Horn</b> Based in Marlow, Marion and David, GXSA members, have explored the noble river from Teddington to the limit of navigation in their 27' motor cruiser 'Naiad'. David will delve into history, literature, locks, bridges, boats and wildlife while 'cruising' along.
Wednesday 7 March	<b>The Battle of the Atlantic – Convoys and Corvettes</b> Captain David Bray, a Master mariner, tells the story of the desperate struggle to defeat the menace of the U-boats to Atlantic Convoys in World War 2 and preserve the essential supply of food and fuel. It is a tribute to the Merchant Seamen who gave their lives manning this lifeline.
Wednesday 14 March	<b>AGM</b> – followed by review of the year and a look forward to the coming season's events

Programme subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. See [www.gxsa.org.uk](http://www.gxsa.org.uk) for details

**Autumn 2018 talks begin on Wednesday 10 October 2017**