



# Newsletter Summer 2 2025

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## **Our first (but definitely not our last) art exhibition**

Long-term subscribers to our half-termly newsletters may remember a headline story from the Autumn 2 edition celebrating the opening of our creative therapy space on the high street. Well, in less than one academic year, our students have gone from wondering what it's all about to presenting Plan B's first ever art exhibition, in partnership with the fantastic "Yourspace" Gosport. Led by our creative lead, Brendan, and driven by five of our fabulous students and contributions by many more, it has produced 40 fantastic, innovative and thought provoking pieces. Who would have believed we could have arrived here already? We could not be prouder of the work, dedication and commitment. It is a testament to the fact Plan B students have supported and inspired each other and that, in the right environment alongside likeminded individuals, they can achieve amazing work with aspirational results. Feedback from the general public has been really positive. The exhibition is said to have brightened up visitors days and given so much vibrancy and colour to the area that we have been invited back for a second exhibition next year. Watch this space and our socials for information about Plan B artworks' next venture, which the team are already planning to be different and even more interactive. The exhibition closed on the last day of summer term, July 18. But all pieces will have a swansong on Saturday, July 26, at Gosport market, where selected artwork will be on sale to the general public. If you are in the area, pop along, meet the artists and maybe buy yourself a piece of history. Don't forget to make sure it is signed by what could be Gosport's very own Banksy, Kahlo, Warhol or Basquiat...



## Exciting news from our Haslar Marina partners

Eagle-eyed readers of our newsletters may remember that our creative studio space, which produces art, was also shared with our Canvas creations team, training students in the art of sail and canvas fabrication and repair. The big news is the space is shared no more. Rather than telling you what's happened, I will hand over to our long term marina partners, by repeating their article from the Haslar Marina newsletter here....

### Exciting News from Haslar Marina!

We're thrilled to welcome Plan B Alternative Provision to the Gatehouse at Haslar Marina (blue hut adjacent to our car park entrance) as they launch their new initiative: Small Repairs Friday!

Led by skilled sailmaker Pablo Madrid, this initiative offers Berth Holders help with minor sail and canvas repairs, while giving local young people hands-on experience in the marine trades.

Plan B is a local Community Interest Company supporting young people aged 10–18 who are struggling in mainstream education. Through vocational learning opportunities in areas like carpentry, boatbuilding, marine engineering, watersports, and sail and canvas repair, they help students find meaningful pathways into the marine industry — now from both their Gosport High Street base and their new location at Haslar Marina.

Need a repair? Stop by the Gatehouse on a Friday with your small job, or leave a note with:

Your boat name

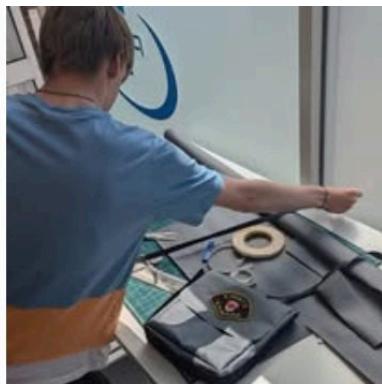
Berth number

Contact details

A short description of the issue

#haslarmarina #weareboatfolk #planb

...and we are pleased to report that the team have been busy as the service has been well received. They are clearly not only meeting a need for our training requirements, but also creating unity within the marine community.



## Annual Jolie Brise Sail and row adventure training

In the first week of summer 2 term, we partnered with the fabulous Jolie Brise sail training vessel to run the annual Jolie Brise Sail and row adventure training for our fourth year. Running over four days this year (due to Round the Island race preparations on day five) we took more than 80 keen students from Dauntsey's School rowing on Portsmouth Harbour. This fab bunch are often quite different in their experiences compared with our daily cohort. But for the vast majority, this was their first time under oars and experiencing our wonderful harbour. It was the first big test for our brand new-build Mcc 16s and the first time they have been side by side with our Salters skiffs. Led by our British rowing instructor Obelix, three crews in each of the four boats had three hours to get appropriately kitted out, have their safety brief conveyed, get a rowing demonstration and pontoon practice and take off. This is no mean feat and, boy, did everyone rise to the challenge. As these morning rowing sessions were taking place each day, 12 classmates were receiving the same (but different) introduction to sailing on board the beautiful Jolie Brise, which is probably the world's finest sail training vessel. Timing was impeccable as always, as everyone met in the harbour for a swift lunch on board before swapping crews for the afternoon sessions, with rowers heading towards Fareham and sailors towards the River Hamble. Learning curves were steep and enjoyment levels were high. All the boats preformed well and the crews performed even better. We continue to look forward to this annual event on our calendar. It meets our aims of getting more young people introduced to the sport of coastal rowing and getting out on the water safely. Our team enjoys it as much as the students.





## What's going on in the summer holidays?

When our term time work finishes, our summer holiday work starts, and we have a lot going on in the next six weeks. It all starts with Gosport's favourite annual, free, on-the-water event, "Pop-up Paddlesports", which is back again this summer. We are delighted to be providing this event, spread over the school holidays, for under- and over-18s this year. Huge thanks go to Gosport Borough Council for their ongoing support. The dates are based around the spring tides in the Hardway area of the harbour. Please see our Facebook page to pre-book or just turn up on the day. At the end of week one, you will find Plan B staff and students at the excellent monthly Gosport market. As mentioned, for a change this month, we have swapped savouries for paints and canvas as we will be brightening up the high street yet again by selling our students' impressive artworks. We go straight from there to Cowes week, where we will again be racing the beautiful Flame of Anor over seven days around The Solent. This is a popular choice for our older students through the summer. After lots more free community Paddlesports sessions, we then jump over the water with the Music Matters team to help them work their magic once again at the epic Victorious festival for three days of tuition, band performances, youth engagement and much more. As you can see, it's going to be a busy summer. Check back in September to see how it all went.

## Student feedback in prose

# Plan B, the place to be.....

Being such wonderful people.

Helping me shine.

Teaching me things I need to know.

Your kindness and your praise.

Creating some of the best memories with me.

Being so caring and understanding.

Igniting my imagination.

Being a role model.

All your words of encouragement.

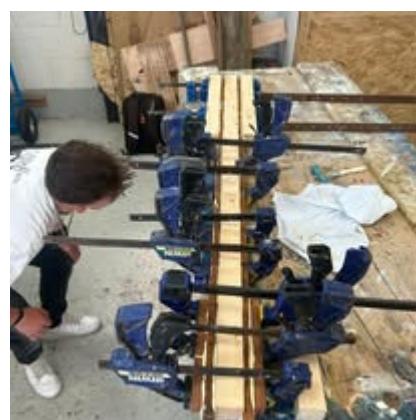
Being such an important part of my journey.

Helping me grow.

Guiding and inspiring me.

But most of all, thank you for letting me be me....

Jack





## **This term, we have also...**

...updated our first aid training; raced in the famous Round the Island (Isle of Wight) race; repaired a pool cover; repaired a 50 year old canvas bag; bought a new (very popular) basketball hoop; refurbished our Salters skiffs; rowed to the Isle Of Wight with staff and supporters (training for the Round the Island row); got lots of blisters; re-shaped the handles of our Mcc16 oars; customised some jeans; visited the car used by KSI in the sideman challenge; made more wooden paddles; learnt how to do swing art; spotted seals; fitted a sprayhood; hosted more supporters lunches; caught some fish; bought some new kayaks; ran a market stall; been up the spinnaker tower; been to the butterfly house; fixed and refurbished lots more bikes; made lots more food including more amazing cakes and lush fruit salads and smoothies; released a song on Spotify; taught students how to fly the drone; had two work experience students with us; completed an epoxy course; visited the Winchester science centre; filmed, edited and produced episode two of our student vampire film "The Rise of Marcellus"; and sang, danced, giggled, smiled and laughed a lot.

Extra thanks to Adam S and the Jolie Brise team, Wessex Resins and Adhesives and Haslar Marina.





**Instead of thanking all our amazing supporters this half term, It has been suggested that we put a wish-list here of donations that would help us...**

Hard wood or soft wood gets used daily. Woodworking or engineering tools are always helpful. Blank canvases, painting equipment and picture frames are in high demand. Skateboards in any condition are used for art projects... footballs ( we went through 7 last term) and basketballs too. Games are always popular and Lego is well received. Musical instruments are always appreciated which helps our loan scheme so students can carry on practicing at home. Thank you.



## **TEAM PROFILE: Lyn Hill**

**Website designer, IT support and much more**

Helping us show our best self on the worldwide web



# STUDENT PROFILE:

## Callam H

Is now college ready...





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