



## Supernova Review

Matt Thursfield has carried out a review of the Club's new Supernova 1133, whilst racing in Bart's Bash 2020...

### ***"Firstly, some context to the boat***

- *It has two rigs, with the same PY (1077 – (a Laser is 1100))*
- *It has a fully-battened, mylar mainsail.*
- *It's quite a long boat, with a self-draining cockpit that really stays dry.*
- *It has a lot of controls; the usual stuff most of us are used to, with the additions of adjustable rake, 'lowers' along with the stayed mast.*

### ***The good bits.***

- *The control systems really work; tweak the outhaul with ease, the kicker has power, the impact of the downhaul coming on, is noticeable.*
- *The fully battened aspect of the main gives the boat power but with stability.*
- *Gybing the boat is a dream, it genuinely feels as though you have control through the whole process.*
- *It has speed on the reaches, comfortable on the runs, beating feels powerful.*

### ***Areas that I would sort before I considered buying one.***

- *The boat (class) is in need of a roll of none-slip tape to allow the dynamic movements in the tacking process to be performed well.*
- *The centreboard on the Supernova needs a bit of love. There's a complex hook system that doesn't really work. The laser has its wedge, the Aero has its polar fluff; the Supernova just needs something to prevent the board popping up a few inches on tacks. Dave Bibby has a solution – watch this space (see below).*
- *Tacking is just different to many boats, your technique will need a touch of tweaking to make it work. It's a case of going further through the wind than you might normally, get the power on then back up into the wind. It'll take a bit of time to master, but nothing insurmountable.*
- *My fitness. It's a powerful rig for a windy day. You use a lot of energy learning new stuff, however the smaller rig is the solution when there's a breeze.*

### ***Summary***

*The Supernova is not an Aero, it is not a Solo, it is not a Laser. If drawing a Venn diagram it would be somewhere in the middle of all three. If you love learning about tweaking settings, this boat will tick lots of boxes. If you're after a light, nimble boat that responds to your every ooch, it's probably not.*

*The growing fleet, driven by Dave Bibby will make you feel welcome and no doubt offer some rewarding sailing, whether blasting around or tight, one design racing. Will I get one? Not yet... I'm still just about young and 'agile' enough to be able to cope with an Aero. But there's going to come a day where the stability and Sailability of the Supernova tempts me across to the other side."*

\* The design issue with the centre board, identified by Matt, has now been changed by Hartleys and does not exist on new boats. With a quick modification 1133 has had the problem solved