



# REEF KNOT

THE NEWSLETTER OF WELLS SAILING CLUB

No 9 - Spring 2006

## COMMODORE'S REPORT

Dear Members,

May I, first of all, wish you a very happy and prosperous New Year.

The start of 2006 sees the Club in very good heart, both on and off the water. Financially our situation has never been better at this time of the year. I can remember many occasions in past years when committee members paid their subs in December to ensure outstanding bills could be met! I hasten to add that we do not require this kind of response at present although early payment is always appreciated.

Your support over recent years has been crucial to the Club's success and will continue to be so in the future. A great deal was achieved last year, but much more needs to be done.

A promise I made in my first year of office was one of improving communications between the Committee and the membership. The Club's website is now in the very capable hands of Robert MacCallum and will soon (if not already) be updated and added to regularly. My thanks go to Ben Cracknell for all his work in the past.

The coming year will see the greatest challenge: the

extension of the clubhouse to enable us to offer up-to-date facilities for all our activities.

The General Committee (plus its sub-committees), after 18 months of debate and deliberation, have agreed to a final plan which fulfils all the aims originally set. I wish to thank them for their fortitude and patience.

One or two minor planning changes have to be agreed by North Norfolk District Council, but we are reliably informed that they will agree to an amendment to the original planning application, which was passed.

It is my intention, if all the pieces of the jigsaw fall into place, to give a presentation to the membership immediately after the AFM on March 26th, having consulted the Trustees of the Club in advance.

If you continue to support your Club this year as you have done in the past, I really believe that, financially, building the extension is a goal which is well within our reach. A financial sub-committee is looking at all the various options open to us. This programme is an absolute necessity if we wish to ensure the long term future of Wells Sailing Club.

May I, in conclusion, wish you all a very successful and, perhaps even more important, an enjoyable sailing season.

Gary Anthony

## From the Archives

*This early photograph of club members, shows a few well-known faces, but can you name them all? Do you know which year was the picture taken?*

*Answers to the Hon. Sec.\**



\*No prizes

## WELLS SAILING CLUB ANNUAL FINANCIAL MEETING

The Annual Financial Meeting will take place in the clubhouse at 11:00 on Sunday 26th March 2006.

### Agenda

1. Attendance
2. Minutes of 2005 AFM
3. Matters Arising
4. Presentation of Accounts
5. Main Accounts
6. Bar account
7. House Accounts

Any items to be included in AOB should reach the Hon. Sec. (in writing) no later than 19th March, 2006.

## HOUSE COMMITTEE CHIT CHAT

All your support over the last year has been fantastic! Our social events have been 'Sell Outs' – particularly our Sunday Lunches. The assistance various members give us really does make the difference, especially in the kitchen. We would appreciate a few more offers of help in that department ... gentlemen could assist as well!

**A Huge Thank You** to those who donated the fantastic prizes for the Club's Boxing Day Grand Draw. You helped raise £720.00 for our coffers.

Equally, we are so grateful to other business members who gave so freely of their produce and talents. We would be lost without your continuing support and advice!

Our Club was founded in 1913 by just a handful of sailors meeting in a wooden hut. How we have expanded! Membership of all denominations now numbers over 300 and plans are afoot to improve further the Club's 'On Shore' facilities for all members.

By the end of February our new website will be up and running. Ben Cracknell who originally designed and ran it has handed over the reins to Rob Mac.

Apart from improved links to related sites, i.e. inshore weather forecast, etc., you can now view the fixture list as well as updated Club information. A 'Members' Blog' area has also been added for chit chat and comments – so let's be hearing from you!

Finally, on the back of this 'Reef Knot', you will find your Club's social program for the year. I look forward to your continuing support and welcome any comments or concerns you have.

Contact Campbell MacCallum  
email: campbellmac@machrimore.co.uk  
tel: 01328 711 653 mob: 07973 436 403

## CLUB HOUSE EXTENSION UPDATE

A lot of work (call it brain churning) has been going on behind the scenes, since early 2004 when the Clubhouse Extension Project was first rolled out.

Shortly thereafter, sub-committees were formed to advance the feasibility and development work required, as well as look at the all-important financial aspects of the project.

The guidelines for the project given by the General Committee were:

- To provide access to both men's and ladies' changing facilities from the outside when the main Clubhouse areas are closed.
- Both men's and ladies' changing areas to be increased significantly in size and their facilities to be totally upgraded.
- Enlarge and upgrade the kitchen area, after taking into account the considerations of the House Committee with respect to its future envisaged usage.
- The Bar area to be enlarged and provision be made for the future secure storage of bar stock and supplies.
- Make the main Social Area larger, in accordance with future requirements and usage.
- Improve the access to the Clubhouse, particularly for the disabled, and also to provide a disabled toilet facility.
- Increase the amount of secure storage space for sailing equipment and cleaning materials, etc.

No small task for the sub-committees to take onboard, as the drawings went from concept stage, through much serious debate, to a broad outline of the extension encompassing all of the above requirements. (Builder's pencil, one eye closed and elevated thumb to drawing board, proper paper, a 0.3mm pen and decent ruler, to be exact)

With all of the above criteria met, in the autumn of last year, outline plans were presented to the General Committee and approval was given to take the project to the planning and detailed costing stage. Plans were submitted to NNDC and outline Planning Permission was subsequently granted in November.

Next came the hard bit of finalising the internal arrangements and, again after many meetings, the development committee felt that the original planned size of new changing rooms and kitchen needed further revision. Every permutation was considered but it became very apparent that we needed to extend further (back to the thumb and squinty-eye stage – nearly). The result being we have now increased the planned footprint of the extension by a further metre to the south to provide the additional space needed.

Revised plans were passed by the General Committee in January and we have now moved onto the next phase, as the finance sub-committee investigates funding the project.

A project update will be given at the AFM by which time we should be in a position to confirm funding aspects, the proposed building schedule and the all important commencement date – during the summer (we hope).

Thanks to all involved with the project to-date. *Chris Hardy*

## NOTES FROM THE COMMITTEES

### Winter Boat Storage

A small number of craft were left on the boat park at the end of the season. They have been removed to the winter storage area. Owners of these and any other boats in winter storage are reminded that they should pay the appropriate fees if they have not already done so.

### Trophies

The trophies of the club are important, not simply from a winning point of view but perhaps more so as a historical record of characters from the past. This is why it is important that they are inscribed by the recipients each year.

Unfortunately, some of our trophies, or in some cases parts of them have disappeared. Could you all have a hunt through drawers, cupboards and anywhere else to see if you can come across bases, cups, lids, etc. If you do, please let Martin Read know as soon as possible.

He is looking for: Jubilee Cup, Grimes Cup, Wells Cup, Club Cup, Councillors Cup (regatta)

## NOTES FROM THE HON. SEC.

**It is most encouraging** to note the increasing popularity of the Sailing Club and the resulting influx of new members who are enjoying its facilities both on and off the water.

Rises in membership do, however, mean an added burden on the fabric of the club and its grounds, including the car and boat parks.

The Officers of the club would like to remind and inform members of a few basic guidelines which will assist the smooth running of the club.

### The Bar

We are sure you will agree that improvements to the clubhouse, in particular to the bar and decking, have been a great success and it is pleasing to see so many members enjoying these added facilities.

Members are reminded of the legal requirement to sign in guests who are not members. This includes wives, husbands, partners and friends, etc. of Full, Associate and Junior members. Guests may only be signed in up to a maximum of 7 times during a year.

### Work Parties

As you may be aware, Wells Sailing Club has always been a self-help organisation. Renovation, maintenance, grass-cutting, land clearing, rescue craft preparation and handling, bar duties, etc., etc. have always been done by club members at no charge.

Work parties have sometimes been poorly supported. Information about future work parties will be posted on the club notice board. If you can help, please let the party organiser know in good time so that in the event of the date being inconvenient to the majority of helpers, it can be changed.

### Annual Subscriptions

Reminder – if you intend to renew your subscription as a club member, please do so by March 31st, as after this date you will incur the extra expense of paying the £40 joining fee.

### Bar Persons

As you are probably aware, the bar provides considerable income for the Club, which means that bills can be paid and subscriptions can be kept at a reasonable level. In addition to this, equipment for sailing and social events can be updated continuously.

We are always short of people to do a stint behind the bar, which is not difficult and can be fun.

**If you are willing to help, please let us know as soon as possible so that we can plan a rota for the year.**

Contact any of the Officers of the Club to volunteer and we will be delighted and grateful for your help. *Contact numbers are printed on the front of the Fixture list*

### Car Parking

We are very fortunate to be allowed to park our cars so close to the clubhouse. Consequently, we are bound to adhere to the following to be able to continue to have use of the land.

1. All vehicles should display the club sticker (available at the bar) when using the car park. Any vehicle not complying with this will be assumed to belong to a non member and will be asked to move.
2. Overnight parking is not permitted.
3. Park tidily so that as many vehicles as possible can be accommodated.
4. Remember to replace the chain at all times.
5. Parking in front of the clubhouse is only permitted for members while delivering or collecting, (e.g., sundries for social functions).

### Membership Applications

If you are proposing or seconding new members, please make sure that they fill in the form accurately. Remember that proposers and seconders have to be members of at least 2 years' standing and should know the applicants well enough to say a few words on their behalf.

### Boat Park

Because of the increased demand on a limited space, we are getting close to overspill into our land in the cutting. This is less convenient as it is further away from the slipway. The Sailing committee may request that boats which are sailed infrequently are moved to make way for those that are used regularly.

All boats are allocated a specific space on the park. Please adhere to this site. If you are bringing a boat to the club, please make sure you inform the Rear-Commodore, Martin Read, who will identify your personal site.

## WSC SOCIAL EVENTS 2006/7

### February

Sunday 19th Sunday Lunch – clubhouse 2.30pm

### March

Wednesday 15th NSW Meeting 7.30pm

Friday 31st Harbour Users Public Meeting 7.00pm

### April

Saturday 1st Fitting Out Supper 7–7.30pm

Saturday 8th Sailing Season Starts

Sunday 9th Sunday Lunch – clubhouse 2.30pm

Monday 17th Easter Egg – Baps 10.30am

Sunday 30th The Big Breakfast Brunch 11.00am

### May

Saturday 13th 'Juno' Evening with 7.30pm

'Old Wild Rovers' aboard

Hog Roast in front of Clubhouse

Sunday 21st Sunday Lunch – Clubhouse 2.30pm

### June

Saturday 3rd Sea Shanty Night 7.30pm

All members of RNLI, Fishermen,  
Harbour Office, HM Coastguard to be  
Guests of Wells Sailing Club

Saturday 17th Drascombe Rally – Bacon Baps 9.30am

Sunday 25th Sunday Lunch – clubhouse 2.30pm

### July

Saturday 8th Hosting Norwich Frostbite's Lunch 1 pm

Saturday 15th South Sea Island Night 7.30pm

Thursday 27th NWN Sail Assoc. – Baps & Coffee 10am-ish

### August

Sunday 6th RNLI Lifeboat Service 6.00pm

Sunday 13th Wells Harbour Day

Saturday 26th to Monday 28th – Wells Regatta

### September

Saturday 9th Spanish Evening – Ole!! 7.30pm

Sunday 17th Sunday Lunch – clubhouse 2.30pm

### October

Sunday 8th Sunday Lunch – clubhouse 2.30pm

Saturday 14th Laying Up Supper & Prize Giving 7–7.30pm

### November

Saturday 4th Annual Dinner (Black Tie)

Saturday 18th Quiz Night 7.30pm

### December

Saturday 2nd Christmas Party 7.30pm

Tuesday 26th Boxing Day – Mince pies,  
Mulled wine The Super Draw 1pm-ish

### January 2007

Monday 1st Our Amazing New Year's Day Raffle 1pm-ish

Sunday 21st Sunday Lunch – clubhouse 2.30pm

## A TOAST TO THE ROAST – A Cautionary Tale

## ANON

A fine idea conceived under the influence  
Frequently leaves something to 'ruence'  
To feed many members of the sailing club  
Who's to cook – now there's the rub

Three flag officers stout and true  
Accepted the dare – wouldn't you?  
With total confidence into the fray  
Bound to be an interesting day

Starter is soup, thick, meaty oxtail  
All's well – 'though in the kitchen  
rant and rail  
Is the order of the day so far  
Cooks running to and from the bar

'Parsnips, parsnips' cries the commodore  
As he enters with armfuls through  
the door  
'Roast beef, roast beef' counters the vice  
Three huge joints ready to slice

Ignoring comments of meat and two veg  
Tatties plentiful balanced on a ledge  
Soup's gone well – happy faces expect  
The roast to follow soon on the deck

Now planning or lack of makes its first strike  
The veg has arrived transported by bike  
The commodore spots no bubbles at all  
Can be seen from the veg pot standing  
so tall

Glum faces indeed, heads shaking wild  
How did that happen – it brings up the bile  
Boiling water can quickly be cold  
By plunging frozen veg – ever so bold

No fear no worries – it will go with a song  
Diners blissfully unaware of what's wrong  
A slight delay – we have a slight hitch  
Have another drink – that's a bit rich

Furrowed brows become uncreased  
We're off at a gallop – our energy released  
Roast, gravy, parsnips and vegetable  
Delivered professionally – quite respectable

Now the sweet, now the sweet  
Things are turning out quite neat  
Baked apples and custard from the pack  
Now really – what could go wrong with that?

You may recall the veg was a blot  
Cos the temperature was none too hot  
Smoked custard with apples was now the curse  
Cos Mac carried out quite the reverse

The lack of bubbles – the veggies laments  
Had made an impression – and some  
unfortunate comments  
The lesson was learned and really well taught  
So we left on the custard until it had caught

Management of restaurants must be  
quite easy  
Best not to make the guests go queasy  
Encourage them to partake of several drinks  
So they don't notice the meal, if it really stinks

The balance of the day was thought to be fine  
No fatalities to-date, though close to the line  
The meal was just OK but not really neat  
To discourage suggestions of ever a repeat

We really believe we did just enough  
To prevent a repetition of all this stuff  
But if you thought it was great  
– would like some more  
Try a reservation at ..... *Machrimore!*

visit our website: [www.wellssailingclub.org](http://www.wellssailingclub.org)