



REEF KNOT

THE NEWSLETTER OF WELLS SAILING CLUB

No 11 - Spring 2008

COMMODORE'S REPORT

At last after three years of discussion, planning and fund raising, work construction starts mid-February. This comprises totally upgrading and enlarging both changing rooms, creating a disabled loo/shower room, bar store, bosun's locker and storage cupboards, all fitted out to a high specification. Provided the weather stays kind our builder is confident of completing the project by early May in time for the Club hosting the British Sharpie Championships in June.

The Harbour Commissioners' generosity in donating all profits from last year's Harbour Day to our development fund is fantastic, further cementing our relationship and the Commissioners' commitment and support not only to our Club, but to all harbour users.

Without the sterling efforts of Chris Hardy, the Development Committee, and good old Ed Wardrop, we might still be a year or two away from finally realising this project. Equally, thanks to all the members who responded so swiftly to the Club's appeal for loans.



Chris and Tim on the road to victory at Weymouth last year.



David and James, top contenders for the European Trophy.

Our Sailing Secretary has had a very busy time putting together this year's exciting sailing programme, together with all the detailed planning involved in the Club hosting the British Sharpie Championships in June

Hosting this event is a coup for the Club. With many of you offering help and assistance both on and off the water I am confident that we will uphold the Club's highest tradition of both hospitality and competitive sailing.

With grant assistance from the SDF we bought three Fevas, wet suits, protective clothing and life jackets. This will both ensure and encourage our Junior sailors who don't own boats to continue afloat. Needless to say, Junior Week last year was a tremendous success, a very BIG THANKYOU to Jimmy Goodley and his team.

Do you realise the true quality, skills and achievements of our Sailors? The European Sharpie Championships were held in August in last year, at Weymouth, the venue for the 2012 Sailing Olympics. With over 50 boats from UK, Holland, Germany and a lone Sharpie from South Africa competing!

Against the best of the best, Chris and Tim Gibbs won the title and James Case, crewed by David Frary, came second. James later went on to win the prestigious Les Dye Memorial Trophy at Brancaster.

Our annual battle with Norwich Frostbites for the Braconash Trophy resulted in a stunning victory for WSC. The trophy stands proudly and securely behind our bar.

A truly Fantastic sailing season, tremendous result for our helmsmen and for our Clubs reputation both in Europe and Norwich!

Off the water David has put together an excellent social programme. Do your best to support these social events, even pop in for a drink and enjoy the fantastic views over the salt marsh. Remember the Club relies on profit generated from the bar and social events to help keep subscriptions affordable (or low). We don't really want to increase subs!

How we communicate with you has been drastically overhauled by John Gibbs. All members either by email or post will receive regular updates on all events. You can access our web site www.wellssailingclub.co.uk for full details, fixture list, bar rota, etc. and updates to

the social programme. If we don't yet have your email address please let John have it.

My thanks to my Flag officers, Hon Sec, Hon Treasurer, Committee Chairmen and all the various committee members for your trust and support. It has been both an honour and a real pleasure to be part of the continuing development of our superb Sailing Club.

Campbell MacCallum

visit our website
www.wellssailingclub.co.uk

MINUTES OF WSC AGM 2007 11/11/07

Present P Emerson, John and J Gibbs, D Hudson, A and R Cracknell, C MacCallum, M Dutton, M Emerson, R Crafer, G Wild, J Case, K Curtis, A Watson, M Hodges, G Anthony, E and J Wardrop, J Pigney, P Clark, P and J Terrington, D Marshall-Andrew, L Lupin, M Bushby, C Adams, T Kane, M Read, S Read, T Angles, D Blakesley, T Blakesley, G Woodhouse.

Apologies M Woodroffe, A Swan, R Marks, C Hardy, R Price, P Baldry, T Betteridge, A Curtis, R Curtis, G Case, A Kerr, M French, W and J Youngs, V Groom, J Goodley, G Lupin.

The Minutes of the AGM held on 5.11.06 were read by the secretary. They were adopted by the meeting as a true record and duly signed by the Commodore.

Election of Officers

The following were elected by unanimous vote.

Commodore	Campbell MacCallum
Vice Commodore	Martin Read
Rear Commodore	David Blakesley
Hon Secretary	John Gibbs
Hon Treasurer	Gwen Woodhouse
Hon Starters and Timekeepers	Peter Emerson Alex Watson

Election of the General Committee

The present committee members were all willing to continue in post.

G Anthony proposed and P Groom seconded that they should be re-elected en block.

This was carried. The Committee members were: R Cracknell, R Curtis, L Lupin, J Case, E Wardrop, C Hardy, P Scillitoe, J Goodley, T Angles, J Pigney, G Wild, M Hodges.

Appointment of Auditors

Tony Slack and Miriam Gibbs were appointed.

Annual Subscriptions

The committee had recommended that subscriptions for 2007/2008 be raised as follows (last year in brackets)

Full Member – £50 (47), Family – £75 (70), Associate – £37 (35), all other fees to remain the same.

J Case proposed and T Angles seconded the adoption of the recommendations and this was agreed by the meeting.

Any Other Business

No items of AOB had been submitted.

The meeting closed at 1120 hrs.

After the meeting, a number of points were raised by members for the committee's consideration, namely:

- an annual report by the Commodore (including an update of the Development project)
- procedures for AOB at the AGM
- getting information to members who did not have e-mail.

The Rear Commodore gave information regarding forthcoming social events and asked for ideas from the membership for future events which would be well supported.

The Vice Commodore reminded the members that the British Sharpie Championships 2008 would be hosted by WSC in early June and asked for support from anyone who would be willing to help at this important and prestigious event.

ERRATA TO FIXTURE LIST

Sat 19 April – High water 1800 – Start 1700
Sun 20 April – High water 1840 – Start 1740

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT: JANUARY 2008

This year promises to be one of the most exciting and challenging in the club's recent history. By now, you will be aware that we are going ahead with the proposed extension to the back of the club which will provide members and guests with really up-to-date changing facilities which are long overdue. By the time you read this newsletter, work will have already started and should be completed in time for the British Sharpie championships which are to be held at our club.

The House Committee has a busy year of social engagements ahead to keep you entertained and we look forward to welcoming you all to our new and improved facilities. Your support at the bar and the social functions is absolutely vital to the financial health of the club, so please make a determined effort to come down as often as possible. The more members that use the club, the better the social scene becomes. Last Christmas, we had eighty people sign up for the Christmas party and it was a huge success, so let's keep the ball rolling and really enjoy ourselves!!

A list of the proposed events is published opposite, but do keep an eye on our website, www.wellssailingclub.co.uk, for all the latest information and if you haven't done so already, please let our secretary know your e-mail address in order that we can keep you informed of the latest developments on the sailing and social scene and save the club money on postal costs at the same time.

WSC EVENTS 2008

Frostbites Team race:	Sun 9 March
Fitting Out Supper:	29 March
Phantom Meeting:	10 & 11 May
British Sharpie Championships:	6–8 June
Drascombe sailors' weekend:	28 June
Sea Shanty evening:	July (TBA)
Junior disco:	16 August
Junior week:	19–22 August
Wells Regatta:	23–25 August
Proms Night:	September (TBA)
Sunday Lunch:	October (TBA)
Laying Up Supper:	25 October
Annual Dinner/Dance:	November (TBA)

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 £50 joining fee. Treasurer – Gwen Woodhouse, 31 Nielson Close, Wells-next-the-Sea.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

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

CAR PARKING

We are very fortunate to be allowed to park our cars so close to the Clubhouse. Consequently, we are bound by the following conditions 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. Please 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 restricted to members while they are delivering or collecting (such as sundries for social functions).

BOAT PARK

The number of boats requiring parking is now greater than the spaces on the quay. However, there is more space in the winter storage area, only 30 metres away. Some boats last year, while parked on the quay, were not sailed at all or only on very infrequent occasions.

The Sailing Committee requests that owners of these boats:

- a) Inform the sailing secretary that they are happy for their boats to be parked in the winter park.
- b) Understand if and when the Committee requests that their boat is parked in the winter boat park. Martin Read tel: 01263 821439 email: hilltopdc@lineone.net

THE BAR

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.

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.)

SAILING SEC'S CHIT CHAT

Dear members,

As usual I sit here in the cold of January thinking that the sailing season is miles off – then realise it is but 12 short weeks away. No doubt I will not be ready with my boat, as usual. No doubt I will say, well, next year I will replace that shroud – it will do one more season!

It is an exciting year to look forward to:

Starting March 29 – Easter Egg; visiting Phantoms and Tommy Thomas Memorial weekend in May; British Sharpie Championships (at Wells); the Frostbite challenge and the Drascombe Rally in June; European Sharpies in Holland in July – where our champions (Chris and Tim) and 2nd place (James and David) will be defending our honour. Regatta and Junior week in August; and before we know it we are at the Laying Up Supper in October!

The new clubhouse should be ready for the British Championships. This will be a boon for the growing Sharpie, Handicap and Junior Fleets. The three Fevas supported by the Norfolk Coastal Partnership are available to juniors who do not have their own boat. Contact me if you wish to use one at any time.

A full programme is planned for all who want to sail. Come along and enjoy.

This year there are even more boats to be sailed. Boat parking will be at a premium on the front and will be allocated on the basis of payment and usage. Some may need to be parked in the cut or our winter storage area. I will try to be as fair as I can but would ask you to understand if you are an occasional sailor in such a fast developing club.

The whole programme would be impossible if it were not for the rescue and committee boat teams. Anyone meeting these characters in the vicinity of the club bar should immediately buy them a drink as they give their time for free. Fortunately none of these are heavy drinkers and it will cost you only a small sum – apart from Ed, Alex, Des, Martin, etc. This team turns out week in and week out without complaint. We are always on the lookout for other helpers. If you can give up the occasional day to help the club with rescue services please contact me – we have organised a rescue boat course for late March so that anyone can be trained to handle the rib. Come along and help.

Happy sailing

Martin – Sailing Secretary

P.S. The Frostbites Team race is now on Sun 9 March. All keen sailors to contact me – if not I'll be selecting you soon! Martin.

Junior Week: the juniors are towed back from the beach by the Natalie Gail with Richard at the helm



CONGRATULATIONS!



AWARD: Terry Angles, is presented with a Royal Yachting Association community service award by the Princess Royal. Picture: SUBMITTED

Top honour for dedicated sailing coach

THE Princess Royal honoured a Norfolk man for dedicating his life to teaching sailing. Terry Angles, from Wells, went to Westminster to be given the Royal Yachting Association (RYA) community service award by Princess Anne, patron of the RYA. Mr Angles was a RYA coach from

1963 until January and has coached about 1,500 instructors, who have then taught people across the UK to sail. The former head of a special school was given the award for his services to dinghy sailing and yachting by volunteering to act as a RYA coach for more than four decades.

He said: "To receive this award is absolutely tremendous. I was totally amazed when I found out. I saw my role as coach as an opportunity to work with enthusiastic people who wanted the tuition I gave them and who were then able to pass that expertise on to the wider community."

WELLS SAILING CLUB ANNUAL FINANCIAL MEETING

The AFM will take place in the clubhouse at 1100 on Sunday 16th March. 2008

Agenda

Apologies

Minutes of 2007 AFM

Matters Arising

Presentation of Accounts

General and Business Accounts

Bar Account

House Account

Any Other Business

Any items to be included in AOB should reach the secretary (in writing) at least one week prior to the meeting. After the meeting, the flag officers and committee will be pleased to answer any questions from the floor.