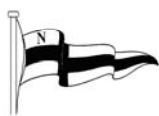


NEWPORT USKMOUTH SAILING CLUB



THE PENNANT MARCH 08



The Season Begins

Welcome to the start of the 2008 sailing season. Since I became Commodore I have represented NUSC at the annual dinners of both Portishead and Western Yacht clubs and chaired the first of the monthly Committee meetings. I am grateful for the support offered by many members and it is particularly refreshing to see new members volunteering to serve on the Committee.

For those newer members who may be unaware of the role of the Committee I will explain what we do; each month the Committee meets to discuss the workings of the club, this can be anything from the cleaning of the club to the planning of large acquisitions. The Committee along with the Trustees is responsible for the running of NUSC. It is at these monthly meetings that club members have an opportunity of bringing matters to the attention of the Committee. Should any member require clarification on any matter, put your issue in writing and give that letter to a Flag Officer.

For example at our first meeting it has been pointed out that the current set of rules in use make no reference to the situation where a member who has mooring seniority sells his boat and becomes a non boat owning member. One interpretation of the rules in use would suggest that he would lose any seniority, as a result of this discussion, another that his seniority would be frozen. Further talks with members at the bar on Tuesday night revealed that in the past, seniority would have been earned at half rate. It has been agreed this matter needs to be resolved at the next AGM.

I propose that we take two actions.

1. Members need to propose a rule that will resolve the situation outlined above.
2. Members will be asked to record their acceptance of the rules as they stand plus any agreed amendments (copies of the rules will circulate during the year).

For any club to prosper it is important that new

members are encouraged to take part in activities and to assist in this we are again running a 'new members night'. The aim of this event is to bring together new members to discuss the mysteries of mooring anchors, channel cruising, racing and boat maintenance. This is also a great opportunity for longer serving members to meet recent joiners and make new friends and crew.

New members night is Saturday 5 April at 20:00, all welcome.

It is with great sadness that I recently heard the news of the loss of John Coventry. Our thoughts are with Phillipa and family at this difficult time.

John and Phillipa have been long serving members of NUSC. John will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Alex Liberson, - Proteus

Commodore NUSC

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

At the time of going to print 32 members have still not paid their annual subscriptions.

If these are not received by April 1st a late payment penalty of 2/3^{rds} the subscription fee will be added to the fees.

It is also worth remembering that you will not be launched if your fees are outstanding.

2008 CRUISES

Another season almost here and I for one am looking forward to getting out there again. I have planned a number of cruises throughout the season but this year I have included a few more destinations closer to home. These cruises in company to local destinations are a good way for the newer members to gain a bit of experience and local knowledge. They are also a good way to get to know people in other clubs around the channel and I have included in the programme visits to other clubs which coincide with their rallies or regattas.

For the first cruise of the season this year I plan to visit Bristol for the week end of the 12-13th April. We will leave Newport on the Saturday morning, cross the sands on the rising tide and plan to arrive at the City Docks at high water. For the return trip we will leave Bristol in the morning of Sunday and be back in Newport for the afternoon.

Another shakedown cruise in April is down to Sully Island for Sunday lunch in the Captain's Wife on the 20th.

The May Day Bank Holiday cruise I was going to

try for Porlock and as space is limited there anyone interested should let me know if they are planning to come so that I can let the Harbourmaster know.

For the Spring Bank Holiday at the end of May I am aiming to get to one of my favorite destinations in the Channel which is Lundy Island.

For details of all the other cruises later in the year please see the notice board in the club or refer to the year book. The notice has got my home number and mobile number on the bottom so if any one wants to give me a call to discuss any of the trips please feel free to do so. If anyone is unsure of how to do a trip, particularly the new members or if you want a bit of advice on any trip you are planning then please feel free to give me a call.

See you on the water

Barry Welch FIZGIG

Cruiser Captain

NUSC Committee Members 2008

Commodore	Alex Liberson	01633 881463
Vice Commodore	Kay Thomas	01633 321014
Rear Commodore	Alan Jones	01291 671216
Mooring Officer	Richard Withers	01633 272101
Secretary	Steve Woodley	01633 413395
Treasurer	Robert Lynbeck	01633 676274
Cruiser Captain	Barry Welch	01453 763574
Sailing Sec	Mike Jones Downing	01495 221903
Training Officer	Julia Oliver	01291 650753
Membership Sec	Andrew Preece	01633 892215
House and Estates	Keith Bradfield	01495 201494
Bar Manager	Bryan Morgan	01633 450209
Bosun	Idris Lewis	01633 278672
General members	Neville Barnes	01531 822573
	Chris Potter	
	Ros Evans	01633 660383
	Justin Harley	01600 890489
	Dirk Doorduyn	01633 484746

On page 50 of this year's club book, there is a space for a list of Committee Members and their contact details.

Here is that list for you to cut out and paste into the book.

Abandoned Tenders

In a previous edition of the Pennant we announced that we intended to remove any apparently abandoned tenders from the compound and auction them off to club members.

In the very near future Chris Potter will be labelling orphaned and or abandoned tenders in preparation for their disposal.

OOD Duty Reminders

This year Paul Winterfeld has again offered to send the OOD reminders out. If you wish to volunteer for any additional duties, contact Paul and tell him your availability. Paul's phone no is 01633 421312. Why not make a note of this in your year book ?

John Coventry



All friends at the club were very sad to hear of the recent death of John whilst on holiday in Spain. Our deepest sympathy goes to Phillipa and their children Peter, Elizabeth and their families.

From the many conversations we had, often over a bottle of wine, it was evident John was very proud of both his Welsh and Scottish ancestry, having moved down from Dundee at the age of 4 and then growing up in Llanhilleth until leaving to go to university in Liverpool. He moved back to the area after university to lecture for many years at Ebbw Vale .

John always enjoyed a good international rugby match and would cheer for either Wales or Scotland, depending on the score at the time as to who got the loudest shout. John and Phillipa joined the sailing club in 1995 and for many years he worked hard on the committee as membership secretary, a job which he took very seriously and god help any member that was late paying membership dues. For many years

he owned a tough little boat called Tess, she was a Macwester 27 which they both cruised extensively spending many months at a time aboard whilst cruising the south coast of England and Ireland making many friends along the way. In later years he sailed with Idris Lewis on Force Five

After selling Tess, John and Phillipa enjoyed retirement travelling in their motor home both at home and abroad spending most of the winter on the continent. John was very interested in both the French hill forts and the Roman period and would travel many miles to see the roman ruins or the hill forts. Somehow we always managed to meet up on our travels even if headed in different directions initially, sometimes for days other times for weeks and that would always mean a party or more often parties !!!! for the gang. We shall all miss John very much.

Ron Donovan

Racing Matters

The new season is nearly upon us and I for one can't wait, what adventures and laughs?

Last year we brought our starting sequence in line with the international system. I'm pleased to say there wasn't the confusion and mayhem some predicted. We even had a race delayed during the start countdown and it all worked without a hitch. Well done Sharon. For those of you that are claiming slowing brain cells and I don't believe a word of it! You'll be pleased to know there are no big changes planned this season.

However for those of you who know me and that I'm always looking for the next improvement it will come as no surprise that there will be a couple of things I'm going to try: A change to the Knickertwister handicap ratings and an overnight passage race.

If anyone was truly serious about racing they wouldn't be at Newport. So why do we race here? To practice, improve our sailing but mostly for FUN. What makes racing fun? Well

winning or at least believing if you had done a little better you could have won!

Our Knickertwister events are structured as starter races, no spinnakers and the boats that finish 1st 2nd and 3rd have their ratings reduced for the remaining races. This gives the slightly slower boats or the less experienced a chance of doing better and makes the leaders try harder. Unfortunately in spite of this if you are in the slowest part of the fleet there is still not a lot of encouragement to do better.

In an attempt to remedy this I have calculated, using the last 14 Knickertwisters, the ratings people are actually sailing. We will use these as base numbers for this season. If you haven't done any of these events you will be given an addition that's an average for your speed of boat. This idea may throw up some anomalies but hopefully the reduction of ratings for winning will quickly trim them back. Our other events will still use the standard RYA YR2 ratings.

Name	Class	Old	New	Name	Class	Old	New
ALSO 2	COLVIC 26	1269	1618	PENDRAGON	SNAPDRAGON 26	1203	1504
AMANDA	ANDERSON 22	1174	1468	PROTEUS	WESTERLY 25	1369	1793
AQUILA	ACHILES 9M	1014	1108	REDEYE	JEANNEAU OD 35	889	909
BARBARY BREEZE	BARBARY KETCH	1248	1398	RORY	PAGEANT 23	1336	1751
BARRULE	SNAPDRAGON 24	1369	1793	SAETH WEN	HUNTER HORIZON 27	1148	1274
CALYPSO	PINTAIL	1156	1445	SEA JADE	SNAPDRAGON 27	1179	1474
CANTATA	MIRAGE 28	1224	1398	SEAWITCH	MOODY 336	1061	1210
CEOL MOR	STORM 33	988	1067	SEPTEMBER MORN	MOODY 31	1115	1293
CYNDAGRA	MAC ROWAN 24	1221	1526	SIDEWINDER	COLVIC 26	1294	1618
DOUBLET	MIRAGE 28	1224	1398	SNOOPY	ACHILLES 24	1256	1583
EMMA	DUFOUR 1800	1070	1220	SOLFOHN	WESTERLY 33	1159	1449
FIZGIG	SADLER 29	1125	1350	SOMEWHEN	WESTERLY 25	1314	1721
FOAMBACK	LEISURE 23 SL	1274	1603	SPRACK	HUNTER IMPALA 28	986	986
FORCE FIVE	GALION 22	1225	1362	STORMCHASER	SIGMA 36	948	1005
FOUR WINDS	LEISURE 23	1300	1603	SUNDANCE	ALBIN BALLAD 30	1047	1085
GENEVIEVE	MOODY 29	1132	1302	SUNLITE II	LEISURE 23	1275	1603
GREENFINGERS	WARRIOR 35	1087	1259	SUPERMAC	SADLER 29	1103	1279
HOOPOE	HUNTER 27 OOD	1037	1149	SYMPHONY	SNAPDRAGON 26	1332	1745
JANDER	TOMAHAWK 25	1250	1548	TE'AROA	SADLER 34	989	1078
LADY JANE	ALBIN VEGA	1169	1461	TESS	MACWESTER 27	1338	1753
LOVERAGE	SADLER 29	1113	1291	THISTLE	LEISURE 23	1275	1603
MAY BEE	WESTERLY GK 24	1065	1208	TILLY WHIM V	OYSTER HERITAGE	1045	1202
MOONRAKER	WESTERLY 25	1314	1721	TOUCHWOOD	MOODY 27	1222	1525
My PRECIOUS II	PANDORA 22	1246	1470	TRINITY	KELSALL 35	889	1032
NINA	HUNTER 701	1144	1316	UNICORN	BUCCANEER 305	1128	1354
PANACEA	EYGTENE 24	1091	1200	WHITE SATIN	HUNTER 27 OOD	1037	1149
PANACHE	LEISURE 22	1274	1605				

As for the Passage race, which may have no takers? It's something the club hasn't done for a number of years and for those with enough proficiency it could be an opportunity to broaden their experience a little.

The club handbook shows it as an overnight race to Lundy. But the choice of Lundy is just an example. The idea is to have a race allowing entrants to join up afterwards with the club cruise that is due to go west that week.

The Friday night start has been chosen to allow an arrival in daylight. After a rest we can meet up on Saturday night in a local hostelry, this hopefully, if we can arrange it will be with the cruisers. Also the people who need to be back on Monday still have the necessary time to get home.

If you think you might be interested in having a go then please let me know so we can pick a destination that suites most. I fancy Kinsale! (that's only half a joke as it's a school break and I may afterwards, if the weather is kind give Ireland a try). There will be an element of self timing so it will not be too serious, just a chance to try something new and to be with friends.

I would like to draw everyone's attention to the Standing NoR (Notice of Race) this is the required document that covers our racing. It sets out the terms and conditions under which

we race. You agree to abide by these and the sailing instructions when you, owner or skipper sign on to enter the race. If you haven't remembered to sign on you are not entered.

The sailing instructions will be on display the time of signing on. These are the course to be sailed, starting arrangements and anything else the OOD deems necessary.

The standing NoR are on display in the OOD's hut and should also be on the club website.

I'm sorry if it all sounds a bit formal, which it is, but it's there to inform people of their rights and responsibilities.

Remember the Tide Race series is now two separate fleets. You will be competing against boats of similar speed. It also allows us to avoid using the long upwind, up tide slog to the sewer buoy that the slower boats love so much!

Good Sailing

Mike Jones-Downing.

Red Eye

Sailing Secretary.

SOCIAL EVENTS FOR 2008

New members night

Saturday 5th April 7.30pm

This is a welcome evening to all members who have joined us over the last year. Please come along as it is a very informative evening where you can get to know other members and learn a few things about the club.

Regatta

6th & 7th September

Racing on both days, Food available breakfast/ lunches. On the evening of Sat 6th September we will be having a live band followed by the late disco for party animals and food will be available.

Cruiser Rally

10th & 11th May.

There will be racing on both days in a fun atmosphere. Food will be available for breakfasts/lunches. On the evening of Sat 10th May we will have an excellent live duo followed by a disco for those who like to party later into the night and food will be available on the night as well.

Trafalgar Night

18th October.

Food, live duo and late disco. We had a brilliant Trafalgar night last year (as the photos show), please come along and enjoy yourself.

Bonfire Night

Saturday 8th November.

Fireworks, Bonfire, hotdogs and fun. Come along and bring a box of fireworks. Please note that the date of this event is 8th November not 18th as stated in new club diary, **please amend your diary so that we all turn up on the correct night.**

Laying Up Supper

Saturday 15th November.

This is our annual formal event which is always an excellent evening and a chance to dress up in posh suits and dresses. There will be a dinner (cooked by caterers), a live band and late disco. There will also be a presentation of trophies.

Pantomime

Saturday 13th December.

We will have a performance of CINDERELLA. This was an excellent event last year and was very well attended so is something to look forward to. (Enjoyed by the adults as much, if not more than the children).

Children's Party

Sunday 14th December.

Bring the children along to receive a present from Father Christmas and have fun. We will also have the annual children's day where there is always a lot of fun to be had - date to be confirmed.

This is a list of organised events to be held throughout the year. As each event is approaching I will put a poster up in the clubhouse giving you all the details. There will also be a list for you to add your name to so that we can get an idea of how many people we need to cater for. As many of you are aware there is a lot of effort being put into organising these events and it would be lovely if you could all try and attend as many of them as possible. The club is a very friendly place and everyone is encouraged to use the club as much as possible. Why not bring along family and friends? Children are always more than welcome to come along to events free of charge, it is a pleasure to see them in the club.

Don't forget that we have the field for tents, caravans and campers so that you are able to stay over at these events, there will also be new electric points for the use of "campers" by the summer.

Also look out for emails, texts etc that I may send to you for any other "get togethers" that I can find a reason to arrange throughout the year. If you have any queries or any ideas for events you would like to see at the club please do not hesitate to contact me on 01633 321014 - 07930 497 638 or kay@kaleidoscopewales.org.uk,

I can also be found at the sailing club almost every weekend and Tuesday evenings.

Kay Donovan

Vice Commodore

Do You Have Adequate Insurance?

The previous edition of the Pennant contained an article describing the sinking and recovery of Solfohn. If this happened to your boat would your salvage and wreck removal costs be covered ?

Comments on this issue, or contributions for future issues of the Pennant can be made in person to the Editor, Andrew Preece, sent by post to the club, or by email to aquila@nusc.co.uk.