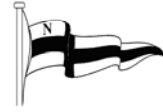


# NEWPORT USKMOUTH SAILING CLUB



## THE PENNANT JANUARY 09



### AGM

The club's Annual General Meeting is on 25 February this year. Included with this Pennant is a copy of the rules (subject to ratification at the AGM). The first item at the AGM will be the acceptance of these rules. Should any member have any additions they would like to propose, they are required to forward them in writing to the committee before the **26<sup>th</sup> of January 2009**.

I would remind members that there is no "Any Other Business" at the AGM. So if there are any items you would like to debate, these can be included in the agenda, but only by submitting them in writing to the Committee before **26 January**.

### General Committee

There are a number of vacancies on the General Committee that nominations are needed for this year.

This year Steve Woodley and Andrew Preece are stepping down from the Committee. Both Andrew and Steve have given many years to the Club in the roles of Membership Secretary and Secretary, and now find that family and work commitments mean they are unable to give these roles the attention they require.

So the club needs volunteers who are able to carry out these duties. What is needed are people who are computer literate and organised.

The Membership Secretary is required to maintain the list of members, arrange interviews for new members, attend the monthly committee meeting and send out invoices as required.

The Club Secretary attends the monthly committee meeting, takes the minutes and deals with club correspondence.

Further nominations are required for Rear Commodore, Social Secretary and due to the sad loss of Idris Lewis, the club requires a Bosun.

All of these roles are important and are an ideal opportunity for members to get involved and serve the club. Without willing and able volunteers, the Committee will find it difficult to meet the level of service the membership expect.

So if you feel you are able to carry out any of these roles: **Rear Commodore, Membership Secretary, Secretary, Social Secretary, Bosun** or would like to become a General Committee Member, please forward your name to the Committee before the 17<sup>th</sup> February.

### Annual subscription

This year has seen large increases in the costs associated with the upkeep of the Club and its premises. Rents to Crown Estates for the moorings and foreshore are £2500 per year, there is a similar amount due for rates and we have also faced large increases in all our utilities bills and a reduction of income from our saving accounts.

At the AGM the General Committee will propose an increase for boat owning members to £170 per year and an increase in the work hour charge to £6 per hour. We believe that this increase should allow the club to operate without reducing our saving investments during 2009.

We can all help to minimise future increases by not wasting electricity, water and gas. If you are last to leave the club please check all fires and lights are switched off.

*Alex Liberson*

**Idris lewis**  
**9<sup>th</sup> April 1941 – 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2009**

I'm sure that most of you will have heard that Idris died suddenly but peacefully on 2nd January after a long illness

Idris and his wife Jen joined NUSC in 1983 as we were coming near to the end of constructing our new clubhouse. He immediately threw himself into helping in the completion of the work in a way that we now know was typical of his commitment to everything that he did.

They began sailing with us on our Nicholson 30, Devil Woman, and soon became hooked on sailing. They bought a 21-foot boat and introduced their young children Emma, Sally and Ben to cruising in company with all of the other young families. We were very fortunate that this was the start of our friendship that was to grow and strengthen over the next 25 years.

They then upgraded their boat to a Hunter Horizon, which Idris fitted out in record time.

Sadly Jen's health began to deteriorate and they decided to sell 'Jibes' but continued to be popular and active club members always supporting both sailing and social functions. If you heard an explosion of laughter you could be sure that Idris was at the centre of it entertaining us with his non-stop repertoire of jokes.

After Jen's sad death the sailing club was a lifeline to Idris as he struggled to come to terms with his loss.

Later he formed a new relationship with June who he soon introduced to all of his friends at the sailing club. Their relationship continued to blossom and was a source of joy to us all.

Idris as a committee member and then as Bosun was always involved in all of our club activities and could always be relied on to help with new projects. It was always a good idea before any capital outlays to speak to Idris first, if he couldn't help he knew a man who could! Just mention his name and the reaction was always positive, anything for Idris.

We all appreciated his tyre discounts and were very concerned as his retirement approached. He didn't let us down. His network of contacts was soon brought into play!

We were always amazed that Idris had so much time to give to the club with his vast array of other hobbies which included fishing, shooting, archery and of course his much loved Austin 7 club.

Few people realised that he was also an accomplished artist and that he painted in oils and more recently wax pictures. We were lucky enough to have been given one of these and we insisted on him signing his work as in the future his talent is sure to be recognised.

We were very fortunate to have had a great sailing holiday with Idris and June in the Ionian Islands. As you can imagine lots of fun and laughter and very special memories.

Sadly he was diagnosed with cancer on his return. As his condition deteriorated he still turned up every day at the club to join the lads at the 'tea club'. They all kept his spirits up and gave him great support. This was especially evident when he decided to buy a West-erly Centaur in need of some tender loving care. Everyone rallied round helping Idris and June to prepare the boat for sea. He told us how much this meant to him. It proved once again what our club is all about and how much Idris contributed over many years to building up this sense of togetherness and giving his unstinting support to all our members.

We are deeply saddened at the loss of this special unique man. We will never forget him and will always treasure the memories we shared with him.

*Carol Fradd*