

Sailbase

The Newsletter from Hunstanton Sailing Club

Issue 14

Winter 2007

From the Commodore



After the last newsletter, we might have thought things would start to slow down a little. Wrong.

Some of the windy weather has brought many of you out onto the water, on one occasion about 80 people either windsurfing or kitesurfing, very nearly equal numbers doing each.

Meanwhile many dinghy sailors carry on through the autumn up until Christmas on inland water, only laying up their boats after Christmas.

And behind the scenes there has been a lot going on, with some of the winter maintenance already started, and work for the bid for funding taking up a lot of time. Special thanks to Pete Godfrey who must have spent hours preparing detailed draft plans, and who used his contacts to get us a realistic costing.

On the fun side, we have had a successful Windy Ball/RNLI fundraiser, with the Fat Monkey Project playing again. This has contributed to a total of £1,400 donation from HSC to RNLI this year. This was presented at the start of the End of Season Dinner in November, another well-supported event.

We are all looking forward to a break over Christmas, so let me wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable time, and a windy New Year!

Stuart Moore



In this issue

Page 1

Renewals; keyfobs; webcam

Page 2

Windy Ball; end of season dinner website and webcam

Non-members

Raising the Game

RS700 season report (also pp 3-4)

Renew your membership

Membership renewals are due on 1st January 2008 for next year, and your renewal notice is enclosed (if you haven't already paid for 2008). Please renew promptly to save future embarrassment.

Key Fobs

There are still some people with old keyfobs out there. **All old keyfobs have now been deactivated.** You will find a note enclosed if our records show you still need to replace your fob. It is easy and cheap: send your old fob (using a LARGE stamp) to: Julia Paul, 8 Jubilee Drive, Dersingham, King's Lynn, PE31 6YA. Your replacement fob will be sent out promptly - normally next day.

Checked out the website lately?

The latest new feature is the **webcam**, appearing thanks to software provided by ee-scape (our Commodore's company). Thanks to Stuart for sorting out this thorny problem. The page shows several pictures over a period of time so you can see the changes, plus tide tables.

Go to: www.hunstantonsc.co.uk.

Windy Ball and RNLI fundraiser

The theme for this event (unsurprisingly, given it was the end of October) was Hallowe'en. The excellent decorations were provided and put up by a family of new kitesurfing members. These included about a dozen pumpkins, some with stunning, fantastical designs carved into them.

They proved too fascinating for some people – see photo Page 4.

End of season dinner and prize-giving

Following last season's successful event, this was again held at the Rose and Crown, Snettisham.

The evening started with a presentation to Margaret Bullen of Hunstanton Lifeboat Guild (the fundraising section). The giant cheque was for £1,600 raised this year through various means; a new method this year was a raffle for a kiteboard, kindly donated by Dave Smith (the kitesurfing one).

Some prizes are awarded for regular events such as dinghy racing, and details of these results are on the club's website. However this year we again marked other achievements, with Keiren Roan winning a trophy for outstanding windsurfing. The Committee also acknowledged the contributions of certain members: Bob Chapman, for providing safety boat cover using his own RIB at nearly all our major events; Sue Gumb for hours spent helping with catering; and Dave Riches for turning out to help at major events and work parties.

A Season on the RS700 National Circuit – 2007

Extracts from the 700 Diaries of Andy (topper) Holland and Stuart (to\$\$er) Riches

"The highs, the lows, the triumphs, the disasters, the drinking, the dancing, the driving, the training, the tanning, the police, the sponsors...and of course the sailing!"

So... after 6 National events, 36 races, 3000 miles and 50 hours of driving up and down the country, what is the secret for two Hunstanton Sailing Club members to have finished 2nd and 6th respectively in the 2007 RS700 National Fat Face Racing Circuit?

Pre Circuit Training

Oasis Gym twice a week, Rose & Crown twice weekly.

Non-members using Club facilities

The Committee has received several complaints from different sources that some members let non-members in to use showers etc.

What is more, the non-members brag about it.

Non-members should pay for the privilege of using the Clubhouse; when we have a full-time manager this will be readily available.

Until then please **do not** let non-members use our showers, parking, wash-down facilities..... in fact anything **you pay** for.

Raising the Game

As part of the Sport England bid, we need show that we are serious about our sport, and one way to show this is by offering courses for members, leading to recognised qualifications.

We are organising a one day **First Aid** course some time around the end of January/beginning of February. Places are limited to just 12, so if you are interested in attending please **email NOW** to juliapaulhsc@aol.com.

Another area we need to address is to get all members to keep records of their activities on or in the water, and we will be developing a scheme to encourage **juniors** in particular to record their participation, with rewards for individual achievement and effort. More details of this later.

Chew Valley - 10/11 Mar 07

Friday night travel. Long journey had.....refreshments required. After 2 hours of driving in circles and reversing backwards down one way streets in Central Bristol desperately trying to park a double stacker and a van we had to wave good bye to the idea of a night on the town. Instead perfect event training was taken in the form of Curry and Beer. A local pub with the average age of 14 made interesting viewing before a luxury night of rest at the only B&B of the season.

Ohh and the Sailing. Swimming practice for Stu on the Sunday. Though the highlight was leading the pack followed by a Swim though still winning the Silver Fleet.

Results: Andy 6th, Stu 9th

Lymington Town 14 Apr 07

Results: Andy 7th. Stuart, Training hard in China in Karaoke Bars!

Weymouth & Portland 12/13 May 07

Long Journey, long day ahead with early start so went to the pub.

Saturday, Force 8+, both well up for some damage dodging sailing but racing called off. Rest? Na, long way to go so the Hunstanton boys wowed the 700 crowds with a windsurfing display! Well Stu dashed and splashed..... but Andy landed 5 big Air Vulcan's after 6 months of crash and burning. This needed a celebration after such a high!

Big day forecast for Sunday and talk of 4 races in F6+. Rest and a good night's sleep required..... Pub, Curry, More Pubs and Club. Bit of dancing had (this is the warm down from windsurfing and the warm up a few hours later that morning), a few new friends made. A perfect pre-training event.

Sunday morning, very windy, very hung-over and we sailed like a pair of plonkers. Oh well.

Results: Andy 10th, Stu 13th.

To round off a good days sailing a speeding ticket was issued as we sped homewards. We didn't even allow ourselves our traditional dirty burger as penalty for our poor sailing efforts.

Royal Torbay YC - Gul RS700 National Championships

A new faster van for nationals, courtesy of King's Lynn Audi. Break door handle, have chrome plated dust caps nicked and have narrow miss with rear of lorry in first 24 hours of picking up. Self-catering accommodation with an amazing view but shame about the apartment. It made the gents changing rooms at HSC amazing.

Strict regime for the Nationals. No beer first day. We both sailed like idiots. Training in evening required. Beer intake and dancing the preferred training methods for topper and to\$\$er. Sailing greatly improved. Every night this same training routine was strictly adhered too. The sailing didn't improve. By Race 10 on 4th day it was simply survival. Stu had never been so close to falling asleep on the wireis that why he finished last on the last race!

Driving home we had to stop every hour to swap drivers as we felt a little tired. On the way home a quote. **Andy** "Hey Stu, do you think we went out too much and this may have



affected our sailing.....hey Stu.....wake up Stu” **Stu** “Urhh.....did you say something”. **Results:** Andy 18th, Stu 34th (out of 52).

Hunstanton 23/24 Jun 07

Home Sweet Home. Hunstanton sunshine. Hawaiian BBQ a great success.

Lightning topper but a not so quick to\$\$er: Sailing going great 2 and 3 in first race until last 100 yards Stuart misses trapeze wire falls in to windward, breaks tiller extension, usual swimming resumed. **Results:** Andy 4th, Stu 6th

Hayling Island 7/8 Jul 07

New sponsor for this event (Rossiter's of Dersingham). Van now breath on 25% + power can now tow at 100 mph with no effort. “Does this mean we get to the events 25% quicker” asked Stuart. If only Stuart would put his glasses on when driving!

A local pub found but restraint kept us to an early night, no dancing and no kebab. The next day we both sailed like demons both pulling off great port end flyers. (Was this the secret, no dancing and drinking??). Final race still flying, holding 3rd and 4th place in last leg in very windy and choppy conditions, 1 gybe to do.....splash..... Stuart had to have a quick swim to cool off! Still managed to retrieve 6th and also still swearing all the way home! Great event for Hunstanton boats.

Dirty burger reward. And with onion rings and chicken bites. Living the dream!

Results: Andy 6th, Stu 12th (33 boats)

Gurnard 29/30 Sep 07

Long way to Isle of Wright venue and to drift around Solent for hours in very little wind and 4 knots of tide and hour tow home, not great first day, retire to shore for evening of hard training! Sunday, windy one sided racing due to tide second. Andy hit start and tacked on start boat and took 500 yard lead at top mark (race of year) only to be taken out by a boat from another fleet! B*lllocks!

Results: Andy 7th. Stuart, Training hard AGAIN in China in Karaoke Bars!

Overall Fat Face RS700 National Circuit Results 2007

Andy Holland finished an excellent 2nd overall with **Ian Nolan** 4th and **Stuart Riches** in 6th place. All three sailors recorded their best overall results in a strong field of over 50 competitors from all over Great Britain, and appeared in the press 4 times this season.

All 3 local competitors would like to thank all fellow club members and especially local sponsors for all the support during the past 2007 season. **Special thanks go to Kings Lynn Audi, Rossiter Car Sales of Dersingham, Wolsey Van Centre and the Hunstanton Oasis Sports & Leisure Centre for their continued support.**

Winter Training already in Full Swing for 2008 Season

‘One off’ training now a speciality at Sailing Club. Last event was dancing all night with weights on your head till 4 am.

(See right)

