

Sailbase

The Newsletter from Hunstanton Sailing Club

Issue 15

From the Commodore



In spite of the weather we have had some good sailing (sailing being used as the plural for kite-surfing, wind-surfing and dinghy sailing) but not as often as we would all like. More wind and more sunshine please! It's been an interesting year so far, what with the club becoming the BKSA affiliate for the area and planning for another busy season of hosting open events. We will be welcoming the Supernovas first on 15h June, and then the RS700s are returning at the end of June, together with the OKs. The following weekend we'll see the 3rd leg of the BKSA UK freestyle championships together with Lifestyles which promises to be the biggest yet on Friday, Saturday and Sunday 4th - 6th July - don't miss this and some great live music entertainment on the prom in front of the Club on the Friday and Saturday evening.

The Sport England grant application continues. At their request we have just resubmitted the application with more details and advanced information. This information isn't usually required until the latter stages and since we haven't received a "no" yet it might be a positive sign. In submitting the bid for the building regeneration we have been able to use the skills gained to apply for other grants. Dinghy training is the one area of training that the club doesn't have adequately covered. We have submitted an application to "Awards for All" to

purchase 6 training dinghies and the services of a qualified Senior Instructor. If successful, this will provide a great opportunity for Club members and their families to learn to sail or to further develop their skills. If your interest is one of the surfing disciplines remember that we have a number of qualified instructors within the Club. Contact the Committee for further details.

Keith Twaites has been working hard to promote canoeing within the Club and has organized a programme of events for Club members. Unfortunately, so far the chosen dates were hampered by bad weather. Next event is Saturday 12th July at 3.30 pm. If you have a canoe it would be great to see you.

The Club bar is now open on Friday and Saturday evenings and I'm sure you are all looking forward to some of those balmy summer nights on the patio as much as me. See you there!

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Coming Events

“Beach Party” with Baywatch theme: Saturday 28th June



We will be having a hog roast dinner, with a highly recommended live band for entertainment. You'll see the posters around the clubhouse – don't ask where they found the model.

Tickets are £8 for adults, £5 for children, available from behind the bar, or from Andy Holland, or Julia Paul. There'll be some visiting sailors too, so it'll be a good night.

This is open to all members and friends; members of the old HUB club have been invited too.

Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th June RS700 and OK open events

We've invited two fleets to race at Hunstanton this year. With about 20 boats in each fleet, this event will bring in much-needed income. But we can't do them without help.

Please try to offer help even if it's only a couple of hours. You can help around the clubhouse, or you can help out on the water – for example, we need extra safety boat crews for these events.

All helpers welcome from 9am both days, and remember you will get food and drink (but not Father Jack's sort of drink) free while you're helping.

4 weeks later, we'll be doing it again.....

Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th July North-West Norfolk Weekend

This is a similar event, except we get all sorts of boats, and usually nearly 50 of them. Some of our members would like to compete, so may not be available to help.

If you can help, please let one of us know:

Julia: 01485 541031

Ian: 01485 571146

Andy: 01485 571747

Friday-Sunday 4th/5th/6th July Lifestyles 2008

Lifestyles is getting bigger and better every year. Come and have a go at something different - there will be workshops in: Kite Surfing, Skateboarding, Inline Skating, BMX and Art. You will also be able to take part in other activities such as Beach Volleyball, Beach Soccer and Climbing.

We will once again have the clubhouse bar open with another bar in the marquee – another way for us to earn money, and with the Council's blessing. Live music too on Friday and Saturday nights.

Find out more at

<http://www.lifestylesfestival.co.uk/>

Again help is always wanted – contact Stuart Moore (01485 579363) for details.

Canoe events

As Stuart mentioned, we do have regular canoe events, not just for canoes but for anything that involves oars or paddles – just to be a bit sociable. Further events scheduled for 12th July, 9th August and 6th September. Times vary, so check the programme or contact Keith Twaites on 01485 535928.

Training Opportunities

Sail Training

We have decided this year that we need to start offering sail training again. We are using a local Senior Instructor, Robbie Bell, who also runs a number of courses at Snettisham and recently helped them achieve become an accredited RYA training centre.

We have some adult dates and some junior dates. Adults will learn in Wayfarers (or similar); Juniors will learn in Toppers. We are very pleased to report that we have just bought a Wayfarer, in very clean condition, at a very good price. We will be hiring 6 Toppers for the juniors, but we have also put in a bid for grant aid to buy some training dinghies.

For adults, there is a choice of either a 2-day course on 1st-2nd July (cost: £100 per person) or a one day taster session on 4th July (cost: £50 per person).

For juniors, we will be offering a 3-day course just after the end of term: 23rd-25th July (cost: £180 per person).

Kitesurfing Training

Steve Murfet of Hunstanton Kitesurf School has kindly come up with a special offer for members – only £15 for a ½ day session.

Adults training will take place on Friday 18th July (choose am or pm session); while **Children's** training will be on Friday 1st July (again am or pm session). Please note: children **MUST** be accompanied by a parent/carer at all times

For more information and a booking form, see the website:

www.hunstantonsc.co.uk, or contact me, Julia Paul, on 01485 541031 (juliapaulhsc@aol.com)

What's happened to the HUB?

We've worked pretty closely with the HUB in the past, but sadly they have had to wind up their operation.

We've always had similar aims – to develop watersports, to make sure they're practised safely, and to ensure we keep on good terms with other beach users.

There has also been a fair number of HUB members who also joined HSC; not all of them want to though, because some live too far away and visit rarely.

So our Committee decided to develop a similar category of membership, so HUB members wouldn't be left in limbo. In practice, they will receive an information pack on joining; access to our website and forums; newsletters and email news items.

It will be made clear that they have NO right to use the Clubhouse or parking, except at specific events.

This new category of membership was presented to the AGM for formal approval – without it there would have been no way to proceed.

A bonus is that we are now affiliated to the BKSA – something that looks good on any bids for grant money.

Another bonus is that they have also transferred their funds to us – at around £1,700, it's roughly equivalent to their joining fees.

What happened at the AGM?

With only 10% of members attending the AGM, we have to assume that 90% are happy with the way the Club's being run.

A couple of rule changes meant we could include more people on the committee – it's great to have people keen to get involved! – and a new "officer" post of Sailing Secretary, recognising the importance of that role.

Another rule change – introducing Associate Membership – allows us to transfer HUB members to our membership (see above).

Your new 2008 Committee

Those elected were:

Commodore: Stuart Moore

Vice Commodore: Andy Holland

Rear Commodore: Marcus Hawkins

Ian Holland, Garry Moore

Treasurer: Warren Mitchell

Secretary: Julia Paul

Dave Smith who has been out of circulation for a while now comes back onto the committee as Social Member and will once again take up his post behind the bar and monitoring the radio.

Sarah Wainwright (another familiar face from behind the bar) had been co-opted (in simple language, invited to join) and was elected to the post of Female Member; her main interest is windsurfing.

Steve Murfet had also been co-opted and was formally elected; **Matt Davies**, **Marcus Hawkins**, and **Dave Smith** were also elected so we have good representation for kite-surfers, in spite of the fact that John Matthews had to resign earlier.

Garry Moore was re-elected, and **Dave Gumb** and **Keith Twaites** remain in post. Garry and Dave are interested in windsurfing, and Keith is mainly interested in canoeing.

This gives a good balance on the committee representing the different sports. It also gives me a headache minuting meetings when there are two Dave Smiths involved!

Mugshots will appear on the noticeboard as soon as they are available – but some people keep ducking when they see a camera. I wonder why?

Church display

We were invited to participate in St Edmunds Church's Spring Festival; instead of having a traditional Flower Festival they wanted displays from all the different community groups.

Since this was the late Betty Worsfold's church we wanted to put on a good display, and one that represented all the things we do in the club. We were offered a space between 2 pillars....

We had a small display on a table between the pillars, using some photos by Rob Scanlon, and some older ones that included Betty.

We strung some cord between the two pillars – about 4m up – and suspended a kite over the display, flanked by a small sail on one side and a windsurfing board on the other. It looked pretty spectacular!

Thanks to Stuart Moore and Dave Gumb for the loan of materials, and especially to Steve Murfet for the loan of the kite, and for doing all the dodgy work at the top of the ladder!

Hunstanton Regeneration

The Borough Council has been looking into the way Hunstanton should develop in the future, and commissioned some consultants to make a report. We've been attending the meetings where the consultants sought the opinions of local groups.

The draft report identified that watersports would help extend the season, as well as giving a special identity to Hunstanton.

According to a recent newspaper report:

Cllr Watson said: "We wanted to put more emphasis on watersports. Hunstanton is uniquely situated to make the most of them."

Watersports also emerged as a priority from the public consultation process, she added.

Another Hunstanton councillor, Jason Law, said the number of sports enthusiasts on the water during the last Christmas holiday was an indication of things to come. "These people don't mind getting out there all-year round," he said.

Sounds good to us.