

Sailbase

The Newsletter from Hunstanton Sailing Club

Issue 8

From the Commodore



Avast ye to all me listeners,
Landlubbers,
kilters, hubbers
sailors wanderers
N drunkards. No
Not you !!!!

It's a long time
past our bedtimes
and most sensible
peeps have put

their boats away for the winter. Out pop the Kilters and Hubbers and away we go again. It's great to see the club thriving, evolving and becoming all inclusive.

The season went too fast for my liking and being Commodore certainly takes up much time and energy. Don't forget folks I be retiring in March next year, 6 Months past official retiring age. So boo to Tony and his cronies !!

The EGM went well and all motions were supported by the majority of members present. A good turn out, thanks to all who came. The AGM will be special what with new rules on proxy votes and postal votes. More importantly we have invited William and Richard Searle to come and discuss their dreams for a harbour. This will greatly affect the club, some positively some negatively. It is important we welcome the brothers as guests, listen politely, ask as many questions as we can, before the Club's committee responds to those plans. Thanks to those members who took the trouble to go the Hunstanton Regeneration AGM. Interesting evening I thought.

I have to say that being a mere male I have been impressed by the influence some of our female members have exerted upon all who used the clubhouse. It's never looked so tidy on a Sunday morning with one exception and even then those who had partied, came down once they had sobered up and did the decent

thing. Brilliant and thanks again for the support.

The Friday Bar has been another good move and many pints have been sunk without trace over the season !!!!

Have you seen the new website (not obscene!!!) It's our site folks so help Duncan by sending in articles and photos. I have sent him a couple of photos of an ol boy on a catamaran in the sunset. No prizes for guessing who. ?

I wish to publicly thank all members of the committee for their unstinting support this season. We have not always agreed 100% on every issue, but everyone had their say and the decisions on the whole have been easy to make. There is still work to do on Shed clearance etc so come on you Kilters lets get it done. We have the Dumper being repaired by Chris Bryant. Ian Holland as always has worked his little socks off and deserves a pint from every single member. On second thoughts don't do that or it might interfere with his next holiday. Have a good one Ian it's well deserved.

The racing programme for 2006 is now finalised we have the festive season to overcome and then the boaties sap starts to rise and once again a new season will be upon us. That is of course not including our kilters and hubbers who seem to think getting freezing cold is a form of pleasure. Yes I know folks so did I a few years ago . Not any more the wetsuit seems to shrink after October each year now and although I continue to wear my shorts all year round getting wet and cold is no fun for me.

The AGM is the time when I can thank individual members for their support but I cannot let an opportunity pass to say thanks to our secretary Julia for keeping us on track, and guiding me through the EGM so ably. Much appreciated.

Like all members I continue to pop down whenever I am in the area and on the occasional weekend just like a mother hen protecting her offspring. In this case it's the clubhouse etc. I hope to see as many of you as possible through the winter months and in the meantime I take this opportunity to **Wish You All A Very Merry Christmas** and a

PROSPEROUS New Year. Just remember when overtaking at sea pass port to port and at home pass the port to the left !!!!

Mick Ford



The Website

By the time you read this, our new website should be up and running. Our original website address will still work, but it will be faster if you go directly to www.hunstantonsc.co.uk. Thanks to Duncan Ellis for the time and effort he has put into this cool new website.

Looking back

Thanks to Phill Cook for organising the **Bank Holiday Burnout** in August, which was held in aid of RNLI, with the band playing free of charge. We were very pleased to welcome Margaret Bullen, Hunstanton fundraiser for RNLI, to our prize-giving, when we were able to present her with a cheque for a grand total of £650, from this and other fund-raising activities by the club.

The sad note at the prize giving was that **Rod Shirley** announced that he would not be renewing his RYA Senior Sailing Instructor certificate. Over many years Rod has led the Junior/Novice sail training, helping many people to develop their skills and appreciation of sea sailing. Rod is not sailing off into the sunset however, and we hope to see him sailing often for his own fun.

The **Windy Ball** was back this year, thanks this time to Heather Dunseath for organising the event. With a seventies theme, we all slipped back to the time when flower power was just giving way to glam rock. Some people really make the most of opportunities to dress up!

Both of these events needed a special application to the Magistrates' Court to extend the **bar hours**; hopefully that is now a thing of the past as new licensing legislation has come into force. However we have not yet heard the outcome of this application.

The Committee has spent considerable time looking for a suitable fast response **safety craft**. All advice from independent advisors was that a jetski would not be suitable in our circumstances. A smaller lighter boat was tried but was considered to be too small to cope with conditions. So at present we have been unable to find a suitable alternative to the RIB, and we would encourage other people to learn to drive the dumper and the RIB. The new programme for 2006 includes training on 1st and 15th April; please let Ian Holland or Julia Paul know if you are interested.

Looking forward

It has been agreed that the **Garage** should be cleared of non-essential items and made available to members for storage. The With will be stored outside, and its engine kept in the container. It's just waiting for enough people to shift the With to its new home.

Membership renewals will be issued soon: the EGM approved a small rise in fees - £2 for Full or Family membership; £1 for Social or Temporary membership. Other fees remain unchanged.

The **AGM** will be held on April 16th 2006 at 3pm, and we hope many members will come to hear about the harbour proposal.

And finally this comes with warm wishes from your committee for a

Happy Christmas
and fair winds for 2006.

