



# DYC NEWSLETTER



WINTER 2011

## SPORT ENGLAND SAYS DYC IS INSPIRED

One 5 minute phone call from Sport England means that we can go ahead with our slipway plans unchanged in size and quality giving members a great new facility for many years to come. The bid to the 'inspired facilities fund' emphasised how a better slipway would encourage more people to sail more often by making access to the water much easier. Although this was not match funding I can't help feeling that the willingness of members to give so generously influenced the decision makers. More detail will follow when we receive the Award documentation.

## THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE, THE OLYMPIC TORCH IN WOODBRIDGE & THE OLYMPICS

2012 will be a memorable one for all of us in the UK and we want the DYC to be a part of the celebrations. Christine Holding attended a meeting to decide how Woodbridge will mark the Jubilee. Sunday will be centred around Elmhurst Park and aimed at families whilst Monday will be in the evening and based on the river. They are hoping to have fireworks on the opposite bank and then beacon lighting. There has been some forward planning and all the flowers in the town will be red, white and blue. WTC has pledged £1000 and needs to raise another £9000 before we can access an additional £2000. Saturday will be on the water day when we have the opportunity to get involved. What shall we do? How can you help?

July 5th will see the Olympic torch arriving in Woodbridge and although it is not a weekend it would be good if the DYC was involved in some way. Any ideas?

The London Olympics gives us the opportunity to raise the profile of sailing on the Deben and give our sailors a chance to win gold, silver or bronze.

## EXPANDING SAILING OPPORTUNITIES AT THE CLUB

With our partners at the Deben Centre no longer offering sailing the DYC has been invited by Suffolk Watersports to bid for some or all of their craft. We have used the Deben Centre's boats and RYA recognition on our training courses together with their safe operating procedures. Space does not allow me to go into full details of what we have in mind but here are some of the major points. The enthusiasm of our volunteers means that we will become a RYA recognised centre enabling us to run certificated courses. We will bid for boats which will help us to carry on our present training but give us scope to expand our social sailing and particularly encourage those who are improvers and not yet decided on what boat to sail. Added to the Wayfarers, Toppers, Fevas and Q'bas we have been offered, by Mike Arnold, an Alto to loan to those of you who like to sail fast. I'm sure you will join me in thanking Mike for his generous gesture. Managing all of this will be a challenge and I am grateful to Roger McCombie and the working party for offering to help with winter maintenance but we will need people to check the boats during the season and if you can help please get in touch—[Connolly.kevin@rocketmail.com](mailto:Connolly.kevin@rocketmail.com).





## Michael Madden—Honorary Secretary

The **AGM** heard reflections on the valuable work done by volunteers and the importance of their ‘volunteer power’ in the economical running of our club. They received and accepted the usual reports on activities across the year, ashore and afloat, temporal and strategic, high finance and plain lowly tasks – all for the benefit of members then, now and into the future. As usual, those reports will be the slipway for launching next year’s work, and they will be archived as a record for any future members interested in why things are as they find them.

Entering this new financial year there are details to attend to arising from having revised the rules and become a CASC we have just received a refund of £1000 from the local rates that were paid in April; and after catching up with individual sponsors we have received cheques for £985 from Paul Masters’ epic sculling marathon from the DYC to Mistley Quay.

### **Where to in Club and community in 2012?**

We are taking a fresh look at a few familiar arrangements. In the interest of economy, your Handbook will be replaced by a simpler card, which will (with regard to Bye-Law 1.1) serve instead of the Handbook as your proof of membership as well as providing the usual information on personnel, and on the sailing and social programmes. We have reviewed the details requested when members volunteer for OOD, galley, bar, support boat and training duties – so parts of the volunteer proforma that you will have received with this Newsletter have a ‘new look’ and feel; slightly longer sections on the proforma try to convey more of what members could help with – and we hope you will continue to recognise the importance of as many of you as possible making offers of help.

We continue to seek funding for rebuilding the slipway, hoping to build during 2012 while recognising that a larger proportion of the cost than previously anticipated will have to be met directly by members. We trust therefore that any who have not so far contributed through the **Slipway Appeal** will look again at whether there is anything they can give or do to help increase the Appeal fund; you could just give money to any members of the committee, but it will help greatly to create a clear record of slipway benefactors if you direct your contribution with a brief note to the Secretary ([secretary@debenyachtclub.co.uk](mailto:secretary@debenyachtclub.co.uk), Tel: 01394 384440, [memadden@btinternet.com](mailto:memadden@btinternet.com) or 23 Warren Hill Road Woodbridge IP12 4DU).

### **Strictly come sailing**

Strictly speaking, the AGM should not have elected the committee in quite the form it has, giving Kevin Connolly a third year as commodore. It was he, however, who emerged as THE finalist competing in the Commodore’s glitter ball. As Len would have said “Well, .... when someone get’s that far ahead it must be a little bit demoralising for the others; but even so ..... merit where it’s due .... a fine and elegant Wayfarer Waltz with all the right turns and ... what’s more ... didn’t we all enjoy it?”; Aleisha might have been enthralled beyond words – even over the yard arm – with the simmering energy of the Topper Evening Tango; Bruno would have been climbing out of his chair and over the table with excitement at the new ideas that stirred up the conventional Support Boat Samba; and Craig – “probably at least 9 out of 10 for the Firefly Foxtrot” and “11 out of 10 for the ‘A – May – Zing’ stunningly original Jiving Gybe” !!

So – no contest: it’s a very warm welcome again to Kevin as Commodore, an assurance that this is an exceptional arrangement for 2012 and a search starting now for a further flag officer for 2013. Could that be you?

### **Re-enrolment for 2012**

Annual subscriptions and fees are due on 1 January and payable by 31 January. Later payment causes problems and unwelcome work, so it’s tempting at times to consider introducing a new rule like that at some other clubs: Eg “Any member desirous of retiring from the club shall notify his intention to the Membership Secretary on or before 21<sup>st</sup> December, otherwise the member shall be liable for the next year’s subscription.” That doesn’t really suit the club’s style; but neither does having to chase up several dozen members.

We don’t like losing members but it’s actually quite pleasant when we receive a note about it in good time. Eg *I have enjoyed membership of the club and the sailing for the past five years, so much so that I have invested in a rather larger yacht. Regrettably, she cannot be kept on the Deben and so I am no longer in a position to benefit from my DYC membership, pontoon berth and outboard locker. Please convey this news as necessary and thank the committee for their excellent running of the club.*

With fees as low as ours, it is rare for finance to be a dominant reason for leaving but when they are significant the committee is always sympathetic. A recent case involves a request to entertain annual payments in 2 or 3 instalments. So if that’s you too, this year or any year, just ask: but please ask before the end of January to save the club the expense of chasing you up.

## CHANGES TO THE WEBSITE

Our new and exciting website will be going live in the next few weeks. Thanks to the hard work of Tom Barton and Pat Morgan it will be a much more accessible source of information. We hope to incorporate within it race by race results making it much easier to keep track of where you are in a series. The committee has also agreed to installing internet at the club which opens up whole new possibilities. Photographs, forms and other club documents will all be available through the site. Facebook and Twitter will also be linked to the site which we hope will form a useful means of communication particularly for our younger members. We want the site to grow through responding to members' needs and so we will need your feedback.



## CHANGES TO THE WAY THE NEWSLETTER IS DISTRIBUTED

Starting from the Summer edition of the newsletter we will no longer send a paper copy to every member. The newsletter will be posted on our new website and bulletins will be available on Facebook and Twitter. This will mean that information will be much more immediate and therefore more relevant and of course in full colour. This decision will also save money and volunteer time as well as reducing waste. It is important that no member feels excluded from club news and therefore we will continue to print a paper edition copies of which will be available in the clubhouse. For those of you who wish to continue to have the newsletter delivered to your door please fill in the form below and return it to:

**Frances Alexander, Pine Trees, Wilmslow Avenue, Woodbridge, IP12 4HW.**

**NAME** .....

**ADDRESS** .....

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**POST CODE** .....