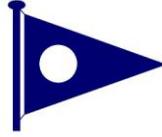


DYC



WINTER NEWSLETTER

DYC is 175 years old.
(Lots to celebrate. Read on!).

Commodores bit.

It is with some bemusement that I once again sit in the Commodores chair, but not unwillingly. It is always daunting to take on such a role, but I take over from a very competent and effective chairman, and my first task must be to thank Kevin Connolly (ably supported by Angela) for his three very successful and eventful years in office. Officially opening the extended balcony, initiating and progressing the new slipway and taking on the craft from the SWSA amongst other activities have made it an unusually busy and challenging tenure for him and I am glad to be taking over in quieter (or are they?) times.

The breadth of experience and capability of the committee makes the Commodore's role manageable and I look forward to working within it again, and welcome on board (phew!) John Adams as the new Vice Commodore who will take over in 2013.

Our thanks must go to the outgoing treasurer John Saggars for 10 years of sterling work, and in his place we welcome on board Jenny Shaw. Two vacancies remain on the committee and I would be pleased to hear from any member who would like to enrol. (it's quite fun really!).

Even more exciting! The Club is officially 175 years old in September and we are planning to have some special events to celebrate the fact, with the official opening of the new launch ramp being part of these celebrations, together with a grand summer ball and an anniversary celebration in September. Some dates have been agreed and other provisional dates will be confirmed in the joining pack in March; (see the back page). We are planning to make 2013 a memorable year with lots of press coverage and some high profile events so please support them.

The new launch ramp and the new balcony are part of an ongoing plan to improve the Club which was started back in 2000, following an extensive survey of member's requests. The requests included: more dinghy parking space, a better dinghy park surface, better security, and better support boats as well as the improvements to the ramp and the balcony. Improvements to the changing rooms remain the outstanding project and 2014 is the target date for these to be completed. Other more ambitious plans for the Club have been passed by the council and are displayed in the clubhouse and feedback on these is appreciated.

It is now clear to see where member's fees have been spent, although until the projects were completed it seemed hard to justify the increases in fees. While grants have contributed some £80,000, DYC members have contributed around £150,000 + to pay for the improvements. Three cheers for us! Developments in the near future will be more modest and should be able to be funded from normal membership fees. These will include the changing rooms and improvements to the interior of the clubrooms.

Perhaps this year will not be so quiet after all, as to achieve all our aims for the year will take some major organisation. Most members contribute fully to the success of the Club, volunteering their time in a myriad of ways, and this remains the basis of the Club's ethos. For all of those members who offered their time and skills in 2012 I offer a big thank you. If you did not find time to help the Club last year can I remind you that it is a requirement of membership and ask you to think how you will contribute in 2013. While there is much to do over the

winter, we can look forward to hopefully better summer weather while enjoying the new launch ramp and balcony in 2013.

I hope to see you on the water early in the new year and in the meantime wish you an enjoyable Christmas and a happy new year.

Mel Ringer 01394 387041 mel.ringer@tesco.net

Vice Commodore's Comments.

I am honoured to have been elected as Vice Commodore for the Deben Yacht Club and hope that I will be able to assist Mel and the committee to continue the club's development that has been progressed by the team of volunteers over the past few years. For those who don't know me, I sail an old, wooden, Streaker with sail no. 1038, and have two teenage boys, Tom and Ed, who sail an RS 300 and a Byte CII plus a third son who is at university and currently sails a Fireball. You will also sometimes find my wife, Liz, paddling downriver in our orange kayak!

There is still a lot to do in improving the clubhouse and changing rooms to make the club even more attractive to members and visitors and I hope that I will be able to help in progressing these development plans in the next few years. I would like to help with encouraging people onto the water to improve their skills and enjoy the watersports available through membership of the DYC. As a club I feel we need to continue promoting and highlighting to all that Deben Yacht Club is a great, friendly place to sail with some of the most beautiful sailing areas on the East Coast.

If you should have any questions or suggestions about future plans for the club, or just have a question about the club, please do let me know either by phone or e-mail.

I look forward to working with you all to continue developing the club to ensure it is a fun place to sail and take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Best wishes

John Adams

Tel: (01359) 230085

Email: ej.adams@btinternet.com

Club Captain's Bit

Many of you will have noticed the development of the rather superb new launching ramp. It's so wide !! So all those of you felt coming in to land on the old ramp was a bit tricky and intimidating...there's now acres of space to aim at! It also has a nice uniform (and predictable) slope to it, so launching and recovery will be easier – and it will be much easier to judge how deep you are. Just beware though...the new 'no-slip' surface will sandpaper the bottom of your boat fairly effectively, so make sure you don't get too shallow. This has been a fantastic development to the club's facilities, and my personal thanks go to those many people who have worked so hard to get it built! For those who were unable to attend the Laying-up supper, I've included a list of the nominated trophy winners:

- Most Promising cadet helm: Ed Adams
- Most Promising Topper helm: Elspeth Orme
- Most improved senior helm: Graeme Holder
- Best capsized (the Poseidon Trophy): Annett Thompson (for a spectacular episode on what was admittedly a windy day!)
- Best adult novice: David Hopkins
- Best junior novice: Dan Ryder-Davis

As the first winter storms strike, I would advise a trip to the dinghy park to ensure your boat and cover are secured properly. If you leave your boat with the mast up, it is highly recommended to tie from the shrouds (or the mast) to the launching trolley on both sides. Ruth and I replaced 5 boats onto their trolley last weekend! Also, make sure your bailers / bungs / transoms are opened to prevent the accumulation of water in the boat. One unnamed Streaker owner had a few hundred gallons of water in his very nice new boat – it really doesn't do it any good! And those with wooden boats (Mirror's!) ... if they're full of water for winter, the plywood will get sogged and they will rot! Have a great winter. Enjoy the frostbite at Alton. And we'll see you fit and well in March 2013!

Pierre

Membership Secretary

Renewals. Please find enclosed with this posting your renewal form for 2013 along with a volunteer request form. The Club has purchased a new membership administration system and all your details have been transferred. Could you please be sure to check your details very carefully. I would be grateful if you could fill in any missing information especially dinghy numbers-see below! Fees are due on January 1st 2013 and if not paid by the end of January there is a £10 premium. Make my job easier and pay me on time so that I don't have to pester you.

Dinghy Park. During the winter the working party and I will be checking the dinghy park for any unpaid boats. Please ensure that your boats are displaying the 2012 sticker. (Stickers for 2013 will be sent to you in early March). Any unpaid or unidentifiable boats will be clearly marked and moved to a sin bin. If they are not claimed they will be sold with the proceeds going to the Club.

Sail Store. This store is for the sailing season only and is not for long term storage. Please remove all your sails during the winter. If left, they are likely to be nibbled by mice. The sail stores and sheds have got very overloaded with old sails and spars so I would advise you to remove your belongings as the working party will be having a clear-out! Unidentified items are likely to be disposed of. Please mark your sails clearly next season.

I wish you all a very happy Christmas and look forward to seeing you on the water next year. Frances Alexander.

Sail Training

Improve your sailing in 2013 – DYC sail training courses

Next year we will continue to offer courses to learn to sail from scratch or to improve basic sailing skills.

The **Improvers' Course** will take place immediately after the schools' Easter holiday on consecutive weekends. It is the equivalent of the RYA Stage 2-3 (Juniors) or Level 2 (Adults).

Immediately following that will be a **Beginners' Course** (equivalent of Stages 1-2 /Level 1).

If you are interested in receiving details of the courses they will be ready in mid-end January. Just email your contact details to Steve Scholey, Training Team Leader at steve.scholey@ntlworld.com

If you'd like some more information or advice, phone Steve on 01473 602597.

Interested in teaching others to race?

Then your club needs you! If you are a good club racer who would like to help others improve their racing skills (and have fun at the same time!) then why not become a race coach?

The RYA Race Coach Level 2 course is run over a single weekend and covers both theory and on the water exercises.

If enough people are interested, there is some funding available to run a course at the DYC.

You must be over 16, and will also need RYA Power Boat Level 2 and RYA recommended first aid certificates. If you don't already have them, these courses are also available at the club.

If you are interested, please let me know.

Ruth Naudé
ruth@apexagronomy.co.uk

Yacht Racing

The 2012 season was judged by most as lacking in sun and suitable wind and hence many of us "yotties" had less sailing time than other

years. However, I often have to remind myself that we are privileged to have our club in such a lovely location. So, can we really say it was a bad season if we managed to get out on our beautiful river just once when the sun was shining? Yes, the yacht racing was disrupted but there were some memorable events when the turnout was good although there were more than a few that were poorly attended.

Perhaps 2013 will be the year of blue skies and favourable wind that will entice more to enter the races – particularly those who have never raced with us before. Don't be afraid to join in – the racing is low key and we are a friendly bunch with everyone more than happy to help newcomers – we could even arrange some “lazy yacht” sailing days/evenings, a la the dinghy events held this year, as an introduction. You don't necessarily need your own yacht as there is opportunity for people to crew.

As for the races, the evening points series was again popular this year (might also be due to the supper supplied by the galley afterwards) but for another year the ebb-tide event was cancelled. Rather than assume what people want in terms of event types, duration, day of the week etc, in 2013, it might be a “good idea” to ask you before they are set! So, I'm thinking that a short get-together to distil your ideas and requirements would do the trick – it could be held at the club one evening (with the bar open and possibly with light snacks), preferably, before Christmas to be well in time for us to agree what we want before the overall racing programme is set in the new year. Would anyone interested (even vaguely) let me know asap and I will make the arrangements.

Chris Cobb

chrisjobb@btinternet.com.

Dates for your diary.

Winter walks.

Sunday 13th January. The Dog Grundisburgh 10 am
Chris and Diana Cobb 01473 622585
dicobb@btinternet.com

Sunday 10th February. Sorrell Horse, Shottisham 9.am Breakfast
Breakfast walk! Start Julia and Mel Ringer 10. am Walk
the day with a ‘full 01394 387041
English breakfast’. mel.ringer@tesco.net

Sunday 17th March. The White Horse, Easton 10.am
Stephen and Frances 01394 385221
Alexander

If you are wishing to have lunch on the walks could you please let the organiser know by the Wednesday before the walk as booking is necessary on Sundays. For the breakfast walk could you let Julia know a week before, as the pub will open specially for us if numbers are viable.

Early April. Grand opening of the new launch ramp.
To include ‘New Members’ event.

June 22nd or July 6.th Grand 175 Summer Ball
Waldringfield Golf Club.

August 7th – 11th. Regatta Week.

Early September. 175th Party at the Club

November 16th. Laying up supper.

November 23rd. AGM