



Dec 2013 News

Dates for your diary

Sun 15 Dec - AGM (2pm)

Sun 22 Dec - Complimentary Buffet (please sign the list at the club)

A Vintage Year!

Round about this time of year. most Commodores sit back and reflect on their Clubs' performance during the year.

Such things as, was the local advertising campaign successful, did all of the members renew, club finances going in the right direction, were the members happy with the sailing programme, are they volunteering in sufficient numbers, were we successful with obtaining necessary grants, – the questions just go on and on!

So what are my thoughts on all of this? Well, basically I think we, that is, all of us, have simply increased our efforts in all corners of the Club. For starters, when the nominations went up for volunteers to put themselves forward to assist in the management of the Club for this year, the uptake was the best ever. Folk seemed to flock to the easel and added their names so readily. In the 19 years I have been a member, I cannot recall ever seeing this spectacle. What I do remember is that sometimes thumbscrews and tourniquets were being used! What a difference now.

The club did advertise locally and we had some success with several joining us as Academy members. We also

advertised indirectly by supporting other local community projects, such as the Carnival and the Half Marathon, which helped raise the Club's profile in the town. This does assist us when wishing to attract sponsors and Grant bodies for projects such as when 'Legacy' was purchased.

I feel the Executive and the various committees have done an excellent job at continually looking for savings in the respective areas and the annual accounts show how well we have all done, even though there were a couple of unexpected expenses. The reduction in some of the expenditure is a direct result of continually maintaining the equipment and buildings.

The sailing members let the sailing committee know how much the sailing programme was liked.



I cannot end without mentioning the RS700/800 Nationals. It was professionally organised and delivered by us all. At the end of the event, the accolades from our guests were 'hurled' at me, both publicly and privately. What got to me was when the same speakers saw me privately and they kept stressing "I am being very sincere in what I am saying..."! What else can I say other than it was very hard and very rewarding work on the day for all of us, the Club's standing amongst the sailing community is up there amongst the big boys and our Treasurer has not stopped smiling!

It just leaves me to remind you all that one or two positions for next year's committees remained unfilled when the nomination forms came down. Please see the article in this newsletter for the details. I hope you will all pull out all of the stops to get to the Annual General Meeting on the 15th December, at 2pm.

Happy days ahead and best wishes for the festive season.

Graham

Graham Tomlin
Commodore

ESSC AGM

New Members

A very warm welcome to Andrew and Ricia Blagbrough, who have joined as social members with a view to upgrading to Academy membership next season.

Please come along to the AGM on Sunday 15 December, at 2pm in the Clubhouse. It is your chance to hear how the club is doing and also to have a say on future plans and opportunities.

There are still one or two vacancies on the Sailing and House Committees and it would be great to have those filled. The Club in the last 20 years has always had a full compliment of Officers after every AGM and it is hoped that this year's event will be no exception. Everyone needs to play their part, whether they are new or have in the past 'done their bit', whether dedicating a few minutes a week or more. Without this commitment, the Club cannot exist. If it helps, I guarantee that getting involved will raise the enjoyment and gain friends and, above all, everyone will feel truly part of the Club.

Graham

Graham Tomlin
Commodore

Sailing Update

Despite October getting pretty much blown off, a hardy bunch of sailors have continued to sail since in the Frostbite and Brass Monkey Series.

At the time of writing, Ben Daigneault and James P-C look the favourites to win the Asymmetric Fleet, with Colin Gates being in a strong position to win the Conventional.

Social News

I am currently looking at acquiring some raffle prizes for this years Christmas buffet.

If there is something you may be able to offer, please see me in the Galley, or email me on StrawberrySauce4@gmail.com.

Your donations will be warmly received. Please only offer what you would be happy to win yourself.

Many thanks.

Nikki Norman