

Waldringfield Sailing Club Newsletter



August 2009

No 56

The Rearward View

It seems hard to be believe that so much has happened since the last Newsletter – many days have been spent by Club Members on the water both on the Deben and elsewhere. We have held the Comet National Championship, Regatta, Yachtsman's Service, 60th Anniversary Dragonfly and Shrimper Week, Cadet Week and Training Week. We have had some excellent social events – Greek Night, Barbeque Evening, and dinner, live music and dancing over the Regatta weekend. Your Editor and others enjoyed a most memorable Pimm's evening in more or less perfect conditions – the same cannot be said of all of them the following morning! And of course we have had all the usual sailing on Wednesdays and weekends, and excellent catering through the season.

Congratulations to all who have enjoyed their sailing so far this year. In particular a big well done to the 2009 Lark Class National Champions – Alan Krailing and Edd McArdle. Chris Fish and Beth Condie (last year's champions) came 3rd, and there were several WSC boats in the top 10. Congratulations too to Ian Davidson for becoming Comet Xtra National Champion, at the event held at Waldringfield in July. Further congratulations to Gordon & Emma Harris for finishing 5th, and Mike Pearce & Bryan Southgate for an 11th place, at the Wayfarer Nationals.

Hopefully other members have had as much fun, either cruising around the river or racing locally – they say it's the taking part, rather than the winning, that counts. The main thing, however, is to enjoy your sailing, although there is no denying that points (or lack of them) mean prizes, so keep practicing!

A discussion and vote on the options for a possible pontoon is coming up at a Special General Meeting of the Club on Saturday 3rd October (to be held in the village hall at 6.30pm). Please come and air your views, either for or against. Only those present are able to vote (under Club rules) so it is vitally important that all those interested attend.

There is still plenty of fun to be had this year at Waldringfield Sailing Club, both on and off the water – we may not be treated to quite such perfect weather as the year progresses, but who knows? Having had the Bishop's blessing at the Yachtsman's Service I hope we are in with a fair chance. Let us all look forward to a pleasant rest of the year at Waldringfield.

William Sudell Rear Commodore



The Yachtsman Service aboard Mars

Special General Meeting

PONTOON

I am sure many of you are wondering what is happening about the pontoon and the debate on it.

The pontoon committee have had several meetings and discussed the various options.

As an update this has also been aired and voted on at Sail Com, and debated at Gen com.

Whilst further information will be sent out to you as soon as its ready I would like to advise you all that a Special General Meeting is being called for SATURDAY 3 OCTOBER at Waldringfield Village Hall @ 18.30

Please note this is a Sailing Club affair and is open to Club members only.

Volvo Car Scheme

For members who are unaware, An RYA Member can claim a member's benefit of up to 8.5% on a new Volvo Car. WSC, as a Volvo

Champion Club, will receive £100 for every new Volvo car sold to a member through the Privilege Price Plan.

Welcome to New Members

Joe Hunt - very experienced crew & much in demand by the Larks on the circuit

Simon & Julia Appell with Charlie, Lucy & Florence.- they are keen to join in with Club activities, and for the children to sail. Charlie has enjoyed the sailing courses that he has completed

Abigail Ruffles – Abigail was a member for most of her childhood, and only left to go to University. She is now back for a few months to sail in the Laser Wednesday evening series.

John Mann – John lives locally and he has bought a Deben Lugger

Peter & Coleen Howard with Chloe, Natalie, & Charlotte, keen to sail and get the girls involved

Births

Amy Rose Margaret Fraser was born 9th August 2009 a daughter for Tony & Jean Fraser, a sister for Sammy & Tommy and an 8th grandchild for Peter & Mary Fraser

Marriages

Jonathan Fish & Izabela Domanska got married at the Basilica Mariacka in Cracow, Poland on 30th May 2009
Ben Deacon & Emily Spencer got married at St Mary's Church Woodbridge on 30th May 2009

Deaths

Peter Doble passed away in July 2009. Peter had been a very long time member of the Club

500 Club

May – John Chaplin No. 65
June – Roger Challis No. 12
July - Mike Nunn No.86

Interested in finding out more? £12.00 per number to be included in 12 monthly draws. You can have as many numbers as you like please send a cheque, made out to WSC 500 Club, to Norman Glen 12 Windermere Close, Ipswich IP3 0RU Any questions? then ring Norman on 01473 720744

corrections to the last Newsletter:

Quiz: Who takes the rubbish away? John Smith – What

I meant to say was John Smith takes away the rubbish although it is NOT his job. This is something that should be done by everyone, so if you see a black rubbish bag outside the Club and you are going up the steps with a free hand please pick it up and take it with you & put into the skip.

Photos

For those who do not have their own, Juliet Dearlove is selling photos taken at Waldringfield – The cost is £2.50 each or 5 for £10. After many requests from Cadet Week it was turning into hours of work in front of the computer, so her charge is merely to cover her costs. For those interested, the photos are available from her website - www.julietdearlove.co.uk



Jonathan Fish & Izabela Domanska got married at the Basilica Mariacka in Cracow, Poland on 30th May 2009



Ben Deacon & Emily Spencer got married at St Mary's Church Woodbridge on 30th May 2009

Housekeeping - A few polite reminders

Clearing Up - Please be aware that due to unforeseen circumstances the glasses, crockery and cutlery at the Club are unable to clear up themselves. Please therefore will members and guests kindly help each other by clearing up after themselves, and return washing-up to the trolley or bar in the clubhouse, as appropriate. And please put rubbish in the bins! Remember we are a volunteer club, and what some of you lazily leave behind another member will have to clear.

Non-members and guests – these need to be signed in to the Visitors Book, not only to comply with Club rules but for the Licensing laws.

Security Code for Changing Rooms – please keep the number secure, and do not give it out to non-members. Due to the lack of public facilities at Waldringfield other visitors to the beach may try to use the clubhouse – remember that the subscription you pay is for your use, and not for all and sundry.

Forthcoming Events

19th & 20th September Cartoon Open Weekend:

The Notice of Race, Sailing Instructions and Entry forms are available on the Waldringfield Website, from the Sailing Secretary, or the Clubhouse

Saturday 3rd October – Special General Meeting (see page 1 of the Newsletter)

Sunday 11th October. New Member BBQ & Bottle Boat Championships.

This BBQ is an opportunity for New Members to get to know other members & talk to the Officers of the Club. please contact Margaret Lake for details of the BBQ. At the same time this almost unique radio sailing, run in front of the Club, provides superb spectator sport for 'team' supporters and casual spectators alike. As there are quite a few under-used boats in the area there may be the opportunity to borrow a boat and join in the fun. For further information on the Championships, contact Roger on 01483 421 801. Don't miss it!"

Saturday 24th October. Trafalgar Night Supper

(N.B. prior - booking essential) An evening to celebrate that most famous victory. Those who attended last year seemed to enjoy themselves, so why not come and join them? Full details will be published soon – keep an eye out at the Clubhouse (but please not in the same way as Nelson!).

Friday 13th November “Waldringfield at War” meal followed by slides and talk

Quiz Night

Due to the calling of a Special General Meeting on 3rd October, this has had to be postponed. The new date is Saturday 14th November. For those of you who want to do their homework, a small tip: the quizmaster is a Daily Telegraph reader. If you read that paper from cover to cover between now and the middle of November you may pick up one or two answers to the possible questions; on the other hand you may get more inspiration from page 3 of a certain publication – each to his (or her) own, as they say. Personally I am going to keep reading the Evening Star so I can learn how much Alderton WI have raised in a cake making competition – you never know what questions may come up!

Laying Up Supper

Saturday 5th December at Hotel Elizabeth Orwell, Felixstowe. Please remember to keep a date in your diaries for this fantastic evening – food, wine, prize giving, dancing, friends, reminiscences of the sailing season – what more could you ask for? Details and tickets will be available soon.

GOLF DAY FRIDAY 15TH May 2009

Once again I was persuaded to arrange a golf day for the sailors. This time with little success (the recession?) Only two entries had been received by the due date and as a consequence, I had to cancel the restaurant booking at the Golf Club.

In the event, fourteen competitors turned up to just play the golf and to relax with a few drinks after the game. Everyone seemed to enjoy their efforts.

The results were :

Gents 1st David White
2nd Mark Wincer

Nearest the pin - Tony Geary
Longest drive – Mike Nunn
Ladies 1st Sue Powell

2nd Jane Thompson
Nearest the pin – no takers
Longest drive – Sue Powell
The Waldringfield Sailing Club trophy was won by a new club member, Michael Deakin
After fourteen years of running this event, I really feel that some new organizing blood is required. *Nigel Pusey.*

Editor's Note: *Please can someone with a suitable handicap volunteer to take this on for next year – Nigel has done a great job, but would prefer to be in the long grass now!*

Waldringfield SC retains Lark National Championship title!

55 Larks travelled to Brixham for an awesome (but windy) week of sailing at the end of July. Waldringfield provided 17 of these boats and demonstrated what an excellent club we are by taking a very active role in the week. On the water we achieved five out of the top six places, off the water, our younger members got to wear the Duckhams dress (the prize for gross under achievement) on three out of the six nights.

Alan Krailing and Edd McArdle won the week but certainly didn't have it all their own way, Steve Hall and Simon Haighton from P & B were sailing the brand new Ovington Lark. They showed considerable speed and generated a lot of interest in the new boat which has to be a good thing for the class. Other race winners were Chris Fish & Beth Condie (x2) Stephen & Chris Videlo and Ian Videlo (1979 Lark National Champion) making a guest appearance crewing for Stuart Hydon.

The racing was close throughout the fleet, Chris and Beth had 3rd place fairly secure but 4th 5th and 6th were decided on the last race between Emma Harris & Becky Priest, Stephen & Chris Videlo and Harry Pynn & Helen Krailing who finished in that order.

Class Captain Matt Stearn and Antonia Steer fished 17th in their first Lark Nationals and showing considerable speed in a couple of the races was Matt White and Harri Steer and Simon and Sara Cox who finished 13th and 14th respectively.

Claiming average points when doing your duty

If you are doing a club duty such as OOD, safety boat or galley, you can claim for average points for any race that you miss. The procedure is that you need to claim for average points on the signing on sheet. The OOD informs the results secretary by including any average points claims on the results sheet. The scoring code "OOD" is used on the published results to indicate that average points were claimed for a duty. – *Harry Pynn Vice Club Captain*

Nothing to declare?

Listen up punks, I shall say this only once. Our volunteers in the crowsnest are having a hard time reading the declaration sheets. Just because the Waldringfield doctors brigade can get away with illegible scrawl in their professional lives doesn't mean it is acceptable at the club. Remember that we have a different OOD every week so even if you got away with

it once, you may not get away with it when the OOD is not familiar with the boats in your class. If you are incapable of neat writing I suggest that you ask someone else to be your scribe.

The bottom line is that if the OOD cannot read your writing, you will not get a result. You have been warned!

Harry Pynn

Dear Sailors,

We are now entering our peak racing period and it's great to see large turnouts at WSC. It is also approaching the busiest time of year for other traffic on the river. We get a lot of other yachts and motorboats passing through our fleets while we are out racing. Many of these other river users may not have enjoyed dinghy racing and so may not understand or appreciate why we are so keen to get from A to B via the shortest route. So please be considerate of the other boats using the river. It is very tempting to hurl abuse when somebody sails through our start sequence in their 50 footer but they quite possibly don't have a clue what we're doing, so please, be nice!

Bob Whitehouse – Club Captain

Results

2nd Spring Series

Cadets: 1st Maddy & Ed Harris, 2nd Charlotte Hayward/Wil-
low Bland, 3rd Emily Bland/Hattie Collingridge.
Larks: 1st Ian & Alyson Videlo, 2nd Geoff & Kim Mayhew,
3rd Matt Stearn/Antonia Steer
Laser: 1st Richard Woolf, 2nd Chris Woodard, 3rd Tom Chip-
pendale
Wayfarer: 1st Roger Challis/Mark Johnson, 2nd Neil Fletcher/
Chas Edwards, 3rd Mike & Rani Pert
Dragonfly: 1st Colin Jacobs/Fiona Baker, 2nd Derek Jacobs/Si-
mon, 3rd Richard Smithson/Mick
Squibs: 1st Jonathan & Archie Penn, 2nd Richard Cooke/Jim
Davis 3rd David & Lyn Pearce

1st Wednesday Series

Fast Handicap: 1st Alan Krailing/Edd McArdle, 2nd Harry
Pynn/Helen Krailing, 3rd Ian & Alyson Videlo.
Slow Handicap: 1st Luke Farthing/Simon Rudland, 2nd Neil &
Annie Cawthorn, 3rd Richard Smithson/ Roger
Lasers: 1st Richard Woolf, 2nd Mark Hodge, 3rd Patrick
Cooney
Squibs: 1st Jonathan Penn/Simon Harrington, 2nd Richard
Cooke/Jim Davis, 3rd William Sudell/Jo McArdle

1st Summer Series

Cadet: 1st Henry Mills & Olly Jones, 2nd Emma & Lulu Knott,
3rd Maddie & Ed Harris
Lark: 1st Harry Pynn & Helen Krailing, 2nd Ian & Aklyson
Videlo, 3rd Chris Fish & Beth Condie
Laser: 1st Richard Woolf, 2nd Mark Hodge, 3rd Charlie Dear-
love.
Wayfarer: 1 Neil Collingridge & Anne Spalding, 2nd Guy
Hacon & Keith Vincett, 3rd John Haile & Paul Johnson
Dragonfly: 1st Richard Smithson & Mike King, 2nd Colin
Jacobs & Fiona Baker, 3rd Derek Jacobs & Simon Keating
Squib 1st Jonathan & Archie Penn, 2nd David & Lyn Pearce,
3rd Will Sudell & Jo McArdle
OK 1st Dan Ager

2nd Summer Series

Cadets: 1st Emma & Lulu Knott, 2nd Charlie Linsell & Alex
Eaton, 3rd Annie Knott & Sammy Jones
Larks: 1st Chris Fish & Beth Condie, 2nd Stephen & Chris
Videlo, 3rd Ian & Alyson Videlo
Laser: 1st Tom Chippendale, 2nd Tim Archer, 3rd Sarah
Northey
Wayfarer: 1st Colin & Martin Johnson, 2nd Neil Collingridge &
Anne Spalding, 3rd Guy Hacon & Keith Vincett
Dragonfly: 1st Colin Jacobs, & Fiona Baker, 2nd James & Mary
Beth Skellorn, 3rd Carolyn Wheeler Rowe & Richard Nichols
Squibs: 1st William Sudell & Jo McArdle, 2nd Barry Searle &
Peter Dickinson, 3rd Richard Cooke

Trophy Races.

Victory Plate: 1st Chris Fish/Beth Condie, (Lark) 2nd Harry
Pynn/Helen Krailing, (Lark) 3rd Alan Krailing/Edd McArdle
(Lark)
Jubilee Cup for Keelboats: – William Sudell & Jo McArdle
Round the Island Race 1st Neil Collingridge & Anne Spalding
(Wayfarer) 2nd Mike & Rani Pert, (Wayfarer) 3rd Steven &
Christopher Videlo, (Lark)
Turner Trophy (1st Dragonfly in Round the Island Race) – John
& James Palmer,
Bryett Trophy (2nd Dragonfly in Round the Island Race)
– Fiona Baker & Colin Jacobs
Metcalf Cup (1st Keelboat in Round the Island Race) – Will
Sudell & Jo McArdle (Squib)

2009 Waldringfield Regatta

Birketts Fast Handicap 1st Will Gardner (Flying 15), 2nd 420
James Hayward/Tim Carter, 3rd Robert Deaves
Birketts Slow Handicap 1st John Palmer/Lee Belcham (Drag-
onfly) 2nd James & Mary Beth Skellorn (Dragonfly) 3rd Jona-
thon Penn/Patrick Wilton (Squib)
Cadet: 1st Emma & Lucy Knott, 2nd Annie Knott/Robert Keen,
3rd Charlotte Hayward/Willow Bland
Wayfarer: 1st Roger Challis/Mark Johnston. 2nd Mike & Rani
Pert, 3rd Gordon Harris/Simon Howlett
Squib: 1st Jo McArdle/Will Sudell
Dragonfly: 1st John & Cathy Fish, 2nd James & Mary Beth
Skellorn, 3rd John Palmer/various
Laser: 1st Charlie Dearlove, 2nd Tom Chippendale, 3rd Tim
Archer
Fast Handicap: 1st Will Gardner/? (Flying 15) 2nd Geoff &
Kim Mayhew (Lark) 3rd James Hayward/Tim Carter (420)
Slow Handicap: 1st Chris Mason/Natalie or Corin D'Enno
(Mirror), 2nd Andrew Nunn/Daisy or Lucie Nunn (Mirror) 3rd
Patrick Cooney/Angus Stone (Mirror)
Shrimper: 1st Robin & Gillian Whittle, 2nd Robin Gibbons/
Robin 3rd Paul Dubbin/?

Summer Trophies (used to be the WSC Trophy Day at the end of Deben Week)

WSC Lark Trophy - 1st Harry Pynn & Faye Gosling
Wayfarer Jubilee Plate - 1st Neil & Daisy Collingridge
WSC Laser Challenge Trophy - 1st Richard Woolf
Handicap Winn Trophy - 1st Alice Dearlove
Dragonfly W & HSC Challenge Cup Class - 1st Derek Jacobs
Ladies Race – Suzanne Adams (Laser)
Juniors Race – Ian Davidson/Aaron Woolf (Lark)
Novices Race – Angus Wheeler-Rowe (Dragonfly)

Waldringfield Cadet Open: 1st Will Kennedy/Rhos Hawes (Fishers Green/South Cerney) 2nd John & Alex Page (Fishers Green) 3rd Henry Mill/Oliver Jones (Waldringfield)

Personal Handicap Trophies

The Fraser Cup for Squib Class. Peter & Jennifer Greatrex
Hardy Annual Bowl for Dragonfly Class. Derek Jacobs/Simon
Keating,
The Small Sudell Cup for the 2nd Dragonfly Caroline & Angus
Wheeler Rowe
Lark Class Trophy Fiona Gray & Aaron Woolf,
Heather Cutting Tankard for Laser Class 1st Kieran Barnes
Howard Trophy for OK Class 1st Dan Ager
Wayfarer Picture: Guy Hacon/ Keith Vincett,
Cadets – Daisy & Hattie Collingridge

Aldeburgh Week Results

Wayfarers: 1st Roger Challis/Mark Johnson (WSC) 2nd Colin
& Martin Johnson (WSC) 3rd John Haille & John Parish (WSC)
4th Matthew & Margaret Lake (WSC)
Laser: Bob Whitehouse (WSC) was 2nd Laser
Dragon: 1st Alan Krailing (WSC) helming Patrick Gifford's
Dragon with help during the week from Harry Pynn, Mark John-
son, Mike Pert, & Simon & Sarah Cox and of course Patrick
Gifford

corrections to the last Newsletter:

Wayfarer Easterns: the 3rd Wayfarer should have read 3rd
Colin & Martin Johnson(WSC)

Dutch Classic Yacht Regatta

James Palmer and Kestrel have recently attended the Dutch Classic Yacht Regatta at Hellevoetsluis on the Haringvliet. The event started for 8 UK boats and 12 Dutch / Belgian with a race from Harwich to the Haringvliet, delayed this year by 48 hours due to the weather. There was still quite a lot of wind resulting in Kestrel's crossing being made largely at snorkel depth! After a day drying out we moved on to Hellevoetsluis where we joined 200 other classic yachts of various ages and all beautifully maintained.

Six races were sailed over 4 days. Racing here is always interesting, the Dutch shout "Port" rather than "Starboard" which takes some getting used to. One race was postponed a minute from the start when the start boat dragged its anchor. Unfortunately they had lost the AP flag so resorted to shouting "delay" which those boats on the far end of the line (including us) missed. Despite this, lighter winds on days one and four gave Kestrel a couple of wins and with 2 seconds on day two we were able to win the Gaff Class points.

After the main event we joined some Dutch fellow Old Gaffers Association members on a cruise south visiting some of the more out of the way places they tend to keep to themselves. The crossing back was largely in a flat calm and involved 12 hours motoring but at least we kept dry!

Suffolk Schools Sailing Regatta 2009

Intrepid young sailors from all over Suffolk made their annual trip to Oulton Broad on the 1st of July to participate in the Suffolk School Championships. While the rest of the country basked in glorious sunshine the sailors were met with a cold and grey sea mist, which of course meant light, variable and difficult wind conditions. After three races, and a lot of fun, it was clear that WSC sailors were to dominate, they were however representing their various schools.

The Fast Handicap was won by Tim and Charlie Linsell on their first outing in their extra big Cadet (namely their parent's Lark), although they were pushed all the way by Ian Davidson in his Laser, both teams representing Farlingaye. The Slow Handicap was won by Maddie and Ed Harris, with three bullets in their normal sized Cadet, representing Kesgrave. Other WSC sailors included; Jake Cutting – Laser2, Harry Simper – Laser and in Cadets; Charlotte Hayward & Angus Stone, Henry Stone & Will Everitt, Faye Gosling, Alice Dearlove. There was of course also a Topper fleet but we will not mention that! The overall results were then collated and Faye's score proved to be decisive in giving Farlingaye the title of Suffolk School's Champions for the sixth year running!

50 Year old Cadet Squadron organise another great Cadet Week

Once again Cadet Week at Waldringfield proved to be a great success for everyone. The racing was extremely good as we easily got racing in on all days and the competition in both the Cadet and Laser fleets was very exciting throughout the week.

Alongside the racing were the socials every evening. On the first night were the beach games which ended up with everyone including Geoff Mayhew getting soaked by all the small children. The next evening event was the kite building and raft making, which was run by Woolfy. This proved a huge success with the sailors running around with their kites all week and various competitions between rafts to cross the river quickest which was won by Henry Stone and his team.

After the first day of racing it became clear that it would take something special to stop Will Kennedy and Jake Payne from winning Cadet Week and the Laser title would be fought between James Hayward, Tim Carter and Ian Davidson. As the week went on Will and Jake built up a considerable lead despite close

competition from Max/Francesca Ingall and Henry Mills/Robert Keen. Everything seemed to be going Will's way as when Max and Henry did beat him they were protested for going the wrong way round a buoy. Will ended up winning every race apart from race 9 and 11 where Henry and Annie Knott managed to beat him to the finish. The final positions were:

Cadets Gold Fleet

1st Will Kennedy and Jake Payne (Fishers Green), 2nd Henry Mills and Robert Keen (WSC), 3rd Max & Francesca Ingall (Fishers Green), 4th Emma & Lulu Knott (WSC), 5th Maddie & Ed Harris (WSC)

Cadet Silver Fleet

1st Sarah O'Brian (Fishers Green) 2nd Joseph & Aaron Chadwick (Fishers Green) 3rd Josie Gummer & Oliver Payne (Fishers Green) 4th Sebastian & Molly Marshall (WSC)

Lasers:

1st Tim Carter (WSC), 2nd James Hayward (WSC), 3rd Ian Davidson (WSC)

Ex Cadets Race – Harry Pynn

Old Gaffers Race – Ian Videlo & Chris Videlo

Crews Race – Francesca Ingall (Fishers Green)

Laser Open

The Laser Open is on Sunday 6th September and Notice of Race is on the noticeboard and (hopefully) will be on the website.

The ever popular Fun Day, comprising a series of short races with possibly some relay or team racing in the afternoon, is on Monday, August 31st (Bank Holiday).

We are hoping for an excellent turn out for both events including visitors at the Open.

Comet Nationals

Waldringfield Sailing Club hosted the 2009 Comet National Championships on July 11th/12th. This was the first National Championship that the Club has hosted at Waldringfield. The 24 competitors arrived to find a flat calm, but after an hour postponement a light breeze allowed the first race to get underway with Race Officer Richard Woolf setting a triangular course. As the wind dropped the course was shortened and places changed throughout the fleet as the competitors struggled to beat against the tide to the finish. The breeze increased and 2 good races were held on a 'P' shaped course.

On Sunday the fleet headed downstream to one of the wider stretches of the river. A freshening wind was blowing and with a course including cross-river beats and interesting tactical choices the next two races provided the best sailing of the weekend. The final race was a course around the island, passing the moorings in front of the clubhouse. Ian Davidson was first to the windward mark and sailed through the fickle winds among the moorings before two yachts passed, creating a wash that caused much difficulty for the following boats.

After the six races Eddie Pope had won the Nationals and Ian Davidson of WSC was Xtra Champion. Well done to all who took part, or helped with the event on and off the water.

Tideways Regatta

16 Tideways gathered at WSC to compete for the Tideway Challenge Cup (Crewed) and for the Rosebowl (Single Handed) which was held on the 18th and 19th July. Two races were held on Saturday, with what were initially quite blustery conditions.

That evening they enjoyed a dinner at the Club, and held their AGM the following morning, followed by a further race.

They seemed to enjoy their time at Waldringfield, and commented - "Many thanks to the Waldringfield Sailing Club, and in particular to Secretary Margaret Lake and Race Officer Mike Oldroyd, for their kind assistance and attention freely given all weekend."

I think we would all concur with this sentiment for the whole season, and several seasons before that, and hopefully many seasons to come!



Dragonfly 60th Anniversary and Shrimper Week 2009

Waldringfield Sailing Club joined with its oldest racing class the Dragonfly, to combine the Regatta with the Class's 60th anniversary celebrations. The fleet numbered 12 boats both on the moorings and racing, making it the biggest turnout for some 20 years.

During the weekend, the fleet lined the shore in front of the clubhouse and bedecked in nautical bunting, they looked suitably festive for the anniversary photograph. The regatta shore events also included a Dragonfly fancy dress competition. The effort put into the costumes was astounding and so good was the competition, that it was very difficult for the judges to pick a winner! In particular the class captain noted that one young contestant had a costume sail that appeared to be in better condition than the one he currently uses!

Following the regatta the Class continued their 60th celebrations by joining with the Shrimpers for their annual week of larking about on the river. On Monday the fleet, fully decorated in bunting, cruised up to DYC where they were greeted with morning tea and an excellent 60th birthday cake. This was followed by a passage race to the Ferry which turned out to be less than just a procession, with several groups of boats jockeying for position throughout the race.

Unfortunately, weather at the Ferry wasn't as kind to the class as it had been in previous years and prevented the fleet from going to sea. However the high winds didn't put off some of the more hardy souls from racing in what were fairly testing conditions and an opportunity to race up to the green can at the mouth of the river proved to be quite challenging.

The week also included some of the old favourites, such as the treasure hunt where many of the clues were only accessible by water at high tide. This provided a great opportunity to paddle up creeks and inlets that are rarely visited. In order to win valuable points, some felt it was better to wade waist deep in water under Wilford Bridge, while others furtively crept around Kingsfleet sluice under cover of dusk.

As has become customary a BBQ was held at Methergate. After consuming a hearty meal and possibly some dutch courage Richard Smithson cheerfully demonstrated the folly of trying to sail a Dragonfly beyond the "lettuce blowing off the plate test"! A large group of bystanders wavered between joy and concern as they watched the death defying demonstration of sailing a Dragonfly in what can only be described as freak conditions, before retiring to somewhat larger and safer craft. Wednesday brought fairly gusty conditions again, so the Dragonflies joined the Shrimpers for a sail to the Rocks and enjoyed tea on the beach with the most fantastic cakes specially shipped in from Cambridge's finest cake shop. The week was wrapped up on Friday with a breakfast of Skippers Kippers, served with rum and an afternoon of Adnams trophy racing.

All agreed that the olde girls had been given a marvellous 60th birthday and the class would like to extend a warm thanks to all those who helped make the week so enjoyable.

REGATTA

This year's Regatta was held in parallel with the Dragonflies 60th anniversary, where the determination and skill for keeping these beautiful boats alive and on the water was proved by the fact that 12 boats appeared on the start lines with no casualties.

The event was held on the last weekend in July, and in the main had excellent weather even though it was a bit threatening at times. The weekend kicked off with the Birketts Trophy and the first race of five through out the weekend. The evening turned out to be overcast but was well supported, Mike and Jenny provided an excellent supper with music from the band "Bad Scooter" where revellers of all ages were seen dancing inside and out till late in the evening.

Saturday saw the start of beach events hosted by Patrick Cooney & his family - sandcastles, running, swimming and rowing all on a bit of a muddy beach but all enjoyed it. The highlight was the Fancy Dress where again the audience were not disappointed - what a display of art and colour to the themes of Bathtime, Angels & Devils and Dragonflies. Have a look on the website to get a feeling of how popular this was with parents and children alike. Races 2 & 3 were held in the afternoon together with a good breeze and fine weather. Followed by the Brandeston Pickle Jazz Band in the evening, and another excellent meal.

Sunday started slowly with a leisurely crabbing competition followed by the remainder of the races. Unfortunately it turned out to be too windy for the veterans of the weekend but they showed off their planking by dressing over all and parading on the foreshore in front of the club.

Congratulations to all the winners of the weekend and happy birthday Dragonfly's.

I should say there was a very proud moment when a particular Dragonfly sailor won the Dragonfly Shield. This shield was presented to the club by Ken Fish & George Goddard. Now, some 58 years on, 3 of which were spent rebuilding his Dragonfly,

John and Cathy Fish were presented with it for winning the Dragonfly Regatta Series. On behalf of the Club a big thank you to all the people on and off the water who helped make the weekend a success, and to our sponsors of the weekend for their financial support in these difficult times.

The weekend finished with the Yachtsman's Service where we saw 20 odd boats parade in convoy from Ramsholt, and to anchor outside the Club in their unusual seaman-like proficiency (No pushing and shoving here). On board the Commodore's yacht "Mars" was the Club Chaplain Rev. John Waller accompanied by the Rev Sam Leader. This year's guest speaker was the Bishop of St Edmundsbury Nigel Stock and his wife. Thanks again to the Woodbridge Excelsior Band for providing the rhythm and timing to all the enthusiastic hymn singing ...

Club Clothing:

We now have a supply of the following clothing in limited colours and sizes in stock but they can be ordered as follows:-

- Polo Shirts with embroidered Club Burgee and either WSC in yellow letters or signal flags supplied in Black, Bottle Green, Burgundy, Deep Navy, Emerald, Heather Grey, Navy Blue, New Purple, Red, Royal Blue, Sky, & White in sizes S (35"-37"), M (38" - 40"), L (41" - 43"), XL (44" - 46") & XXL (47" - 49") Price £14.00

- Sweatshirts with embroidered Club Burgee and either WSC in yellow letters or signal flags supplied in Black, Bottle Green, Burgundy, Deep Navy, Emerald, Heather Grey, Kelly Green, Navy Blue, New Purple, Red, Royal Blue, Sky, & White in sizes S (35"-37"), M (38" - 40"), L (41" - 43"), XL (44" - 46") & XXL (47" - 49") Price £16.00

- WSC Burgees 12" long £14.50 18" long £16.50

- Club Ties single motif £5.00 multi motif £7.00

- Cap Badges £2.00

Please speak to Margaret Lake - 01394 283347, mgtlake@aol.com or in person down at the Club