



## COUNCIL

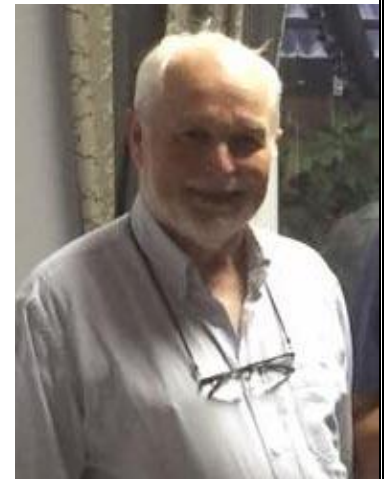
**Commodore's Log – December 2017****President Carol Haines**

Carol and John Haines are moving home to the Costa del South so as to be closer to family and no doubt enjoy slightly warmer sailing than in Bury or Bacup. I must therefore reluctantly tell you that Carol Haines will be resigning from her position as Club President at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> December.



Carol has been a member at Elton since she was a teenager when her father Bert (also a past Elton President) introduced her to sailing along with sister Gill and brother Mike. By the age of 14 she was racing a Graduate and it wasn't long before she took over the helm and took charge. Carol went to Leicester University where she met her husband John and they became an inseparable and a formidable sailing team gracing Elton Reservoir most weekends in their Scorpion. During that era, Elton had some exceptional Scorpion sailors; Brian and Alan Curran, Keith Atkinson, Dave Woodhead, Jerry Hannabus, Derek Wright, Bill Kilner, Harry Caine to name just some. This illustrious crowd won several Scorpion National Championships and notably Carol was the first lady helm to win a Championship Race back in 1971, 46 years ago. Some of the old-timers at Elton can tell a few amusing tales such as Carol and John coming third one year with three in the boat, Carol being pregnant at the time.

Carol had a career as a school teacher, head teacher I think, and to newcomers she may sometimes seem a little intimidating but she is massively helpful, free with her advice and always willing to guide whenever she can. To relate a personal experience; I hadn't been sailing my Laser long and was quite inexperienced when one very windy Sunday I had a port – starboard encounter with, of all people, Carol (Carol was of course the starboard boat). In my inexperience I tried to bear away and pass behind just as a gust hit. I was massively overpowered and out of control, my Laser screwed up to windward hitting Carol and John's Scorpion amidships. When I say hit, I mean straight through the hull and almost impaling John. The last words from Carol are engraved into my memory; "John, I think we're sinking". As you might imagine I was mortified (I'd just sunk the great Carol Haines) and when we finally made it ashore I went to offer Carol and John my apologies. I expected a good dressing down from Carol but no, she's calmly said, "it happens, thought we might get a new boat anyway".



Carol and John have been sailing Scorpions for more than 50 years so there's very little if anything that they don't know about the class or sailing for that matter. Carol is presently President of the National Scorpion Association and, as many of us know to our cost, she's also an international sailing judge.

Her 'Rules Evenings' at Elton have become stuff of legends; eagerly awaited and enthusiastically attended. Maybe the tradition can be continued? Her performances at Club shows are still remembered by many and both Carol and John have both had spells as Commodore of Elton SC. Individually and together they have made a massive contribution to Club life and sailing generally.

On behalf of both past and present members of Elton I would like to thank Carol and John for their outstanding contribution to Club life and the development of sailing at Elton and wish them the very best of health and happiness as a new chapter in their lives unfolds.

### **160<sup>th</sup> AGM**

It's that time of year again when the present Club administration prepares to stand down and members can vote to elect new Officers to the Club's Council and Committees. This formally takes place at the Annual General Meeting which this year will be at the Club this coming Sunday 10th Dec 2017 starting at 4.00pm.

Why not give up a little of your time to help manage the Club, make your opinions heard and enable us to plan for the future? Elton is a Club rich with members who have a diverse range of skills, knowledge and experience acquired in many walks of life, so I hope you will all consider offering your skills to the Club by putting your name down for a post on Council or one of our Committees. The more members we get helping the better our club can become. There is also an opportunity to "job share" so if two want to share duties associated with a particular post then please sign up together.

I'd like to particularly invite all you new members to have go and put your names down and help generate some great fresh ideas.

Please do turn up! If we don't get sufficient numbers then the AGM cannot go ahead. As a small inducement we are offering free mince pies ... but get there early before they all go!

### **Get a Club Key**

The Club's new lock system makes it possible for members access the changing rooms, showers and toilet facilities out-of-hours. This does not include the main clubroom or other areas of the Club. If you would like to take advantage of this facility then keys can be ordered from the bar in exchange for a returnable deposit of £15.

Peter Finney  
[peterjfinney@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:peterjfinney@hotmail.co.uk)

### Phoenix from the drain – how Elton SC's OnBoarders rose again

#### Bury club have rebuilt their juniors after reservoir drain

Elton SC's OnBoarders were coming on nicely when, in 2015, the dam on the Bury reservoir where they sail underwent a second lot of essential repairs in six years, resulting in a total loss of water. The 2016 season was put on an enforced hold.

But with the water restored this year, Elton had to find a way to get their previous juniors back OnBoard while encouraging new groups to get involved. Six months on and the club are firmly back on track with up to 16 youngsters sailing every week, plus almost 40 adults – mainly the juniors' parents - joining as members too.

So how did they do it? We caught up with Mike Seger, Junior Training Co-ordinator, to find out.

#### Rewind 12 months and what were you looking at?

We had around a dozen juniors recruited through our OnBoard activities with local primary schools that had a solid three or four years under their belts. Everything was set up for them to sail again last year but the dam works weren't completed until late summer so everything went on hold. We're a pretty social club and were fortunate that, even though they had a year out, most of them stayed with us.





### What challenges did you face?

The sheer number of people we recruited was a challenge. It was fantastic to have so much interest, but at the first session we had 16 kids spread out over four Oppies! We've got 18 club boats and they were all used every week. Also some instructors prefer teaching adults, which meant calling on the same people all the time to support the kids. In one way this was good as the juniors and instructors built up a good rapport. But you're always asking the same people to volunteer to help.



### What are your plans for introducing a pathway to keep the new ones sailing?

The emphasis of the OnBoard sessions was on fun. I called it Junior Taming rather than Junior Training! Developing sailing skills almost sneaked up on them just by being on the water and learning how to handle a boat. But we're pushing for a pathway now. It's likely we will have to introduce another 'progression' session during the week and will need to expand our instructor base to deliver this to lighten the load on our volunteers. We're meeting with our RYA Regional Development Officer, Adam McGovern, for ideas.

### **What was the action plan to resurrect your juniors in 2017?**

We had a programme in place for 2016 that never got used, so we picked that up for our existing sailors and it kicked off again in March. We also invited a Cub group for a Monday evening taster; 26 Cubs, including a couple of our OnBoarders, leaders and parents went out on the water. But we wanted to engage with more schools and community groups so took a slightly different approach to what we've done before.

### **Which was?**

We focused on recruiting through Open Days. We approached schools and different community groups and invited them to an Open Day specifically for OnBoard the week before our Push The Boat Out Open Day. There was a good response and from that we got four sailors. But the biggest success came from our Push The Boat Out day itself; this had a fantastic response as we had so many families for a change.

### **How did you convert that interest into regular attendance then?**

We offered four weeks of extended tasters for adults and kids for £20. This wasn't formal syllabus instruction, but enough to keep them interested. Because the adults and children came from families we got the course sign up - 39 adults did Level 1 in June and July and 16 kids signed up for the OnBoard sessions. These ran every Saturday from 10.30am-4pm, except for a three-week break in August, from May to October 14. We've also seen quite an increase in parents becoming active participants either as expert shore crew or taking one of our Sport England grant-funded Hartley 12s out at the same time as their kids are sailing.

### **Where does racing fit in?**

For our progressing OnBoarders, we held a junior fun race series on Friday evenings throughout the summer. We also successfully encouraged Sailing Committee to introduce a separate junior race series on a Sunday, which has been very well supported. This started as one separate junior start on Sundays in June, then the juniors took it on themselves to lobby for starts for all three races. As their confidence built, they wanted to start with the adults and it went from there.

### **How will you keep all the juniors engaged over the winter?**

Our RYA Coach, Adam Savage, will be running a winter race-training programme for a number of selected sailors. But we want to keep the new ones involved too so are looking at doing a couple of days a month on the water or shore-based depending on the weather and what kit they have. One downside of making club boats available for the first year of membership is people don't buy their own so they don't make the commitment to investing in year-round kit. But that's not insurmountable.

## SAILING

### Sum up this year at Elton SC.

The whole junior scene has really taken hold. At the end of the season we had a parents and juniors race, which saw 19 boats on the water with only three helmed by adults. There were grandparents too! It really went down a treat and for most of the families it was their first chance to sail together. Encouraging these sailors to now look out for their own boats is important as we will need to free up the club boats to use for new people coming in. And we really do want to repeat this year's success. We've laid down a strong foundation to build from again.

Mike Seger

### **Duty Man Rosta November 2017 / January 2018 and February 2018.**

The final Safety Boat Rosta for this Season's sailing is listed below.

Please can members who have not yet confirmed they can do a particular duty, log on to duty man via the "link" in their 20 day reminder e mail and confirm.

### **Duty Man Rosta for December 2017 / January 2018 / February 2018.**

Duty Date	Duty Time	Duty Type	Event	Confirmed	First Name	Last Name
3/12/2017	12:00	OD	Club Racing	Yes	J.M.	Seger
3/12/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Gary	Cleary
3/12/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	David S.	Smith
3/12/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Rochelle	Broxap
3/12/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	yes	Brian	Taylor
10/12/2017	12:00	OD	Club Racing	Yes	Ray	Cumley
10/12/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Stewart	Potter
10/12/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Ian	Hunter
10/12/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Tom	Tyrie
10/12/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Brian	Taylor
17/12/2017	12:00	OD	Club Racing	Yes	Rob	Gascoigne
17/12/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Andy	Moore
17/12/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Andrew	Holdsworth
17/12/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Volunteer	Required
17/12/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Lee	Strapp

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30/12/2017	13:00	OD	Cauldron	Yes	Paul	Savage
30/12/2017	13:00	Safety Crew	Cauldron	Yes	Paul	Mounfield
30/12/2017	13:00	Safety Crew	Cauldron	Yes	Steve	Niebel
30/12/2017	13:00	Safety Crew	Cauldron	Yes	John	OBrien
30/12/2017	13:00	Safety Crew	Cauldron	Yes	Peter	Larcombe
7/1/2018	12:00	OD	Club Racing	Yes	J.M.	Seger
7/1/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Ray	Cumley
7/1/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Chris	Lowery
7/1/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Andrew	Holdsworth
7/1/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Stacey	Walsh
14/01/2018	12:00	OD	Club Racing	Yes	Darren	Nield
14/01/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Paul	Savage
14/01/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	David	Scott
14/01/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Andy	Yates
14/01/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Peter	Larcombe
21/01/2018	12:00	Safety crew.	Club Racing	No	Alastair S.	Wilson
21/01/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Norman	Rigby
21/01/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Ian	Callaghan
21/01/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Andy	Hoarty
21/01/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Stewart	Potter
28/01/2018	12:00	OD	Club Racing	Yes	Paul	Savage
28/01/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Nigel	Greaves
28/01/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Christopher	McClung
28/01/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Brian	Taylor
28/01/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	David S.	Smith
4/2/2018	12:00	OD	Club Racing	Yes	Clive	Roberts
4/2/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Nigel	Greaves
4/2/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Elizabeth	Lord
4/2/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Peter	Carpenter
4/2/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Kim	Scott
11/2/2018	12:00	OD	Club Racing	Yes	Paul	Savage
11/2/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Christopher	McClung
11/2/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Andy	Hoarty
11/2/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Chris	Cox
11/2/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Volunteer	Required
18/02/2018	12:00	OD	Club Racing	Yes	Ray	Cumley
18/02/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Peter	Glynn
18/02/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Michael	Livesey
18/02/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Paul	Salmon
18/02/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Sharon	Cleary

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25/02/2018	12:00	OD	Club Racing	Yes	J.M.	Seger
25/02/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Christopher	McClung
25/02/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Tim	Craig
25/02/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Brian	Taylor
25/02/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	David S.	Smith

**Can names highlighted in yellow please confirm on Duty Man**

**Thank You to all members who have carried out duties this year. we cannot sail without you.**

**Any queries please contact Dave Smith or Steve Restall.**

## TRAINING

After an extremely busy and successful season recruiting and training our Junior Sailors it is now time to start planning for 2018.

I am therefore appealing for all our existing Senior Instructors, Dinghy Instructors and Assistant Instructors as well as our vast resource of enthusiastic Club Members to consider becoming more involved with our Junior Training Programme throughout 2018 and beyond.

One major area in need of attention lies in rigging and de-rigging all of the equipment. Extra help in this area will save time and help to give everyone more time on the water. It really is as simple as that!! Help with launching and recovery!! Safety Boat Drivers!!

An hour or two of your time in the morning or afternoon would be of considerable help.

If you feel you would like to help please me know.

For an insight into what is involved and to read more about how Elton and our Juniors progressed in 2017 follow the link below and read this RYA Newsletter article.

Regards

Mike Seger



## Dinner Dance



I think a great evening was had by all. A little short on numbers this year but never the less the atmosphere, food and service were all memorable. A big thank you is due to all those who contributed to the organisation and planning. A lot of work goes into these social events and they are a vital part of the Club.

All too much for our retired Ex Rear Commodore!

## Dates for your Diary:

AGM – Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December

Children's Christmas Party – Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December. Whatever your age this is a real spectacle.

Brass Band Night – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December. £5 per adult, children free, pay on the door. Includes mulled wine and a mince pie. This is always a great event so don't miss out

A complete calendar of Club events and results can be viewed on the website at <http://eltonsailingclub.co.uk>

## VHF Marine Radio

Our next SRC Radio course will be on Saturday 10th February 2018. Go to <http://www.eltonmarineservices.com/index.php/training-courses/rya-specialist-short-courses/vhf-short-range-course> or email [paul@eltonmarineservices.com](mailto:paul@eltonmarineservices.com) for more details.

## RYA First Aid

Our next First Aid course will be on Saturday 17th February 2018. Go to <http://www.eltonmarineservices.com/index.php/training-courses/rya-specialist-short-courses/first-aid-courses> or contact [adam@eltonmarineservices.com](mailto:adam@eltonmarineservices.com) if you wish to take part.

## 100 CLUB

The 100 Club draw is taking place on the last Sunday of each month and is a great chance to win

**1st prize £70 2nd prize £15 3rd prize £10**

The odds of winning are very good, roughly 10 times better than your chance of winning £100 on the Lottery. So why not give it a go? To make it easy you can pay by monthly direct debit via our WebCollect payment system and you can cancel anytime you wish. The 100 Club raises valuable funds for the Club so please give it a try.

## Our Newsletter

If anyone would like to include something for future newsletters I would be happy to oblige. Please send your contribution by email to [p.savage@savagehome.plus.com](mailto:p.savage@savagehome.plus.com) as a word document attachment with Newsletter in the subject heading of the email, preferably in 12 point Ariel font. If you are unable to send an attachment, just paste it in as part of your email. I would be grateful if you would ensure that your PC is set up with English (UK) and not (US), it plays havoc with my spellchecker! It would be helpful if this were received by the 27<sup>th</sup> of the month so that I have time to publish the newsletter on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month. I cannot guarantee that it will be in the newsletter if it is received after the 29<sup>th</sup>. Please ensure that you include your name in your report, I can't always decipher this from your email.