



COUNCIL

Commodore's Log – November 2017

If you've been down to the Club in the last few months you won't have been able to miss the intensive training and instruction that has been going on and the excitement and general buzz that it's created. What a contrast to last year when no water and no sailing made the Club feel more like a ghost town. A lot of hard work by many Club members has led to this transformation and I'm very pleased to say that any membership losses we sustained during 2016 have been more than made up for during 2017. The figures speak for themselves:

April to October 2016: 938 participants, April to October 2017: 3260 participants

(Figures compiled by our very own number cruncher David Smith.)

The effectiveness of our Junior training programme is demonstrated by how many youngsters now sail regularly. Many of these have been competing in the North West Junior Travellers Series which concluded on Sunday 28th October at Leigh and Lowton SC. Unfortunately high winds resulted in start line mayhem and the event was eventually called off. The Elton Team included: Alex, Niamh, George, Rob, Ben, Lauren, Megan, George, Kelly and last but by no means least Conner. All did outstandingly well but special mention goes to Ben Fuller, 1st Youth and Lauren Hoarty 7th in the Under 14 Fleet, a couple of outstanding Laser sailors in the making. Congratulations to all who took part and their support teams who gave encouragement throughout. We'll be looking to win that Team Trophy next year!

The Autumn Sunday Autumn Handicap Series reached its conclusion on the 29th October with some 20+ boats taking to the water. Despite mixed conditions during the series it has attracted good turnouts particularly towards the end of the series. Honours go to 1st Gareth Staples-Jones (Laser), 2nd Paul Salmon (Solo), 3rd Clive Roberts (Solo) and 4th Scott Worthington (Solo).

Amongst the Junior and Beginner Fleet were 1st Alex Lowry and Niamh Fuller (Hartley 12), 2nd Megan Greaves (Topper), 3rd Ava Harris-Scott (Optimist) and 4th Kelly Walsh (Topper). Amongst the fleet were also some fully grown people going from strength to strength and demonstrating that sailing is sport you can take up at any age. Congratulations to all.

Adam and Gareth propose running a number of winter and spring race coaching days with a view to setting up a junior race squad. The aim is to identify those juniors who have reached a level of competence where further coaching is needed to help them reach their potential. It is hoped that, if successful, it will form an important part of the Club's junior development plan for the future. Selection took place on the 29th October and those selected for this year have already been notified. Look out for Broadcasts and visit the website for dates and times.

Water Level

You've probably noticed the fall in water level recently. Canal & River Trust have advised that due to water pooling in a field close to Old Hall Farm the level has been reduced to 1m below top water level. This has been done to try and indentify the source of the problem. They have assured us that it will not fall any further and should be raised again in a few weeks time.

160th 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 on Sunday 10th Dec 2017 starting at 4.00pm.

Notice of the AGM and an agenda will soon be displayed on the Club's notice board. Also displayed will be proposal forms for posts on Council, Sailing Committee and Social Committee for the coming year.

Why not give up a little of your time to help manage the Club, make you 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. The horror stories you may have heard about Council meetings going on into the early hours is just malicious gossip, most Council members have been propping up the bar for a good few hours by that time.

I know current Officers will ensure a proper hand-over takes place to help any new candidates over the first few weeks in their new role.

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.

COUNCIL

Dates for your Diary:

Boat Shed Clean-up – Tuesday 7th November

Winter Storage – Saturday 11th November

Dinner Dance – Saturday 25th November

AGM – 10th Sunday December

Start of Sunday Frostbite Series – 5th November to Christmas

November Junior Training Days – Watch out for Broadcasts

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

Brass Band Night – Wednesday 13th 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>

Peter Finney
peterjfinney@hotmail.co.uk

SAILING

Help with Safety Cover – Duty Man

The table below shows the remaining Safety and OD duties for the 2017 / 2018 Season. As you can see some of the duties, highlighted in brown, especially in February 2018 are not filled.

We ask all members old and new to see if they can help by volunteering to do one of the remaining unfilled duties. These duties are great way to spend an afternoon watching other sailors on the water and learning how the winners win. Plus the air is very good for most winter ailments.

If by Mid-November duties are still free then Dave Smith and Steve Restall, taking into account duties already completed by individual members, will fill the rota and let members know.

To fill the rota just click on the duty man Button on the Duty Man page on the website and fill in a duty. If you have any problems with this please contact Dave or Steve.

The squares highlighted in red indicate that members have not yet confirmed they can do the duty on Duty man. Please can members confirm on duty man or by email to Dave or Steve on dsmith19@btinternet.com or steve.restall@gmail.com .

Dave Smith and Steve Restall.

SAILING

Duty Date	Duty Time	Duty Type	Event	Confirmed On Duty Man	First Name	Last Name
5/11/2017	12:00	OD	Club Racing	Yes	David	Gamble
5/11/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Volunteer	Required
5/11/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Peter	Larcombe
5/11/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Scouts	Scouts
5/11/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Wendy	Kent
12/11/2017	12:00	OD	Club Racing	Yes	Rob	Gascoigne
12/11/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Alan	Shaw
12/11/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Tom	Tyrie
12/11/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Nicholas	Read
12/11/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Stewart	Potter
19/11/2017	12:00	OD	Club Racing	Yes	Malcolm	Jones
19/11/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Andy	Moore
19/11/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Dougie	Reid
19/11/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Gary	Cleary
19/11/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Ian	Callaghan
26/11/2017	12:00	OD	Club Racing	Yes	Darren	Nield
26/11/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Scouts	Scouts
26/11/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	J.H.	Nield
26/11/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Chris	Cox
26/11/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Stanley	Beswick
3/12/2017	12:00	OD	Club Racing	Yes	J.M.	Seeger
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	No	Volunteer	Required
10/12/2017	12:00	OD	Club Racing	Yes	Ray	Cumley
10/12/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	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	No	Volunteer	Required
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	Dermot	Heakin
17/12/2017	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Lee	Strapp

SAILING

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	No	Peter	Larcombe
7/1/2018	12:00	OD	Club Racing	Yes	J.M.	Seeger
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	No	David	Scott
14/01/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Andy	Yates
14/01/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	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	No	Volunteer	Required
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	No	Volunteer	Required
28/01/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Volunteer	Required
28/01/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Volunteer	Required
4/2/2018	12:00	OD	Club Racing	No	Volunteer	Required
4/2/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	Yes	Nigel	Greaves
4/2/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Volunteer	Required
4/2/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Volunteer	Required
4/2/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Volunteer	Required
11/2/2018	12:00	OD	Club Racing	Yes	Paul	Savage
11/2/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Volunteer	Required
11/2/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Volunteer	Required
11/2/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Volunteer	Required
11/2/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Volunteer	Required

SAILING

18/02/2018	12:00	OD	Club Racing	Yes	Ray	Cumley
18/02/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Volunteer	Required
18/02/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Volunteer	Required
18/02/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Volunteer	Required
18/02/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Volunteer	Required
25/02/2018	12:00	OD	Club Racing	Yes	J.M.	Seger
25/02/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Volunteer	Required
25/02/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Volunteer	Required
25/02/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Volunteer	Required
25/02/2018	12:00	Safety Crew	Club Racing	No	Volunteer	Required
Not Confirmed on Duty Man.						

Winter Boat Storage - Saturday 11th November

The Club is again making the boat sheds available for boat storage over the winter months. This facility is primarily intended for wooden boats or those likely to deteriorate significantly if left exposed to the elements over the winter. Such boats will be given priority.

Places will be allocated strictly on a 'first come first served basis' and on a one boat per member basis unless space is available. Please pay as soon as possible if you want to be sure to get a place. Regrettably, cash or cheque payments at the bar will not be accepted due to the administrative difficulties that this has caused in the past. Please pay only using WebCollect. If you are unsure how to do this then please ask, there's plenty of help available to show you how this is done.

The cost is £40.00 and storage is limited to 1 boat per member. Payment accepted by bank transfer or direct debit only. There are only 16 spaces available therefore early booking is advised.

In the event that demand exceeds supply then refunds will be given to the late comers.

Boats will be loaded into the sheds provisionally commencing the weekend of Saturday 11th November at around 10:00 am and hopefully will be completed on the day.

Your reservation will be confirmed no later than Wednesday 8th November. It is essential that all those who have a confirmed reservation are present to supervise the loading of their boat. If you can't be there in person then get someone to deputize for you. If you or a representative is not present then your boat will not be stored and your place will be re-allocated.

It is expected that boats will be removed from storage before the start of the new sailing season. Exact date will be advised.

Let's hope we all winter well and can look forward to another great season of sailing at Elton.

Peter Finney peterjfinney@hotmail.co.uk



North West Senior Traveller Series

Report Dave Woodhead,
Photos Dave Scott

The North West Senior Traveller Series recently came to a conclusion on a blustery Tuesday at Elton Sailing Club. This mid-week series for the over 50s, now in its seventh season, has once more enjoyed another successful year with over 40 boats taking part in one or more of the seven events. The events are hosted at seven different clubs in the North West of England.

This year has been a windier than average series with several of the events providing challenging conditions. This meant one or two more spectators / volunteers for safety boat and one or two less sailors on some occasions, but nevertheless provided some great sailing for the fitter and more confident of these ancient mariners. Twenty one races were sailed with twelve to count and fifty one sailors took part from 13 different clubs.

This year saw several experienced sailors taking part in the whole series for the first time to challenge the established pecking order of recent years, and eventually providing a new winner. From the outset Mark Fearnley from South Windermere S C sailing a Blaze showed some blistering pace, especially in the breezier conditions, to take 3 out of the first 4 races sailed. From that moment on Mark was the one to catch. Andy Flitcroft sailing a Supernova from Bolton S C mounted a challenge and began posting race wins taking an overall win on the day at Hollingworth. On the less breezy days Dave Woodhead sailing a Solo from Elton S C also began to post race wins and took individual event wins at Southport and Bolton. After missing the first two events another Supernova sailed by Mark Platt from Bolton also posted some top results and again took an individual event win at Leigh and Lowton S C. These four sailors began to amass a large points lead on the chasing pack. At the last event Mark Fearnley had a clear points lead with only Andy Flitcroft in a position to catch him. On the breezy last day however Mark again showed the boat speed that allowed him to quickly leave the fleet and sail around on his own at the front. He took two more firsts and a second to clinch a well-deserved win in the series. He had individual event wins at Delph, Burwain and Elton.

SAILING

The ancient mariner prize for the first sailor over 70 went to Richard Hemingway from Etherow S C in a Solo and the first double hander was the Merlin of Jerry Cahill and Ian Beebe from Bolton S C. The top club prize this year went to Bolton S C. (calculated from the top 3 boats from each club)



Full results can be seen on the RYA north west web site under *competition and events* and this is also where in due course details of the 2018 series will be posted.

Top Ten positions this year -

1. Mark Fearnley, Blaze, South Windermere S C
2. Andy Flitcroft, Supernova, Bolton S C
3. Dave Woodhead, Solo , Elton S C
4. Mark Platt, Supernova, Bolton S C
5. Dave Turtle, Streaker, Shotwick Lake S C
6. Stephen Roberts, Laser radial, South Windermere S C
7. Dave Thomas, Solo, Gresford S C
8. Richard Hemingway, Solo, Etherow S C
9. Steve Norris, Phantom, Leigh and Lowton S C
10. Jerry Cahill and Ian Beebe, Merlin, Bolton S C

Club Burgees

I have been making enquiries about getting some new burgees made that are suitable for yachting and flying from the starboard spreader. I have now found a firm that will hand make top quality Elton SC burgees for a reasonable cost. As with all burgees, the size is measured from the luff to the point so a half yard burgee is 18 inches long, a 1 yard burgee is 36 inches long and so on.



Prices Are:

Half Yard burgee £35.00

Yard burgee £45.00

One and a Half Yard £70.00.

If you are interested in buying one for your yacht then please let me know and I will collate an order. A half yard will be about the correct size for flying off the spreaders unless you own a super yacht (and never invited me on it!)

Paul Savage

p.savage@savagehome.plus.com

SOCIAL

Dear All

“Christmas is a coming” (thankfully there are quite a few weeks still to go!) and we are planning our Children’s Christmas Party which this year is on

SATURDAY 9th DECEMBER

3pm – 6pm

For children aged 3 – 8 years

Further details and booking forms will be available in a couple of weeks, please watch out for the bulletin. Santa and his merry band of helpers would be grateful if the forms could be handed in at the Club as early as possible.

It is always a lovely, fun filled afternoon (the adults are often even more excited than the children) so we look forward to seeing you and your children, grandchildren and possibly great grandchildren for a magical start to Christmas.

If you have any queries, please contact Tina (Mann) at jandtina@tiscali.co.uk

Thanks and kind regards.

Social Committee

Bury Hospice – Strictly Best Forward 2017

I have put on my ballroom dancing shoes again to raise funds for Bury Hospice. I will be learning 3 dances, the foxtrot, quickstep and my speciality dance will be the cha cha cha – all within 12 lessons. On the 9th of December we will be dancing in front of 360 people, no pressure then!!

Unlike the last time when I danced at the Elton Sailing Club Strictly training sessions and performance at the Annual Dinner Dance at the Bolholt Hotel, my partner is not my husband Paul Salmon but another complete beginner the lively Tom Johnson.

Please could I ask you sponsor me for this fundraiser by donating via the Justgiving website:



<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/kate-salmon4>

(When donating please could you make sure you donate directly to my individual page)

The hospice supports patients and their families with life limiting illnesses, having lost several family members and friends, I know only too well how important it is to keep this local facility open.

Many thanks

Kate Salmon

e-Cigarettes and 'Vaping' within the Club

Following a number of comments received from members, the use of e-cigarettes and the practice of 'vaping' within Club buildings was recently discussed by Council.

Some Council members found the practice unpleasant to be around, especially where food was being served, whilst others found it perfectly acceptable. However, one major concern was that the sight of adults using nicotine vapourisers inside the Club sends out the wrong message and could have the effect of "renormalising" smoking and increasing the risk of young people starting to smoke. Many different points of view were expressed and although the use of these devices has not been shown to carry any health risks, the majority view of Council was that their use should not be allowed within Club buildings and that a ban was the most appropriate course of action.

This will be with immediate effect.

Peter Finney
peterjfinney@hotmail.co.uk

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.

WORKS

Boat Shed Clean-Up

Our Grand August clean-up of the Club for PTBO and On-Board Days was a great success and demonstrated the power of teamwork! This success has encouraged me to ask for your help once again! Oh no!

This time it's to clear and tidy the Boat Sheds prior to the start of winter boat storage. It would also be a perfect opportunity to find all those bits and pieces we didn't know we had or couldn't find and to be prepared for the new season to come.

With enough volunteers I don't think it will take too long, just a couple of hours of your time will go a long way and we'll all be able to enjoy a nice tidy and orderly boat shed come the start of the new season. The date for your diary is Tuesday 7th November starting around 10:00 am.

This will be combined with the activities of our normal Tuesday working parties. Lunch and refreshments will be provided and if you're very lucky you may get to sample Martin's legendary Tata Hash or Parsnip Soup!

Peter Finney
peterifinney@hotmail.co.uk

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 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 27th of the month so that I have time to publish the newsletter on the 1st of each month. I cannot guarantee that it will be in the newsletter if it is received after the 29th. Please ensure that you include your name in your report, I can't always decipher this from your email.