

ANTRIM BOAT CLUB

News Sheet

Summer 2004

Message from the Commodore

We have continued to have an exciting, enjoyable and eventful boating year with a summer series which proved that Lough Neagh keeps some of its hairiest winds for May and June. We were particularly grateful to the Lough Neagh Rescue team on Thursday 10 June when a fierce 35 knot squall found *Miss Piggy* and *Papagena* behind the water tower and both went aground near the notorious unmarked Campbell's rock. However, within half an hour the rescue teams had arrived and taken both boats and their crews to safety. We will never forget seeing *Miss Piggy* being escorted home with a RIB on each side since she had lost her rudder! The overall final results were: 1st *Jamie Jess*, 2nd *Quickflash*, 3rd *Papagena*, and on helmsman's handicap: 1st *Jamie Jess*, 2nd *Quickflash*, 3rd *Starkers*. Warmest congratulations to the winners and thanks to everyone who took part helping to make up a very competitive fleet of up to 10 boats every evening.

Six boats went to Kinnego for the Lurgan Regatta on 19 June, but again, such was the weather, that only 3 of our boats took part and the second race was abandoned. The following Saturday saw the Antrim Regatta with a magnificent race during a sunny break in the weather. Seven boats, including 2 visitors, took part and the results showed that *Quickflash* (1st) could beat a J24, *Jay*, in to 2nd place and the Achilles, *Silver Girl*, beat the rest and finished 3rd. A great day finished with a marvellous barbecue and dance.

Please note that this year we are hosting the finish and last night of the annual **River Bann & Lough Neagh Association Boat Rally** (and Cat's Cradle Race) on Saturday 31 July (see details below) and I hope as many as possible of you will take part. I look forward to seeing you all at the last party of the year!

Finally, you will note that we are having to tighten up on our compliance with our rules and these are available on our website: <http://www.antrimboatclub.co.uk/>.

Tony Brady, Commodore

RIVER BANN & LOUGH NEAGH ASSOCIATION BOAT RALLY 2004

All boats, members and friends will gather at the Battery Harbour (Ardboe) during the afternoon and evening of Friday 30 July. There will be a barbecue (approximate cost: £6), music, late bar and a raffle. The briefing will be at 11.00 am on Saturday, the start of the race at 12.00 noon being organised by Paddy Prunty and the finish by Antrim Boat Club. After watching the start, the rally Cruise Boats will follow Stephen McElroy in convoy to Antrim for the evening's entertainment. This will consist of the presentation of prizes followed by a barbecue, music, a raffle and a late bar. Tickets for the barbecue (£6) will be available at the Antrim Boat Club. Further information and entry forms are available from Mrs Jacqueline Hamill (Secretary) on 028 7034 2520 (home) or Mr Victor Hamill (Chairman) on mobile 079 7020 1372. The entry fee is £15 per boat. Boat numbers and a burgee pennant will be distributed on registration (6.00-8.00pm Friday or before 10.00 am Saturday).

EVENTS DIARY

River Bann & Lough Neagh Rally: 30 July-1 August, from the Battery to Antrim.

Viking Race/Pageant: 14 August (10.00 am), Antrim Borough Council, Lough Shore Park.

Sonata National Championships 2004: 23-27 August, Strangford Lough Yacht Club.

Strangford Race Week: July 2005.

SOCIAL CALENDAR

Phillip Smith is planning a series of events on Saturday nights approximately once per month, starting in September. He hopes to include bar quizzes, "A Night at the Races", a casino night, and a dinner dance. There will also be a special event for children to coincide with the Viking Pageant. Details will be circulated separately. If you have an e-mail address please send it to Phillip (see his below).

Messages from the Rear Commodore

- An upgrading of the electric wiring of all our buildings is underway in order to comply with the standards of Health & Safety legislation. We are currently doing this in the sailboard shed and hope to have it completed in time for the RB&LN Association Rally. If sailboard or storage fees have not been paid this equipment will have to be disposed of (Rule 14e). If I have not heard from you by **Monday 19 July** such sailboards will therefore be removed.
- We depend on voluntary support to run the bar. If everyone who used it did a turn behind it, it would amount to 4 duties per year. Please let me know when you can help. It is unfair to those doing far more than that not to do so.

Eric Monaghan, Rear Commodore

Messages from the Jetty Master

- Please note that failure to pay fees by December will result in loss of moorings and membership (Rules 14 (a) and (b)). Due to the increasing pressure for moorings, these rules will have to be strictly enforced.
- If your mooring isn't being used please contact me immediately so that I can arrange to offer it to some of those on our waiting list.
- It is an obligation of membership that your boat(s) have adequate 3rd party insurance (Rule 41). **Moorings will no longer be renewed until evidence of this is produced.**
- Most trailers have now been accommodated in a dedicated **trailer park**, and a further extension is planned. Trailers should not normally be left elsewhere. If you need a place, please contact me about it.

Alan Reilly, Jetty Master

RADIO OPERATOR'S COURSE

A very successful one day VHF radio course was held on Saturday 29 May last. The recognised RYA tutor was Paul Downey. All 7 candidates passed the examination and received the new Short Range Certificate (SRC), covering all aspects of Digital Selective Calling and the Global Marine Distress and Safety System (GMDSS). Members are reminded that it is illegal to operate a VHF radio without a qualification to do so. Holders of an old VHF licence are not obliged to take the new course but are strongly advised to do so. It is proposed to hold these courses on a regular basis and the next one will be in the autumn. Further details are available from Aubrey Kincaid.

We would also like to know how many members would be interested in training courses for other qualifications such as the Yachtmaster Certificate and the International Certificate of Competence. Please contact the sailing secretary (Alfie Mayrs) about these.

OVERHEARD IN THE BAR

Why *can't* you arrange a party on Channel 67?

OFFICERS and COMMITTEE (2003-2004)

		Tel	e-mail
Commodore:	Tony Brady	9058 8288	
Vice Commodore (and Jetty Master):	Alan Reilly	9445 3840 [079 6898 1238]	areil@aol.com
Rear Commodore (and Bar Convenor):	Eric Monaghan	9446 4794	monaghan_eric@hotmail.com
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Hon Treasurer:	Colin Gratten	9083 9740	
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	Aubrey Kincaid	2563 9332 [077 5318 8833]	
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