



ANTRIM BOAT CLUB

News Sheet (No. 9)

SPRING 2006

Message from the Commodore

The beginning of Spring is that time of year when we are in transition between the end of the Winter Series and the start of our summer programme. We were incredibly lucky with the weather for this year's Winter Series, all races having been sailed in the second half, with 10 boats making up the fleet. The season concluded with a superb Prize Night, when nobody was disappointed, and no-one left empty handed! However, the overall winner was the bookie's favourite, *Fait Accompli*, winner of both parts and whose owner, Noel Young, was also awarded the prize for the most improved sailor in the series. Congratulations to all of the crew and also to the runners up, *Quickflash*, and to our visitors from Strangford Lough Yacht Club, *Bach Lash*, who put in an exceptional performance coming 3rd even after missing 4 races.



We are planning a number of developments which will be announced soon. In the meantime I have to remind all members of the importance of security and to ask you all to please close the security gate every time you arrive or leave the premises.

I am delighted to report that the General Committee has co-opted Colin Thompson as our new Social Convenor. I thank him most warmly for taking on this onerous and often thankless rôle, and wish him every success in the future. I am sure you will want to support him in his efforts to foster the close relationships which are such an essential part of the character of our Club.

Finally, if anyone knows where the original club burgee can be found will they please let me know ASAP? Thank you.

Alan Reilly

EVENTS DIARY

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| ● Summer Series: | 8 races | Thursdays, 27 April – 15 June. |
| ● Irish Jet Ski Association event: | | Sunday 14 May. |
| ● Lurgan Regatta: | | Saturday 10 June. |
| ● Cats Cradle: | Lurgan to Antrim | Sunday 11 June. |
| ● ABC Regatta & Raft Race: | | Saturday 17 June. |
| ● Country Fair Event: | Shane's Castle | Sunday 18 June. |
| ● Prize Night: | Summer Series & ABC Regatta | Saturday 17 June. |
| ● RB&LN Association Rally: | | Sat-Sun 29-30 July |

WEBSITE

Our website <http://www.antrimboatclub.co.uk> continues to be upgraded and, in addition to the webcam, you will now find an interactive forum which we would urge you to visit. We would like to thank Neil Brady for his assistance with this.

OVERHEARD IN THE BAR

"He who laughs last has just seen the joke."

Messages from the Sailing Secretary

- Dinghy racing: We now have about 11 boats ready for competition. I would like to start this by mid-April and, although the day has not yet been agreed, I am thinking of the possibility of Saturday afternoons. Can I remind all of you intending to take part to read the **Safety Rules** in our Club Rules (available on the website), particularly 5c "Attracting Attention", in the event of capsizing. You will also find the GP14 International Association website [<http://www.gp14class.org.uk/>] useful for sail setting and tuning tips etc.
- If you are interested in the raft race to be held in conjunction with our Regatta, contact Jim Maxwell (9446 4809), who has once again kindly taken on this task.

Alfie Mayrs

Message from the Jetty Master

- May I please remind everyone to keep their boats on their allocated berths? Any boats on temporary moorings must be moved back to their permanent moorings ASAP. This is particularly important now that we are approaching the summer season and we are going to be very crowded on the river.

Joe Allen

Messages from the Social Convenor

- **May week-end barbecue**: Saturday 29 April (provisional): Please let me know if you would be interested in such an event.
- Following that we intend to go for the good old standby, a Pub Quiz, as soon as we can find a suitable date in May. I will post notices of any further developments in the Club House.
- If anyone wishes to use the Club House for a social event I have to ask you to please send a **written request** to the General Committee **two months** in advance. This is necessary to insure there are no clashes with other planned events and that there is ample time after committee approval to apply for late licences, if necessary, and to plan the event properly.

Colin Thompson

NEW MARINA NEWS

A meeting has been arranged with Antrim Borough Council on Wednesday 12 April for a further and hopefully final discussion about the exact location of the New Marina.

FOR SALE

- Leisure 17, *Ferfun*. Boat, sails, trailer and 4 HP Suzuki outboard engine. £2000 for quick sale. Contact: Ken Ewart, 9334 2122.

WANTED

- Sails for GP14s. Contact: the Commodore.

OFFICERS and COMMITTEE (2005-2006)

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