

ANTRIM BOAT CLUB

www.antrimboatclub.co.uk/



News Sheet (No. 17)

SUMMER 2008

Message from the Commodore

Another busy series of races in May and June showed that our competitive spirit is still flourishing! It was good to see the beginnings of a revival in dinghy events thanks to Pat Kelly and Jeff Harrison. Thanks to the loan of boats by Ballyronan Sailing Club we were able to host a Laser Challenge event on 10 May when the home team were narrowly defeated by Anthony and Mark Glendinning from LNSC. A brief all class dinghy series that month produced a regular fleet of 8 boats. William and Ozzy McIlvenna won the GP14 class, Jeff Harrison the Laser class, Noel Young and Hamish McIlwee the Flying 15 class and the overall winner was Pat Kelly in his Flying 15.



Our powerboats have also had a number of interesting events and the treasure hunt organised by Peter Button was a particular success.

Four of our boats went down to the LNSC regatta at the end of May and acquitted themselves well even though we did not bring home any trophies. The following week saw a very tedious Cat's Cradle race which was abandoned after 4 hours when we had only got about half way home due to very light airs. And the Saturday after that was our own regatta in which, after strong gusts and some very close encounters, LNSC were again victorious with first and second places going to *Jay* and *Free Expression* respectively, while the honour of the Club was upheld by *Murphy* (Liam Donnelly) in third place. Finally, in a hotly contested Summer Series, a small fleet of between 3 and 7 boats saw *Quickflash* narrowly beating *Eroica* in to second place on equal points but with one less first in the 7 races.

Perhaps our proudest moment this summer was when Laura Crozier came second in the Northern Ireland finals of the RYA Honda Youth RIB Championships at East Down Yacht Club at the end of June, coming less than one second behind the winner who will go forward to the National Finals at the Southampton Boat Show in September. This was a wonderful achievement for our first entry in to this prestigious competition and congratulations are due to both Laura and Martin Kidd who trained a total team of 9 youngsters for the event. Our veterans were not to be outdone, however, when Alfie Mays sailed *Quickflash* in Cork Week finishing 7th overall out of 18 boats in his class.

I was delighted that we were able to host our regatta as planned in the newly renovated Clubhouse. Unfortunately, licensing problems have led to a delay in the opening of the bar on a regular basis, but it is expected that these will be resolved by the middle of August. A dinner to mark the opening will be held on **Saturday 6 September** when our guest speaker will be Bob Harper who will talk about his 5-year circumnavigation of the world under sail. Please see the notice in the Clubhouse or on the website for further details, and note that admission is for members only, and by ticket only. Also please note our Open Day is on **Saturday 16 August** as part of the Loughfest week. We will need volunteers to help with the availability of boats, catering and on the registration desk. Please contact Catherine Millar or myself if you can help.

David King

OVERHEARD IN THE BAR

“Bar, wot bar?”

EVENTS DIARY

- **RB&LN Assoc. Bann Rally:** Friday/Saturday 1/2 August (TBC).
- **ABC Loughfest Open Day:** Saturday 16 August.
- **“Lap-the-Lough” (LNSC):** Saturday 23 August.
- **Winter Series (Part 1):** 10 races Sundays 12 October – 14 December (TBC).
- **Charity (“Santa”) Race:** Sunday 21 December.

SOCIAL CALENDAR

1. **Saturday 6 September:** Club Dinner to celebrate renovation of Clubhouse.
2. **Saturday 1 November:** Hallowe’en Party (TBC).
3. **Saturday 20 December:** Christmas Party.
4. **Sunday 21 December:** Children’s Party.

Catherine Millar

Other Announcements

- Thanks are due to **Noel Young** who has agreed to be Acting Sailing Secretary until further notice.
- The draft Club **Development Plan (2008-2012)** will be discussed by the General Committee at a special meeting on 31 July.
- A total of only 30 members attended the two **security meetings** held at the beginning of July. The importance of individual responsibility for security cannot be over-emphasised. If you would like a UV-marker pen and/or a copy of the information leaflets distributed at those meetings, please contact David King, Aubrey Kincaid (see numbers in box below) or Joe Allen (028 9446 7726 or 078 6878 0341). Meanwhile please continue to close the security gate behind you **every** time. Thank you.

Messages from the Jetty Master

● There have been a number of angry complaints about the recurrence of dog fouling. The majority of dog owning members are very responsible and don’t let our pets off the lead but occasionally we forget with nasty, disgusting consequences for sails being rolled up on the grass! Please remember to use your poop scoop.

● I am appalled by the amount of litter accumulating in the grounds every week. Plastic bottles seem to be multiplying. Other waste encourages vermin and the risk of Weil’s disease. There is a distinct health and safety issue when it comes to litter, so it is in all our interests to “bin it” and urge others to do the same.

Joe Allen

OFFICERS and COMMITTEE (2007-2008)

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