



ANTRIM BOAT CLUB

www.antrimboatclub.co.uk/

News Sheet (No. 19)

SPRING 2009

Message from the Commodore

Warmest congratulations to Peter Frazer (*Load of Mischief*) (pictured), who has succeeded in winning our Winter Series after 31 years in close contention! *Quickflash* (Alfie Mayrs) was second and the helmsman's handicap was won by *Eroica* (David King and Alan Reilly). We are indebted to our new OD, Martin Kidd, and his crew who were very successful in setting a great variety of courses in extremely varied weather conditions in their first season. We also wish to thank our sponsor, Firmus Energy, and, of course, our faithful soup ladies. This year we have decided to present the prizes at a general "Annual Dinner and Prize Night" in September.



We were also very proud and pleased to have received this year's Antrim Sports Awards trophy (and cheque for £200) for the Senior Club/Team of the Year for 2008 at a ceremony in the Comfort Hotel on 27 February. A great many of our members' individual successes contributed to this achievement at our first ever entry for this competition.



I am also delighted with the work Joe Allen, Dave Collier and Roger Cotgreave and their various helpers have done on our damaged jetties, which are now almost completely restored. Our thanks and congratulations are due to everyone who has contributed to this.

Our RYA RTC continues to expand its activities and three members, Martin Kidd, Alfie Mayrs and Richard Mayrs, now have their Advanced Powerboat certificates. We hope to have two new Dinghy Instructors in place for the summer, and also to offer the Advanced Powerboat Course at the Club next year.

As the days lengthen and there are increasing signs of spring we look forward to a busy boating programme and I look forward to seeing you all on the water whether competing, cruising or simply "messaging about in boats."

David King

EVENTS DIARY (NB: There have been some changes from the last News Sheet)

- HOW boating activities: 20 March – 5 April.
- Summer Series: 7 races Thursdays 14 May – 25 June.
- ABC Regatta: Saturday 6 June.
- Cat's Cradle: Antrim to Kinnego Saturday 13 June.
- LNSC Regatta: Saturday 20 June.
- Game & Country Life Fair Races (TBC): Saturday 27 June – Sunday 28 June.
- Home Counties Regatta: Atlantic Challenge Thursday 30 July – Sunday 2 August.
- RB&LN Assoc. Bann Rally: Saturday 25 July or 8 August (TBC).
- Loughfest "Lap-the-Lough" race (LNSC): Saturday 22 August.
- Loughfest ABC "Open Day": Saturday 29 August.
- Annual Dinner & Prize Night: Saturday 12 September.

Message from the Sailing Secretary

Hop Onboard Workshops:

The plan is to provide a mix of tuition and practical experience for both adults and accompanied children. Please contact me if you are interested in attending any or all of the events in the following proposed programme.

Talks (19.30 hrs. in the Clubhouse):

Friday 20 March: Care and maintenance of engines. Martin Stitt (Stitt Marine).

Wednesday 25 March: Knots and charts. Alan Reilly and Richard Mayrs.

Wednesday 1 April. Lough Neagh - Questions and Answers. Michael Savage (Author of the "River Bann and Lough Neagh Pilot" book).

Practical classes:

Sunday 22 March. 09.30 – 12.30 hrs. Power boating (Martin Kidd & Alfie Mayrs).

14.00 – 16.00 hrs. Sailing (Alfie Mayrs).

Saturday 28 March. 09.30 – 12.30 hrs. Introduction to RYA Honda Youth RIB Championship training (Martin Kidd).

14.00 – 16.00 hrs. Sailing (Alfie Mayrs).

Sunday 29 March. 09.30 – 12.30 hrs. Power boating (Martin Kidd & Alfie Mayrs).

14.00 – 16.00 hrs. Sailing (Alfie Mayrs).

Saturday 4 April. 09.30 – 12.30 hrs. RYA Honda Youth RIB Championship training (Martin Kidd).

14.00 – 16.00 hrs. Sailing (Alfie Mayrs).

Sunday 5 April. 09.30 – 12.30 hrs. Power boating (Martin Kidd & Alfie Mayrs).

14.00 – 16.00 hrs. Sailing (Alfie Mayrs).

Alfie Mayrs

OVERHEARD IN THE BAR

"He's the sort of guy who would join the Navy so that the world could see him!"

(Whom were they talking about? Answers on a postcard please.)

RYA News

Following the consultation meetings with KPMG Management last December about the proposed establishment of a Lough Neagh Navigation Authority by DCAL, we referred the matter to the RYA NI who, in turn, passed it on to RYA Headquarters in Hamble, who have an Environmental Officer with a national responsibility for such matters. Representatives of the RYA NI Council have had discussions with the Management Consultants, KPMG, and have been assured that they will be involved in any further developments of this proposal and before any final report and recommendations are issued.

NO SMOKING

A number of complaints have been received that there has been smoking in the toilet areas. Members are reminded that it is against the law to smoke *anywhere* in the Clubhouse, including the toilets. If you wish to smoke please use the receptacles provided on the balcony or at the front door.

OFFICERS and COMMITTEE (2008-2009)

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