



# Slaughden Sails Newsletter

## August to October 2009

### Up coming activities and social events August to October 2009.....

- ❑ **AYC Junior Regatta Week** Monday August 10<sup>th</sup> until Friday August 14<sup>th</sup>
- ❑ **Picnic (and race) to Dove Point** Saturday August 15<sup>th</sup>
- ❑ **AYC Senior Regatta** From Monday August 17<sup>th</sup>
- ❑ **Carnival Day BBQ** Monday 17<sup>th</sup> August
- ❑ **Bank Holiday Cruise** Saturday August 29<sup>th</sup> return Monday August 31<sup>st</sup>
- ❑ **Picnic at Iken Cliffs (and race)** Saturday September 5<sup>th</sup>
- ❑ **Weekend Cruise to the Deben** From Saturday September 26<sup>th</sup>
- ❑ **First Aid Course** Saturday September 26<sup>th</sup> at 09.00 hrs
- ❑ **Hot Pot Lunch** Sunday October 4<sup>th</sup> at 13.00 hrs
- ❑ **Powerboat Course** Friday October 16<sup>th</sup> from 19.00 hrs to Sunday October 18<sup>th</sup>
- ❑ **AGM in Clubhouse followed by lunch at the Brudenell** Sunday November 15<sup>th</sup>
- ❑ **Christmas Supper** Saturday December 5<sup>th</sup> at 18.30 hrs

Extra Event for  
your diary

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> Sept  
Twilight Race  
Snack Supper

### Brudenel Prize Giving Lunch

A bright yellow booking  
form will accompany  
your AGM pack .

Please complete and  
return no later to Lizzie  
Clarke by 5<sup>th</sup> November

No form No Lunch !

**Carnival Day Monday 17<sup>th</sup> August – Theme ‘Around the World’ SSC will have a foot procession for youngsters (and adults and animals !) in the carnival – want to be a part – contact Dawn 07730 912158**

### *SSC Social events are now becoming the talk of the town !*

An extremely successful Mediterranean Evening was held attended by almost 50 diners, a packed house which created a great atmosphere and some really..... and we mean really..... memorable food with circa 19 dishes available to sample. This was then followed a few weeks later by a splendid Hog Roast and family fun Treasure Hunt.

Thanks to all those involved in the organisation and preparation for these events in particular to Lizzie Clark and Dawn Samuels whose cooking and presentation skills offer great value for money, to Stan and Lizzie Clarke for their time and effort in creating a mind teasing treasure Hunt and to Rob Tindall and Stanley for attending to the BBQ which again was attended by more than 50 guests. A word of thanks for all those that brought along puds and salads for these events and for helping set up and clear away.

Congratulations to Jackie and Dave Abbot who won dinner for two at the Brudenell .....The top prize from the Treasure Hunt..... thanks once more to the Brudenell for a great prize.

### A very important announcement

The calendar of events above makes reference to the AGM on Sun Nov 15<sup>th</sup>.

This is the point in time that the club seek nominations for key positions who can drive the club forward. A number of key committee positions will become vacant this year ranging from Commodore to Secretary to TC Principle and Dinghy park supervisor etc

There is an expectation that all members should undertake a role at some point in time during their involvement with the club. Lets not wait for the tap on the shoulder.....we need members to step forward now for these roles. This is the time to give the existing committee members a call to see what is involved. Current committee members are more than willing to share with you their experiences and support you through the transition.....everybody is welcome to apply so please don't hold back..... throw your hat into the ring, your club needs you.

See below for further details -

**situations Vacant**

### More Welcomes to SSC!

The popularity of the club continues to attract new members

- ❑ Penny Hemphill  
[pennyhemphill@btinternet.com](mailto:pennyhemphill@btinternet.com)
- ❑ June Bird & Des Kaliszewski  
[june.bird@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:june.bird@hotmail.co.uk)
- ❑ Giles & Joanna de Bertodano  
[debertodano@btinternet.com](mailto:debertodano@btinternet.com)
- ❑ Jules George  
[jules.george@ymail.com](mailto:jules.george@ymail.com)
- ❑ Joanna Murphy  
[joannamurphy9@btinternet.com](mailto:joannamurphy9@btinternet.com)
- ❑ Melanie Smith  
[smithy814@msn.com](mailto:smithy814@msn.com)
- ❑ Jane Strachan  
[simclarke@vodafone.net](mailto:simclarke@vodafone.net)

# Club News and views

**Hevingham Hall** – Yet again a really successful weekend at Hevingham Hall with an abundance of interest in the club and its contribution to the local community. As always this is a great shop window for the club and subsequently a number of leads were received from potential new members.....these are all being followed up and the expectation is that our membership will grow as a result of our presence at this event.

A **BIG** thank you to all members that helped transfer equipment to and from Hevingham, Yotas sailing demonstrations , food , interaction with the general public and in particular providing sailing trips on the day.

**Hard work but very rewarding.**

**Clubhouse talks** – A number of Wednesday evening Club house talks are being organised from Wednesday September 16<sup>th</sup> .....these relate to the sharing of a number of personal experiences and provide a very interesting and insightful evening.....given the choice of TV or Wednesday evening at SSC then there is no competition.

## Rules and Regulations .....

**Club House Entry Code** – **DO NOT** give out the code to non members.

**Visiting Members** – **MUST** sign the visitors book - No more than 4 visits per annum otherwise take out short term membership. **Partners** who sail occasionally and wish to join in social events are expected to join as family members.

**Children** under 18 (excluding members' own children) may be signed in any number of times.

**OD's Office** – Not a general office .....limited access for adults wanting to access safe, OD and Safety boat duties

**Galley** – Members are welcome to use the Galley but please ensure **ALL** cups etc are washed, dried / put-away after use

**Honesty Draw** – Don't forget to pay for teas, coffee etc .....replenishment is based upon funds from the 'pot'

**Snacks** – If you wish to consume drinks from the fridge, crisps, biscuits etc please refer to a committee member who has access to these facilities and can record consumption for replenishment. Please ensure payment into the honesty box

**Changing Rooms** – Please keep tidy and use the hooks available – don't discard clothes across the floor

**Entrance Door** – A reminder to use the 'back entrance door' and not the 'side entrance door'. With a strong Southerly wind one day someone will lose their fingers!

## *AYC Junior Regatta*

**It is wonderful to see so many SSC juniors participating in the AYC Regatta this year.**

**Harry Abbott and Luke Cousins (Laser Pico), Hannah Howard Franks (Topper), Thomas Zollinger-Reed (RS Feva), Gabriella Samuels and Daisy Abbott (Laser Pico), Oliver Cullen and Hannah Howard Franks (Laser), Gabriella Samuels and Seb Baucatt (temp member) RS Feva XL. Olivia Stock (RS Feva XL).**

**Results to be posted on the board after the event**

**A big thank you to Barrie Skelcher who has been willing to offer his time to provide some of the children with racing tips prior to the regatta. This covered a refresher on RYA race rules, alertness when tacking, racing starts and river familiarisation. Anyone interested in race training of a similar nature, Barrie and Mike Tyndale – Biscoe, our racing coaches would be very keen to impasse their**

# Situations Vacant

## TC Principal

*The club needs a Training Centre Principal to take over from Nigel Hemming who is standing down. This role is an appointment made by the SSC committee and endorsed by the RYA. Although the RYA prefer this appointee to hold a Senior Instructor Certificate, anyone with sailing experience can be appointed. The responsibilities are mainly administrative and include an annual inspection by the RYA (due in September) covering all aspects of safety, records, tuition and equipment. If you are interested in learning more about this appointment please contact Nigel Hemming (01508 570142), the Commodore Ted Draper (01728 668536) or Barrie Skelcher (01728 830463).*

The importance of this post cannot be over-emphasised; without it, SSC will immediately cease to be an RYA Training Centre. Please will someone take on these essential duties?

## Club Officers

With many posts unfilled after the AGM, the Management Committee has struggled to keep the Club running smoothly this year. Most committee members have been covering more than one job and, to be frank, it has been just too much! Many of you have been keen to help at work parties and social events but we need organisers to bring it all together.

In October the list of Club Officers and their duties will be posted in the clubhouse. Some of the current officers are standing down, so please consider what you can do to help with the running of your club. Talk to any committee member to find out what is involved and put your name on the list! We need a full team of officers next year.

### Weather Station

The current weather conditions can now be seen in the clubhouse on the monitor on the wall. Just press the red button on the side of the display to wake it up. No need to switch it off when you've finished as it goes back to sleep after about half an hour.

### Ladder

As a result of the plea in the last newsletter, many thanks to Rob Rose for lending the Club a long set of ladders, which will be kept in the engine container. This will make maintenance of the weather station and the clubhouse much easier and safer

### New Initiatives raised by members.....How about

- Events debrief – what went well and could have gone better.
- Yotas column for the Newsletter
- Lost Property – whereabouts and visibility of items
- SSC apparel – greater exposure for the club if worn at events , may need a review of products, colours and design

**To be raised at the next committee meeting – who and how**

## **Sailing Programme – an article from Barry Skelcher for further discussion.**

Putting together the season's sailing programme involves a lot of work and we should thank Leslie for the effort she has put into organising this seasons programme. While 2009 sailing is far from over, it is perhaps time we should give some thought to next year. The following suggestions are not in any way criticisms of this year, but are intended to give consideration to changing circumstances.

My starting point is that the Wednesday evening races have not been well attended although the Saturday and Sunday events have been better supported. Clearly not every one wants to race, although racing is fun and from it a high standard of boat handling skills are acquired. Should we therefore place more emphasis on week end activities when we could have more racing and picnic events?

During the summer months, that is when we have an acceptable level of evening daylight, the series racing has been on Wednesday evenings. The reason for this is traditional. It was because we had several keen sailors who were shopkeepers and Wednesday was early closing day for them. This consideration no longer applies. Why then keep to Wednesdays? Two or three decades ago there was very little activity on the River on Wednesday evenings with probably only about 15 boats from each club racing. Furthermore the AYC always started earlier than the SSC so there were few or no clashes between the racing fleets of the two clubs. This situation has now changed dramatically and the River is now crowded with boats of greatly different size and performance. The AYC have been very successful in building their fleet of Loch Longs, in addition they race Dragons, Cruisers, and Lapwings. However their dinghy handicap fleet has dwindled and on occasions only two or three have turned out.

Because of this, in 2008, the two clubs' handicap fleets raced together. This was under the SSC flag although the AYC starting line was used. The start was still at 19.00 hrs. some 20 minutes after the other fleets had started. Even so a minority opinion was voiced that this would be intimidating for the lesser experienced. Circumstances were changed for the current season and the combined handicap fleets have been started only five minutes after the last of the other fleets. The AYC set the courses. The AYC determine the handicaps allocated to each class, they do not necessarily follow the Portsmouth Yardstick. I do not find this acceptable. In particular, even though I consider myself an experienced dinghy helm, I find it intimidating and almost frightening, trying to start. Matters are made worse by the handicap course not being displayed until the five minute signal. I fear that some of our members, particularly those who are beginners in the sport, may also feel intimidated and put off from joining in.

In contrast to the crowded conditions that exist on Wednesdays, on Thursday evenings the River is almost free of racing boats. So why don't we change our Wednesday evening racing to Thursdays? We would have much clearer water in which to sail and virtually no hassle from other boats not in the race. There is a strong likelihood that this would bring out more of our members to enjoy the fun of racing and generally strengthen our racing fleet. The AYC handicap fleet could still race with us if they wished. This suggestion has been raised in Committee and it is a likely topic for the AGM. I raise it now so that we all have time to think it over before then.

**For up to date information on all the following items visit the SSC website. [www.slaughdensailingclub.co.uk](http://www.slaughdensailingclub.co.uk)**

### *All the latest news*

- > Race results as they happen
- > e Shop – shop on line for SSC
- > Members only pages
- > Links to other sites
- > Articles of interest
- > News and Views
- > Photo of the month
- > Weather forecasts for this area
- > Bulletin Board – have your say
- > Social Events – What's on
- > Gallery – the year's photo's
- > Tide times at Slaughden
- > Minutes of previous meetings

*This newsletter covers the period August until End October 2009 . If you have any useful information that you would like shared with members please let Dawn know via [samuelsfamily@fsmail.net](mailto:samuelsfamily@fsmail.net) . If you find the publication informative and easy to read then please let me know.....if you don't then even more reason to let me know.....suggestions always welcomed.*