



Up River Yacht Club Newsletter June 2012

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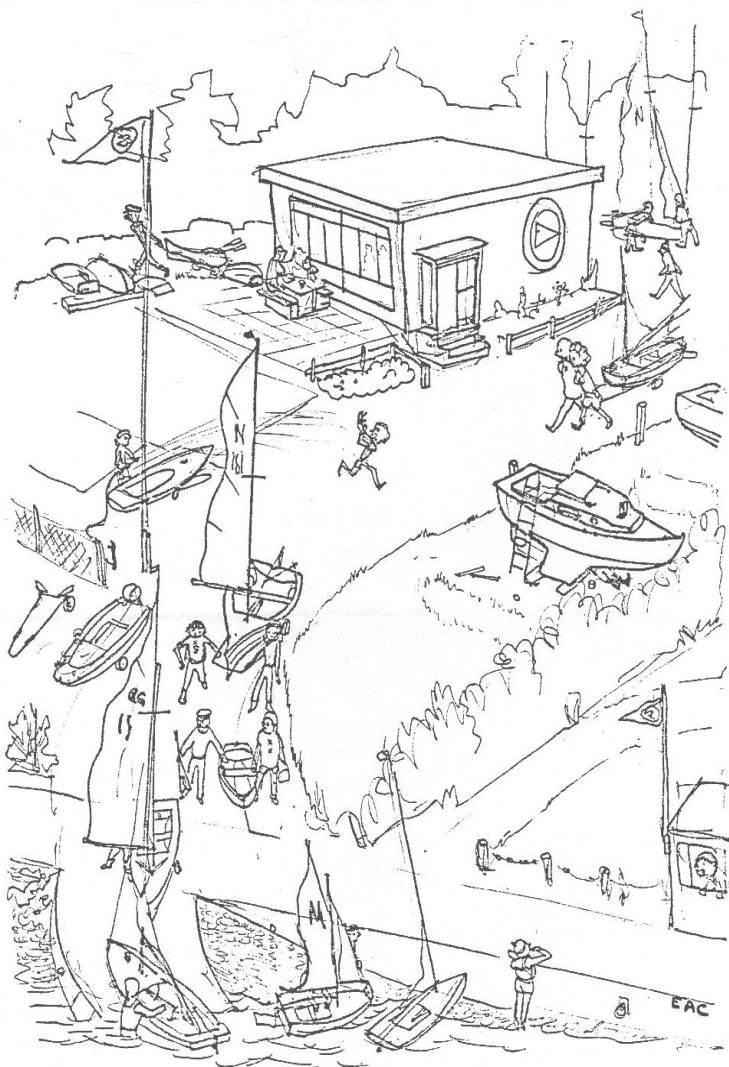
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Summer's Here



Let's go Sailing



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Commodore's Report

Firstly I would like to welcome all new members to Up River whether sailing or just socialising. The 2012 season is now well underway, with the Phantom Open attracting around 10 boats in April and most Cruisers have now been launched. As usual there is a full dinghy and cruiser programme throughout the year. Please refer to your "Programme of Events" book for the full details.

Let's hope the weather will be kind to us this year. Having said that, for the last 4 weeks it has been raining continuously following the unseasonably warm and dry period earlier this year.

In June Chris Staggs will be organising the annual summer cruise up the east coast to Woodbridge and Ipswich. Please see the notice board for more details. At the last count there were 16 boats on the list. This is a good opportunity for any new cruiser members to cruise in company and hopefully enjoy a good sailing experience.

The Clubhouse has now been given a facelift with new décor, lights and music system. The decoration of the walls is currently being discussed by the House Committee. The current idea is a picture of a view from the clubhouse across the river on one wall and members boats in full sail on the other. Allan Adkin is currently collating all the original pictures of the history of the club onto one area which will then be located in the west hallway.

The electricity supply has now been extended to the bottom field, so all parts of the club grounds should now have accessible electricity for members to use when working on their boats.

The coach trip to the Houses of Parliament was a great success with 38 members and guest attending. The tour was very interesting and informative. The rest of the day was spent sightseeing around London, without any rain! If any members have any ideas for a future trip, please let me know. Future events for your diary: Regatta Sunday 2nd September, RNLI Mini-Quiz Saturday 13th October, Dinner Dance at the Chichester Saturday 27th October, Guy Fawkes Evening Saturday 3rd November, Christmas Party Saturday 15th December. There is also the possibility of re-introducing the "Cruiser Night" social later in the year, with a Rock'n'Roll theme. Please check the notice board for all activities.

Remember the clubhouse is open every Friday evening and Sunday lunch-time for drinks and socialising. There are also regular eat-ins on the 2nd Friday of each month (not July/August). If any member has any new ideas to improve the club please don't hesitate to speak to me or anyone of my executive. This being a members club, everyone has the opportunity to contribute to the continuing



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success of the club. Finally I would like to wish all members of Up River, whether on the water or just socialising, an enjoyable and stress-free season.

Alan Parker
Commodore



Vice Commodore's Report

Well we returned from our travels expecting spring weather and what a shock we have had. Hopefully the weather will improve soon and we can all get out and about on the water. I do, of course, refer only to the fair weather sailors as the hardy members of our club are out in all weathers!

Apart from the weather it has been a good start to the season with a most enjoyable evening at the Fitting Out Supper, a visit to the Houses of Parliament and the Phantom Open weekend.

By the time you read this the Cruiser Register for 2012 will have been emailed to cruiser owners. There is a reference copy on the club notice board. Please do not take this away from the clubhouse.

Whilst on our travels Chris and I have spoken with members of sailing clubs in many areas and have been reminded how fortunate we are at Up River with the facilities that we have for the price that we pay.

We have a strong membership but do need to ensure that we maintain this. As none of us are getting any younger we really do need to encourage our younger members to become more involved in the running of the club. If any of you "youngsters" out there would like to know more about this please do come and speak to me or any of the Executive Committee.

I do not wish to repeat the content of the other Flag Officers' reports so will keep this short.

Happy Sailing.

Julia Hall Vice Commodore

Haversham & Eyott Invitation

The Haversham & Eyott Invitation and Summer BBQ on 23rd/24th June included in the Programme of Events has been cancelled. However the House Committee do hope to be able to arrange a BBQ at some point during the Summer - this will probably be a "bring your own" type BBQ and members will be notified nearer the time.



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Rear Commodore House Report

As this is my first report I will begin by wishing you all a great season. The weather is to say the least unpredictable but we live in hopes. I have started this year to try to get a greater spirit of participation within the club. I know only too well that after a hard day at work that armchair, television and cup of tea is very tempting and personally, once in, I need dynamite to shift myself. However once up and out I find the rewards of being with persons of like mind far greater than you would think. Like an infectious disease it takes you over and the more you get involved the greater the enjoyment. Of course your involvement is only as far as you wish to take it but please try it, it may open up a complete new avenue to this great pastime of ours.

Enough flag waiving now to the serious bit. I restarted the Friday eat ins at the club house this year but with a slightly different format. Instead of just one meal option fish and chips, Chinese or Indian we now offer all three or if you wish bring your own food. We want you to enjoy yourself and at the same time with the bar open have a good old chat. As the saying goes YOU KNOW IT MAKES SENSE.

This year we have also started the idea of coach trips out. The trip to the Houses of Parliament was a great success and more out of season trips will be arranged. The arrangements for our annual regatta are well under way. As it is later this year there is the possibility of more displays possible. This is where I am asking for your assistance. We need articles for sale on the stalls. Don't throw it away, bring it in so that we can sell it. ANYTHING yes ANYTHING from a pin to an elephant, it is also a great way to get rid of your junk.

To all you good cooks out there, any cakes or goodies for the stalls will be heartily welcomed. Get the kids to make fairy cakes, keeps them quiet and we will benefit. A win/win situation. If like me, your cooking skills are questionable then we only ask you for one thing, YOUR BODY. It is needed to man the stalls. Like other years a rota will be drawn up so that you only man the stall for a specific time leaving the rest of the day for you to enjoy the regatta.

Finally to all cruiser owners. One of the highlights of the day is the cruiser sail past where cruisers are rigged with bunting and flags and sail past the slipway to a commentary by the regatta commentator. I did this last year with Ken and must admit the cheers and claps of the large crowd made us feel great. It was well worth the effort.

I will finish now as I started and wish you all a great season and look forward to seeing you all at the clubhouse.

Derek Underwood, Rear Commodore, House



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U.R.Y.C. REGATTA



SUNDAY 2nd September

EXHIBITS / STALLS / SIDE SHOWS
DINGHY RACING
CRUISER SAIL PAST / MUSIC / FOOD
DUCK RACE (raffle)

UP RIVER YACHT CLUB

POOLES LANE • HULLBRIDGE

Start 12:00 • Racing from 13:00

Sail Past 14:30 • Prize Giving 17:00

All times approximate



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Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Up River Yacht Club held on 4th December 2011

Apologies for absence were recorded for P Pelling, A & P Reynolds, C Cowling, S McAvoy, D Brown, S Bailes, D Waller, A Turner T & A Harris.

Attendance: 38 members attended and signed the register.

Minutes of the 2010 AGM

The secretary pointed out an omission in that apologies for absence had been sent but not recorded for J & C Hall.

Adoption of the minutes was proposed by D Underwood and seconded by C Staggs. There was no dissent.

Commodore's Report

First of all I would like to welcome all members of Up River to the 2011 AGM.

This year being our 75th anniversary I hope members have enjoyed some of the sailing and social activities that Up River has provided. The fitting out supper was well attended with over 80 members and friends, as was the Dinner Dance which was held in October. Our special guest Mark Francois commented how friendly the club was, and the enthusiasm of members to promote sailing and social activities for the benefit of the club. More from Mark later in my report. We also had a good Regatta in June with the weather holding out to the end of the afternoon. Yours truly was kept busy on the burger stall, together with a dedicated team, which at times struggled to keep pace with demand. That said we were rewarded with above average takings on previous years. Next year we have purchased an additional barbeque to meet the growing demand. Watch out

SUMMER CRUISE 2012

The date for the cruise has been moved to the 23rd June because of the Bank Holiday.

The tides are about the same times so we can still go to Shotley, Woodbridge, Ipswich, Shotley and dinner in The Shipwreck. If you would like to join us please contact me on 07939474204 or see me at the bar. There will be another meeting on June 1st at 20:30 in the Clubhouse.

Chris Staggs



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McDonald's you have some serious competition for 2012. The regular monthly Friday eat-ins have continued throughout the year with mixed attendance, due to members having other commitments/holidays etc. If you're free on a Friday evening why not pop down to the club to meet friends for a meal and a drink at very reasonable prices. The club is also open every Friday evening and Sunday lunchtime.

On the sailing front we have had an active dinghy programme throughout the year, together with 2 open meetings in April and September. I think it's important to have open meetings which promote Up Rivers hospitality to the wider sailing fraternity. The Cruiser races have not been so well supported as in previous years. Maybe now is the time to look at reviewing the programme for future years and to incorporate more cruising. This brings me on to the cruising which has been well attended with the annual summer cruise in August attracting 10 boats, together with various weekend cruises throughout the season.

I'm sure the Rear Commodore Sailing will have a more detailed report.

I would like to take this opportunity in thanking all members and committees who have worked so hard in making the sailing and social activities possible. I'm sure you all agree that Up River's success is due to the dedication and commitment of its own members.

I'm planning a day trip to London on Tuesday 1st May 2012 to visit the Houses of Parliament and view other venues such as the London Eye, a trip on the river etc. Mark François has very kindly offered to organise the trip around the Houses of Parliament. The cost will be approx. £7.50 per person providing we get a minimum of 48 members to fill a coach. So if you are interested please put your name on the list in the hallway. I can then arrange with the coach operator a firm price and time of departure.

Please remember that we still have our Christmas Party on Saturday 17th December, at £7.50 per person which includes disco, buffet and of course good company with reasonable bar prices. Please support your club and put your name on the list in the hallway.

I feel we have moved the club forward this year with the purchase of an additional rescue boat and trailer, new cruiser launching/recovery trailer and having power in the boat shed. We are now in the process of extending the electricity supply throughout the club grounds and tractor sheds.

For 2012 I would like to look at ways of improving the clubhouse décor and brightening up the toilets. Your executive will also be looking at the possibility of installing an electric winch on the slipway for launch and recovery of cruisers and rescue boats. Please remember if you have any ideas you think will improve



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your club please speak to me or anyone of my executive. Any ideas can then be discussed at the monthly executive meeting for consideration.

I hope my first year as Commodore has served the club well, which would not be possible without the dedication of flag officers/committees and helpers of Up River.

Finally I would like to wish all members of Up River a very happy and peaceful Christmas, and an exciting and enjoyable 2012.

Alan Parker

Vice Commodore Report

I do not want to duplicate other flag officers' reports so I shall be brief.

I would like to say that it is a privilege to belong to Up River Yacht Club.

I think that while many clubs are struggling we are fortunate to have an active membership. The Club Cruise was a most enjoyable week as usual. It was a pleasure to support the dinghy sailors at Norfolk Week and I have enjoyed being in the kitchen for the Winter Series.

We are also fortunate in that we have a strong core of members who can be called upon when something needs to be done. If any member has a problem there are always people who are more than willing to help.

In this 75th Anniversary year we have been talking of the history of the club. However, we now need to look to the future of the club. I think it is important that we do everything we possibly can to encourage the younger members and their children as they are the future of our club.

Unfortunately, health and safety and child protection issues have made it impossible to continue taster days so we all need to look for other ways to encourage new members.

Julia Hall

Rear Commodore (Sailing) Report

I have now completed my 2nd year as Rear Commodore sailing and I could start this report with exactly the same as last year's.

The Lightning 368 dinghy fleet at the club continues to grow and the Slow Handicap fleet still provides the most competitive racing at the club. Overall entries for all series events were up on last year though we need to encourage more people to try to complete enough events to qualify. The Fast Handicap fleet once again suffered throughout the year with poor turnouts and most series were not completed due to insufficient entries.

As with the dinghy fleet the cruiser fleet races suffered from lack of entries with a few trophies not sailed and others only having a couple of entries. However the club cruises continue to be well attended and I am told good fun was had by all.



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We once again held 2 dinghy open meeting weekends at the club. This year was going to be a challenge with open meetings numbers down nationally. However both were a success on and off the water, making a welcome profit for the club.

Early in April we welcomed 10 Phantoms and 8 National 12's to the club for a joint meeting. Lead Up River Boats were Marcus Ingram, 5th in the Phantom fleet and Ian and Alex Gore 3rd in the N12 fleet, though Penny crewed the winning N12.

In August the Lightning fleet returned with a turnout of 11 boats despite the gale warning for the weekend that put many travellers off. We had three different race winners, Simon and Matt Hopkins took a race apiece with Paul White from Haversham the third. This left Paul and Simon tied in first place for the meeting with Matt Hopkins 3rd and Penny Yarwood 4th

Away from home we started with the National 12 Champs to which 2 boats did the whole week. Ian & Alex came home 10th in what was a very windy long weekend at Brightlingsea.

We were once again well represented at Norfolk week with 8 boats and bought home a lot of silverware. Tim Harris took his recently acquired Phantom and won the Fast Handicap title, and Penny Yarwood took her Lightning to 2nd in the Slow Handicap. Michael Ettershank took 4th in the Laser class but it was the National 12 class that provided the interest. Ben Harris returned from Canada for the event having not sailed since he left and teamed up with his sister Alex to surprise even himself and came 3rd ahead of Ian and Gerry.

Only 3 boats from the club went to Northampton for the Lightning Nationals due clashes with club cruises, etc. Out of a fleet of 17 boats Simon Hopkins was once again lead Up River boat in 5th with Matt Hopkins 9th retaining his Junior title. Mike Ince having bought the boat only a few days before the event finished a creditable 12th.

Our 3 Phantoms of Marcus, Tim and Rod Thorpe, made the long trip to Lyme

REVISED RULE BOOK

You should have received some time ago a copy of the revised book.

Some may have received both hard and electronic copies. If you have not received one please contact me and I will arrange the issue of another.

Jim.McAvoy@BTInternet.com or phone 01702 231218



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Regis and spent most of the weekend gauging how big the waves were that came crashing over the sea wall and very little time on the water.

So once again our travelling sailors have proved that the standard of dinghy sailing at Up River Yacht Club is up there with the best.

At home we have once again made a big effort to keep the clubs traditionally high standards in providing competitive and safe racing and cruising. The new rib purchased at the beginning of the year was a great step forward if only for the fact it is lighter to pull up the slipway. New racing marks are now in place with us replacing all missing marks down Brandy Hole way and will continue to do so until some new arrangement can be put in place.

As we move into the winter we have a very healthy winter series running with more visitors to the club than seen in a long time and many are staying to do the Warm Up as well, so once again I would like to take this opportunity to ask for volunteers from the cruiser fleet to take a lot of stress out of my life and sign up for safety boat duties and then do them as promised. I am still looking for a few volunteers to cover the final Winter series race next weekend, the Icebreaker & Warm Up series. Please feel free to sign up on the way out.

May I finish by thanking everyone on the Sailing Committee for assisting me this year and Adrian for acting as secretary and keeping the minutes in order.

Simon Hopkins

Rear Commodore (House) Report

Although we have not undertaken any major projects this year a few smaller improvements have been made. There is now a small play area for children. This is situated on a part of the grounds that was always overgrown near the boundary with the Anchor Public House.

The kitchen now sports a new microwave which will be a welcome addition to some members.

As always a great deal of work is done at our four work parties and I would like to thank those members who turn out for more than the stipulated one. The last work party was concentrated on the race hut which had got badly overgrown. It now looks very presentable and even has paving slabs laid in front.

All of the social events that have taken place this year have been successful. The Fitting Out Supper in its new format worked very well and at the Regatta we had even more stalls and an interesting collection of old cars, tractors and fire engines. The weather was kind to us and a great day was had by all.

The RNLI quiz night was well supported and £171 was raised.

The dinner and dance at the Chichester was a sell out and most people I have



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spoken to greatly enjoyed the evening.

Lastly I would like to thank Frank and Jean for their sterling work in keeping the clubhouse in pristine condition and Steve for all his hard work as Bar Manager keeping the prices down but still managing to make a profit.

Pat Harris

Hon Treasurer Report

(Before making his report the treasurer distributed the Annual Balance Sheet. A copy is displayed in the foyer.)

As I am sure you all know by now I took over the post of treasurer when Barbara felt unable to continue in the post.

I must thank Barbara for all she has done for the club, for making the transition as easy as possible and her help with the large number of files!

I continued the accounting system that had been used by Barbara following its implementation by Sylvia many years before. I used this until the end of our financial year and I presented the accounts to the auditors in that format.

However, I have with the agreement of the auditors changed to a much more straightforward system which is now in use. The main advantage to the club is that up to date balances are maintained for the three accounts Current, Deposit and Cash.

Account balances as of today (5/12/11)

Deposit £1,5423.32,

Current £ 1,640.40

Cash £102.2

Chris Hall

Auditor's Report

All entries in the club's accounts have been checked and found to be correct.

Hon Secretary's Report

The Executive Committee has met 11 times in the past year.

In one month we did not have a quorum and did not meet but the reports of officers were distributed so that all were kept up to date.

I followed up on Summer Lay Up charges and eventually these were all paid.

The rule book has been revised to bring information up to date and following this meeting the rule changes will be incorporated. I hope to get the new book out in January. I could not do it last year as one rule was not debated but was clearly going to be incorporated at this meeting.



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I will get the minutes of this meeting to Colin for incorporation in the March issue of Flotsam.

I'm sure you would like to join me in thanking Colin for his work in producing such high quality newsletters.

Some members, although they have email, have requested Flotsam by post as they feel they should have "something to lie on the coffee table". Can I just say that mine comes by email but can still lie on the coffee-table? Perhaps members would consider saving the club the cost of envelopes and postage for future issues.

You will see from the notice of AGM that I am standing down and Steve Hatley has offered to take on the role of Secretary. I wish him well and will offer any support he thinks I can provide.

I have served the club in various capacities over many years as Newsletter Editor, Rear Commodore, Commodore, and latterly as Hon. Secretary. I have also led projects to lay concrete paths. I was also responsible for the purchase of our first tractor (still going strong). I've enjoyed every minute of it. Age has now caught up with me so you will be relieved to know this is my last appearance at the top table. Many thanks,
Jim McAvoy

Hon Membership Secretary Report

During the past year we have lost 7 memberships but against this we have gained 6.

Michael Aarons.

Election of Officers

At this point an objection was raised and it was alleged that it was not known that officers were standing down. It was pointed out that, under club rules all officers must stand down at an AGM.

It was also pointed out that notices inviting nominations had been displayed for some weeks.

The following officers were then elected.

Commodore: Alan Parker, Hon Membership Secretary: Michael Aarons, Vice Commodore: Julia Hall, Moorings Officer: John Luff-Smith, Rear Commodore (S): Simon Hopkins, Bar-Manager: Steve Harris, Rear Commodore (H): Derek Underwood, House Treasurer: Adrian Reynolds, Hon Secretary: Steve Hatley, Hon Treasurer: Chris Hall.

Election Of Executive Committee Members in addition to the officers.

The following members were elected to serve on the Executive Committee.

John & Marion Jones, Colin King, Tim Harris & Ron Pankhurst.



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Election of House Committee

The following members were elected

Derek Underwood (Rear Commodore), Adrian Reynolds (House Treasurer)
Marion Jones.

All Flag Officers (ex officio)

Derek Underwood stated that he felt the social functions should be expanded rather than contracted. This led to a brief discussion but no decision could be made as decisions will be down to the new committee.

Election Of Auditors

As Derek Underwood is becoming an officer again it was felt that someone else should be the auditor.

Pat Harris volunteered and was duly elected without dissent.

Vote of Thanks

A vote of thanks was made for all officers and committee members who had served in the last year.

Rule Changes

(1) It was proposed that Bye Law 16 be removed and the subsequent bye laws renumbered.

This proposal was adopted by the meeting. There were 2 abstentions but no votes against.

(2) It was proposed that section 9 (paragraph 1) of the Rules and Safety Procedures for Launch And Recovery Operations be amended to read: "The launch/recovery committee shall organise and publish dates for two work parties each year and all members of the launch/recovery syndicate must attend at least one of the parties."

Paragraph 2 will be amended to read: "Any active member who does not attend one of the work parties or undertake similar duties as prescribed by the launch/recovery committee, shall be required to make an additional payment as applicable at that time."

The proposal was approved by those attending but with 4 members abstaining.

(3) A new rule to be inserted in section 11 Boat Parks (k) to read: "In the unfortunate event of the death of a member, who is not a family member, the membership may be transferred to the spouse or partner or other close relative until the end of the year."

Proposed by Terry Sumerfield and seconded by Jim McAvoy.



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There was a discussion and it was suggested that the phrase “until the end of the year” be altered to “for 6 months”. The amendment was voted upon and carried by the meeting.

The amended proposal was then voted upon and carried by those present with 2 against and 9 abstentions.

Resolution proposed by the Executive Committee

It was proposed that some membership fees be raised as follows:

Single full sailing membership for 1 individual from £143 to £145
(increase £2)

Family full sailing membership from £192 to £195
(increase £3)

Out of Port membership from £49 to £50
(increase £1)

Associate social non-sailing for 1 individual from £49 to £50
(increase £1)

All other fees will remain unchanged.

After discussion the resolution was put to the vote and carried by those present with 1 vote against and 2 abstentions.

Membership of the Sailing Committee

The meeting was notified that the following members would constitute the Sailing Committee:-

Simon Hopkins (Rear Commodore), Marcus Ingram, Adrian Reynolds, Penny Yarwood, Tim Harris, Michael Ettershank, Graham Lazell, Chris Staggs and Gerry Ledger.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(1) Advance notice had been given of a matter suggested for discussion but not decision as follows: “In view of the advanced age of many members and their subsequent difficulty in handling sailing cruisers, should we now consider allowing members over retirement age to transfer to small motor craft (such as a Shetland)?”

This led to a lively discussion and various suggestions were made. The Executive Committee will consider the matter in the coming year with a view to resolution at the 2012 AGM.

(2) John Jones has researched the cost of purchase and installation of an



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electric winch for the launch and recovery of craft. The Executive Committee has agreed that this matter will be placed on the agenda of the January meeting. The cost is in the region of £5,000 so careful thought must be given to this scheme in comparison with other essential or desirable projects.



Any pictures of member's boats under sail or of our 75th Anniversary last year would be most appreciated.

All pictures will be used to decorate the clubhouse walls. There will be an envelope on the noticeboard in the hallway to place any photos in, or you can e-mail a copy to alanparker050@aol.com

Many thanks, Alan Parker / Commodore



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Reminders

Havengore Bridge Closed: 3rd to 30th September 2012

Due to essential maintenance and improvement works, Havengore Bridge will be closed to all maritime traffic from 3rd to 30th September 2012. This means there will be no access to the inner waterways via Havengore Creek.



A plea from the grass cutters

Would cruiser members please remember to pick up their wooden blocks and other discarded items after launching.

If any member who normally receives their Flotsam via the postperson would prefer to pick up their copy (in an addressed envelope) from the club house, please let me know.

Colin King 01702 202904.