



Pin Mill Sailing Club



APRIL 2010 NEWSLETTER

For all the very latest information, visit the website at www.pmsc.org.uk

Commodore's Corner

It has been a long winter but at last the true signs of spring are evident all around us, daffodils in flower, lambs in the fields and of course the aroma of antifouling being liberally applied and the squeak of the paint scraper. Combine these sounds with the clocks being put forward and you can feel the anticipation of a long hot summer just around the corner. Well, let's hope so.

Earlier this month we welcomed to a full Clubhouse fellow member Laurie Mayer who talked at length about his career in journalism and his time spent working for Mohammed Al Fayed, a fun, interesting and informative evening, thank you Laurie and enjoy the Port!. The following weekend saw a small but dedicated group visit Chatham Historic Dockyard which I know from personal experience is well worth a visit so if you are cruising the area do make the effort to call in.

The Scaletric evening proved popular with a nice blend of young and mature drivers joining in the fun and the final Friday fun night although not as popular saw three of us pitting our skills against Super Mario and his Pals on the Nintendo Wii .

More recently, last night in fact as I write this piece we held the new members' welcome evening accompanied this year by Ivan and Jane's wonderful Mexican buffet. The night saw a great turn out of old and new members with I hope many new friends being made, and as I said during the evening a warm Pin Mill welcome to you all.

Now some dates for your diary starting with 2nd April and the annual working party and Grindle dig. Any time you are able give on the day helping tidy, wash, paint the Clubhouse and of course wielding a spade in anger digging the lower reaches of the Grindle will be greatly appreciated. Digging will commence from 08.00 and club activities I believe from 09.30.

Due to popular demand the Rummy and Port evening part two will commence on Friday 9th April at 20:00 and to signal the start of the sailing season our popular fitting out supper takes place on Saturday 24th April, book now to avoid disappointment.

Diary



Saturday 24th April
Fitting out Supper

Saturday 1st May
Spring Party
Full information inside

Saturday 15th May
4CRS Race 1 (RHYC host)

Saturday 29th May
Bank Holiday Cruise

Saturday 29th May
May Dance with the band
'Words and Music'
See Tear-off slip for details

Saturday June 12th
4CRS Race 2 (SSC Host)
And Thames Barge Passage Match

Saturday 19th June
49th Annual Barge Match

Saturday 26th June
Dinghy Day with Beach BBQ

Saturday 3rd July
Lunchtime BBQ at Erwarnton Ness

The next newsletter will be in June. Contributions please by 28th of May to:
circular@pmsc.org.uk or by post
to: 14 The Chestnuts, Wrentham,
Beccles, Suffolk, NR34 7EZ

The following Saturday, May 1st is our second spring party with something throughout the day and evening for all ages to take part in, it should be a day to remember. Following on from last year the Friday early evening opening will commence from May 14th with the bar and BBQ open and available from 18:00. And finally for you sailors amongst us the 15th May is the first round of the 4 clubs series, go on join in and give the PMSC a flying start to the series.

**Jon Humby
Commodore.**

PS. CONGRATULATION'S

Our congratulations and best wishes go to committee member Charlotte Norman and her family for the safe arrival of Robert Joseph, known as Bobby born on 3 March.

PPS. HELP!

Can any member shed any light on the rightful owner of the Norwegian Fog Horn currently stored in the Club store room. The horn is encased in a plywood box and operated by turning a handle. Any information please pass on to the Commodore asap.

Barge Match 19th June

For this year's match we are again offering the members berths on a couple of barges. We have 5 places on 'Victor' at a cost of £100 each for the day, and 4 places on 'Edme' at a cost of £65 each for the day. Both include breakfast and lunch, and an opportunity to help crew.

Edme is in the bowsprit class, is very fast, and is still engineless, whilst Victor is in the staysail class and was very successful last year (with a few of us to help!)

Edme is also interested in taking people on the trip up from Brightlingsea on the Friday before the Match, and on the return journey on the Sunday. So if you fancy a sea passage rather than a race this could be for you.

Places can be reserved by sending a cheque, payable to PMSC, for the full amount to the address on the front of the newsletter

NB. The difference in cost between the two barges reflect their different usage. Victor is a business venture and has to pay her way with charter work, whilst Edme is more of a private concern and takes paying guests.

Val Stone

May Day! May Day! May Day! - PMSC Spring Party Saturday 1st May

No, not a distress alert but a reminder to come and enjoy yourselves at PMSC's **Spring Party**, when members and friends will be able to have a laugh, forget their cares, eat drink and be merry, and dance the night away!

If you missed last year's hugely successful PMSC Spring Party, don't make the same mistake again! Don't delay, put **Saturday 1st May 2010** in your diary now, tell your friends to do likewise, then get cracking on your model boat design and plan your campaign to take line honours in the Great Model Boat Race! If you don't manage to finish your boat before the day – or just want some help – come to the Clubhouse early in the afternoon where materials will be available to help you build your craft.

Also during the afternoon, some of the Western World's most creative face painters will again be on hand – mainly for the benefit of youngsters - but if Mum, Dad, Grandma and Grandpa want to be turned into jungle animals too, well why not?

That's only the start – having worked up an appetite cheering on your paper boat you can toast your success with a pint of whatever you fancy at the Club bar and tuck into a BBQ – you can be sure that in true PMSC style the food will be both delicious and very good value.

And thence to the musical fun: last year's 'Kids Karaoke' was such a great success that this year, we are going to extend it – both a Kids AND an Adults Karaoke – all to be judged by Pin Mill's very own answer to Simon Cowell! A great opportunity for budding stars of all ages to get behind a mic,

strut their stuff and receive feedback on their efforts.

As if that were not enough we then go full-on from 21:00 till late dancing to The B^looze Brothers, Pin Mill's very own band of 'mature (but still moving) guitar heroes'!

The Club bar will of course be open from lunchtime till late – non-members are welcome, but please remember the licensing rules and get them to sign the visitors' book.

So, got that diary out yet? – please keep an eye on the Club noticeboards and/or www.pmsc.org.uk for more details.

And finally, the subject being May Day, do remember (with apologies to Karl Marx) "Arise ye starvelings from your slumbers, you have nothing to lose but your blues..."

Rick Kirkup
Rear Commodore

Correction notice

Ofcom have informed us that the Group MMSI number allocated to Pin Mill Sailing Club was issued incorrectly. The new number is:

023200106

Please make sure you make the change in your new Almanac.

Sailing

Our sailing season starts on May 15th with the first of the 4CRS races hosted by last year's winners RHYC (*and can we make an effort to ensure they are not this year's winners too ????*) All documentation is now available from our website.

The May Bank Holiday Cruise will start on the 29th for three days and will be hosted by the Commodore. No decisions have yet been made as to destination in consideration of unsettled weather, but if you would like to join in contact Jon Humby by email or on 01473 788806 for further information.

June 12th sees the second 4CRS race hosted by OYC, and, as already mentioned, the 49th Annual Barge Match is on June 19th.

On the 26th of June we are proposing, instead of our usual dinghy regatta, a do-it-yourself lunchtime beach barbeque near the Clamp, to which we hope, members can either walk, sail or row. Get yourself a disposable BBQ, some food, and a few tinnies and come along. I am convinced you all know this, but in the event that you don't; ***'there is nothing - absolutely nothing - half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats. Simply messing!'***

So kids and adults, sailors and non-sailors, come along and get out on the river. Our safety boat will be there to take people out, and, if numbers permit, rowing and sailing events will be organized. So, if you are the owner of a sailing dinghy or rowing boat please support your Club for this event - and don't forget your wellies!

On the following Saturday July 3rd we will be enjoying the ever-popular lunchtime DIY BBQ at Erwarton Ness. I look forward to seeing you on the water.

Val Stone
Hon. Sailing Secretary

RHYC and HHA News

I have received a list of dates from the Royal Harwich YC setting out their dinghy sailing / training programme set for this spring and summer for which Pin Mill youngsters are very welcome to take part in.

For those of you who are interested in learning more or taking part I will display details on the Club notice boards and on the Club web site.

Also, I recently attended a meeting held by Harwich Haven Authority Navigation sub-committee and would like to pass on a couple of things.

Firstly, Capt I. Mace - HHA and Capt J. Coleman ABP Ipswich Port Ltd would like to extend their thanks to all leisure boaters / sailors for the good seamanship and consideration shown when sailing and

motoring in the vicinity of commercial shipping in the approaches to Harwich harbour, especially during the recent dredging operations for the quay extension in the Orwell and Stour rivers.

Secondly for members information there is an article on the www.rya.org.uk East Region site informing us that over the weekend of the 31st July and 1st of August Harwich is to host the 2010 3 C European Championships [Power boat racing]. This will be of interest to any cruising yachtsman wanting a quiet sail in Dovercourt Bay or planning a peaceful trip up and down the Wallet.

JH

From the Village Archives

David Kennard and his yacht Kelpie II

David Kennard lived at Pin Mill from 1975 until his death in 1996. He will be remembered by many for his involvement in the creation of the kneelers in St. Andrew's church, a project started by his wife, Elizabeth. He was keen that many of the kneelers should depict local scenes, and he worked out the designs for Elizabeth's band of needle folk. These kneelers produced over many years are a colourful feature of St. Andrew's church.

David was a great community man and took pride in keeping Pin Mill Common tidy. With his local helpers he organised pruning of trees, digging of ditches and laying gravel upon the paths. He was always around when Pin Mill Hard needed attention. David described himself as a Stoic and would often quote from Marcus Aurelius, but he always had a twinkle in his eye and enjoyed a bit of fun. It was in Pin Mill Sailing Club at shanties and ditties evening that David would perform some of his repertoire of songs. These performances always attracted great applause.

David is best remembered for his long association with his yacht Kelpie II. Yachting World held a design competition in 1900, which was won by John Pain Clark. David's father and uncle, who were both house builders, acquired the plans from John Pain Clark and set about building their boat in the

back garden of a house in Catford during 1903. The total cost was seventy-six pounds, two shillings and seven pence and included furnishings and blankets.

Kelpie II was an elegant 26-foot canoe hulled yacht and when David inherited the yacht he made a few small changes to her rig. She was only six feet six inches in the beam and David said she was a bit cramped if more than two people were aboard.

Once completed, she was launched at Deptford Creek. The launching which included a shilling tip to the river police was one pound, ten shillings and sixpence. David was about eight when he was taken aboard Kelpie II on the Thames, off Erith. Kelpie's name is engraved on many of the Erith Yacht Club trophies and David's father, aged eighty, sailed his last race in her in 1950.

David loved East Coast sailing and made several voyages to this coast before his move here in 1975. His favourite river was the Alde, according to David "the last river on the east coast upon which a gentleman might sail". But he also loved the Orwell and he would be seen heading off to the river with his small kit bag on a calm sunny weekday at Pin Mill - but rarely on weekends. Weekends were not for gentlemen sailors.

In 1992 David decided to pass over the ownership of Kelpie to his friend Barry Page, although David was still to be seen pottering and doing a bit of fitting out and it was quite obvious that he had an association with Kelpie until the day he died.

Rick Graham became the new owner of Kelpie in 2005 and has carried out a splendid job on the restoration of this 106-year-old yacht. I watched Gus Curtis and Phil Chesney of Harry King and Sons launch a smart and gleaming Kelpie last year. David Kennard would have been so proud to see her and to know she still sails upon the River Orwell. The thought prompted this article.

Renee Waite

Outside Store Clear-out

It is now nearly impossible to get into the Club's outside store due to the clutter, so it is time to have a clear-out. Will members please note: if you have any property in the outside store please either remove it or identify it. The clear-out will take place two or three months hence, so you have time.

FRIDAY EARLY EVENING OPENING.

Continuing from last year the Club will open again at 18:00 hrs on Friday evenings starting from the 14th May through to September 3rd 2010

All in all the evenings last year were very successful with many new faces seen in the Clubhouse and some fine food cooked and eaten from the BBQ and I am sure with your continued support this summer will be equally as popular.

Before these evenings commence I would like, through this column, to remind everybody of some basic guidelines that must be adhered to in order for the Club to comply with its licence, these are as follows -

1. Between 18:00 and 21:00 children may approach the bar only if accompanied by a parent or guardian and at all times whilst on the Club premises inside or out children must be fully supervised.
2. After 21:00 it is requested that children remain seated with their parent's / guardian.
3. The Club will not serve alcohol to members / guests under the age of 18 or to members / guests purchasing alcohol for those under 18.

Please understand these guidelines are set for the continued enjoyment of all its membership, young and old whilst using the premises and as I said above we have, by law, to comply with our licence.

**Jon Humby
Commodore**