



APRIL 2012 NEWSLETTER

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

Commodore's Corner

Spring is starting to feel as though it is just around the corner and I think a trip down to Fox's to take advantage of their 2012 Anti-Fouling deal will not be far off!

The winter period sees a number of social events at the clubhouse, and at the end of January we had a good turnout for Fred's Annual Quiz – many thanks Fred for putting it together. Our planned talk / film show of "Films made in Suffolk" was a casualty of the forecast heavy snow at the beginning of February, but the club still saw a good turnout of members on the night, so we showed a couple of old, short, local films that we had "in reserve" (*"Films made in Suffolk" is now rescheduled to be held on the 28th April*). A showing of Ha'Penny Breeze had been requested by the Old Gaffers Association for the following weekend, and all members were welcome, plus some special guests that had been in touch with Rick asking to see the film as they were residents of Chelmo when it was made, came too. There was a full house for the showing, and we raised a whopping £175 for the RNLI – well done! The 70's themed evening did not receive a great deal of support, so was unfortunately cancelled, but for the following "speakers" evening at the beginning of March, we hit the right spot with a wine and cheese tasting hosted by Malcolm Harding (see full write up elsewhere in the Newsletter) – an exceptional job by Malcolm and Jackie, which was very much enjoyed by all.

Forthcoming events include the Good Friday working party on the 6th April and Fitting Out Supper on the 14th – return the tear-off slip at the back of the Newsletter to book your place.

Red diesel has been a contentious issue through the winter. The RYA have convinced HMRC to drop the new wording proposed for the "declaration" that you have to agree when buying red diesel, to the effect that you agreed that using it outside of UK waters was an illegal act! However there are still issues with Belgian customs that view red diesel as illegal and are fining yachtsmen for having it. Committee member Nigel Mower is going to champion this subject for you, so watch out for more information.

Lee Foster – Commodore

Diary



April:

Friday 6th

Good Friday working party

Saturday 14th

Fitting out supper

Friday 20th

Friday evening BBQ's begin

Saturday 28th

Talk by Chris Green

"Films made in Suffolk"

May:

Sunday 20th

4 Clubs Race: No 1

June:

Saturday 2nd to Tuesday 5th

Jubilee Bank Holiday Cruise

Saturday 23rd

Smack Race

Barge Passage Match

Sunday 24th

4 Clubs Race: No 2

Saturday 30th

Pin Mill Barge match

For latest updates and copies of booking forms check the website.

The next newsletter will be in late May, for JUNE. Contributions as early as possible please to;
circular@pmsc.org.uk

Welcome to New Members

Karen and Mark Sanderson of Chelmo, owner of Kittiwake, a dayboat.

Darren-Paul Kley, of Pin Mill, owner of the Dutch barge Nearly Perfect

Latest News

“Films made in Suffolk”

**NEW DATE: Saturday 28th
April**

On its original date this talk had to be cancelled because of bad weather, so we are delighted that Professor Christopher Green OBE has been able to reschedule.

Chris has had a distinguished career in higher education; is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, the current Chairman of Ipswich Arts Association and has worked extensively in the arts as an organiser, contributor and critic. He has been the Artistic Director of the Trianon Music Group for over 50 years, a group he helped to found in 1959.

Suffolk has been a favourite location for the makers of film and television dramas. Most celebrated is Akenfield, but that is only one of dozens. Popular locations include Elvedon Hall (Eyes Wide Shut and Tomb Raider, amongst other) and the River Orwell (Yangtze Incident, Fourth Protocol and of course Ha’penny Breeze!).

This talk is based on a series of articles written by Chris and will be illustrated by clips from over 25 films and television programmes.

Don’t be late for the 2000 start, there may be no seats left!

RK

Fitting Out Lunches : April 15th to May 26th

The weather is getting better, boat covers are being pulled back and heads are being scratched as the refit jobs threaten to overwhelm. Lists are being made and credit cards warming up at the chandlery.

To lighten the load, we are inviting members to take it in turns to come and cook lunch for the workers on Sundays starting on April 15th and the last one on 26th May. We already have one kind volunteer for 6th May.

Just nice hot grub – soup and rolls, bangers and mash, stews, or shepherds pie – your choice.

Catherine Abbott, our House Secretary, will be happy to answer any queries.

The list of dates is on the Club notice board ready for you to sign up.

Many thanks, RB.

Good Friday Working Party and Grindle Dig 6th April

It is that time of year again to remind you of the annual Good Friday Working Party and Grindle dig, which this year is on 6th April.

On the day we hope to work through the annual tasks required to keep the Sailing Club in good, safe working condition.

By having members give up a small amount of time to complete these preventive maintenance tasks, the club makes large financial savings by reducing the number of occasions where contractors are required on an emergency basis. It is also a fun day which brings together the members of the club, not to mention that each volunteer receives a bacon buttie and pint (or appropriate refreshment)!

The working party starts at 09:00 and depending on the number of volunteers, should be completed around lunch time. Please give what time you have available on this day

The Grindle dig is an opportunity for a number of volunteers to get together to clear some of the build up of silt along the Grindle (stream at the side of Pin Mill Hard). This helps to keep the hard useable. Due to tide time, the first group of volunteers will start at approx 6:30am. If needed, a second stint will start at about 14:00. If you are going to take part in this annual local tradition please bring along a spade and some wellies. Sign in at the club so that we know where you are and more importantly you receive your well deserved bacon buttie and pint!

The greater the number of volunteers the quicker the tasks can be completed and the more the enjoyable the day becomes. Please all place this event in your diary and I hope to see a great number of you on Good Friday.

James Ackland, Property Secretary

The working Party February 18th was a great success

Thanks to Fred Everitt, Nigel Bailey, and Bob Emmett who turned out to help Property Sec James Ackland with a few outstanding maintenance tasks on our first working party of the year.

A special mention must go to Fred Everitt, as if being a past Treasurer and Commodore, one of the longer serving members of the Club and Trustee designate weren't enough, Fred is one of the Club's most regular helpers on these occasions and true to form was the first of the volunteers to turn up and the last to leave. Thanks Fred!

RK

Red diesel in Belgium the saga continues

Having red diesel in the tank continues to be a potential problem in Belgium. Their authorities have stated that they consider it illegal, even with a receipt showing that the tax has been paid. In the last couple of years several skippers have been fined hundreds of euros because of the colour of the fuel in their tanks.

The Cruising Association has decided to advise all its members to avoid visiting Belgium ports altogether, and remain outside their territorial waters if possible. Even those putting white, road diesel in the tank may not escape a fine due to the staining of the tank.

The Dutch Customs are taking a more reasonable approach, as you would probably expect. They require a receipt to prove the fuel in the tank was obtained in the UK and that 100% of the tax has been paid. Don't show a receipt from years ago or carry fuel in cans.

This applies to pleasure craft, which include all private boats and one on bareboat charter.

For the latest update check www.rya.org.uk

SH

Wine Tasting Evening

On Saturday 3rd March, club member Malcolm Harding entertained nearly 40 members with an excellently presented talk "An Introduction to French Wine".

The talk incorporated a slide presentation on the different wine growing regions in France and the background to the classifications used. Malcolm also explained details of the various characteristics that a wine has due to the "Terroir" that the grapes are grown in, and went on to explain how to subjectively taste and appreciate the wine.

As an extra special treat, we were also provided with different cheeses, selected to complement the different wines and coming from the same regions.

If anyone would like to follow up what was enjoyed on the evening by purchasing some for themselves, we had:

White wines starting with a Sancerre like Loire Touraine from Paul Buisse at £5.99, a much liked South West fruity Aubas from Michel Duffour at £5.99 and a fragrant Gewürztraminer from Cave de Turckheim at £8.99.

The reds started with a soft, Pinot Noir Burgundy from the Buxey Cooperative at £7.99, an elegant Bordeaux, Lalande-de-Pomerol from Château La Rose Chatain at £8.99 and a robust Rhone Lirac from Cave de Saint Desirat at £7.99.

The cheeses we had were, (in order) a Chevre de la Loire, an Ossau-Iraty and some spicy Chorizo sausage. With the reds we had some Reblochon, some Comté and finished with a Port Salut. All the wines came from Majestic Wines, opposite the sorting office in Ipswich and the cheeses and sausage came from Sainsbury's.

Malcolm had clearly put an enormous amount of effort into the talk (including some homework beforehand, that I am sure was enjoyable!) which was very much appreciated by all.

Many thanks to Malcolm and Jackie for giving us all an extremely entertaining evening!

Lee Foster
Commodore

Yacht Racing opportunities for Pin Mill Sailing Club Members

I have now taken on the role as the Pin Mill Sailing Club representative on The Haven Series Committee and would like to explain

and promote, to those members interested in yacht racing, the opportunities that this organisation provides.

The Haven Series, now in its 40th Anniversary year, has always provided well-supported, competitive and enjoyable racing for yachts in the local area, with several PMSC members and their yachts taking part since the beginning and winning the trophies and prizes from time to time.

The Haven Series organises both, a Points Series of 10 Races and 4 Passage Races. The Points Series is now only for those yachts with an IRC Rating, however, the Passage Races, 2 to Ostend, 1 to Lowestoft and 1 to Burnham, are also open to those yachts with a Local (PY) Handicap.

The Points Series is always closely contested and again last year the overall winner was not decided until the final race. Within the Series there is also an Interclub Trophy, also keenly contested.

The Passage Races provide a different type of racing, as well as attracting some of the Points Series entrants; there is a lot of further support from more "cruising orientated" yachts, these in particular, sometimes pulling off some good results, when the conditions particularly suit them. The Passage Races can also provide useful positioning trips for further cruises and there is always a great atmosphere generated at the prize giving by the crews, in the bar at the club, hosting the finish.

This being the 40th Anniversary, the Haven Series is keen to promote itself further and will welcome any new or previous entrants to join in for some great racing, there will also be Crew Party and BBQ in mid summer and a Prizegiving Ball in the autumn.

If you are interested in getting involved in the Haven Series Points Series or Passage Races, then check the website; www.havenseries.org, pick up a copy of the handbook in the Clubhouse, or alternatively contact me. I will

be glad to assist, particularly as I am a RORC IRC Measurer and can explain to how to get an IRC Certificate for 2012.

Another event which may also be of interest is the Felixstowe **Regatta, to be held on Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th July** this year. It includes the IRC East Coast Championships and also racing for Locally (PY) Handicapped yachts, with or without spinnakers. Details of this Regatta are on the Website www.felixstoweregatta.co.uk or, in the Felixstowe Regatta Handbook, which will also be available in the Clubhouse.

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WANTED: New Membership Secretary

It was good to see how many of you have returned your renewal form indicating that you are willing to help with the running of the Club.

Membership Secretary is a job that is fundamental to the survival of the Club and, whilst it is busy at the beginning of the year, the secretary then gets a nice rest with not much to do until renewal time comes round again! The basic requirements are access to a computer and the ability to:

- Maintain a very simple spreadsheet
- Run off labels using mail merge
- Time to spare at renewal time, (mid December until the end of February, but only busy late December to the end of January)
- Help the Club Newsletter editor filling envelopes 6 times a year
- Occasional attendance at General Committee Meetings
- Greeting new members and processing a couple of letters for each one

- Sending out the invitation and coming to the New Members Evening in March each year.

The only skill there that I think might make someone wince a bit is mail merge but, hey, if I can teach myself to use it, so can you, particularly with my handy “step-by-step” guide.

An ideal job for someone who does not want to be in the front line but would like to have some involvement. Please give me a call.

Romy Blackburn

Coastguard News

I am happy to say that all has been quiet on the Coastguard front for most of the winter. We have been out on patrol and our skills are being improved at our regular training evenings. Perhaps, as there is little to excite in the way of shouts, now, before the season gets underway, would be a good moment to mention the Coastguard Safety Identification Scheme otherwise known as the CG66.

It is entirely free to join the **CG66 scheme**, no such thing as a free lunch you may say, but in this case there is. It helps a rescue operation if Thames Coastguard holds brief details of you, your boat and a contact at home. The kind of information that makes a rescue easier are knowing the size and type of yacht, what radio and navigation equipment you carry, along with speed and endurance under power – this helps to locate you. The colour of hull, sails and rig all help to spot you. There is nothing intrusive and, hopefully it will never ever called upon.

Check on <http://www.dft.gov.uk/mca> or www.mcga.gov.uk and put in ‘CG66’ in the search box and it will all be explained. You can fill the form out on line or print it off to complete and send to your local Coastguard Co-ordination Centre. “HM Coastguard, East

Terrace, Walton on Naze, Essex, CO14 8P7Y.
I realise that Thames is due to close but not until 2014.

Alternatively, ask me to send you a form.

Romy Blackburn
Coastguard Rescue Officer

The 2012 Sailing Calendar

May	1	Time trials begin
"	20	4 clubs 1st race (SSC)
June	2 - 5	Bank holiday cruise
"	23	Smack race
"	23	Barge Passage Match
"	24	4 clubs 2nd race(OYC)
"	30	PMSC Barge match
July	07 - 15	Summer cruise
"		Erwarton BBQ and
"	15	Passage race
"	21	4 clubs 3rd race (RHYC)
"	29	Dayboats trip to Shotley
Aug	5	2nd Sands BBQ
"		4 clubs 4th race +
"	25	prizegiving (PMSC)
"		August bank holiday
"	25 - 27	Mystery cruise
Sept	8	PMSC regatta
Oct	1	Time trials end

We have a better set of dates for the 4 clubs races this year, with one race each month from May to August, and the series completing before the club regatta. The first race is not until the 20th May, so no excuses for not being launched in time. Do note that that the first 2 races are held on a Sunday this year.

We will run the passage race from Pin Mill to Erwarton on the morning before the lunchtime BBQ. This event is also on a Sunday this year. Entrants will need to complete a race entry from (available on the club web site) and send it, addressed to the sailing secretary, to the

club before the race. Sailing instructions to follow nearer the event.

We have introduced a new event for day boats this year on Sunday 29th July. The intention is to sail or motor down from Pin Mill to Shotley Marina. Tie up on the pontoon outside the lock gates, go ashore for lunch and sail/motor back afterwards. It is intended for stable centreboard open boats, such as Drascombes, which have not really been catered for in the sailing calendar before.

There is a high spring tide for the beach barbeque at Second Sands this year. High water is not until about 14.50, and by that time the beach will probably be awash, so get there in good time.

Happy Sailing.
Nigel Bailey, Sailing Secretary

Eastcoastrivers.com

The spring surveys will soon result in new plans being available for the 2012 season on www.eastcoastrivers.com. In recent years the service has expanded from just the entrance maps of the Deben and the Ore to include Southwold, the Walton Backwaters and Brighlingsea. Before the hard copies are available from the club and from local chandlers the latest version can be downloaded from the website.

SH

Can you help the local Coastguard team?

Have you updated your Tom Tom or other car navigation system recently? Do you have unwanted set that could be donated as an additional resource for the Coastguard vehicle? If so please contact Sara on 780510.