

PERIHELION  **115**



Summer 2015

***Comet Class Association
Newsletter***

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NEWSLETTER NUMBER 115

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 Racing rules Clinic to Keith Lamdin
 General information to Norah Jagers
 Class Association Sue Coppenhall
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Chairman's Report

Chair's mutterings

As we reach the halfway stage in this year's Open Meeting programme it is a good time to look back at the start of the season and reflect how it has gone. It is a chance to decide what went well and what needs some work, from a personal point of view I need to try and attend more events and spend more time in the boat.



However work commitments have prevented this from happening, with the exception of the Association championships that were hosted by Cransley SC at the end of May. As always they did a grand job of entertaining the class on and off the water, many thanks to John Townsend the Race Officer and his team, also Nigel Austin needs a special mention - if you see him with some cutlery and a pack of cards in the future, BEWARE!

There are a couple of events that I had been looking forward to attending this year. The first of these, after last year's Nationals, was the open meeting at Bewl Valley SC, however it is a shame that this welcoming club in such a great sailing location has been forced into administration. Another is the National Championships that are being hosted by Cardiff Yacht Club - this was an enjoyable and memorable event when we visited a number of years ago although the wind may have been a little stronger than some of the competitors would have liked.

We will also be holding the AGM at Cardiff and will be looking for some more members to join the committee to fill the seats that have been vacated by Clive and Brian. Many thanks for all your work on the Class committee in various roles over the years.

Hopefully I will see some of you on the water at Cardiff and the Open Meetings during the rest of the season.

Paul

Paul Hinde C844

**PS The Members page password on the new website is
halleys2014**

Perihelion 116

Please send your contributions for the next issue of Perihelion by

1st October 2015

To Brian Welham, Class Editor, 9 Murrell Court St Neots Cambs PE19 1LL
e-mail bwelham@sky.com

Secretary's Report

Notes from the committee:

1. Cransley Sailing Club welcomed us to a very successful Association Championship at the end of May, with very competitive and enjoyable sailing. The catering was super, and Nigel Austin had us playing some wicked games after supper. Thank you to everyone who made the event so memorable.
2. The results? Ian Coppenhall has retained his title of Association Champion, with Rhiaïn Bevan winning the Ladies Trophy.
3. There was fierce competition between Eddie Pope, Michael Etershank and Chris Robinson, with Michael and Chris on equal points. Nigel Austin was the highest placed Veteran (outside the top 6) with Henry Jiggers as Ancient Mariner and Izac Dodd winning the Junior Trophy.
4. The programme of Open meetings is well underway, and it was lovely to go back to Kingsmead after a break of a few years. The number of people attending the earlier meetings did seem to be a bit lower than in recent years, but hopefully this will pick up as the season progresses.
5. We're very sorry to hear that Bewl Valley Sailing Club has gone into administration. The club was started several years before the reservoir was built, and members have enjoyed excellent facilities. Losing the Open meeting at Bewl affects the Eastern Aphelion, and helms will be given average results for the event. You'll find the results elsewhere in Perihelion, and prizes and mementoes will be presented later in the season.
6. Our Annual General Meeting will be at Cardiff Yacht Club on Saturday 22nd August 2015 at 1730 or 1 hour after the end of the last race, whichever is later. You will find the paperwork for the meeting elsewhere in Perihelion.



7. At the moment we have one motion to consider, which is a change to Measurement Rule 26e to legitimise those helms who have been using Velcro, rather than rope, as a clew slider. If you have anything which you would like us to discuss, please let me know by August 1st. Motions must be proposed and seconded by people who are full members of the Association.
8. We will have some changes to the committee as both Clive Chapman and Brian Weatherley are standing down. Don't be shy about volunteering to stand for election. The Association works because of the joint input from the various committee members. We meet twice a year – a longish meeting in February and a very short one in October. All the rest of the work is done by 'phone and email. Come and join us!!
9. Just a reminder that National Championships for 2015 will be held at Cardiff Yacht Club on Friday 21st, Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd August. David Bevan is sorting out the camping and campervan sites, so do get in touch with him soon to ensure your pitch. (I'm still demanding another stay at the St. David's Spa which is next door!!!!).
10. Thank you to all of the clubs who have made a donation to the Association after hosting an Open meeting. The idea has had a very positive response. Thank you.
11. The website continues to be "work in progress" and we intend having all the Open results posted, along with reports on the racing. You can help by sending reports and photographs to cometresults@yahoo.co.uk
12. The committee has been very saddened to hear of the death of Peter Mountford's wife, and have sent messages of condolence on your behalf.

Norah Jagers Class Secretary

Builders Report

The Dinghy Show in March had two new Comets on display, neither were pre-ordered or sold at the show. However a light blue one rigged as a Xtra was delivered near London a couple of weeks later.



Early May saw the other one being delivered on the way to my granddaughter's christening to a veteran Comet sailor from Chipstead. It went as a Xtra but had a new Standard sail as well. My spies tell me that if his more veteran brother rigs up as a Xtra, the new owner does likewise. They aren't really veterans just very experienced having had Comets in the family for over 25 years.

There are couple of class rule proposals that I should feel I should pass comment on. The first one is about the clew tie down or clew slider. Some people have started using one made of webbing and velcro. I'm quite happy with that. I only said "rope" in the rules but I specifically banned a metal strop or ring because with a couple of reefs around the mast this would be near to the helm's head.

The other possible proposed rule change concerns the legality of changing rigs, Standard, Xtra or Mino during an event, whether it's a one day open meeting or a 2/3 day championship. As I understand it this is not allowed at the moment but you can change rigs from one open meeting to another whilst competing for an orbital trophy.

The three rigs are different. The Standard and the Xtra are pretty evenly matched on average but it is inevitable that each rig will be superior in certain conditions and for different helms. The Xtra uses a smaller sail area and a shorter mast so a 10 stone helm can sail it better (quicker) upwind in a F4 than a

Standard rig. In most conditions a Standard rig will be quicker on a dead run because you are just being pushed along by the wind and basically the bigger the sail area the better.

Looking now at the Mino rig, much smaller in area, roughly equal to a Standard sail with two reefs in, but without the height and weight of the standard mast. This rig will inevitably be quicker than the standard one reefed.

Therefore if you were allowed to change rigs during an open meeting, to be as competitive as possible and to take advantage of changing conditions during the day, you would ideally have all three rigs at your disposal. I think this is a step too far.

I'm coming up to Cardiff probably not until the Saturday but if anyone wants to save on carriage cost on a new sail..... We are closed for the first two weeks of August though. See you at the Nationals.

Andy Simmons

The photographs in this issue were printed with the kind permission from the following.

| | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| Cover | Roy Simmers |
| P23 | Brian Welham |
| P24 | Brian Welham |
| P25 | Brian Welham |
| P32 | Roy Simmers |

Shearwater Sailing Club Comet Open April 11 2015

On Saturday 11th April this was the first Comet Open of 2015. The wind was south westerly force 3-4. This was a good wind direction for the lake but the stronger the wind the more it would get deviated off the sides of the valley making for some testing conditions in which to sail.

Eight visitors joined two home boats. Nic Cross the Race Officer and his team set a course making full use of the lake.

Race 1 A committee boat start and a gusty blast made for an interesting start. Chris Robinson C867 led the first lap only to be overtaken by Ben Palmer C597 who held the lead for the next two laps. Alan Watson C799 and Eddie Pope C804 pushed hard swapping third and fourth with John Coppenhall C532 chasing the pair of them. Chris after dropping back to third worked his way up the fleet to secure the lead and held on to it until the finish. Ben was a very close second and Eddie third.

Race 2. The wind was picking up with some stronger gusts coming through. Chris had a good start and was swapping places with Ben and Alan. John and Clive Chapman C704 were chasing hard. Chris held on with Ben second and Alan coming in third.

Race 3. Only six boats on the line as the wind had increased in strength. Eddie got away and led the fleet for several laps until a capsize allowed Chris to come through with Alan Watson chasing hard. Ben fought his way back up from fifth to finish third just behind Alan with Chris completing his hat trick by coming in first.

The Open was shared with a junior Topper fleet that also sailed in these challenging conditions. Normally you would expect to overtake a Topper helm going down wind. A light helm and a boat that was kept flat were difficult to catch. The youngster

showed great resolve and skill in completing the three races. After an excellent tea the prizes were awarded.

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|------|
| 1 st | Chris Robinson | C867 |
| 2 nd | Ben Palmer | C597 |
| 3 rd | Alan Watson | C799 |
| 4 th | Eddie Pope | C804 |
| 5 th | John Coppenhall | C532 |
| 6 th | Henry Jagers | C800 |
| 7 th | Clive Chapman | C704 |
| 8 th | James Welbourne | |
| 9 th | Michael Werbick | |
| 10 th | Brian Welham | |

Clive Chapman C704

Letters to the Editor

Only one letter this time. Ed

Dear Sir,

Where is Comet 189?

Many years ago (early noughties) when I bought my first Comet (483) I was given a spare rudder blade. I didn't pay much attention to it; so it was put in the loft; as I was keen to get on the water. Recently during a tidy out of the loft I came across the rudder blade and noticed that the number 189 was stencilled on it. Looking at the stencil I am fairly certain it is not 681 – 189 upside down.

Hence the question where is Comet 189? If anyone has any information regarding Comet 189 please get in touch.

Nigel Fern Comet 845 n.fern@ntlworld.com

Up River Comet Open 19 April 2015

Six visiting Comets joined the single local boat at Up River Yacht Club for the club's annual open meeting shared with the large local Lightning fleet. Visitors came from as far away as south Devon to race on the River Crouch in Essex in a light force 1-2.

For the five minutes before the start of race one there was very nearly no wind. This left a good part of lightning fleet stranded on the start line trying to sail upwind against the tide when the comet start was due. Luckily the wind turned on just before the gun sounded letting the fleet get away relatively cleanly.

This light wind race was lead for most of the first leg by Chris Robinson, one the fleet's heavy weather experts. As the race wore on he gradually dropped back to fifth with Eddie Pope taking the win followed by Michael Ettershank in 2nd and Izac Dodds in 3rd.

Race two started with more wind and this time Michael and Eddie seemed to find the most of it and built up a reasonable lead. During a long upwind leg Eddie took the lead and held it to the finish, thus sealing the win at another open meeting. Most of the rest of fleet stayed together with Bob Dodds taking 3rd place on the reach from Izac, which he held to the end.

After this race the fleet came off the water for possibly the shortest tea and cake break on the circuit before the tide rushes back out to the North Sea.

At the start of the third race once again the wind was rather light but with the tide now going out this didn't present any problems getting to the windward mark. However on the run the entire

fleet struggled to make much head way and tried to stay close to the north bank out of the tide. This lead to Henry Jagers gently running aground twice against the sea wall. There turned out to be even less wind in the that part of the river, which resulted in all seven boats plus a pair lightnings running line abreast. With the tide strengthening and the wind continuing to be weak the fleet was turned early for a short tide assisted leg to the finish. On the approach to the finish the family rivalry between Bob and his son Izac resulted in Bob aggressively luffing thus allowing Chris to win, followed by Izac in 2nd while Robyn Hadley in her first Open Meeting took 3rd.

With the racing finished the fleet finally sat down to an excellent late lunch of chilli and baked potatoes.

Michael Ettershank C84

| Pos | Helm | Sail No | Club | R1 | R2 | R3 | Points |
|------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| 1st | Eddie Pope | 804 | Ogston | 1 | 1 | 5 | 2 |
| 2nd | Michael Ettershank | 84 | Up River | 2 | 2 | 7 | 4 |
| 3rd | Izac Dodds | 701 | Crawley Mariners | 3 | 4 | 2 | 5 |
| 4th | Chris Robinson | 867 | Burgfield | 5 | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| 5th | Bob Dodds | 869 | Crawley Mariners | 4 | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| 6th | Robyn Hadley | 536 | Eyott | 6 | 7 | 3 | 9 |
| 7th | Henry Jagers | 800 | Beer | 7 | 6 | 6 | 12 |

Burghfield Comet Open ***25th April 2015***

Six visitors joined two home boats for Burghfield's Comet Open on Saturday 25th April. Although those travelling from the East had to drive through heavy rain, the weather at the club was dry, with a good breeze coming straight down the lake. This allowed the Race Officer to set a course with a long beat and run.

A few seconds before the first start the wind dropped, and this left the two local boats, Tim Higgs and Chris Robinson, stranded short of the line. As the wind began to fill in again some boats picked up the wind sooner than the others, and there were some big gains and losses made in the shifty and fickle wind. As a result half way up the first beat the fleet were widely spread apart. Michael Ettershank was first to the windward mark, with a gap to Henry Jiggers and John Coppenhall. At the beginning of lap two the wind finally steadied and picked up in strength. Ian Coppenhall and Chris took a different route through the islands to Henry and John and moved up to second and third place. However, Michael was too far in front to be caught, and there were no further changes in the top three. Further back Steve Gregory moved up to fourth place, but capsized on the final beat, allowing Henry into fourth.

In race two Ian got the best start. Michael broke away from the rest of the fleet, taking the right hand side of the first beat, but he made no impression on Ian's lead and was only just ahead of the chasing pack of boats led by Steve. On the first run the wind dropped which left Ian with a commanding lead. Behind him the fleet spread right out across the width of the lake, and it was wide open as to who would be in the best wind and get through to second place. Initially it looked as if Henry would sail past on the right hand side, but in the end it was Steve on the extreme left, running by the lee on the opposite tack to the rest of the fleet, who sailed into second. On the second lap the wind got up again, and Michael and Chris moved up to second and third.

They enjoyed some planning reaches on the runs, and with Ian clear ahead Michael took a flyer by sailing high over one of the islands, but he neither gained ground on Ian, nor got caught by Chris. There were no further changes in positions at the top, and this race Steve made no mistakes and kept fourth place. After the first two races Ian and Michael had the first two placings, but being on equal points the last race would decide who was first and who was second – the highest placed of the two would win overall. They both started close together at the pin end of the line, with Ian having the slightly better start. However, with a wind shift at the last moment, this wasn't the most favoured end, and other boats were ahead and kept them pinned against the bank. Ian broke free from the bunch first and was first to the mark with a short lead over Chris, who in turn had a short lead over Michael. Over the next lap the gaps reduced and Michael overtook Chris. On the final beat he began to close on Ian, but the race finished before he could catch him giving Ian first place in the last race and overall. Further back Henry held fourth place, which secured him fourth place overall.

Chris Robinson C63

| Rank | No | Helm Name | Club | R1 | R2 | R3 | Nett |
|------|-----|--------------------|------------------|----|----|-----|------|
| 1st | 636 | Ian Coppenhall | Hunts SC | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 2nd | 84 | Michael Ettershank | Up River YC | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| 3rd | 63 | Chris Robinson | Burghfield SC | 3 | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| 4th | 800 | Henry Jagers | Beer SC | 4 | -6 | 4 | 8 |
| 5th | 57 | Steve Gregory | Frensham Pond SC | 7 | 4 | 6 | 10 |
| 6th | 532 | John Coppenhall | Hunts SC | 5 | 5 | 5 | 10 |
| 7th | 801 | Brian Welham | Hunts SC | 6 | 7 | DNC | 13 |
| 8th | 849 | Tim Higgs | Burghfield SC | 8 | 8 | DNC | 16 |

Crawley Mariners Open 6 June 2015

This year's Open Meeting at Crawley Mariners saw a total of thirteen entrants coming under starter's orders. The weather was bright and sunny with some cloud. Winds were expected to remain fairly light but in the end proved to be both stronger and more variable than anticipated. This meant that conditions were at times both unpredictable and challenging, with a number of capsizes recorded over the course of the day.

In the first race Simon Thompson was first round the windward mark followed by Bob Dodds and Mark Feltham. Going down the run Simon opened out a good lead but things changed on the short second beat with Bob, Michael Ettershank and Mike Thompson leading into the second lap. By the end of the lap Michael had established a lead that he was able to hold onto until the end. Jeff Smith, having been well down the fleet in the early stages, came through strongly on the final lap to claim second, ahead of Simon and Bob.

Izac Dodds led the second race to the windward mark, closely followed by Michael Ettershank and George Colcomb. However each of them suffered capsizes as the race progressed, allowing John Coppenhall to make his way to the front. John held on to finish first, with Izac chasing him all the way. These two were well ahead of the rest of the field, with other positions changing frequently. Michael finished third with Jeff Smith once again coming through strongly at the end to claim fourth.

The first afternoon race saw half a dozen boats reaching the first mark in a tight formation. In the early stages John Coppenhall led a breakaway bunch of four boats but towards the end of the second lap it was Bob Dodds who had come through to establish a clear lead that he never looked like relinquishing. Michael Ettershank picked up a number of places to finish second whilst George Colcomb, a junior CMYC member competing in his first Comet event, gained an excellent third.

In the final race, Bob Dodds got to the front early and held on to secure the win with Mike Thompson always looking secure in second place. In the overall positions victory went to Bob on a tie break with Michael Ettershank second and John Coppenhall third.

Andrew Keynes



Comet Class Association

Affiliated to the Royal Yachting Association

2015 AGM

NOMINATION FORM

FOR OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Notes:** 1. Nominee must be a Full Member of the Class Association. Proposer & Seconder must be Members of the Class Association.
2. Print names and sign in spaces below. One nomination only per form. Blank forms may be copied.

Nomination for (delete as required):

CHAIRMAN SECRETARY TREASURER COMMITTEE

Nominee:

Print name.....Signature.....

Proposer:

Print name.....Signature.....

Seconder:

Please come to the Annual General Meeting at Cardiff Yacht Club.

The AGM is YOUR meeting: YOUR opportunity to have YOUR say in how the Association is run: YOUR chance to tackle the Committee about decisions made on YOUR behalf. It is also the time when the Association takes stock of what has happened over the previous year and looks at plans for the next.

So - come and have your say. If you can't come, please send me your apologies along with any comments which you have

COMET CLASS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To be held on Saturday 22nd August 2015

at Cardiff Yacht Club

**1730 hrs, or 1 hour after the end of the last race,
whichever is later.**

Draft Agenda

Apologies

Minutes of the 2014 AGM held on 30th August 2014

Reports by Officers

Builder's Report

Adoption of Accounts

Consideration of Motions:

Proposed changes to Class Measurement Rules:

6.1 Change to Measurement Rule 26e. Sail outhaul system. Route of rope and purchase optional. Type and method of connection to clew is optional. Clew slider around the boom shall be of any suitable material (e.g. rope or Velcro) other than a solid metal ring. Proposed by the committee

Any other motions to be advised by 1st August 2015

Election of Officers and Committee

Appointment of Auditor

Any Other Business

Norah Jagers, Class Secretary

COMET SPARES, REPAIRS AND ACCESSORIES

Don't forget all spares and accessories are held in stock and can often be with you in less than 24 hours if you order in the morning.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| New Dinghies | A selection always in stock |
| Comet | £4050 |
| Comet Xtra | £4150 |
| Comet Mino | £4000 |
| Standard Sail | £ 320 |
| Standard Sail with Zipper | £ 350 |
| Zippered Sail Conversion Kit | £ 30 |
| Mino Sail | £ 280 |
| Xtra Sail | £ 385 |
| Xtra Conversion Kit & Sail | £ 415 |
| Xtra Bottom Mast | £ 170 |
| Xtra Top Mast | £ 95 |
| Xtra Boom | £ 140 |

A full spare parts price list is now available to download from our web page. www.cometdinghies.com

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South Molton, Devon EX36 4EJ Tel 01769 574358
Fax 01769 574358
e-mail cometdinghies@btconnect.com

2015 Association Championship at Cransley SC



Ian Coppenhall accepting the Association Trophy

| Helm | Boat | Club | R1 | R2 | R3 | R4 | R5 | Pts | Place |
|--------------------|------|------------------|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-------|
| IAN COPPENHALL | 636 | HUNTS SC | 1 | 1 | -3 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1st |
| EDDIE POPE | 804 | OGSTON SC | -11.5 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 13 | 2nd |
| MICHAEL ETERS HANK | 84 | UP RIVER YC | 2 | 3 | 1 | 8 | -9 | 14 | 3rd |
| CHRIS ROBINSON | 867 | BURGHFIELD | 5 | 2 | 5 | 2 | -6 | 14 | 4th |
| DAVE HARRIS | 711 | SEVERN SC | 3 | 7 | 4 | -12 | 4 | 18 | 5th |
| BOB DODDS | 869 | CRAWLEY MARINERS | 4 | -8 | 6 | 7 | 7 | 24 | 6th |
| NIGEL AUSTIN | 875 | CRANSLEY SC | 9 | 5 | 8 | 5 | -12 | 27 | 7th |
| HENRY JAGGERS | 800 | BEER SC | 8 | 9 | 13 | -15 | 3 | 33 | 8th |
| PAUL HINDE | 844 | SEVERN SC | -14 | 14 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 34 | 9th |
| TOM BULL | 18 | CRANSLEY SC | -15 | 15 | 7 | 4 | 10 | 36 | 10th |
| IZAAC DODDS | 701 | CRAWLEY MARINERS | 6 | -13 | 11 | 13 | 8 | 38 | 11th |
| BRIAN WELLAM | 801 | HUNTS SC | 11.5 | 4 | -14 | 9 | 14 | 38.5 | 12th |
| JOHN COPPENHALL | 532 | HUNTS SC | 10 | 12 | 10 | 11 | -13 | 43 | 13th |
| JOHN STURGEON | 400 | HAWLEY LAKE | -13 | 11 | 12 | 10 | 11 | 44 | 14th |
| RHIAIN BEVAN | 724 | CRANSLEY SC | 7 | 10 | -15 | 14 | 15 | 46 | 15th |
| CAROL BUTCHER | 614 | HAWLEY LAKE SC | 16 | 16 | 16 | -19 | 17 | 65 | 16th |
| HELEN LEVERS | 857 | SEVERN SC | 17 | -20 | 18 | 16 | 16 | 67 | 17th |
| ANDREW BEAUMONT | 556 | ATTENBOROUGH SC | 18 | 17 | 17 | 17 | -19 | 69 | 18th |
| NIGEL FORD | 644 | OLTON MERE SC | 20 | 19 | -21 | 18 | 18 | 75 | 19th |
| SARAH AUSTIN | 718 | CRANSLEY SC | 19 | 18 | 19 | DNC | DNC | 79 | 20th |
| JULIE AVES | 417 | CRANSLEY SC | -21 | 21 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 81 | 21st |
| PAT MURPHY | 715 | CRANSLEY SC | 22 | 22 | 22 | DNC | DNC | 89 | 22nd |

2015 Association Championship at Cransley SC



Here are all the prizes ready to be presented



Eddie Pope 2nd



*Michael Ettershank 3rd
but also announcing the
event places*



Izac Dodd 1st Youth



Nigel Austen Veteran



Henry Jagers accepting all the prizes for Ancient Mariner



Paul Hinde thanking Sue Bull (Commodore CSC) and the club for holding the event



Ian Coppenhall in a reflective mood and probably thinking what he will say in his acceptance speech

I did not win a prize but in this modern age I was encouraged to do a selfie when getting my memento

Ed



Hunt SC Comet Open April 26

At last in 2015, we had a fine day with benign winds for those who enjoy these sort of conditions. The three local boats were joined by 6 visitors. At Hunts we don't stop the club racing for the day but add another start to the two or three that are planned for each start sequence. The Comet start was always the last one away.

The race officer set a generous course with two beats at slightly different angles to catch the very variable NNE to NW force 1 to 2 winds. On each of the three races it looked as if it would favour a port, pin-end start with up to 1 minute to go then it changed back to a conventional starboard start and favoured the committee boat end. Some of the competitors got it right and others suffered the consequences.

Race one was contested by Ian Coppenhall, Eddie Pope, Annette Walter and Brian Welham who pulled well clear from the rest of the fleet headed by John Coppenhall. The finishing order should have been as stated above but in the last short beat to the line Ian continued to lead but Brian forced his way past Annette and Eddie tacked to keep clear of Brian and Annette but in doing so was also passed by Brian. So the final result was 1st Ian, 2nd Brian, 3rd Eddie and 4th Annette.

Race two was again contested by Ian, Eddie, Annette and Brian in the early stages but this time John Coppenhall was close behind and in one incredible beat went from 5th to 2nd just behind Ian. This situation did not continue as Brian fell back into the clutches of the following pack and both Annette and Eddie overhauled John but could not catch Ian. Annette was second with Eddie third and John came in a close fourth. So with two firsts, Ian had won the open but the minor places were still up for

grabs.

Race thee began with the same fickle wind directions but with Eddie leading, Brian and Ian following and the pack trailing behind. On the same beat that John had made great gains in the previous race Brian forged ahead and at the end of the lap was in a commanding lead from Ian and Eddie. He managed to hold this lead for the second and final lap to win the race despite Ian gaining on him at times. However, Ian had to contend with Eddie who never gave up..

The final results were Ian Coppenhall 2pts, Brian Welham 3pts and Annette Walter 6pts It was good to see two of the three locals in the top two places but we are very pleased that the other competitors came to challenge us.

Brian Welham C801

| Helm | Sail | Rig | Club | R1 | R2 | R3 | Pts | Pos. |
|-----------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-------------|
| Ian Coppenhall | 636 | Comet | Hunts SC | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Brian Welham | 801 | Comet | Hunts SC | 2 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| Annette Walter | 323 | Comet | WGCSC | 4 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 3 |
| Eddie Pope | 804 | Comet | Ogston | 3 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 4 |
| John Coppenhall | 532 | Comet | Hunts SC | 5 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 5 |
| Nigel Fern | 845 | Comet | SHSC | 6 | 6 | 9 | 12 | 6 |
| Phil Walter | 611 | Comet | WGCSC | 9 | 7 | 6 | 13 | 7 |
| Nigel Davis | 170 | Xtra | WGCSC | 10 | 8 | 7 | 15 | 8 |
| Rhiain Bevan | 724 | Comet | Cransley | 7 | 9 | 8 | 15 | 9 |
| Graham Hunt | 558 | Comet | WGCSC | 8 | DNS | 10 | 18 | 10 |

COMET CLASS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held at Bewl Valley Sailing Club
On Saturday 30th August 2014

The meeting was attended by 24 members.

Apologies:

Apologies were received from Keith Lamdin, Andy Simmons, Brian Herring, Brian Welham, Ros Stevenson, Guy Wilkins, Mark Wilkins, Ian Coppenhall, Andrew Beaumont, Joe Wilkins, Ben Wilkins, Izac Dodds, Rick Whitehouse, Ann Hooper

The minutes of the 2011 AGM held on 25th August 2013 had been circulated prior to the meeting and were agreed. Proposed by Steve Gregory. Seconded by Michael Thompson.

Reports by Officers:

The Chairman, Clive Chapman reported on his last year as Chairman and thanked the Committee for all their support over the past 3 years. He has enjoyed attending as many events as possible, and thanked all those who have made racing possible, including the helms who travel the circuit. Clive was pleased that he has been able to get the website re-launched, and is happy to stay on the committee for a further year in order to follow-up and ensure that the site is working well.

The Secretary, Norah Jagers, thanked all the clubs which have hosted events over the past year. We were sorry that Banbury has decided not to have an event this year, and are looking forward to the new venue at Bristol Avon SC.

The Results Officer, Paul Hinde, spoke to his report, a copy of which is retained with these minutes.

The Editor of Perihelion, Brian Welham, sent his apologies along with a report. He commented that he has edited 24 editions so far, and feels that the format needs updating. He sees the new website as one way of changing the way of communicating with members. Brian thanked everyone who had sent in race reports, and felt that it would be nice if someone on the shore, or committee boat, could be

persuaded to send in a report which covered all aspects of the race, as those sent in by someone taking part tended to have a more limited view. He was also grateful for other articles, and encouraged members to send in more. Brian apologised for the delay in the last edition which was partially due to his house move.

Builder's Report:

The Builder, Andrew Simmons, apologised for not being at the meeting as he was at his son's wedding in St.Mawes Castle across the water from Falmouth.

Andrew said that he must go to Bristol and Avon where he was in great demand as a light wind crew about 55 years ago! He has built a couple of Comets this year. One was sold before it went to the Dinghy Show and later sailed at the Inlands. The other came back to Devon and I was secretly looking forward to racing it here myself.

In the event, the Comet went to Reading S.C. for a lady who saw it at the Dinghy Show. Repair work has been quiet this year but spares and new sails etc. have been the same as before. I seem to have been kept busy though,

Andrew said that he seems to have had more short breaks than usual, partly to spend time with his new granddaughter. In between he's plodded along with finishing the Caprice, the small sailing cruiser he started over 30 years ago!

Adoption of Accounts:

The Treasurer, Helen Leivers, spoke to the accounts which were adopted unanimously. Proposed by Nigel Fern and seconded by John Coppenhall.

Consideration of Motions:

There were 2 Motions for consideration.

6.1 Increase in Membership subscription from £17 to £18 for Full and Associate Membership and from £23 to £24 for Family Membership. Proposed by Helen Leivers. Seconded by the Committee

6.2 That Honorary Membership be given to Liz Hossell. Proposed by Helen Leivers. Seconded by Rhian Bevan.

Both motions were agreed unanimously.

Election of Officers and Committee

Clive Chapman has completed his term as Chairman. **Paul Hinde** is prepared to act as Chairman. Proposed by Clive Chapman and seconded by Norah Jagers.

Helen Leivers is standing down as Treasurer and from the committee.

Rhiain Bevan is prepared to act as Treasurer. Proposed by Helen Leivers and seconded by Clive Chapman.

Liz Hossell has been nominated as a committee member. Proposed by Michael Ettershank and seconded by Paul Hinde.

The rest of the Committee was prepared to stand and was re-elected en bloc. Proposed by Helen Leivers and seconded by Diana Thompson.

Officers:

| | |
|-----------|---------------|
| Chairman | Paul Hinde |
| Secretary | Norah Jaggars |
| Treasurer | Rhiain Bevan |

Committee:

| | |
|----------|----------------------------------|
| Results | Michael Ettershank |
| Website | Clive Chapman Brian Weatherly |
| Trophies | Liz Hossell John Sturgeon |

Appointment of Auditor:

The meeting thanked Michael Thompson for acting as Honorary Auditor. He was reappointed for the next year. Proposed by Helen Leivers. Seconded by Clive Chapman.

Any Other Business:

Paul Hinde reported that the Association raised £250 for Cotswold Care in memory of Phillip Hossell.

Clive asked everyone to send in their ideas for the website.

The meeting asked the committee to conduct a survey of members for their preferences on the format of the National Championships, The question arose because this year the event has not been over a Bank Holiday, and has included a Friday.

The meeting presented small gifts to Helen and Clive in gratitude for all the work which they have done for the Association.

There being no other business, the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to Bewl Valley Sailing Club.

Norah Jaggars

10/09/14

COMETS AT WINSFORD FLASH S.C.

May 9th 2015

Seventeen helms including six visitors took part in the Winsford Flash Comet Open. The wind was North West and remained from this direction for the duration of the competition but shifted about enough, as it often does at Winsford, to challenge the sailors. All helms chose to use standard rigs except Rick Whitehouse (Combs SC, 780) who used an Xtra Rig.

Race 1 started in F4/5 winds with Force 5 gusts and an occasional F6 flurry. Eddie Pope (Ogsten SC, 804) started well and maintained a lead for the first two laps but was overtaken by Rick Whitehouse (Combs SC, 780) on the last lap. The OOD had set a testing course with downwind legs especially loved by Comet sailors in a fresh breeze! This resulted in several capsizes including the writer and consequently my memory of this race is somewhat limited.

Over lunch the wind moderated a little in time for the second race. The course contained two good reaches resulting in some enjoyable planing and producing some “whoops” from a few helms. Jonathan Latham (Winsford Flash SC, 349) finished 1st having led throughout the race. Paul Hinde (Severn SC, 844) moved from 4th to 2nd overtaking Eddie Pope (Ogsten SC, 804) who finished 3rd and Rick Whitehouse (Combs SC, 780) who came 4th. Further down the fleet John Coppenhall (Hunts SC, 532) traded places with Nigel Fern (845) several times.

The wind moderated a bit more for the last race and Jonathan Latham (Winsford Flash SC, 349) established a lead early in the first lap. This he managed to hold over five laps to finish 1st although he was hounded by Eddie Pope (Ogsten SC, 804) and Rick Waterhouse (Combs SC, 780).

Congratulations to Jonathan Latham who was the overall winner and thanks from Winsford Flash SC to all our visitors who made the event so competitive and enjoyable. We hope you will all come again next year.

Roy Symmers C115

Winsford Flash results

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Jonathan Latham | (Winsford Flash SC, | 349, S) |
| Rick Whitehouse | (Combs SC, | 780, Xtra) |
| Eddie Pope | (Ogsten SC, | 804, S) |
| Paul Hinde | (Severn SC, | 844, S) |
| John Coppenhall | (Hunts SC, | 532, S) |
| Steve Bellamy | (Winsford Flash SC, | 311, S) |
| Keith Sowley | (Winsford Flash SC, | 809, S) |
| Nigel Fern | (| 845, S) |
| Roy Symmers | (Winsford Flash SC, | 115, S) |
| Rose Benson | (Winsford Flash SC, | 841, S, Blue) |
| Andrew Beaumont | (Attenborough SC, | 556, S) |
| David Harrison | (Winsford Flash SC, | 815, S) |
| Brian Herring | (Winsford Flash SC, | 228, S) |
| Fiona Niddrie | (Winsford Flash SC, | 745, S) |
| Rick Hough | (Winsford Flash SC, | 236, S) |
| Ros Stevenson | (Winsford Flash SC, | 841, S, Orange) |
| Janet Gaukroger | (Winsford Flash SC, | 697, S) |

See Page 31 for report



Editorial

Hi,

This issue is full of open meeting reports as I have not had any articles from members (or non members). I am sure all of you are going to take a holiday this summer and many you will go on boating type activities. Why



of

not share your fun (or disasters) with the rest of us. It does not have to be yachting related. Some of our members are getting to the age when a nice cruise to Antigua or Istanbul will do very nicely. If you don't send me anything then I will have to tell you about my "interesting" holiday to Italy where I did walk on the beach once!

Not many photos were sent this time but the front cover from Roy Simmers was a very nice showing from the Winsford Flash open meeting.

It was sad to hear about Bewl Valley SC and I know how members will be feeling as I was a member of Taplow Lake when we lost our lake. However, the members mostly joined Maidenhead SC which was a bonus for both clubs.

Don't forget the "Letter to the Editor" section that we now have. You might have thoughts on the wild disparity in the charges made by clubs offering open meetings (Comets and other classes). I ask the question "Why do clubs hold open meetings?"

Brian Welham C801

new for old

Ever broken your old mast or ripped a sail and been told by your insurance company that you're not covered for a new replacement?

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COMETS FOR SALE & WANTED

For Sale

Comet Xtra dinghy, Sail No. 854.

Very good condition Good sailing performance and easy to handle. Mylar battened sail on luff zipped mast sleeve. Can be rigged with centre or aft main. 2 piece mast for easy storage and transport. Price includes boat cover and launch trolley. Can be viewed at a sailing club near Leicester.

£1650 ono. Tel 0116 2102254 for details

Comet Cascade 584

Standard rig with mino rig and both sails . Blue and White hull with White

Topsides. Folding launching trolley with new tyres. Very good condition Lying Tudor Sailing Club Eastern Road Portsmouth

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Roger Payne Rspayne77@btinternet.com Tel 07827 948 683

Comet 778

Blue hull Included is a Standard rig and 4 standard sails and an Xtra rig and sail.

Two rudders and two padded rudder bags plus 1 centre board and two padded bags and one spare padded toe strap.

A one year old boat cover and a launching trolley.

Location: Chipstead Sailing Club Kent UK

Price: £1,600

Contact: David or Sharon

Email:david.chesworth@btinternet.com Telephone:07554554368

Custom built trailer/launching trolley combo, perfect for Comet.

Trolley brand new, road trailer fully reconditioned, new bearings, wheels and galvanised. Built late 2014, unused since. For sale at cost price – £400.Bill Lynn 07767 843217 bill.lynn05@gmail.com

Wanted

Standard Rig Comet

Standard rig Comet wanted, preferably with road trailer and decent sail. Wanted to travel to opens, so that current boat can be left at my club .

Will pay up to £1000, possibly more if very good condition

Steve Gregory 01420 562880



Comet Class Association

Affiliated to the Royal Yachting Association