

PERIHELION  **108**

Comet Class Association Newsletter

**Autumn
2013**



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Newsletter articles and comments to Brian Welham
Racing rules Clinic to Keith Lamdin
General information to Nora Jaggars
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Chairman's Report

Hello All

The rain was pitter pattering on the fly sheet of my tent. It was Saturday night of the Nationals at Fishers Green and, more than a dozen of us, had decided to camp over the weekend. We had two races during the day and I was certain my day one position would improve over the following two. The winds had been good but the weed was a handicap, but it was the same for all of us. We had a good BBQ and were entertained by a quiz which Claire hosted.



Being the first night under canvas I did not sleep soundly but it was quiet apart from the rain lashing down. Several sailors had moved camp inside the clubhouse and slept in the warm on the sofas. However sound travels so I was able to listen to trains on the mainline railway half a mile away. As the night progressed it continued to rain and now I could hear the transatlantic planes heading for nearby Stansted Airport. Gradually I fell asleep only to be woken at dawn by a large flock of Canada geese honking and it felt they were going to dive bomb my tent as they flew over. I got up. The rain had finally stopped and miraculously I was still dry. I went for a walk and was able to witness the beauty of the lake and its surroundings. The mist was rising from the lake and there were numerous water fowl swimming around. Tea from Paul and Helen's motor home was most welcome as was the excellent breakfast in the Clubhouse. I was geared up for the new day. My results did not improve in fact they got worse.

However as always there was some great racing with positions changing all the time.

The AGM on Sunday night was well attended and it was good to see Keith Lamdin and his wife Margaret there. An excellent Sunday evening meal followed and I was pleased to get a good night's sleep.

(The geese still managed my early morning alarm call).

Monday. The last days sailing and I was unable to improve my overall position. A titanic battle had taken place between Ian and Matthew over the three days with Ian coming out on top. Annette won the ladies prize and both are to be congratulated.

Was it a success? Apart from the weed problem emphatically the answer was yes. There were eight female helms; four youth helms and fifteen clubs supporting the event. Some new faces were competing, some of whom it was their first National.

The event was well run and Fishers Green made us all very welcome.

Three clubs competed for the team prize. Each having at least three helms. (Four other clubs had two helms and hopefully next they can enlist another helm.) Crawley Mariners were the victors.

The AGM reminded me that I was entering my final year as Chairman. One of the highlights of the first two years was the emergence of youth sailors attending Opens and the Championships. My thanks go to the clubs fostering young helms and in encouraging and supporting them to race. Looking at the results of the Opens new faces are appearing which makes for healthy competition. Despite the difficult financial situation the attendance at the Opens has not declined and I am always impressed just how far some helms are willing to travel in order to compete.

I have earmarked the final events I wish to attend in order to improve my overall position. Whether I do or not remains to be seen, but one thing I am sure of is there is always good competition and enjoyable company at the end of the race.

Enjoy your sailing.

Clive Chapman C704 & C821

Secretary's Report

Notes from the committee:



1. I'm writing this as the first of the autumnal storms is making its presence felt. It seems a shame that this "proper" summer has to end. Hopefully the weather will look kindly on the remaining events.
2. Congratulations to Ian Stone, who won a very tight contest to become the National Champion for 2013.
3. Congratulations to Annette Walter who is our Ladies Champion for 2013.
4. Fishers Green Sailing Club made us most welcome for the National Championships, even opening the club house for the campers who found themselves getting rather wet when the heavens opened overnight. The social events went well, and the quiz ensured that we had to use our little grey cells. I can only apologise to all the helms for the weed problem. It only appeared at the club about 4 years ago, and did not come up last year, so we didn't consider it as a risk factor. As someone said, it was the same for everyone, so well for staying the course.
5. It was good to have a strong fleet of juniors in contention again. Well done to all of you. Fishers Green also fielded a good team of sailors which included one of the young sailors, Matthew Aldous-Horne, who borrowed a boat and had a really good battle with Ian at the front of the fleet.
6. The Annual General Meeting was held on Sunday 25th August. Your committee remains the same:
Chairman: Clive Chapman
Treasurer: Helen Leivers
Secretary: Norah Jagers

Committee:

Paul Hinde (Results)
Rhian Bevan
Brian Weatherley
John Sturgeon (link with Combined Comet Classes)
Mike Ettershank

We would welcome someone to take care of buying trophies. Please contact Clive if you can help.

7. The Annual General Meeting considered the proposal to change the Measurement Rule to allow for the zippered sail. The motion was passed with no dissent.
8. The accounts for the last year were presented to the Annual General Meeting and will be adopted once you have seen them in Perihelion and been able to comment on them.
9. Once again the costs of producing Perihelion were discussed during Any Other Business, and your committee will continue to look at other options. These include setting up a Members Only space on the website, which would need to be redesigned.
10. During the weekend of the Nationals, we were given the opportunity to raise money for Cotswold Hospice Care which supported Phillip and Liz Hossell, and their family, during Phil's illness. Phillip sold his new Comet, which he had sailed at the Nationals at Portland and Weymouth, and gave a donation to the Comet Class Association from the proceeds. Your committee would appreciate any suggestions on how the money should be spent.
11. The Association Championships 2014 will be held at Staunton Harold Sailing Club on Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th May. Any thoughts on the best venue for the Nationals?

Norah Jagers Class Secretary

Chipstead Open June 15th

For the third year in succession strong winds greeted the visitors and home fleet for the Chipstead Comet Open. The club was delighted to see a strong turnout, with four juniors participating bravely in the demanding conditions, and Crawley Mariners were well represented.

17 boats lined up for the first start despite the forecast of 35 mph gusts in the prevailing westerly wind. Several variations of rig were out (Xtra, mino, reefed and full rig). Guy Wilkins, having chosen the Xtra rig, made a clear start in the first race from the middle of the line. Tacking on the shifts as he made his way up the full length of the lake, Guy had established a clear lead at the windward mark. But Ian Stone is a force to be reckoned with, and after some changes of places eventually passed Guy, with the full rig proving to be faster than the Xtra on the run. That order remained until the finish with Chris Robinson in third place and Michael Ettershank deservedly in fourth. By the end of the first race six boats had retired.

The lunch break had the required effect of recharging the energy of the fleet, and fourteen boats started the second race on the same course despite no easing of the conditions. Ian lead from the start but was overtaken by Chris on the second run down the lake which he held comfortably until the shortened finish.

This set things up nicely with Ian, Chris and Guy all needing a win in the last race to take overall victory. The wind had by then strengthened further, and it is commendable to note that twelve boats, including all four juniors, took to the water for the third race.

Helm	Boat	Rig	Club	R1	R2	R3	Pts	Place
Guy Wilkins	595	Xtra	Chipstead	2	3	1	3	1st
Ian Stone	152	Comet	Maidenhead	1	2	2	3	2nd
Chris Robinson	867	Comet	Burghfield	3	1	3	4	3rd
Michael Ettershank	84	Comet	South Woodham	4	4	rtd	8	4th
Bob Dodds	869	Comet	Crawley	5	6	4	9	5th
John Coppenhall	532	Comet	Hunts	6	6	5	11	6th
Richard Sammons	700	Comet	Chipstead	8	8	rtd	16	7th
Dan Gibson	750	Comet	Crawley	7	10	RTD	17	8th
Roger Burgess	555	Comet	Chipstead	9	9	dns	18	9th
Cliff Webb	383	Comet	Chipstead	10	12	dns	22	10th
Amy Gibson	196	Mino	Crawley	11	11	rtd	22	11th
Barry Otherlihy	247	Comet	Bexhill	rtd	7	rtd	28	12th
Henry Jagers	800	Comet	Beer	rtd	dns	dns	42	13
Isaac Dodds	720	Comet	Crawley	rtd	rtd	rtd	42	13
Mark Wilkins	657	Comet	Chipstead	rtd	dns	dns	42	13
Rob Ellis	749	Xtra	Chipstead	rtd	dns	dns	42	13
Meg Warren	174	Comet	Chipstead	rtd	rtd	rtd	42	13
Brian Edrupt	94	Comet	Chipstead	dns	dns	dns	42	13
Georgina Edrupt	M	Mino	Chipstead	dns	dns	dns	42	13
Joe Wilkins	361	Comet	Chipstead	dns	dns	dns	42	13

Four boats capsized before the start! On a shortened course each of Ian, Chris and Guy had their time in the lead but it was Guy in the Xtra rig that avoided the capsize and won by virtue of winning the last race, with only five finishers.

Chipstead Sailing Club was pleased to note the valiant efforts of the juniors, and also gave prizes to Meg Warren as top Ladies Helm and to Roger Burgess for Endeavour.

CHESTER OPEN MEETING

Seven boats came to the starting line for the Chester Sailing & Canoeing Club event held on the River Dee on 13th July. With visitors travelling from Beer, Peterborough and Worthing good racing was assured in the light North Westerly wind on a warm sunny day.

In the first race Eddie Pope showed the way round the course to win from Bob Dodds with John Coppenhall in third place.

Following an excellent lunch and with an increased wind Chris Robinson showed off his river skills to hold the lead for three laps before losing out to Eddie and Bob on the fourth lap.

With a strengthening wind for the third race Eddie continued to dominate proceedings to record another first place from Dave Jobling with Chris in third place.

Final Results

1.	804	Eddie Pope	Ogston S.C.	2 points
2.	869	Bob Dodds	CMYC	4 points
3.	867	Chris Robinson	Burghfield S.C.	6 points
4.	579	Dave Jobling	North Staffs S.C.	7 points
5.	532	John Coppenhall	Hunts S.C.	8 points
6.	800	Henry Jaggars	Beer S.C.	8 points
7.	701	Izac Dodds	CMYC	11 points

John Edwards

MUDEFORD SAILING CLUB

COMET OPEN 28 JULY 20

Helm	Boat No	Sail type	Club	Race	Race	Race	Sub		Race	Position
				1	2	3	Total	Discard	Total	
Ben Palmer	597	Comet	Baltic Wharf	1	3	1	5	3	2	1st
Bob Dodds	869	Comet	Crawley MYC	4	1	2	7	4	3	2nd
Chris Robinson	867	Comet	Burghfield	2	4	3	9	4	5	3rd
Peter Mountford	864	Xtra	Staunton Harold	3	2	5	10	5	5	4th
John Sturgen	400	Xtra	Hawley Lake	5	5	7	17	7	10	5th
Henry Jagger	500	Mino	Beer	7	7	4	18	7	11	6th
Steve Gregory	57	Comet	Frensham Pond	6	6	6	18	6	12	7th

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 £3850

Comet Xtra £3950

Comet Mino £3700

Standard Sail £300

Standard Sail with Zipper £340

Zippered Sail conversion kit £25 (includes dyneema halyard removable masthead block, cleat rivets and instructions)

Mino Sail £270

Xtra Sail £383

Xtra Conversion Kit & Sail £405 (This includes halyard and parts needed to convert your top mast and shorten your bottom mast and boom). To continue to be able to sail as a Std Comet you will need

a shorter Xtra bottom mast £160

(The original top mast may fit, and can have a block shackled on and still be used for a Std Comet Sail) If it doesn't fit then

(An Xtra top mast £90

A shorter Xtra boom £130 *but the std boom can be used.*

Repairs

Accident damage and refurbishing gladly undertaken.

Write, phone or e-mail but include a daytime phone number

Comet Dinghies : Horsepond Meadow

South Molton, Devon EX36 4EJ

Tel 01769 574358

Fax 01769 574358

e-mail cometdinghies@btconnect.com

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Please send your contributions for the next issue of Perihelion by

27th Nov 2013

To Brian Welham, Class Editor, 19 Lake End Way
Crowthorne Berks RG45 7LP e-mail bwelham@sky.com

Comet Nationals at Fishers Green

Aug 24-26

The Comet class National Championship was hosted by Fishers Green SC over the Bank Holiday weekend of 24-26 August.



The Saturday forecast of rain later did nothing to deter the 33 entries from racing in a light wind and increasing drizzle from the northwest. Two beats were set at slightly different angles with the aim of accommodating the backing breeze and the first two races were both won by Ian Stone who

wisely defended the left side of the beat to secure victory from defending champion, Guy Wilkins in the first race, and then from FGSC club member Mathew Aldous-Horne in the second race.

After racing, the fleet and supporters deferred to the clubhouse for an indoor BBQ and quiz evening as the rain and wind increased. Those visitors with soggy camping kit were invited to spend the night in the comfort of the clubhouse.

Sunday morning brought a much better day with bright sunshine and a light northerly breeze blowing straight down the 'fairway'. A long beat the full length of the lake was followed by a long run back, broken by a beam reach and further run. This time it was Mathew who was the man on the march, breaking away early on and extending his lead throughout the race, while Ian Stone could only fight through to third with Alan Bennett leading the pack for second place.



The afternoon course had to be re-set as the forecast wind veer to the east set in. This allowed for two shorter beats with substitute windward marks deployed to avoid the wind shadows. Mathew took his second win after overtaking Ian as the two of them fought it out ahead of the chasing pack, making the series level on points between the two juniors! The third race of the day followed a similar pattern with enough wind to see occasional planing on the reach. Ian and Mathew again showed their prowess, Ian initially pulling clear but Mathew fighting back to take the lead by a narrow margin. 100metres from the finish Mathew was in control but tacked too early to avoid floating debris in the water, allowing Ian to take the win by half a boat-length.



The class AGM was followed by an evening dinner in the clubhouse while bets were taken on which of the juniors would win on the final day.



Monday brought brilliant sunshine and a perfect northerly 10knots during breakfast but by the start time the wind had veered 30 degrees and the intended course had to be re-set. This time, three beats were used to achieve true upwind legs although the wind remained shifty. This time the leader after one full lap was Steve Lemmon who promptly fell out of his boat at the windward mark. Nigel Austin inherited the lead but again it was Ian and Mathew in that order who found a way through the shifts to win. The course remained for the final race with the event decided, with Ian and Mathew again leading home Guy Wilkins, who secured third overall and Annette Walter in fourth, to convincingly secure the ladies prize.

Godfrey Clark



*The Winner - Ian Stone
collecting his trophies*



There were Xtras !



Ian Stone in action



Here are the rest of the competitors

National Championship 2013

Place	Helm		Sail No	Club	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	Total	Net
1st	Ian Stone	Y	152	Maidenhead	1	1	-3	-2	1	1	1	10	5
2nd	Matthew Aldous-Horne	Y	560	Fishers Green	-5	-2	1	1	2	2	2	15	8
3rd	Guy Wilkins	V	806	Chipstead	2	4	-5	3	-5	5	3	27	17
4th	Steve Lemmon		168	Littleton	4	3	(DNF)	4	6	4	-7	62	21
5th	Alan Bennett	AM	126	Staunton H SC	6	5	2	-7	3	7	-10	40	23
6th	Nigel Austin		875	Cransley	9	7	4	-12	-11	3	6	52	29
7th	Bob Dodds	V	869	Crawley MYC	-11	-15	6	10	4	6	8	60	34
8th	Andy Dale		788	Eyott	7	8	9	5	7	-15	-11	62	36
9th	Joe Wilkins		361	Chipstead	10	10	-14	6	9	-12	5	66	40
10th	Annette Walter	L	323	Welwyn G City	-25	-26	8	13	10	8	4	94	43
11th	Chris Robinson		867	Burghfield	8	-16	7	9	-13	10	12	75	46
12th	John Coppenhall	AM	532	Hunts	12	9	10	-17	-14	9	13	84	53
13th	Benjamin Palmer		597	Baltic Wharf	-13	-14	12	8	12	13	9	81	54
14th	Henry Jagers	AM	800	Beer	3	11	15	-16	-17	14	16	92	59
15th	Paul Hinde		844	Severn	-20	13	11	11	8	-19	19	101	62
16th	Brian Welham	AM	711	Maidenhead	14	6	16	-19	18	-20	15	108	69
17th	Michael Ettershank		84	Up River	15	12	13	14	15	-18	-17	104	69
18th	Michael Thompson	AM	518	Crawley MYC	18	-22	19	18	-24	11	14	126	80
19th	Helen Leviers	L / V	857	Severn	17	17	17	-20	-19	17	18	125	86
20th	Karen O'Brien	L	178	Fishers Green	21	19	18	15	16	-22	(DNF)	141	89
21st	Clive Chapman	AM	821	Shearwater	16	18	20	21	(DNF)	-23	20	149	95
22nd	Izac Dodds	Y	701	Crawley MYC	-26	-25	23	22	22	16	24	158	107
23rd	Carol Butcher	L	614 'X'	Hawley Lake	(DNC)	(DNC)	22	23	21	21	21	176	108
24th	John Sturgeon	AM	400	Hawley Lake	22	23	(DNF)	-27	25	24	23	178	117
25th	Roger Lemmon	AM	812	Severn	(DNF)	24	24	24	23	-27	22	176	117
26th	Phil Walter	AM	611	Welwyn G City	24	-27	-25	25	20	25	25	171	119
27th	Brian Weatherley	V	654	Cotswold	23	20	21	(DNC)	(DNC)	DNC	DNC	200	132
28th	Angus Kirk	Y	169	Crawley MYC	-29	-29	27	28	26	26	26	191	133
29th	Dee Weatherley	L / V	843 'X'	Cotswold	19	21	26	(DNC)	(DNC)	DNC	DNC	202	134
30th	Mark Smith	AM	41	Fishers Green	(DNC)	(DNC)	28	26	27	28	27	204	136
31st	Caroline Whittle	L / V	549	Crawley MYC	-30	28	-30	29	28	29	28	202	142
32nd	Diana Thompson	L / AM	649 'X'	Crawley MYC	27	DNF	29	(DNC)	(DNC)	DNC	DNC	223	155
33rd	Jenny Colclough	L / AM	660	Fishers Green	28	(DNC)	(DNF)	DNF	DNF	DNC	DNC	226	158

National Winners 2013

National Champion	C152	Ian Stone
Youth Champion	C152	Ian Stone
1 st Lady	C323	Annette Walter
1 st Youth	C701	Izac Dodds
1 st Veteran	C869	Bob Dodds
1 st Ancient Mariner	C532	John Coppenhall
Highest Placed in 1 st Championship	C178	Karen O'Brien
Committee Prize	C549	Caroline Whittle



Matthew, Ian and Guy
with the other winners

Nominations please for the Fate and Hossell plates

We need your assistance for these 2 important awards as they show our commitment to Comet sailing outside the racing that we report on in this publication

Please can you send your nominations for the **FATE and Hossell Plates** to Norah or any of the committee before 18th October 2013. Anyone who is a member of the Association is eligible – it isn't just for the helms who race on the circuit.

The **FATE Plate**, which was awarded by Peter and Wendy Hayes, is for Endeavour in the Face of Adversity. So, if you know someone who qualifies, please let us know.

The **Hossell Plate**, which was awarded by Liz and Phillip Hossell, is for the person, outside of the committee, who has been most active in promoting the Comet Class Association.

The **FATE and Hossell Plates** will be awarded after racing at our final event of the sailing season on 19th October at **Staunton Harold Sailing Club**.



Here are Guy Wilkins and Annette Walter

It's My Move to Norfolk

Well I was warned, and for sure I thought it would take a good 3 years, but no 3 months, 3 months I said as if saying it once was not enough, 3 months and we are moving to Norfolk. I nearly said where's that but in truth I had been there lots of times when playing bumper boats on the broads and really I quite liked the place. Now it's one thing saying it three times but its quite another moving, and I have been living in Northfleet since 1969, so there was that loft and that shed and the garage not to mention 40 years of household acquisitions to pack or dispose of.



Where to start well it had to be the loft, there was my old vinyl collection and my precious Sondec player with the Cambridge amp the Jambo speakers hundreds of computer software manuals mostly DOS, unused Christmas trees, boxes of records of my life in dental and Maxillo facial technology, old chairs lamps and the rest I won't mention before I bore you onto the next article. Boxed up I set of to the local auction, to sell the sellable only to be told it won't, sell that is. Well I am not sending that record player of perfection to the tip but fortunately the charity shops loved me in a way that brought back memories, and I forged a first name association with half a dozen of them. We left the doll's house to the people who would be moving in as we thought it might be appreciated by their daughter. One of the boats had to go and dear old comet 700 has a new owner

who is I understand is still making waves and this year weather permitting I will pay her a visit.

So "off went the van with my home packed in it and I followed on" not with a linnet (the words of a Marie Lloyd song) but trailing Comet 858. I was anxious to get to my new house before the removal men so I pressed on without a stop and I was pleased to arrive first as they had sensibly stopped for a break. The money had been exchanged so I now owned my new place and with the front door open I walked into my new home unannounced, only to find three men removing my new cooker. "ER" or something like that issued from my throat "what do you



think you are doing" the answer was "who are you then" and "he must be the new owner" and "I was fitting your cooker". Suspiciously I watched the process and decided that they were indeed fitting the cooker and I left them to it and had a look round. The windows opened but the arms had been fitted back to front and where were the extra sockets we had ordered, and I would never get the washing machine lead through that space. Sockets what sockets "I only do what I am told you know" said the electric cooker man. Modern houses have timber and board internal walls and after threatening to install them myself and I suspect a quick phone call to the builder he sent his boy into the loft to run the cable for the extra sockets and so far they are still working. (I am touching wood as I write this).

The removal men arrived and after trying out the loos they proceeded to fill the bungalow with boxes in the rooms I designated, it's not going to fit so put the rest in the garage, we will never get a car in there.

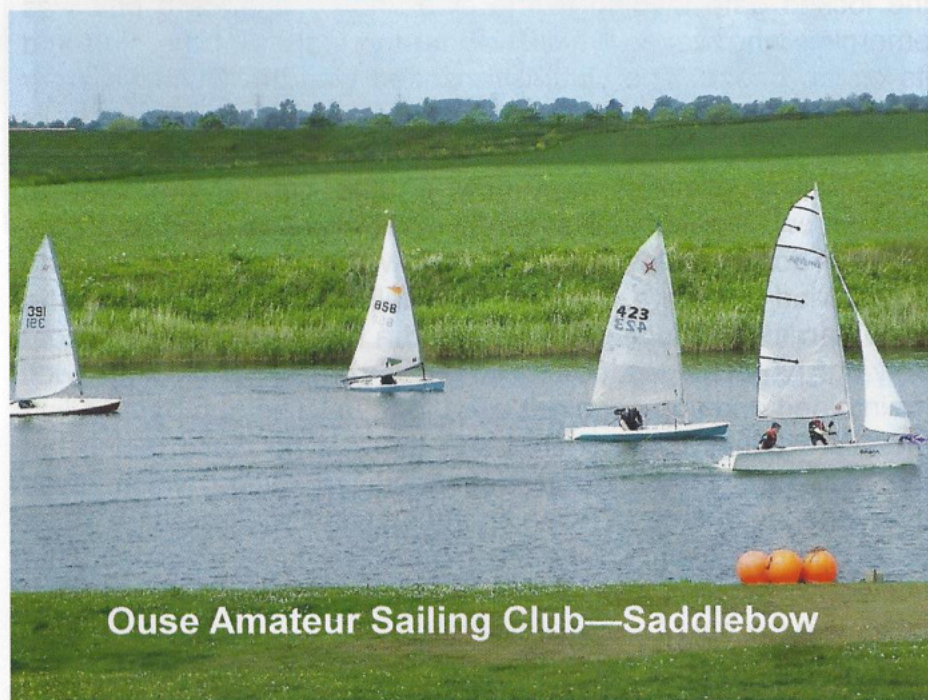
My tenure as boss of all I survey evaporated as Mavis arrived and quite naturally took over directing operations which was just as well as she had actually thought about where it was all going to go "pew" where's the beer.

Unpacking mostly done and not having been afloat for 3 weeks it was about time I found myself a new sailing club. Prompted and helped by my friends we did some preliminary searches on the net and quite a lot of clubs had shown up on the north Norfolk coast. There was one at King's Lynn on the Ouse and Ely looked promising but too far for a local club. The local bank clerk ensured me that there was a club at Hunstanton or Sunny Hunny as it is known by the publicity promoters. Articles in the local village news letter had promoted Snettisham and a lake at Anmer which sounded very promising, but reading about clubs was not going to be enough and we set off to find the clubs and have a look.

So with Mavis navigating we set off and after various diversions down narrow lanes and turning spots on the beach, we had a look at Wells and Brancaster Staithe Sailing Clubs. At the time we were there was no water in sight just mud banks and channels with a trickle of what looked like mud at the bottom. Brancaster has a very nice club with bar and a restaurant and the barman showed me a very nicely presented handbook that looked expensive but showed a very active program with lots of junior races organised, a handicap fleet and 8 class captains for various fleets but not Comets. A few boats were scattered about but obviously the season had yet to get going here, and to launch you had to wait for the tide as you would with any sea club.

Hunstanton was next and the very nice club house was packed with people, only a few dinghies parked on the prom and the club is very active with kite surfing. Snettisham SC had an open day at Easter and I went along to have a look and there was lots of activity and this was a proper beach club with boats parked on the dunes with containers for storage and a well stocked club house. One fully clothed watcher was persuaded to have a sail in an Enterprise and I watched fascinated as they capsized to windward with everyone ending up in the water, but top marks for effort they clambered back in and went for a very hairy looking sail.

So what about this club at Anmer I had read about in the Heacham Newsletter, it sounded just the job and it had they said been visited by no less than the Duke of Edinburgh and it was part of the Sandringham estate, a new club the article said sounded perfect. The locals I spoke to had not heard of a club or a lake there but undaunted we set off towards Sandringham



and eventually by asking and driving down a lovely avenue of trees we found Anmer. Right this is it, but no sign of a lake and the village was tiny but there's a bloke in a field perhaps he can help me? Well, no, he could not help and he did not know of any lake in Anmer but perhaps the lady in the garden could help, so I went and asked. A sailing club at Anmer I explained, I had read about it, the lady went sort of red and hurriedly turned away saying I won't be a minute. Little did I know that she was trying not to laugh to my face and needed to compose her mirth. Returning more composed she explained it was a joke, she had been turned down as a member of one of the local clubs and had written the article to get back at the snooty committee that she had encountered. More composed now she recommended the sailing at Saddlebow on the river and I sheepishly departed to have a look there.

Saddlebow it turned out was mostly an industrial development with a race track, factories and a police academy, but I found the locked gate leading to the club and by chance a guy was emerging who waxed lyrically about the virtues of the club and its cheap booze. The club it transpired was the Ouse Amateur Sailing Club which has been there since 1881 but these days they only sail on the river about 4 times a year and most of the cubs sailing activities was now on the cut off the river at Saddlebow. The cut is reasonably wide and has good free wind blowing across fields with only a few bushes that can create some wind shadows. There is a small club house with all the usual facilities including showers and a kitchen and secure boat parking. Launching is down two steep ramps but they are well maintained and you soon get used to them. The numbers sailing there are usually very limited and there is no class racing but the club run standard and club handicap racing which gives everyone a chance of winning the myriad of cups that have been accrued over 132 years. I miss sailing at Chipstead but overall Norfolk is a good place to live and what do you know, I now have my own car parking spot.

John Windibank Comet 858 May 2013

Having read John's account of his search for a sailing club I Googled Anmer Mere Yacht Club and came up with the note below and I have included a nice photo of the location supplied by John W. Do we know of any other "bogus" sailing clubs?

Ed

Anmer Social Club is proud to be the Headquarters of the **Anmer Mere Yacht Club**. Formed in 2010 under the motto "**Nunquam Subito Mihi Navigare**" –"Never make me sail" the club follows in the footsteps of its illustrious parent, [The Chipping Sodbury Yacht Club](#) It has only two rules, Rule 5 which states "No member may own a yacht" and rule 15 – "Members must enjoy themselves at all times".



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

Pages 12, 13 ,14 & 19
 Page 15 top, left and bottom
 Page 15 both top right
 Page 18
 Pages 20, 21,23 & 25

Norah Jagers
 Godfrey Clarke
 Norah Jagers
 Godfrey Clarke
 John Windibank

Attenborough Open 22nd June

Six visitors joined seven home club boats at Attenborough Sailing Club on Saturday 22nd June for the second Comet Open meeting to be held by the club. Three races were held in winds of force 4 to 5 with gusts up to force 7 which kept the safety crew busy throughout the day.

Race 1 got away cleanly and soon Peter Mountford, Eddie Pope and Bob Dodds had broken away and looked as if they would never be caught. The gusty winds had other ideas and after 5 laps of the small lake Bob Dodds had been overtaken by a local club member, Mike Pritchard and with Peter and Eddie staying out in front that is how the first three finished.

Race two started in slightly less wind but it soon filled back in. In this race the front runners were joined by Jon Adams from Attenborough SC, who had not sailed a Comet until today. As in Race 1 there were many capsizes throughout the fleet but familiar faces still managed to come through. The first three places were taken by Bob Dodds, Jon Adams and Peter Mountford respectively.

The winds did not relent and a number of the entrants decided that they would stay ashore. There were also a number of retirements and consequently just six boats finished the race. The first three places were taken by Peter Mountford, Mike Pritchard and Bob Dodds.

Taking the best two races from the three gave the overall honours to Peter Mountford, his first Open Meeting win in 54 years sailing. Second place went to Bob Dodds and third to local man Mike Pritchard in a loaned boat.

Roger Day

Pos	Club	Name	Sail	R1	R2	R3	Points
1	Staunton Harold	Peter Mountford	864	1	3	1	2
2	Crawley Mariners	Bob Dodds	869	4	1	3	4
3	Attenborough	Mike Pritchard	547	3	5	2	5
4	Ogston	Eddie Pope	804	2	4	4	6
5	Attenborough	Jon Adams	708	5	2	DNF	7
6	Hunts	John Coppenhall	532	7	6	5	11
7	Attenborough	Derek Harbour	648	DNF	10	6	16
8	Attenborough	Robert Ceurstemont	249	9	8	DNF	17
9	Attenborough	Andrew Beaumont	556	6	12	DNF	18
10	Attenborough	Malcolm Davidson	311	10	9	DNF	19
11	Attenborough	Josie Adams	624	DNF	7	DNF	21
12	Nottingham	Jan Walsh	42	11	11	DNF	22
13	Attenborough	Saul Tendler	441	8	DNF	DNF	23
14	Beer	Henry Jaggars	800	DNF	DNF	DNF	29

Comets blaze in bright sunshine at Bewl 31st August

Twelve intrepid Comets made their now annual trip to Bewl Water on Saturday 31 August to battle it out over four races hosted by Bewl Valley Sailing Club. In bright sunshine and winds around F3 gusting to F4 the first two races were sailed back to back in the morning over a trapezoid course. In Race 1 Chris Robinson (Burghfield SC) and Ian Stone (Maidenhead SC) battled it out for first place, with Chris eventually getting the better of Ian at the finish.

Race 2 was a re-run but this time Ian managed to take the lead and keep it, taking a clear win at the line. Bob Dodds (Crawley Mariners) took third place in both the first two races, with the rest of the fleet battling amongst themselves and clearly enjoying the lack of weed that had slowed the fleet the previous week-end at the Nationals.

After lunch the third and fourth races were also back to back over a slightly extended course, but clearly Ian and Chris had eaten too much and Peter Mountford (Staunton Harold SC) took the honours in race 3 closely followed by Bob Dodds, who managed another consistent race to finish second.

Race 4 saw Ian and Chris again dominate the fleet with the wind shifting slightly to Chris' advantage he made full use of it to take the lead and keep it to the line - also taking the overall win for the day. Brian Welham (Maidenhead SC) took third place in Race 4 ahead of Peter and Bob. Special mention should be made of the youngest sailor in the Fleet, Izac Dodds (Crawley Mariners SC) who despite coming twelfth in the first three races, nevertheless did not give up and managed to beat Clive Chapman convincingly in Race 4 to demonstrate that the Comets continue to provide competitive sailing, whatever your age. Prize giving was accompanied by a very welcome cream tea in the club house with time to chat over the racing, enjoy the view, and discuss the re-run at Bewl next year!

Mike Wilcox

Editorial

Hi,

We have a slightly smaller issue this time. I would like to thank John Windibank for his article about moving to Norfolk and finding a suitable club to replace Chipstead. We wish him well and hope to see him at more open meetings next year.



Looking at the "Hall of Fame" I see that we have had two National Champions who collected 6 titles and who are both still sailing Comets. Guy Wilkins was last year's champion and runner up this year and although Ian Coppenhall has not competed seriously since 2008, he turned up at the recent Severn SSC Open and walked away with the win. We just need to encourage him to re-join the association. Annette Walter has been the best ladies National Champion with 5 titles.

Ian Stone has done better than either of these 2 excellent sailors by being the National Champion, the Association Champion and the National Youth Champion all in the same year.

I returned from the Nationals with mixed feelings as I did not get the result that I thought I should have. I naturally blamed the weed BUT it was the same for everyone and if you look at the results you will see the helms who we always expect to be at the top of the leaderboard in just those places.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU SEND YOUR OPEN MEETING REPORTS FOR INCLUSION IN THE PERIHELIONS

If you want to see your club mentioned in Perihelion then make sure that someone is encouraged to write a report and post it to me please

**Brian Welham Comet 711
01344-761642 bwelham@sky.com**

30 years of Hall of Fame!

Championship Winners

National Championships

Champion

1983 Ken Potts
1984 Bob Sandford
1985 Stuart Ingham
1986 Keith Lamdin

Lady Champion

1987 Jeff Penfold
1988 Craig Moffatt
1989 Chris Sinclair
1990 Chris Sinclair
1991 Guy Wilkins
1992 Guy Wilkins
1993 Guy Wilkins
1994 Guy Wilkins
1995 Guy Wilkins
1996 Alex Reeve
1997 John Challenger
1998 Jake Sutton
1999 John Challenger

Junior Champion

Nancy Gould
Jake Sutton
Ian Jubb
Robert Hamilton
Andrew Bowes
Robert Hamilton
Robert Hamilton

Association Championships

Champion

Craig Moffatt
Damon Perrin
Guy Wilkins
Henry Jaggars
Guy Wilkins
Mark Wilkins
Guy Wilkins
Alex Reeve
John Challenger
Mark Wilkins

First Lady

Fiona Cauter

First Junior

Annette Walter

2000 John Challenger	Debbie Degge	Mark Coppenhall	Debbie Degge	Heather Back	Annette Walter
2001 John Challenger	Emma Coppenhall	Amanda Rea	John Challenger	Emma Coppenhall	
2002 Ian Coppenhall	Emma Coppenhall	Tom Raine	Ian Coppenhall		
2003 Dave Harris	Annette Walter	David Taw	Ian Coppenhall	Helen Leivers	James Wilkinson
2004 Ian Coppenhall	Annette Walter	Christian Birrell	Ian Coppenhall	Emma Coppenhall	Callum Wilson
2005 Ian Coppenhall	Emma Coppenhall	Daniel Moon	Bill Webber	Emma Coppenhall	
2006 Ian Coppenhall	Emma Brisley	Alistair Mitchell	Chris Robinson		
2007 Ian Coppenhall	Catherine Bellamy	Catherine Bellamy	Alan Bennett	Helen Leivers	Jon Cooper
2008 Ian Coppenhall	Catherine Bellamy		Chris Robinson	Helen Leivers	
2009 Eddy Pope	Catherine Bellamy		Eddie Pope	Annette Walter	Laura Glover
2010 Chris Robinson	Rhian Bevan	Tristan Cooper	Eddie Pope	Helen Leivers	
2011 Chris Robinson	Rhian Bevan		Chris Robinson		
2012 Guy Wilkins	Annette Walter	Ian Stone	Steven Lemon	Helen Leivers	Ian Stone
2013 Ian Stone	Annette Walter	Ian Stone	Ian Stone	Rhian Bevan	Tom Bull

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Julia Culshaw contact number 01304 729667 mobile

07515001580 I live in Deal Kent



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