

AUGUST 2023

COLDHAM CHRONICLE

Goldham Hall Sailing Club Est. 1951

'The Heart of Sailing in the Yare Valley'

President: Maurice Ward



Club Officers

Commodore: David Taitt
david.taitt@gmail.com

Vice Commodore: Gary Corbett
mooringsecretary@coldhamhallsailingclub.co.uk

Rear Commodore: Vacant

Secretary: Emma Crowfoot
ejcrowfoot@gmail.com

Treasurer: David Woolston
woolston546@btinternet.com

Race Officer: Ben Adams
tobenadams6@gmail.com

Social Secretary: Judith Robertson
jude_rob2000@yahoo.co.uk

Bosun: David Taitt
david.taitt@gmail.com



www.coldhamhallsailingclub.co.uk



Coldham Hall Sailing Club

With the school holidays in full swing and a lot of members jetting off around the world or beginning their 'staycations' August is a quiet month as far as the club goes. Whilst the weekend sailing, midweek sails and social sailing and paddling sessions continue there are no major club events. However, club members have not all been taking it easy as the report from Bill Clark about the Breydon Regatta shows.

In the next few weeks though the club will be holding not just one of the years prestigious sailing races, the YNR, but this year sees the return of the Triple B race which CHSC has agreed to run following the closure of Buckenham Sailing Club, the events previous hosts. In addition, CHSC are the 2023 hosts for the Ramuz Trophy race which will be sailed in Yeomans from the club. With the number of Yeoman sailors in the club the chances of us winning must be fairly high this year. If all that's not enough, then towards the end of the month the Club hosts the Waveney One Design owners from Oulton Broad for two days of local racing.

This issue brings you the usual news on both the sailing/paddling/canoeing activities along with a summary of Augusts committee meeting and dates for your diary. We include an interesting article from Maurice Ward, our President, about the airborne lifeboats, one of which Maurice eventually converted for racing at the club.

As the holidaymakers return and schools head back, we look forwards to a busy few weeks and if you can't be there to take part then The Coldham Chronicle will bring you reports and pictures of all of the events as they happen so keep an eye on your emails. If you cannot read The Chronicle on your email then it is also available on the Club website or a hard copy is on the clubhouse notice board.



Notes from The Committee

From the CHSC committee meeting of Tuesday 8th August.

Treasurer, One new paddle member proposed who was a member pre pandemic, membership agreed. Two Wayfarer covers have been purchased and fitted.

Bosun, clubhouse roof leaks, water leaks in roof are primarily caused/effected by direction of the wind and or driving rain. At least two roof panels have collapsed. A small work party will be put together to inspect and decide on best method of repair/replacement.

Dave Greenacre has sourced a small rack suitable for storing six small canoes/kayaks which has been installed. The club now has racking space available for 27 craft.

David Taitt is enquiring in to costings for replacing the quay heading at the club.

The external power socket has been purchased in preparation for fitting.

Race Officer, owing to the extreme and non-seasonal weather on Sunday 6th August, (high winds) it was decided the days picnic race would be rescheduled to the Downriver 6, the second picnic was rescheduled for Sunday 17th September.

The race officer is planning for Triple B (Coldham-Breydon and Back) scheduled for Saturday 7th October 23.

Social Secretary, currently reviewing menus supplied by the Maids Head Hotel to determine selections available to members.

Upcoming Events

September

Saturday 9th	Open Yare Navigation Race
Saturday 16th	Ramuz Inter Club Challenge
Saturday 23 rd & 24 th	WOD Invite

October

Saturday 7th	Triple B Race
Sunday 22nd	Commodores Day
Sunday 29th	Downriver Series Starts

December

Wednesday 6th	AGM
Sunday 10 th	Christmas Pudding Race

January

Saturday 20 th	Presentation Dinner (2024)
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A full list of all racing and social events is on the club website.

General, a folder will be held in Manage My Club system and titled Water Safety, to include audit trail and incidents involving swimming, diving etc from club quay heading and pontoons.

A towing bridal will be fitted to the safety boat, the club already has one available which will be refitted. Enquires will be made to see if a propeller guard can be fitted to the club safety boat.

WOD Invite Saturday 23rd & Sunday 24th September

It is planned that the Waveney One Design Boats only will be sailing on Saturday and our regular club Local races on Sunday along with the Waveney One Design boats having their own local races in between our own.



From Rescue from The Skies to a Sailing Boat.

You will recall in a previous Chronicle we mentioned how Club President Maurice Ward converted a lifeboat into a sailing boat. Maurice has since corrected us in that this was not just any normal lifeboat like you see at the coast but was in fact a WW2 airborne lifeboat.

Maurice spent many happy hours converting this WW2 artifact into his regular sailing craft 'Pegasus' which he and wife June regularly raced at Coldham Hall.



From This – airborne lifeboat



Through this – Maurice working on Pegasus

You may well ask “What’s an Airborne Lifeboat?”, we also had no idea so Maurice has provided us with some basic information about these unique craft to help fill that gap in our collective knowledge.

The Airborne Lifeboat Story

During the Second World War allied aircraft flying to Germany suffered heavy losses, especially on their return journey over the North Sea. Shot down by enemy aircraft, severely damaged by anti-aircraft fire and loss of fuel being just some of the reasons that brought planes down into the sea. Ditched aircraft were far from home, out of the range of rescue, there were no helicopters, no Air Sea, Rescue as there is today, these guys were on their own. Rubber dinghies carried in the planes were difficult to get into and survive and frequently damaged as well as the aircraft. The problem was how to rescue these airmen and many lives were lost before a solution was found.



To **Pegasus** racing with June on the trapeze



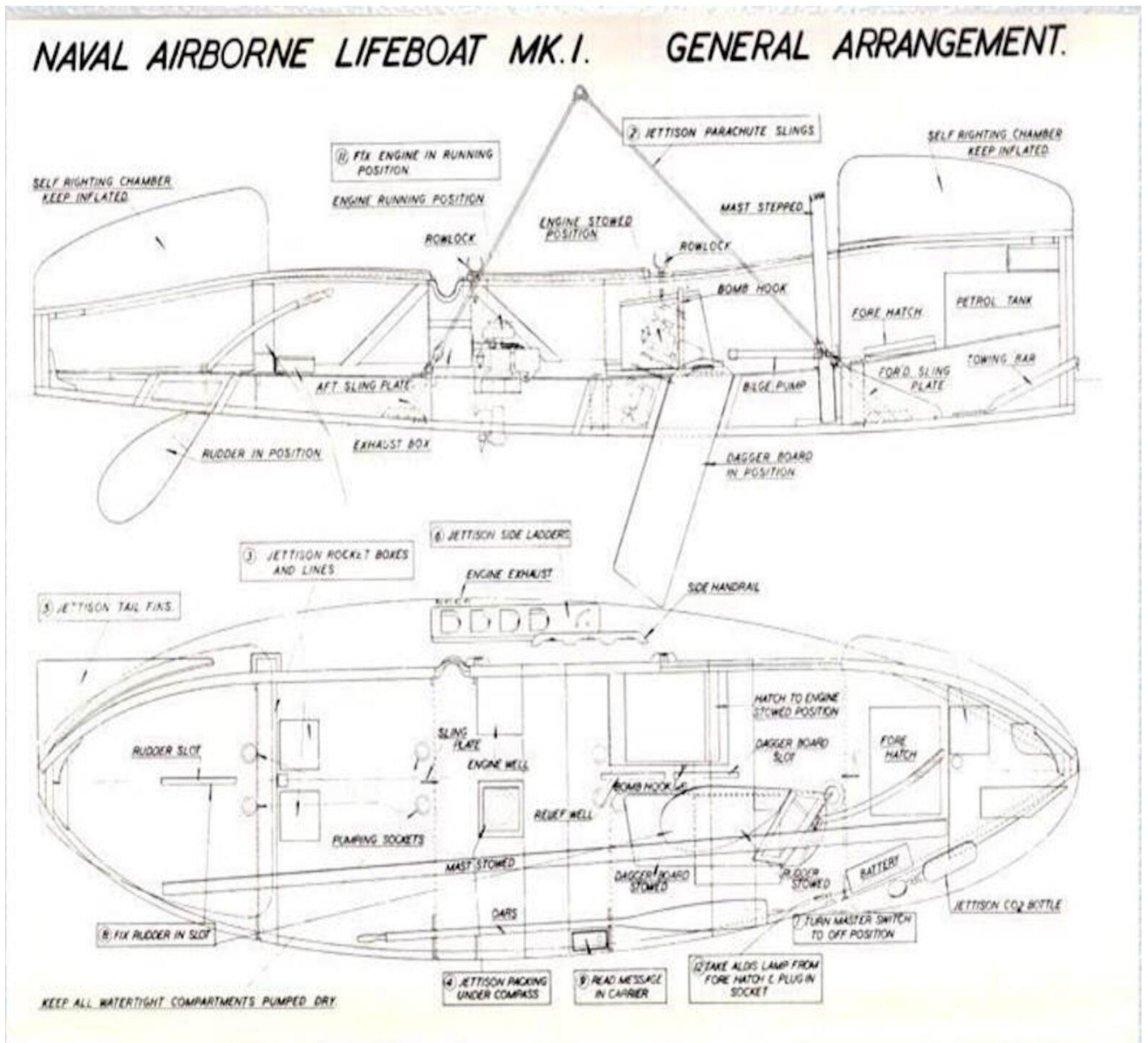
Uffa Fox 1898 - 1972

One answer came from Uffa Fox, a brilliant Yacht designer with an imaginative and persistent mind and with unorthodox methods. Uffa came up with a design which was eventually credited with saving many airmen’s lives. By the end of the war they had saved over 5000 aircrews lives around Britain.

Uffa Fox’s initial design was for a 20ft long folding boat, built mainly of plywood, and which could be carried in the bomb bay of a rescue plane then dropped to the downed crew. Unfolding at the pull of the parachute cords after release. Metal tubular struts would then lock the unfolding lifeboat into place. The downed crew could clamber aboard and either row, sail or motor the boat to safety.

The design went off to the Ministry and Admiralty for approval. Short while later a detailed specification and want list was returned to Uffa and production began at various boat builders throughout the country, including Herbert Woods, of Potter Heigham, founder member and designer of Norfolk Punts. (Maurice's Pegasus was made at Herbert Woods).

Designs and developments changed frequently. Later versions adopted a double skin, made from mahogany to strengthen them and better survive being dropped by parachute and the length was increased. The craft had many waterproof compartments to include, sails, engine, survival kit and importantly instructions on how to sail.



Maurice invites you to research additional detail and certainly interesting information on the history of Airborne Lifeboats and invites you to read 'Rescue from the Skies' by Stephen Daniels which tells the whole story of the Airborne Lifeboat. The book covers the full history of design and putting the lifeboats into test and use. Further information can also be found online <https://uffaalb.atalantaowners.org/>

Sailing Section

OOD Duties September

Date	Allcomer Race Series	Cruiser Race	1 st Officer	2 nd Officer	3 rd Officer
3rd September	Local (14)	GWYC Cecil Howard		R Walkeley	A Duddle
9 th September		Yare Navigation Race	YNR Committee	YNR Committee	YNR Committee
10 th September	No Racing				
16 th September	Ramuz Inter Club Challenge		Yeoman Fleet	Yeoman Fleet	Yeoman Fleet
17 th September	Downriver (7), Picnic 2		A Minns		
23 rd September	CHSC Waveney One Design		B Adams	D Tait	
24 th September	Local (15)	WOD	B Adams	D Tait	

Sailing Discovered. Thursday evening Sailing.

Way back on Thursday 1st June this year the Thursday evening try sailing sessions commenced with our six weekly 'on water sessions' to introduce the new 22 Try /Discover Sailing members to sailing, the first two Thursdays were lively with brisk winds but still we had 14 mixed boats on the water, Wayfarers, Yeomans and river cruisers sailing, all new members trying the helm, our safety boat crewed for ever session.

All sessions continued with a good breeze every week, giving opportunity for all our members to pass on their sailing experiences, new members were able to experience all types of our boats.

Thursday 13th July was Club BBQ, 50 members came together to enjoy our sizzling BBQ, musical entertainment and a good mardle.

Thursday evening social sailing has continued throughout July and August with members enjoying a couple of hours sailing each week. A number of new members are looking towards proficiency to use the club two Wayfarer Dinghies and we are pleased to report that two of them have now passed their competency assessments, we're sure more will follow., more on that in September's edition.

Additionally, a lot of our new members have been asked to crew during club racing, midweekers and socially, a great year for all. Thank you to everyone for helping, crewing and being there.

Thats 12 Sailing Thursday's we've enjoyed together, along with two theory sailing sessions, sadly the evenings are drawing in, the wind now drops considerably in the evenings and getting back against the tide is not easy, so it's time to call Thursday evening sailing a day for this year. But please continue to enjoy midweek sailing along with Sunday Racing.

Hopefully, Try/Discover Sailing will return in 2024, if you have any useful suggestions on improving or just adjusting, please get in touch with Gary who will pass on to next year's coordinator.

Thank you all.

River Cruiser 199 Morning Calm (CHSC) braves the storm winning the Breydon Regatta.

You may have seen on the CHSC Facebook page that club member Bill Clark won top honours in rather windy conditions at the Breydon Regatta on Saturday 12th August. Bill has sent us an article about the race.

Breydon Regatta and Coldham Hall SC have history. In 2022 Anna sallied forth to Burgh Castle to uphold the honour of CHSC. In a small but select fleet Bob and Diane Branscome brought the trophies home to Coldham Hall. Following the limited turn out that year the Yare Sailing Club made a special effort to advertise the weekend for this year. Despite the best laid plans as the day drew near the weather took charge. Two Coldham Boats decided to stay at home. That left only one.

Encouraged by my crew Nigel Kippin and Jeni Barnacle and despite the forecast tempest and deluge, Morning Calm set sail on Friday, destination Burgh Castle. With a fair tide and a rather lumpy fresh breeze the sail was dry and fun. Arriving at Goodchild Marine I moored up in preparation for the weekend. The only cloud on the horizon was the forecast for the weekend.

Saturday morning was grey, damp and cold. The unseasonable lumpy wind and drizzle had reduced the fleet to nine boats and after the 9am briefing we set out to race on Breydon Water. The OOD had warned of grounding on the notorious mud but in the event all fleet was divided into three starts with Chris Dowsett firing his gun. As the first race progressed the wind picked up and following a good start Morning Calm took charge. With no trees to give an advantage to the topsail rigs the boat won on handicap by a small margin. Back at the mooring, lunch was eaten while sheltering underneath the hull of a Vast Pilot boat which was standing on the bank.

By the time we left the mooring for the afternoon passage race to Reedham and back the rain was heavy and the wind cold. At the start the wind was not excessive and we made another good start. We held Catspaw behind us for part of the race but the wind picked up to a testing lumpy fresh breeze and she left us behind. Catspaw and Morning Calm had elected to start early and this proved to be the right call none of the later starters did well. At the soggy end of the race we had pipped Catspaw by a small margin on handicap putting her into second place overall. I was soaked to the skin.



went remarkably well. The





Driving to Burgh Castle on Sunday morning it was clear that the wind had picked up and the discussion in the car was "fully reefed and which jib". Arriving at Goodchild Marine we immediately saw that some of our fellow competitors had lowered masts and prepped to go home. We breathed a collective sigh of relief. No one wanted to raise a sail in the gale of wind. That just left the OOD Margaret shouting to be heard over the wind to do the honours and the only representative from Coldham hall Swept the board for the second year running.

With thanks to everyone who made the event possible Bill Clark and Morning Calm and excellent crew Nigel and Jeni.

Triple B Open Event - downriver to Breydon Water and back

Saturday 7th October

You may well have heard about or entered this race in the past when it was previously run by Buckenham Sailing Club for many years until they finally folded

The Triple B was a very popular race aimed primarily at sail boats other than the traditional broads' cruisers. With a fleet of over 30 boats regularly taking part including dinghies, half-deckers and production yachts it was felt that the loss of this race would be disappointing to so many and so after a short break due to Covid and following a lot of discussions Coldham Hall Sailing Club are pleased to take over the running of the race and to continue the tradition on.

It is hoped that this will enhance the reputation of our club and encourage even more participation in our open events and possibly an increase in membership. It will of course be demanding on us as we will need to manage this in a similar way to the Yare Navigation Race. A number of volunteers will be required as time keepers at the start and finish at Coldham and at both sides of the Reedham railway bridge along 2 crewed safety boats and a further boat stationed at Breydon for the turning point. It is likely that at least 15 volunteers will be needed.

Can I ask you to check on your diaries and see if you can make yourself available either to help manage the race or even take part in the race. It would be good if we can have volunteers who are not helping in the YNR so as to share out the burden. I will also be seeking help from other sailing clubs and interested parties.

For further information or offers of help please contact Race Officer Ben Adams, email tobenadams6@gmail.com



Yare Navigation Race

Saturday 9th September

Start at CHSC from
7.30am

Canoe and Paddle Board Section



Twilight Paddling, Continues at the club, time to check your torches.



The evenings may be drawing in but I'm pleased to say that following lots of requests the Social Paddle Tuesday evenings from the club house will continue, with a slight name change to Twilight Paddling. Anybody who has a craft is welcome to pop along for a paddle in a group. It's suggested that if you intend to join us on Tuesday 6th September bring a torch or Head torch, if you have one, to light up the Broad.

Social paddling started on 16th May with 15 sessions this far, lets aim for 20 or maybe a few more. No need to book just turn up at the club leaving promptly at 6pm, all welcome. Big thank you to all attending, debriefing over a pint and cheesy chips will continue.

Tuesday 22nd August again saw 17 paddlers on the water in Kayak's, canoes and on Standup Paddleboards for a trip across Bargate Broad onto the main river to Brundall Gardens Marina and back. Earlier in the season if the tide meant we went upriver the group would paddle on to Bargate Broad then up the dyke to



Surlingham Broad as far as we could get and back to the main river, unfortunately the surface weed hampered those on paddleboards, so the main river has been a favoured option. We have also paddled to and around Rockland Broad on a couple of occasions, wind and tide dependant.

Some useful advice in advance for winter paddling, dig out the wetsuits they may be needed soon, there's no reason to stop...just yet. Please read through some useful tips from GO Paddling on Keep Paddling through winter and importantly, Cold Water Shock

Winter Paddling

Paddling in winter can be absolutely beautiful, very rewarding, great for the body, soul and mind. If you are planning to head out onto the water, it's important to stay safe and plan ahead, know your limits, tell someone your plans, communication, be sensible, if possible don't paddle alone. It's really important you know a little about cold water shock and exposure if you're paddling. Not just to protect yourself, but to be able to spot signs in your paddling friends and keep you all safe on the water.



<https://gopaddling.info/cold-water-shock-what-is-it-and-how-can-i-prevent-it>

<https://gopaddling.info/top-10-tips-to-help-you-keep-paddling-through-winter>

Notices to Members

Yeoman Owners – relocation of boats during YNR

To accommodate the visiting traditional broads cruisers would all Yeoman owners whose boats are on the wet moorings at the front of the clubhouse (does not apply to boats moored in the dyke or already at the boatyard moorings) please relocate their boat either before or after the local racing on Sunday 3rd September. There are 6 spaces made available at Sams Boatyard and a further 6 spaces available at Dick Lamb's moorings on the opposite side of the river to the club. Please liase with Gary Corbett if any difficulties.



All members are invited to submit articles, photographs, comments, items for sale or anything they feel suitable to be considered for publication. Email to Gary Corbett corbett01@btconnect.com or Dave Durrant davidkdurrant@yahoo.co.uk The editors reserve the right to delay publication or amend/reformat/correct submissions as deemed appropriate.