FEBRUARY 2024

COLDHAM CHRONICLE

Coldham Hall Sailing Club Est. 1951 *'The Heart of Sailing in the Yare Valley'* President: David Hickman



Club Officers

Commodore: Gary Corbett mooringsecretary@coldhamhallsailing club.co.uk

Vice - Commodore: David Taitt david.taitt@gmail.com

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





Coldham Hall Sailing Club

Yare Navigation Race

CHSC Triple B Dinghy & Keel Boat Race

The Coldham Chronicle

Welcome to the February edition of the Coldham Chronicle, bringing you the latest news from your club. We were hoping things would dry out a bit to allow us to work on our boats and at the club but have yet again been thwarted by the rain and flooding. Work and varnish will have to wait another day.

In this edition we pen a Tribute to long standing Life Member Geoff Pinder who sadly passed away as we were going to print last month. Although there is no sailing or paddling to offer at the moment, the work parties continue with a further clearance of 'scrub', this time over the river near Cantley and we had two club area work parties planned for 15th and 25th February. Although the 25th had to be postponed due to flooding again. We had also planned to cover the interclub quiz with Frostbites held on Friday 23rd February at the Tavern, but that too had to be postponed due to high water levels and flooding.

Please keep any eye on the work party dates though, if you are able to pop along and assist and have a social please do. There is still a lot to be done in preparation for the coming season.

We have some special news regarding Paddling at CHSC with the appointment of two new Paddle Ambassadors who will take on the coordination of the Paddleboard and canoeing activities. Read on.

You will be aware CHSC runs a Try/ Discover Sailing programme to introduce new members and give those who want to rediscover sailing the opportunity to get on the water and sail independently. Places are getting booked up so if you or anyone you know would be interested, get in touch with David Taitt, this year's coordinator. The club also wants to help users of the safety boat by providing some awareness and familiarisation training prior to and during the season. Detail in this edition on how to register an interest.

So keep your head above water, put on the Wellies and carry on regardless!

THE COLDHAM CHRONICLE



Notes from The Committee

Committee meeting of Tuesday 13th February 2024.

Commodore Gary Corbett opened the meeting and welcomed everybody.

Secretary - Norfolk Heritage Fleet has been in contact asking to help find RYA instructor qualified skippers to assist with their activities. Entered on Facebook and later in this edition.

Treasurer -2024 membership fees are coming in, a deposit of £1,560.00 has been paid for future quay heading. Club Insurance is now due and David is researching same. David suggest the club ring fences an amount of money for future for major projects.

Bosun – Work parties: 4 days scheduled on different days. Good response for each. A discussion on the walkway and quay heading at the front of the club gave proposals for work groups which is underway. The club safety boat has undergone its yearly service.

Race Officer – Race program duty rota is largely complete, any amendments need to be notified. Open regatta poster to be sent to sailing clubs. Loch Ern visit, 12th May, planning BBQ and other club activities, 8-10 guests expected.

Social Secretary: - Amanda and Gary have joined team to organise social events. Propose a social dinner in January while have a lunch or tea to hand out summer season trophies in December. 50 booked to attend quiz.

Rigging out supper hall booked. Proposing a bring and buy rather than a raffle. Club house tea/coffee/cake. The price will remain unchanged, as some members do not carry cash a suggestion for a tab option as well. (From the commodore, please support us in paying for refreshments in the clubhouse).

Upcoming Events 2024

March

Thursday 14 th Wednesday 20th	Rearranged winter work party. CHSC/NFSC Quiz Racing Rules Talk Winter work party
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April

Saturday 6th Rigging Out Supper Sunday 7th Racing Commences

May

Saturday 4th	CHSC/NFSC Open Regatta	
Sunday 5th	CHSC/NFSC Open Regatta	
Sunday 12th	Loch Earne Yacht Club visit	
Thursday 23 rd & 30 th Try sailing theory.		

June

All Thursdays	Try Sailing
Saturday 15th	CHSC Reedham Race
Saturday 29th	Hardley Mill Cruise & BBQ
Sunday 30 th	Yare Challenge Race

July

Thursday 4th Sunday 7th Thursday 11th Thursday 18th **Try Sailing** Club Regatta Try Sailing Social BBQ

September

Saturday 14th Sat/Sun 21/22t Yare Navigation Race CHSC/Waveney OD

October

Saturday 12th	Triple B race
Sunday 20th	Commodores Day
Sunday 27th	Winter Downriver Series starts

December

Wednesday 4th Sunday 15th

Annual General Meeting **Christmas Pudding Race**

The above list is correct at time of going to press but may be subject to change throughout the year. A full list of all racing and social events for 2024 are shown on the club website.

General:- The committee welcomes and supports new paddle Ambassadors Clare Cole & Vickie Hunter Lines who will coordinate paddling at the club. The committee supports a planning application to the BA by Heron's Marsh. Safety boat awareness at the club, see later.

Next meeting will be Tuesday 12th March 2024

Remembering David Hickman

We commence this month's Chronicle with the sad news that our new President, Past Commodore and long-standing club member David Hickman passed away on Tuesday 13th February. Our heartfelt condolences from the whole membership to David's wife Kim and mother Margaret.

David (Hic) will be remembered as owner/helm of Yeoman Y80 Magpie which he sailed on the Yare for many years both competitively and socially and winning many trophies over the years.

A service to say 'goodbye' to David will be held at 3pm on Tuesday 5th March, at 'Greenacres' Colney Woodland Burial Ground, Watton Road, Norwich, NR4 7TY. A full tribute to 'Hic' will be in our March Chronicle.



A TRIBUTE to GEOFF PINDER

(with thanks to Emma Pinder and Polly Perkins for contribution).



Johnathan Geoffrey Pinder 1940 - 2024

Many of us will have many wonderful memories over many years at Coldham Hall of our dear friend sailing colleague and all round 'nice guy' Geoff. For this tribute we delve a little further back and find out a bit more information which you may say 'I didn't know that'.

Jonathan Geoffrey Pinder, was born on 6th December 1940, in Hammersmith to Ken & Mary Pinder, Geoff being elder brother to Jerry, he soon became known to all as Geoff. Geoff spent his early years living in Ashford, Middlesex before moving to Kingston Upon Hull when he was 10 years old to follow his dads employment, interestingly 'Granddad' Pinder was already living in Hull, in a way the family were returning to their roots.

Geoff attended Hymers College. When Geoff was 15, dad Ken built him a GP14 dinghy, Geoff's life and love of sailing was sown. Geoff attended Nottingham University, reading Civil Engineering, more importantly along with his academic studies; Geoff became the Commodore and Fleet Captain of the University Sailing Team. After graduating with full honours, Geoff went to Toronto, Canada to help build tunnels for the Metro system, by coincidence he met Anne along

THE COLDHAM CHRONICLE

with her friend Margery who were working as nurses in Toronto, together they had a double date with Geoff and his pal Malcolm, this was the start of a lifelong partnership together. Geoff and Anne returned to London to be married and settled in West London.

Geoff was a skilled and well sort after Civil engineer with a speciality in 'Tunnelling' his job took him far and wide with several moves before settling in Oulton Broad working for Taylor Woodrow on the Ness Point Tunnel, a pipeline heading out into the North Sea. Together Anne and Geoff loved living at Oulton Broad; maybe it was the wide expanse of sailing water on his doorstep. Work took the family to Hartlepool where son Adrian and daughter Emma were born. Norfolk kept calling though and Geoff was offered a job as Contracts and Tunnelling Manager at local firm May Gurney in Trowse, where he remained for 20 years undertaking many contracts. Surlingham was the favoured place to live, initially buying The Oakhaven, after extending it moved nearby to the Hermitage. Anne with her love of gardening transformed both gardens and then a move to Hempnall.

Geoff was involved with many engineering projects across East Anglia, including new roads, constructing the sea defence groynes at Southwold, numerous bridges and contracts at Sugar Beet factories. He later worked for Jacksons in Suffolk on British rail projects including Crosslink platform adaptations, a truly varied and successful career.

Geoff joined Coldham Hall Sailing Club in the early seventies; he went on to be commodore and a long standing club Honorary Secretary and importantly a founder member of the Yare Navigation Race with Tim Childs and Mark Wells in 1976. Geoff held the position of Officer of the Day for many years. Geoff and his team were instrumental in the yearly pre-race arrangements, entries, arranging berths for the boats to the race day itself. Geoff, with his team of volunteers, worked hard throughout to ensure the success it still enjoys today.

Geoff shared his love of sailing with all. Many of our members were invited to join the club by Geoff and he would take them out in his beloved Norfolk One Design 49 Pixie, (owned and sailed today by Frostbites Commodore Jean Board). Geoff was very competitive with Pixie and later sailing Yeoman 6 with his good friend David Trower.

Daughter Emma sailed with her Dad in Pixie and remembers a speedboat crashing into Pixie, being forever competitive and determined to the finish the race, Emma frantically bailing out the water to keep afloat, they crossed the line, although we don't



think Emma was present for the discussion with the user of the speedboat.

Geoff was forever competitive, a quote from many recall that as you were happily sailing along on starboard tack, you'd suddenly hear a shout of 'PORT' and as you frantically checked you were actually in the right, Geoff would sail past with that rosy checky smile.

Yeoman 'Contest' crew partner Mandy pays a special tribute, 'I will always be grateful to Geoff for taking me under his wing! About, 12 years ago I came down to Coldham Hall and Geoff offered me a sail in Contest, at the end of the day's sail he asked me if I would be interested in a half share of Contest and sailing with him. Well, he must have been on his best behaviour that day because I had no hesitation in agreeing to this!



THE COLDHAM CHRONICLE

FEBRUARY 2024



Later, as you know, Dick Lamb also joined the CONTEST team. Geoff was an excellent sailor, reading the wind, the tide and the possibilities of hopping in front of others very well. He was always competitive! Many times he shouted "Jib, jib" and "Pull it tighter" as we were tacking in gales force winds with the water coming over the fore deck! He taught me so much about sailing and he taught me some new language at the same time (not just language related to sailing!) In 2018, Geoff and Mandy represented CHSC in the Ramus Trophy sailed in Norfolk's at Frostbites. In later years Geoff

became less competitive and we joked that at least we knew where we were going and which way to go round the buoys because we could just follow the fleet. The aim then became to get back to the pub in good time for a glass of 'Merlot'. I enjoyed sailing with Geoff and Dick, we were a good team as I sail Contest now it will always seem as if a big part of her is truly missing.

Many more adventures were enjoyed, too many to list, one of note is when YNR Marshalls were frantically trying to call Geoff on his mobile to later find out he dropped it in the water, still in the bottom of the Yare, somewhere.

As the club's Honorary Secretary, committee meetings were lively and a joy to attend with Geoff's knowledge of what was required, slipups he did not make, even when by mistake he sent out the minutes of a meeting before it was held. The worry being how accurate they were!

At the club, Geoff was involved in many projects, including the Pinder Slip in 1980, still in operation today, helping with the construction of the clubhouse and many more yearly tasks.



We will all remember Geoff for many things both on and off the water; both Anne and Geoff were excellent hosts either at home or just at the 'pub'. They loved holidays especially cruisers. Coldham Hall Sailing Club has a lot to thank Geoff Pinder for, a stalwart of the club and an era we will all remember with fondness.

RIP Geoff, and move over if you hear a shout 'PORT'.

Club Safety Boat Awareness.

We would like to offer help and awareness to members who will be using or travel in the club's safety boat. This is for anyone but especially those who help with Officer of the Day duties to make things easier and more familiar.

Club members will run through the procedure from preparation, launching, manoeuvring and providing assistance to others and recovery of the boat. (Easier, when you've had a go).

If you would either like to take part in an awareness session or are competent in using the clubs safety boat and would like to help out, please email Gary at mooringsecretary@coldhamhallsailingclub.co.uk

Early stages of planning, but sessions are likely to be held prior to the sailing season and last a couple of hours. Further details will follow and there will be further sessions throughout the season.

Winter Work Parties

As we lead into the sailing seasons work is always needed to keep the clubhouse and surrounding area in good shape. On a rare day of sunshine and warmth (and no rain) the work party on Thursday 8th February, having successfully negotiated the

receding floodwater on the Carnser, replaced the walkway to the



'start-box,' painted out the changing rooms, finished the picket fence at the rear of the club house, replaced the decking on the pontoon and made a start repairing the damaged walkway sections of the quay heading.

We recognise the poor condition of the front quay heading and as you will be aware this is programmed to be replaced in January 2025, (availability of contractor). However, bits needed doing especially where the walkway had dropped and become a major hazard. With the planned work next year it was decided to make do and mend and spend the least amount possible to make it safe. An area was cleared and the wood slats taken up repurposed to shore up the front face of the quay along with concrete filled sand bags and earth back fill. It is temporary but safe, however, the important message is when anywhere near the water and quayside 'take-care'. (See photos).

The work party planned for Sunday 25th February had to be postponed due to heavy rains earlier in the week and high tides leading again to further flooding. A new date is planned as Friday 1st March, (flooding permitting).



Tree and brush clearing Cantley

On Tuesday 13th February, 8 members met at Cantley under the direction of Bill Clark and supervised by Alice from the RSPB, who after a safety briefing kept everyone in check. The group meet at Marsh Farm for a lovely walk along the north bank to the area opposite Langley Dyke where a large quantity of willow scrub from the felled trees had to be cleared and burnt to prevent re-growth.

It was no easy task getting the fire started, the swan vesta's disappearing, fortunately Emma knew the trick of using the end of the open box to get a flame, then with a lot of puffing we were alight as can be seen by the photo's.

Bill continues to <u>engage</u> with both the Broads Authority, RSPB with the help of the Broads Society, Bill asks for more felling to be undertaken nearer home on the south bank of Train Reach.

Unfortunately, this year the weather and, yes! You guessed it, 'flooding' has hampered the tree clearing, although we are hoping for a further work party, prior to the nesting season.

Watch out for requests to help. It is a great day out together. Even if the Commodore got a new hair-line.











THE ANNUAL CHSC vs FSC QUIZ NIGHT at COLDHAM HALL TAVERN Will now be held on Thursday 14th March 2024 7.00 pm for 7:30 start

7

Paddling Section.

Great News. Appointment of Paddle/ Canoe Section Ambassadors

As was suggested at the club AGM in December, two members, Vickie Hunter-Lines and Clare Cole have both offered to be Club Ambassadors for the paddling section for 2024. Vickie and Clare will undertake this together and will become the main point of contact for all Paddle Board and Canoe/Kayak members. They aim to provide and coordinate activities for Paddlers/canoeists and give tips and safety advice.

We pleased to say Social Paddle Tuesday's will continue with more opportunities to get involved with paddling, please watch this space in next month's edition.

Keeping You Informed

RYA affiliation (Royal Yachting Association).

What's this all about; Our RYA affiliation criteria is changing. From the next affiliation cycle in April 2024, the RYA is asking all new and existing affiliates to commit to working towards a revised affiliation criteria for 2025.

The changes include actions relating to safeguarding, health and safety and inclusion.

Why are the RYA making these changes?

RYA, know our affiliates are already working hard to create safe and welcoming environments for new and existing members. However, there are now greater expectations placed on national governing bodies and sports providers from regulatory and funding bodies, as well as participants, to ensure that correct procedures are in place.

The RYA wants to continue to support affiliates, identify where more resource may be needed and make it even easier for people to find safe places to enjoy being on the water, whilst helping clubs.

What does this mean for CHSC?

The RYA wants to help you in continuing to deliver the fantastic work we do, whilst being prepared to help us act appropriately if things do go wrong. Recognising no one affiliate is the same, the RYA is here to support all.

As part of the 2024-2025 affiliation renewal process, RYA are asking all affiliates to answer some simple questions to ensure they are connected with the right people at CHSC, understand the level and type of activity we deliver, as well as the processes we have in place to co-ordinate this activity and to support <u>all</u> people involved.

RYA will use the information provided to update their records and focus the work we are doing on a national and local basis to get more people sailing and boating, in safe environments, more often. Ultimately, they anticipate this change of approach will help to highlight the value of RYA affiliation, not only to affiliated organisations, but also to our members and those interested in becoming involved.

CHSC has registered in the process and over the next year will ensure we are in a good position to move forward with this process.

What will change at the club, physically very little, we all want to continue what we enjoy, getting on the water along with social events.

In the background, the committee are looking at all the resources needed to comply and make us a stronger and a supportive club, we will keep you informed as the process moves forward.



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 <u>corbett01@btconnect.com</u> or Dave Durrant <u>davidkdurrant@yahoo.co.uk</u> The editors reserve the right to delay publication or amend/reformat/correct submissions as deemed appropriate.