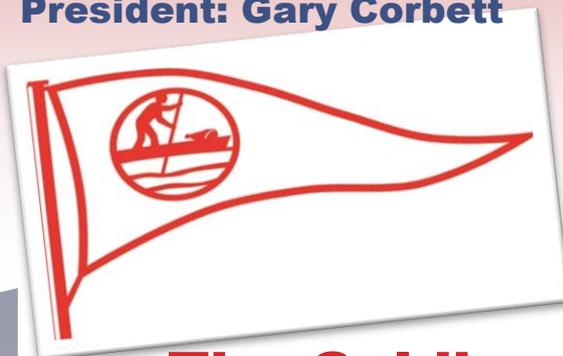


COLDHAM CHRONICLE

Goldham Hall Sailing Club Est. 1951
'The Heart of Sailing in the Yare Valley'
President: Gary Corbett



Club Officers

Commodore: David Taitt
david.taitt@gmail.com

Vice - Commodore: Vacant

Rear Commodore: Vacant

Secretary: Emma Crowfoot
ejcrowfoot@gmail.com

Treasurer: David Woolston
woolston546@btinternet.com

Race Officer: Ben Adams
tobenadams6@gmail.com

Social Secretary: Amanda Blezard

Bosun: David Taitt
david.taitt@gmail.com

The Coldham Chronicle

Welcome to your February edition of our club Chronicle.

Although January is a quite time on the water a lot is happening in the background to bring you in the build up to our new season. Doesn't February feel like an extension to January, gladly it's only 28days and we can move into March with a spring in our step.

The weather this year has not been kind with many days of rain and cold and dark, nice days have been very few. As a consequence it has not allowed many of us to carry out our annual maintenance and clean-up to our craft. It's just 4 weeks before we are back on the water with our spring programme starting on Sunday 5th April; hopefully the varnish will be dry by then. Sam & Tom at the Boatyard will start launching in the next week or so, boats with clean bottoms and fresh 'antifouling'.

Over the past few days the thermometer has risen, the showers become less frequent getting allowing the chance to get on with a few jobs at home, ropes, covers, sails etc. cleaned and checked. With the temperature starting to up to 17deg and the lighter evenings it is allowing a bit more time outside, which is good medicine for all, even the heating is not on so long, yes it's time to get the 'shorts' out and on. All we need now is to get back on the water for our wellbeing, meet up with buddies, relaxation and of course a natter.

A few hardy types have ventured out for a paddle recently and our Tuesday evening open paddles will start again in May. If you would like to join in or join our Paddle WhatsApp group please get in touch.

News Flash. Our first 2026 Interclub Competition resulted in a win for Coldham Hall Sailing club, YES WE WON see our report on the annual interclub quiz with Frostbites, this year hosted by Coldham at the Tavern.

We have our normal round up of news including projects and work parties planned at the club along with an update on Winter Tree Cutting.



www.coldhamhallsailingclub.co.uk



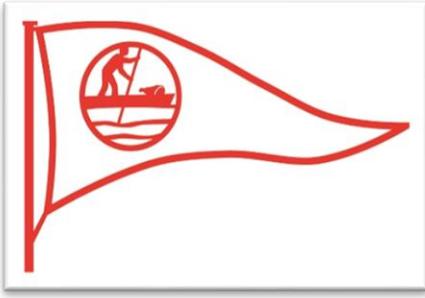
Coldham Hall Sailing Club



Yare Navigation Race



CHSC Triple B Dinghy & Keel Boat Race



Notes from the Committee held on Tuesday 10th February by Teams.

Club Commodore David Taitt opened the meeting and welcomed everybody. January 2026 minutes were agreed and signed, matters arising covered. (No Fish & Chips supper in March)

Hon. Secretary- Newsletter from NBSA and press release from Fund Britain's Waterways, forwarded to membership. I attended RYA, Women On Water (WOW) networking event, designed to share experience of initiatives to improve participation and retention of female members.

Treasurer – Club finances detailed. One former member rejoining, New application for membership and to store 3m inflatable dingy approved. Club Insurance is for the one club safety boat only and to be operated by a member. No other clubs safety boats on clubs insurance. Reminder moorings are allocated to members and not boats. Any new co-owners will need to put their name on the mooring list. Club will continue with £30 tea kitty for year. (Payment to treasurer, please).

Bosun – Following work parties to be arranged this spring. Clubhouse roof repairs; gate posts to be renewed; Start Box: Repairs/replace window sill. Discus large Willow Tree near Start Box. Arrange meeting to inspect jetties and clubhouse roof.

Race Officer – Race Programme distributed, once renewals received will review/amend. Events programme forwarded with future discussions on events. (Both on website). Racing Programme starts Sunday 5th April

Social Secretary – Interclub quiz booked 20.02.26 spaces available.

Partnerships- No report

AOB.

A. **Norfolk Scouts 12hr overnight Trek**, 14.02.26 all in hand, managed by scouts.

Upcoming Events 2026

April

Saturday 4 th	Rigging Out Buffet
Sunday 5 th	Racing Season Commences
Saturday 26 th	Club Open Day

May

Sat/Sun 2 nd /3 rd	CHSC/NFSC/WOD Open Regatta
Thurs 21 st /28 th	Try Sailing Land Based

June

Thursdays	Try Sail Water sessions
Saturday 20 th	Hardley Mill Cruise & BBQ
Sunday 28 th	Yare Challenge Cup

July

Thursdays	Try Sail Water sessions
Sunday 5 th	Club Regatta
Saturday 11 th	Triple B
Thursday 16 th	Social BBQ

August

Saturday 8 th	Reedham Race
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September

Saturday 5 th	Yare Navigation Race
Sat/Sun 19 th /20 th	CHSC/Waveney OD

October

Sunday 18 th	Commodores Day
Sunday 25 th	Winter Downriver Series starts

December

Wednesday 2 nd	Annual General Meeting
Sunday 13 th	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 are on the club website.

B. Main Jetty Arrange for inspection and any stability/reinforcement required. Jetty is joint owned with Tavern

C. Tree clearing update. Four areas worked on along south bank of Train Reach. Two near the yellow marker buoys and two near the Skiing speed signs nearer to the club.

D. Try Sailing 2026. Mike Roll will be Try Sailing Point of contact, details will be included in Chronicle and local social media for both Open Day and Try Sailing

E. Committee Chris Logue has stood down from the committee, we all thank Chris for his involvement and assistance.

2026 Club Membership Renewal

The sailing and paddling year restarts on 1st April; your membership renewal letter should have now arrived in your email inbox. Thankyou to all members who have already renewed their memberships. To those who have still to do so your prompt payment would be much appreciated please as we have a number of expenses that need to be paid early in the year.

The easiest payment method is by bank transfer; all the details are on the renewal letter. Please complete all sections of the renewal form, particularly the GDPR section, and provide full details of your boat(s)/craft(s).

If you know anyone who wishes to become a member of CHSC sailing and/or paddling, please contact the Treasurer with their details or direct them to the web site where joining details can be found, or speak with any committee member. Thank you.



Interclub Quiz.

Mandy, David & Margaret.

On Friday 20th February our annual interclub quiz, this year hosted by CHSC, was held at the Tavern under the guidance of our quiz masters David & Margaret Woolston. Tthe hotly contested competition brought members from Frostbites eagerly keen on taking home 'Oscar'.



Thirty nine quizzers with refreshment in hand assembled and Quizmaster David hinted at an easy set of questions but which turned out not to be.

As well as the quiz rounds each table was also provided with one page of British Birds to identify and a second paper of past famous faces from both the UK and America to recognise. The first session started with 25 quick fire questions, for example 'How far did Concorde travel in a minute, to who was the Ringleader of the Gunpowder Plot, not it was Guy Fawkes, then a well-earned Fish or Burger and chip supper and time to top up glasses, at the midway point Quizzer Jonathan Mayfield with Team Luggy for CHSC held a small lead.

After the break the second set of 25 questions we learnt the only mammal that can't jump is an Elephant and humans on average smile 13 times a day (well some do anyway), most answers referred to 'wind'.

All papers having been independently marked and checked the results followed with **CHSC** taking the honours and retaining Oscar at the club for another year. The winning team was Luggy, consisting of Shirley & Mike Roll, Jonathan & Kim Mayfield and Nicki & Gary Corbett, with second place to team Flash & Burn, Coldham Commodore and Team.



The evening concluded with David Taitt, Commodore of CHSC, thanking all in attendance, David & Margaret for arranging and adjudicating, importantly Mandy for arranging a very enjoyable evening, a sentiment echoed by all in attendance. The raffle raised £115 for club funds.

The interclub quiz trophy is awarded to the club answering the most questions of each clubs teams overall correct answers, this year again falling to CHSC. Good luck next year Frostbites.

Photo's from the Quiz evening



Try Sailing 2026



Open Day and Try Sailing

Managed by Mike ROLL

Diary reminder, the club's Open Day is on **Sunday 26th April from 2pm,**

Try Sailing Course will commence with Land Drills on 21st & 28th May from 6:30pm then water based every Thursday from 6:30pm to 8:30pm for a further 6 weeks. At the end of which we hope to have a club BBQ for all members' paddlers and sailors – more details to follow.

Try Sailing is on a first come basis, we have spaces for 15 adult candidates for the 8 week duration.

Full details are on our club website, if you or a friend wish to take up sailing – for the cost of membership there is the opportunity to sail in the evenings in a variety of boats wayfarers, yeoman and broads cruisers chatting with and learning from the members who own them.

Members message from Mike Roll.

Hello Members

Hope you are well – the days are now pulling out and my thoughts turn to sunshine, sailing and messing about in boats!

*For all of you that could help with Try Sailing last year – a very big **THANK YOU** – you did a fantastic job. All the feedback I received from students was very positive. We signed another 4 Try Sailors off as competent and able to hire club wayfarers and whetted the appetite of more who hopefully will also re-join and continue their sailing journeys.*

I am organising Try Sailing this year and would be grateful once again for your assistance. Boat owners and helms please may I once again take advantage of your time, your skills and your boats. We need a mixture of classes – Dinghies, Keelboats and River Class Cruisers to give candidates the widest possible experiences. Sessions on the water will commence on Thursday evenings from 4 June starting at 6:30 until approximately 8, all dependent on light and weather conditions. I will undertake the land-based sessions on the 2 Thursdays prior to this so candidates will have a rudimentary understanding of how sailing boats are rigged and work and most importantly how we stay safe.

Please let me know if you can help, for some or all of the evenings now, I will then add you to my master list, and nearer the time when we have student numbers, we can work out the finer details.

Sailing Section

OOD Duties - April

DATE	ALLCOMERS EVENT	River Cruiser Class	OOD	SECOND OFFICER	THIRD OFFICER
5 th	Local (1)		D Woolston	M Woolston	D Durrant
12 th	Local (2)		D Jaffey	J Robertson	P Jewby
19 th	Downriver (1)		D Greenacre	M Roll	S Roll
26 th	Local (3)		B Clark	C Brown	C Logue

Club sailing

Our weekly Sunday morning racing starts on Sunday 5th April with Officers of the Day David & Margaret Woolston and Dave Durrant. Full programme on our website.

At Coldham for our sailing handicaps we use the RYA Portsmouth Yardstick System which aims to handicap boats based on their relative performance against the other boats they race with. Handicaps are allocated and administered by clubs to suit their local factors such as boat type, wind trends and water type as well as enabling the club to evaluate crew skill factor.



Adjustment s to the handicap can be made by the race committee of the club to tale into account local conditions, single or double crewing and use of spinnakers etc.

To check the base handicap for your boat type look at the published figures in the NSBA Green Book or visit <https://assets.rya.org.uk/assetbank-rya-assets/action/directLinkImage?assetId=50500>

Canoe and Paddle Board Section



Paddle News – February 2026

Just like the sailors we are all eager to get back on the river doing what we enjoy in good company. On Tuesday 24th February Dave Greenacre suggested a pre-season get together at Surlingham Ferry over a drink and cheesy chips. Twenty four paddlers along with new members Penny & Tom popping in, enjoyed a mardle and catch-up and making arrangements for the year ahead. A Saturday morning breakfast paddle is planned or another Tuesday night Buttie.

Paddler Magazines, Digital version. <https://paddlerezine.com>

Winter Work Parties

The weather has been against us in organising our winter work parties at the club such that we have had to delay things a bit. This year's main project is to re-roof the club house, the current fibre sheets have come to an end of their useful life and will need to be replaced. The club has already obtained some metal sheeting to replace and are just waiting for a suitable weather period to install. The start box also requires some maintenance to the windows etc. A request for help will be sent out to members shortly.



Tree and Bank Clearance Work Parties

Thankyou to all who have been able to assist with this year's tree clearing along Train Reach, we were able to clear a few areas to allow the breeze through to help the sailing boats along this stretch of river.

The work parties concentrated along Train Reach, one area near the Water Skiing speed limit sign on the south bank and two near the yellow warning marker buoys opposite the Strumpshaw landing point. A further work group cleared and burnt at Cantley on the north bank.

Unfortunately, the wet weather has caused the cancelation of two further work groups. In addition the work we have carried out also assists the RSPB in conservation.

Nature & Conservation

Whilst visiting the club we noticed a pair of Blue Tits inspecting the two nest boxes on the side of the clubhouse, 'fingers crossed' they choose one as a home for their chick's this year.



Spring is with us, just have a look around and listen to the dawn chorus and the birds calling for a mate, 'Snow-drops' are on display, Daffs are blooming and early Butterflies are emerging, we are so fortunate where we are to witness this lovely start to the year.

Our club encourages wildlife to thrive 'bee' it the Bug Hotel in the club car park against the dyke bank, to the bird's around us, together we can support all wildlife along with our neighbour's and local wildlife and nature group's.



If you are able to offer any practical help or advice on nature, photos, maybe an editorial for the Chronicle' please get in touch.



Club Notices

River Tolls, Paddle Licenses and Insurance.

Members are reminded that all Sailing or Rowing boats, Canoes, Kayaks, Paddle boards used at the club, kept on club moorings or dinghy park must be tolled and insured in compliance with the Broads Authority By-laws.

Tolls for craft on the Broads will be due by the 1st April; for paddlers have a look a Paddle UK you don't need both. Paddle UK offer 3 year deals, discounts and insurance.

<https://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/boating/owning-a-boat/tolls>

Insurance. Reminder at least a minimum third party insurance is required for all craft on the river and in the dinghy park. Incidents can happen anywhere. All owners of boats used to take part in racing should ensure they have racing risks endorsement or cover to compete.

Coldham Hall Sailing Club only holds insurance cover for the club property and Rescue Boat.

For Sale



Day Boat on sound trailer with a Mercury 15HP and Mercury 25HP Engines.
Needs some love and attention.

For more details please contact Trevor on 07768087788 (Stoke Holy Cross).

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.