

J A N U A R Y 2 0 2 3

COLDHAM CHRONICLE

Coldham Hall Sailing Club Est. 1951

'The Heart of Sailing in the Yare Valley'

President: Maurice Ward

Club Officers

Commodore: David Taitt
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Vice Commodore: Gary Corbett
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Rear Commodore: Vacant

Secretary: Emma Crowfoot
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Treasurer: David Woolston
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Race Officer: Ben Adams
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Social Secretary: Judith Robertson
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Bosun: David Taitt
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www.coldhamhallsailingclub.co.uk



Coldham Hall Sailing Club



The Coldham Chronicle

Welcome to the first edition of the Coldham Chronicle of 2023 and a Happy New Year to all members and their families.

With most boats now put away for the winter months and a light smattering of snow on the ground, you'd think there would be little for a sailing club newsletter to report.

This edition, however, includes an Introduction to our new Commodore, a round-up of the first committee meeting of the year, details of a proposal for raising additional funding, details of the forthcoming Mid-weekers winter walk.

Vice Commodore Gary Corbett has provided an interesting article about getting on the water during the winter months with tips on how to avoid cold water immersion shock. Whilst aimed particularly at SUP and canoe users this is very much relevant to anybody thinking of going afloat through the winter.

The highlight event of January, the Annual presentation dinner, is covered along with the full list of all of the 2022 trophy winners.

We also cover details of upcoming (February and March) work parties. The Bosun would love to hear from anybody who can lend a hand.

Finally, for those who fancy a challenge in 2023 there are dates and contact details for the Three Rivers Race.

CHSC 2023 Commodore David Taitt

Welcome to a new edition of the Chronicle and to a new sailing year. As your incoming Commodore I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself.

I started sailing at the age of 12 on the River Medway down by Chatham Dockyard. My father had bought a Mirror dinghy kit for £75 and did a pretty good job of building it. We strapped it to the roof of the Mk1 Cortina and drove down to the river. We capsized first time out but plugged away week after week, learning by our mistakes - not recommended. I went on to sail a Fireball dinghy and had a great time on the wide lower reaches of the Medway where a tidal range of nearly 22 ft and the ever-present hazards of cargo ships, frigates and submarines made for interesting sailing.

My career as an engine research engineer took me to Lotus in 1985. I made my home in Norfolk; taking up windsurfing, crewing a Javelin at Buckenham and sailing Martham half-decker's on Hickling Broad and Horsey Mere. I am very grateful to Kim Hickman who, four years ago, introduced me to Coldham Hall Sailing Club where I have been made most welcome and where, starting in a Wayfarer, I now race a Yeoman with my son Will and, on occasions, with my wife Philippa, on what I think must be the best sailing on the Broads, notwithstanding Train Reach.

As for the year ahead, I think we have a lot to look forward to with full race and event programme's as well as a number of important projects. In addition to the regular race programme, and for the very first time, CHSC plan to run the Triple-B race (Buckenham-Breydon-Buckenham) in recognition of the now sadly defunct Buckenham Sailing Club. In its day, this race was very popular, being open to production cruisers, keelboats and dinghies (any sailing boat not eligible for the YNR) and it is hoped that, with the guidance and advice of Janet Gilmour from BSC, we can breathe life back into an event that once attracted as many as 60 boats from across the UK.

This year (19-22 May) we will trial a 'guest sailor' event which has been organised by the Yeoman Kinsman Association. Crews from Yeoman fleets in Norfolk and Rutland have been invited by the Northern Irish fleet to sail with them at Lough Erne Yacht Club. This is a great opportunity to sail different boats on different waters and to make new friends. We'll see how it goes and, if successful, we will schedule future events at Coldham Hall and other locations.

Back at the club we have some urgent safety-critical repairs to carry out to the walkways at the quay heading and start box. We will complete the new toilet facilities in the clubhouse extension and plan to extend the quay heading pontoon along to the next finger jetty - volunteers always welcome!

Wishing all members a great new sailing year.

Dave Taitt

2023 RYA Dinghy & Watersports Show

Saturday 25th – Sunday 26th February 2023

Farnborough International Conference & Exhibition Centre

<https://www.rya.org.uk/events/dinghy-show>





Annual Quiz & Chips 2023

Saturday 24th February

The annual quiz and chips evening will this year hosted by Frostbites Sailing Club at their clubhouse in Thorpe. Full details and booking form have been emailed out to all members. Responses to Judith Robertson by 18th February.

jude_rob2000@yahoo.co.uk

Notes from The Committee

The 2023 committee held their first meeting of the year on Monday 9th January. The Commodore and Officers welcomed new members Judith Robertson and Glenn Vander Ecker to the General Committee. In addition, Mike Roll was co-opted onto the committee. As Mike is predominantly a dinghy sailor it is hoped that this will help to bring more balance to the committee.

Judith Robertson has also been appointed as Social Secretary and David Taitt as Club Bosun.

The position of Rear Commodore remains unfilled, and volunteers are being sort.

There are plans to commence exploratory work to the damaged portion of the quay heading with a view to effect urgent repairs. Works are still ongoing to the clubhouse to finish off the toilet extension, with the floor to be raised to level with the main room in January early February. These works will be addressed during the winter work parties.

Changes on the YNR subcommittee were advised. Sam Brown and Kevin Halifax will be joining the committee.

Race officer Ben Adams is still negotiating with Buckenham Sailing club with a view to bring the Triple B race back to life from CHSC.

The Committee are also looking at ways to raise additional funds for the club with possible grants and other initiatives. Any member with suggestions/ideas or access to other funding options is welcome to submit suggestions to the Committee for consideration.

Upcoming Events

February

Wednesday 15th	Working Party
Friday 24th	Annual Quiz CHSC v Frostbites
Saturday 25th	Working Party

March

Thursday 16th	Working Party
Sunday 26th	Working Party

April

Sunday 9th	2023 Race Programme Starts
Sat/Sun 29th/30th	CHSC/NFSC Open Regatta

May

19 th – 22nd	Guest Sailor Event N. Ireland
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July

Sunday 19th	Club Regatta
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September

Saturday 9th	Open Yare Navigation Race
Saturday 16th	Ramuz Inter Club Challenge

A full list of all racing and social events is on the club website.

2023 Membership Renewal

Your 2023 membership renewal letter should have appeared in your email inbox, streamlining procedure and cost.

The easiest payment method is by bank transfer; all the details for which 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).

The Treasurer always finds it helpful to receive prompt payment.

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

Additional Funding proposal

You should have all received an email earlier this month from our Treasurer David Woolston relating to a suggested fund-raising initiative. The committee is very conscious of the increase in costs and is looking at ways to raise additional funding to be used for maintenance and upkeep and to try to reduce and minimise the likelihood of increases to Club fees each year. This scheme could raise considerable funds for your club helping to preserve the existing infrastructure, and the continued updating of the club's facilities. Similar schemes are already run successfully at other sailing clubs in the region. Members enjoying the opportunity to win cash prizes throughout the year.

How does it work?

The scheme would work by selling weekly entries to four prize draws. Tickets would cost just £1 per week and there would be no limit on how many entries each member could own. Entries would also not be limited to Club Members meaning that family and friends could be invited to participate. To reduce the administration required, payment would be taken in advance by direct debit on a 6 monthly basis (min £26 half yearly).

What can I win?

Throughout the year there would be four prize draws. Each draw to the value of £400 and consisting of 1st prize of £200, a 2nd prize of £150, with a 3rd prize of £50.

What next?

The committee are very keen to hear feedback on this proposed new venture. Please send your comments and express any interest in participating to David Woolston by email. woolston546@btinternet.com



Where did all the boats go? A rare sight - Coldham Hall moorings empty for the winter with all boats tucked up safe and dry
Picture courtesy of Sam Dunning

Sailing Section

The 'Midweekers' - Sailing during the week Judith Robertson

Mid-week sailors and their guests had a very congenial Christmas meal on 22nd December at the Ferry House in Surlingham.

Our next planned 'off season' get together is a walk around Reedham and lunch at the Ferry Inn there. This will be in February as the pub is closed for a break during January, although the ferry crossing remains open.



Photo Courtesy of David Hickman



© David Durrant

The history of these ferry crossings is interesting. Known licensees of the Reedham Ferry Inn go back to the 1770's and they also ran the 'Horse Ferry', which could take a horse drawn vehicle, wound across the river by hand.

The Archer family took over the Inn and the ferry in 1949 and developed it to its current complex including camping. The ferry became motorized in the early 1950's.

The current vessel was built in 1984 and carries up to 3 cars. Prices vary for different vehicles, but a pedestrian can cross for just 50p!

An article about crossings of the River Yare, old and new can be found at <https://www.broadlandmemories.co.uk/riveryarebridges.html>

Anyone interested in joining us, either for sailing during the week in the spring, or the walk/lunch, please contact Judith Robertson jude_rob2000@yahoo.co.uk



Entries are now open for the 2023 Three Rivers Race

Saturday 3rd – Sunday 4th June 2023

Entry forms and full details are available at

www.3rr.uk

Canoe and Paddle Board Section

Winter Paddling

Gary Corbett

Paddling/Canoeing in the winter can be absolutely beautiful, very rewarding and great for the body, soul and mind. However, when planning to head out onto the water particularly during the winter but also at **any time of year** it's important to stay safe and plan ahead.

Always know your limits, tell someone your plans, have a means of communication, be sensible, wear the right clothing, more importantly **wear a buoyancy aid**, make sure your craft is watertight (if an inflatable take a puncture repair kit), warm up before you go and carry a dry bag containing dry layers of clothes, snacks and a warm drink (no alcohol) for when you get back. Ensure you check the weather forecast, tide times and especially what time it gets dark. This all sounds a lot and should be automatic for all trips out but especially so in the winter as the rivers are less busy and there are fewer people around to help if you get into difficulties.

Cold Water Shock, can happen any time of year not just winter

It's really important that you know a little about cold water shock and exposure if you're canoeing or paddling. Not just to protect yourself, but to be able to spot signs in your companions and keep you all safe on the water.

The link below will take you to a very informative article on the Go Paddling website which fully explains cold water shock. <https://gopaddling.info/cold-water-shock-what-is-it-and-how-can-i-prevent-it>

If you take an unexpected dip and cannot get straight out the RNLI recommends-

1. **Take a minute** The initial effects of cold water pass in less than a minute so don't try to swim straight away.
2. Relax and **float on your back** to catch your breath. Try to get hold of something that will help you float.
3. **Keep calm** then **call for help** or swim for safety if you're able.

Take care on the water and enjoy the winter – Gary

Winter Work Parties

The Bosun is compiling a programme of work parties to address the following in order of priority, with estimated budget and timing.

1. Replace collapsed walkways at the quay heading and start box (£200, 2 days)
2. Re-install cistern in start box toilets (£50, 1 day)
3. Re-install toilet fittings after raising floor level in clubhouse extension £50, 2 days)
4. Clubhouse deep clean, tidy up and remove rubbish (no cost, 1 day)
5. Quay heading pontoon extension (5 moorings) (£1200, 4 days)



To make it possible for members to attend at least one of the work parties four provisional dates have been set:

Wednesday 15th February
 Saturday 25th February
 Thursday 16th March
 Sunday 26th March

A detailed schedule of works will be published in due course.

Please contact David Taitt david.taitt@gmail.com
 Or tel. 07905 153172 if you are willing to help.

2022 CHSC Annual Prizegiving Dinner

David Taitt

This year's Annual Dinner was held at the Old Rectory Hotel, Crostwick on Saturday 14th January.

Following the sad demise of Buckenham Sailing Club at the end of last year, the River Yare, which boasts arguably some of the best sailing on the Broads, now has only two active resident sailing clubs: Coldham Hall and Norwich Frostbites – so it was rather nice to be joined by a group from Buckenham along with Guests of Honour Philip and Jean Board from the Frostbites.



Although Club President Maurice Ward was unable to attend the dinner a birthday card was signed by attendees and a group of close friends from the Club are planning to visit Maurice in February to celebrate his 99th birthday.

Thanks to Race Officer Ben Adams for organising a full race programme in 2022 and for presenting the trophies and congratulations, of course, to all winners.

© David Tait

2022 CHSC TROPHY WINNERS

Summer Series – Local Races		
Race 1 Overall	Coldham Hall Trophy (Shield)	J Wells
Race 1 First Half	Brundall Challenge Trophy	G Corbett
Race 1 Second Half	Lisa Cup	D Woolston
Race 2 Overall	Blue Jacket Trophy	B Adams
Race 2 First Half	Tripoli Cup	S Watts
Race 2 Second Half	Kingfisher Trophy	D Taitt
Race 3 Overall	President's Bowl	J Wells
Race 3 First Half	John Tye Trophy	D Woolston
Race3 Second Half	Perks Pott	P Parker
Downriver Race Series		
Summer Downriver	Downriver Plaque	D Hickman
Winter Downriver	Downriver Trophy	C Lambert
Cruiser Downriver Series	Payne Bowl	Anna, R & D Branscombe
Production Cruiser Downriver Series	Production Cruiser Trophy	Not Awarded
Downriver Reedham Race	Reedham Cup	B Adams
Picnic Race Series		
First Picnic Race	Chris Bramble RNLI Memorial Trophy	D Hickman
Second Picnic Race	Commodores Trophy	D Woolston
Cruiser First Picnic Race	Peregrine Trophy	Anna, R & D Branscombe
Cruiser Second Picnic Race	CHSC Downriver Tankard	Stratus, J Townley
Class Races		
Summer Series Norfolk Class	Norfolk Trophy	Not Awarded
Summer Series Wayfarer Class	Wayfarer Trophy	P Parker
Summer Series Yeoman Class	Pegasus (Yeoman) Trophy	B Adams
Race Officer's Trophy (Other Classes)	Race Officer's Trophy	D Greenacre



Tree Clearance Work Party

On Sunday 15 January six hardy souls from CHSC braved the elements and responded to a request from the RSPB to assist with clearing of the results of tree cutting on the RSPB reserve on the southern bank of Train Reach.



© David Tait

A number of large Willows trees have been felled on the marsh as part of the management of the reserve. CHSC volunteers collected the discarded branches etc. and burned them on a bonfire on the marsh.



© David Tait

The knock on benefit to the club is that although some trees still remain on the river bank this will aid the wind flow in this area of Train reach – every little helps!



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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.