

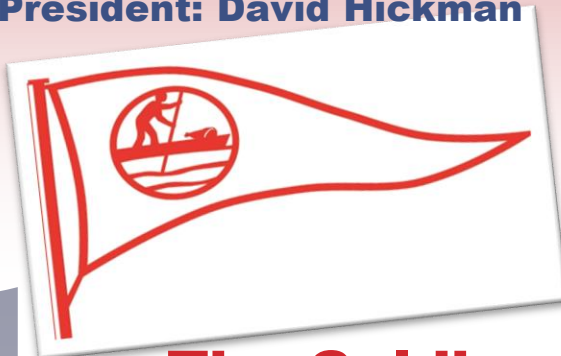
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COLDHAM CHRONICLE

Coldham Hall Sailing Club Est. 1951

'The Heart of Sailing in the Yare Valley'

President: David Hickman



Club Officers

Commodore: Gary Corbett
mooringsecretary@coldhamhallsailingclub.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



www.coldhamhallsailingclub.co.uk



Coldham Hall Sailing Club



Yare Navigation Race



CHSC Triple B Dinghy & Keel Boat Race

The Coldham Chronicle

Welcome to our March, pre-season Coldham Chronicle. Spring is officially with us; the ground is certainly drying out and the river level dropping. We have had some lovely barmy days, followed by a downpour and a chill but the worst should be well and truly behind us and warm days ahead. The sailing programme is ready, racing commences on 7th April and hopefully paddlers will be getting back on the water too. The traditional Rigging Out Supper is on Saturday 6th April at Surlingham Parish Hall, all are welcome.

Boats are being launched and made ready for a great season ahead with a packed programme both on the water and socially at the club. This winter has been harsh with the constant downpours and subsequent flooding, which produced some additional winter work and delayed preparations. Work parties to rectify this are now complete and a big thank-you to all who were able to assist. Thank you also to Bosun David Taitt for arranging and supplying the sausage sarnies.

The interclub quiz with Frostbites was on 14th March, report included. The coming May Bank holiday 4th & 5th we host our Open Sailing Regatta, if you are able to help out, please contact Gary for the racing or Judith & Mandy for the clubhouse staffing. Details of all events are on the club website with the upcoming ones in this edition.

We extend a warm welcome to all of our new sailing and paddling members joining Coldham Hall Sailing Club this year, especially those enrolled on our Try/ Discover Sailing sessions.

In this edition, we pay a tribute to our Club President David Hickman, who passed away in February. The position of club President will remain vacant as a mark of respect to Dave's short time in office.

Finally we wish a Happy Easter to all. Crème Egg anybody?



Notes from The Committee

Committee meeting of Tuesday 12th March 2024.

Treasurer –2024 membership fees are still coming in. 1 application for sailing membership for Keith Webster, approved. If members fail to return their renewal form with the data protection question checked then this will be taken that they do not want to appear in the White Book. Dave Woolston will take over the booking of Wayfarers.

Bosun – Thankyou to all members who attended the four work party days. UK Power have said they will sort out the mess they made of the car park and this is now with the area manager to sort out. Don't hold your breath though!

Race Officer –Frostbites have confirmed that they will attend the open regatta in May. Three cruiser owners have confirmed they will be available with their boats for the visit of Loch Earne sailing club members.

Social Secretary: - The quiz has had to be rearranged to March due to flooding of the Carnser. Rigging out supper hall booked. Will have a bring and buy sale for club funds rather than a raffle. Cakes are required for the open regatta please.

General:- Try Sailing course has 17 interested participants this year. Limit to be set to 20 people.

Next meeting will be Tuesday 9th April 2024 at Coldham Hall Tavern

Upcoming Events 2024

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 23rd & 30th Try sailing theory.

June

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

July

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

September

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

October

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

December

Wednesday 4th Annual General Meeting
Sunday 15th 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.

30th Norfolk Boat Jumble

Sunday 14th April
10.00am to 3pm
Norfolk Showground

Boat & Fishing Jumble

Saturday 11th May
9.30am to 12.30pm
Museum of the Broads

Suffolk Boat Jumble

Sunday 8th September
Suffolk Military Show
Trinity Park Ipswich

Annual Interclub Quiz CHSC V Frostbites. By David Woolston.

CHSC annual quiz match against its longtime rivals the Norwich Frostbites Sailing Club, took place after a previous cancellation due to flooding at Coldham Hall Tavern on Thursday 14th March. The evening was well attended by upwards of 53 members of both CHSC and NFSC. This year quiz as usual being hosted by long time quizmasters David and Margaret Woolston who had assembled a general knowledge quiz of 50 questions which were split into two rounds. The first round was called before the break with the second after, along with an extra question attracting a prize of a good bottle of red wine.

With the first round completed the teams were all very closely matched with two teams, Bird Brain, and the Wooden Tops, tying for the lead position and both on 18 points from a possible 25. This being the halfway stage it was time to partake in an excellent spread of hot and cold buffet provided by the Coldham Hall Tavern, which was enjoyed by all.

With all refreshed from the excellent fare, it was time to return to the quiz for the second round to decide the winner. With all scores added up, including the tabletop round consisting of pictures of male and female stars of screen and stage, the triumphant team emerged as the Wooden Tops, under the captainship of Jonathan Mayfield, from CHSC with a grand total of 53 points. The Bird Brain team, lead by Debbi Jaffey, taking second place with 48 points and Pirates of Train Reach, lead by Vice Commodore David Taitt, close behind in third place with 47 points.

The bottle of wine question, asking how many lifeboat stations are there in the UK and Ireland (238), was won by team Annabel with the closest answer of 241 well done to them.

The Magnificent 'Oscar' quiz trophy being won again by the narrowest of margins by CHSC. With the NFSC remarking that it was becoming rather a habit, and they must do better next year. A good night had by all.



Entries now open for the 2024 Three Rivers Race

Saturday 1st – Sunday 2nd June 2024

Entry forms and full details are available at

www.3rr.uk

Rigging Out Supper

This year's Rigging out supper will be held on Saturday, 6th April 2024 at 7 for 7.30 pm in Surlingham Village Hall.

This event is a great opportunity to get together, with old and new friends, before the start of the sailing season in a relaxed atmosphere. Members are asked to bring a savoury or sweet dish (homemade or bought), with appropriate serving implements, for a "bring and share" buffet. Tea and Coffee will be provided (Bring your own drinks and glasses).

Instead of a raffle, we will be holding a 'bring and buy sale' to raise money for club funds. Items to be donated could include those related to sailing, however, anything is acceptable that you feel that someone might like to buy for a small sum. Jam, plants, books, unwanted raffle prizes... This list could be endless. If items could be priced it would be helpful.

If anyone would like to provide some live entertainment, please contact Judith. Cost £3.50 per person Contact jude_rob2000@yahoo.co.uk

A Tribute to David (Hic) Hickman. Club President.

Message from Kim Hickman.



It is with great sadness that I have to tell you my dear husband, David passed away on Tuesday 13th February 2024 at home. I shall miss him so very much but feel blessed that we had so many happy years together.

He loved his home and felt very lucky to live so near to his beloved River Yare. He could be on board Magpie within fifteen minutes from home and never, ever tired of sailing on the river. He had many other interests, but sailing was definitely his passion.

I am grateful for all tributes I have received including at this year's Annual Prize giving when Race Officer Ben Adams awarded David the Race Officers Trophy, in his presentation speech he said that David has actually won 32 trophies, winning the Downriver Summer series 4 times including last year and The Pegasus Trophy for top Yeoman sailor 7 times.

David was so glad of the kindness and support he received from Coldham Hall Club members, especially as he became less mobile and frail, importantly he was still able to sail.

When David accepted the role of President, he didn't know that his chemo treatment wasn't working. We thought he'd have a few more years. He was thrilled and proud to be elected President. I thank you all for the many happy years we both spent as members of the club. We have met many lovely people and have made many lasting friendships.

Remembering David, by Debbi Jaffey

Amended from The Wind in the Willows:

"Is it so nice as all that?" asked the Mole shyly, though he was quite prepared to believe it as he leant back in his seat and surveyed the royal barge cushions and the huge battle ensign of a burgee ...and all the fascinating fittings and fenders...he felt the boat sway lightly under him.

"Nice? It's the only thing," said the Water Rat solemnly...believe me, my young friend, there is nothing-absolute nothing-half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats...In or out of 'em, it doesn't matter. Nothing seems really to matter, that's the charm of it. Whether you get away, or whether you don't; whether you arrive at your destination or whether you reach somewhere else, or whether you never get anywhere at all, you're always busy, and you never do anything in particular; and when you've done it there's always something else to do, and you can do it if you like, but you'd much better not..."

Dave adored Sunday racing, particularly downriver's, and used to start planning his start and course from about Tuesday each week, modifying likely tactics to take account of real-time changes in the forecast.

He liked things to be predictable and totally under his control on the water- what he called his OCD was actually very useful- it meant that we always had to be ultra tidy aboard- with everything, and everyone, in the right place at the right time. For Dave these were matters of safety and survival- should a crisis arise he would know exactly where everything could be found and be confident that the crew would do what he said immediately. (Of course that wouldn't stop me having a go at him later if I thought he had been wrong – and he was gracious enough to accept that sometimes he was.).



Dave was an excellent teacher and generous with his knowledge. He kept me motivated with enough leisure helming allied with generous praise for a straight wake, perfect river positioning, sail setting or whatever (though he wasn't the best of crews as he didn't always do what he was told!). He provided me with my own hip flask to be brought out for a celebratory nip when we won a race. Dave carried a considerable selection of hats on Magpie, which would need to be changed at least twice in any race...and if they flew overboard it was always an immediate mandatory opportunity to practice man overboard drill.

When racing in a good breeze and needing to change tack Dave would always aim dead centre for the starboard boat in front, at great speed swerving only at the last second, to miss the transom by inches-a finely calibrated thrill but quite unsettling for everyone else. In lighter winds, with a slow tide, Dave could often be heard muttering "Sid Pitt" repeatedly. Sid was a wise old sailor who had taught Dave that when nothing is happening - you should just do nothing- don't waggle the tiller, don't move about or try to change tack, but leave her to find her own way. ...those Sid Pitt moments were crucial to his light wind downriver successes.

Dave loved nothing more than to be on a downriver race on a sunny summer's day with a good breeze, looking for the famous thalweg -with the whole fleet well behind of course. He always demanded I take a photo on those occasions -as a reminder of the glorious times -for when he thought he would no longer be able to sail. His log book details were meticulously recorded after every jaunt, without exception, and he could recite details of our best races years later...We were so lucky that Dave was able to keep sailing right up until the last Pudding Race.

Dave loved that to sail the Yare well, it demands you to be totally in the moment- so it was a place and activity that allowed him some respite from the tougher things going on in his life. Carpe Diem, he would say as we left home. Being able to help Dave indulge his love of sailing Magpie -right to the end -has been a total privilege and pleasure. He will be hugely missed. Dave always said that a successful day on the river was when we got there and back again- with nothing broken, no one hurt, and Magpie safely tucked up and fendered on her nest, until next time...And, if we had done it all faster than everyone else and without making any mistakes, it really was the perfect day...And as Ratty and Dave used to say -there really is nothing worth doing more than messing about on boats....

From the membership



David was a proud 'Black Country Boy' his first sail was when he visited Norfolk in the 70's, a week in a 'Half Decker' at Thurne, with his bible class, he got the bug, although, it was not until 1993 whilst sitting at the Tavern with his mother, the seeds were sown, he acquired his beloved Magpie Yeoman Y80, which he regularly sailed competitively and social to the end of the 2023 season. David always kept Magpie in tiptop condition, if it needed doing or a new suit of sails, he would get the work done.

Dave joined Coldham Hall Sailing Club in 1997, establishing himself as a competitive challenger on the race sheets. Nobody was more competitive when racing then David, throughout he kept his cards close to his chest, others would learn more from what they observed as opposed to instruction, I for one, observed from behind to pick up tips and pointers, 'how did he keep on moving in no winds, why did he take that side of the river'. David knew the Yare well and he proved it at the annual and regatta prize giving's. Even on midweekers David preferred his position at the front of the fleet.

When asked, what are your top tips for winning? That's easy. Always sail as fast as you can, don't be greedy, stop wagging the rudder, keep still and don't make any mistakes. Find a good crew, look after them. Practice, practice and more practice.

David was Club Commodore in 1999, amongst other pleasures he had a passion for music and last year entertained us at the Club BBQ, he knew his Leonard Cohen.



The Clubs first Sailing Race is on Sunday 7th April. Prior to the first race as a mark of respect to Maurice WARD, Geoff PINDER and David HICKMAN, members are invited to join together at the club flagpole for a period of quite reflection. Commencing at 10.15am.



Rules Evening

25 members attended an interesting and informative Sailing Rule's evening presented by club member and renowned RYA Rules Committee Chairman and World Sailing Judge Trevor Lewis. Trevor clearly outlined the important parts of rules relevant to our club races, from the definitions, infringements, terms used to protest, turns and more.

Most importantly, Trevor made it clear that if you touch a mark you do **one** complete turn, hitting a boat or other infringements where you maybe or are protested requires **two** complete turns, for example contact with another boat/ another boat changing course where they have right of way. He also emphasised that turns **must** be undertaken in clear water so as not to infringe and as soon as possible. Rules commence on the 4 minute countdown to a start.

So remember; avoid any contact where possible, tell people clearly your intention, it's 'Protest' (boat name or number) not 'do your turns' make sure they have seen you, a Starboard boat has priority, top of the list be courteous and if in doubt 'Ask'. Don't expect everyone to know what you're doing.

A handy rules quiz can be found on the club website or at <http://game.finckh.net/indexe.htm>



Winter Work Parties

Four scheduled work parties, coordinated by Bosun David Taitt, have now been held at the club over February and March. A strong turnout of members each time has meant that a lot could be achieved. The biggest task was sorting out the poor state of repair to a section of the front quay heading, it was decided minimal work should be undertaken as the quay heading will be replaced in January 2025. Old timbers from the old walkway and from the start box walkway were used to reinforce the water side of the bank and as a support, sandbag's mixed with a little cement placed behind the wood, earth then being layered on top with grass seed to cover. As part of the scheduled replacement works, the idea for next year will be that there will be no boardwalk, just a capping to the quay heading, with grassed area behind. It is hoped over the rest of the year the rest of the walkway timbers can be removed and grass laid.



The walkway to the start box has also been replaced and the start box repainted. As a result of the flooding, water got into the Klargest air pump which blew the fuse and filled the sealed pump with water. The pump has been repaired and relocated into the clubhouse to give it more protection Thanks to Bob Branscombe for reviving the pump.

As a trial, a plastic open mesh area has been dug into the ground at the bottom of the walkway and filled with gravel. This will hopefully make for a safer/drier walking in this high-volume area with less mud and better drainage. If it proves successful, then further areas may be treated the same way later in the year. The toilet area has been repainted and trims added round the door frames and the clubhouse has benefitted from a good clean. The committee would like to thank all involved for their time and hard work for which we will reap the benefits.

Car park, you will be aware the poor state of part of the car park near to the dyke owing to the placement of generators over the winter, the club is in contact with UK Power on this matter.

Tree and Scrub clearance.

Saturday 9th & Tuesday 12th March were our last opportunities prior to the nesting season to clear some trees and scrub, this time just downriver from the clubhouse and close to the speed limit signs and Brick Yard Dyke. This is an area of aggressive ‘Blackthorn’ and not easy to cut or pack down to burn. On top of that the sky’s opened, never the less an inroad to future clearance was achieved and hopefully will improve the sailing.



The club wishes to thank all who were able to help with the tree clearing. It is hoped that at the end of the year will get the opportunity to continue, flooding permitting.

The committee very much appreciates the continued engagement Bill Clark has with Land Owners and Authorities on behalf of not just the club but all sailors using the Yare.



Sailing Section

Date	Allcomer Race Series	Cruiser Race	1 st Officer	2 nd Officer	3 rd Officer
April 7 th	Local 1		D Woolston	M Woolston	D Durrant
April 14 th	Downriver 1		D Greenacre	M Roll	S Roll
April 21 st	Local 2		G Corbett	D Jaffey	C Logue
April 28 th	Local 3		Paul Parker	E Crowfoot	G Westwood

The first Sign of Spring

The Yeomans are emerging from their hibernation and arriving back on their moorings.

Sailing recommences

Sunday 6th April 2024

Local 1

10.30 am

High Tide 13:19 hrs BST

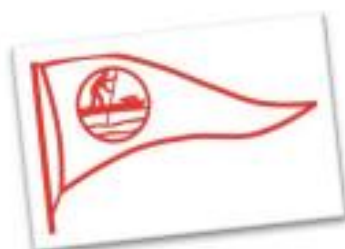




MAY 4TH & 5TH 2024 CHSC OPEN REGATTA

Open to All Dinghies, Half Deckers & Cruisers

Coldham Hall Sailing Club invites you to take part in their Annual Open Regatta held on the River Yare at Surlingham. Open to all clubs and most types of boat (sorry no production cruisers).



First race Sat 4th from 14.00 continuing on Sun 5th from 10.00am.
(Weather Permitting)

CHSC Sailing Instructions, RYA racing rules 2020 – 2024 and Portsmouth Numbers as declared in the Green Book with no adjustment apply.

Entry just £1.00 per race on the day, all prizes by sweepstake

Allcomers, Norfolk's, Wayfarer, Yeoman Class races for trophies

Downriver course for Traditional Broads Cruisers – Merlin Challenge Cup

Harry Last Memorial trophy for boat with fastest correct ed time from last four races - Sunday

COLDHAM HALL SAILING CLUB

Surlingham
Norfolk
NR14 7AN

www.coldhamhallsailingclub.co.uk

Keeping You Informed

Norfolk & Suffolk Boating Association (NSBA)

Four committee members attend the NSBA, Flag Officers Forum in Norwich, a majority of the evening outlining a change of reform of Governance to Corporate (Ltd), briefly, involving the relationship with the Broads Authority, both parties seeking legal advice. Hopefully this can be resolved and does not distract from the reason's we all use the rivers.

RAMUS Trophy

RAMUS 24 will be held on Saturday 21st September at Wroxham, hosted by UEA/NBYC in Firefly's, if any member who would like to apply to take part in this event, please contact the committee.



Broads Society

The Broads Society recently launched a new website and throughout February has been publishing regular features that will be of interest to you. Each month their will send out [highlights like these](#) to everyone who has signed up. It's easy to do, just visit their website and pop in your email address at the bottom of the page.

Club Notices

River Tolls and Craft Insurance

The committee would like to remind all craft owners, it is the owners responsibility to have appropriate River Toll.

For all boats the appropriate current Toll, issued by the Broads Authority, must be held to take part in club activities and to use club moorings and dinghy park.

Where a sailing boat has a fitted auxiliary petrol engine or uses an outboard motor then the appropriate toll and additional cost must be paid.

Paddle craft, Canoe's Kayaks and Paddleboards do not require a Broads Authority Toll if they are a current registered member of Paddle UK, (previously British Canoeing). This allows you to use your craft on many of the country's waterways. <https://paddleuk.org.uk/welcome-to-paddle-uk>

Insurance. It is the responsibility of the owner/user of any craft, (Boat of any kind, Canoe/Kayak, SUP) either taking part in club activities on the water or being stored on club moorings or premises to ensure that they have current and adequate insurance in respect of liability to third parties.

Green Books and White Books

The 2024 NSBA Green book and the 2024 CHSC booklet are now available to members in the Clubhouse. Please help yourselves.



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.