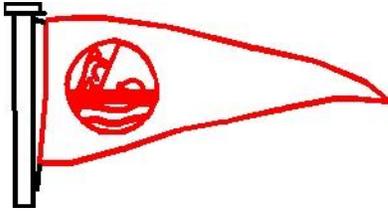


# THE COLDHAM CHRONICLE JUNE 2017



## **Coldham Hall Sailing Club, Surlingham** *“The Heart of Sailing in the Yare Valley”*

### ***Enjoying the river – Maurice Ward – Club President looks back....***

“June and I raced with the club from the middle 50’s until we retired in 1989. Then we decided to go on another tack and we bought a sailing cruiser and for the next 20 years or so we happily cruised the Broads until age caught up with us. In that time we have sailed all the rivers in the Broads to their ends of navigation, but we always felt that returning to the Yare that we ‘were coming home’. We found that we got the best sailing on the Yare.”

Here are a few suggestions from Maurice for day sailing. If there is no wind, there’s nothing more pleasant than to go onto Surlingham Broad, Drop a mud weight and enjoy a picnic and the surroundings. Down river sailing has lots of possibilities – Buckenham and back to Rockland Broad, mooring up at the staithe for a pint at the pub and only a short sail back to Coldham. Langley dyke has good mooring, but no facilities (bucket may be required). Cantley and Reedham Ferry both have plenty of moorings, but it is a good idea to be aiming for low water at Reedham at lunch time. On average the sail in either direction to Reedham is 2 hours, but well worth it as we always had our best sailing between Reedham and Cantley.

### ***Mid Week Sailing.***

We have for several years, and continue to follow in Maurice and June’s footsteps, been aiming to have a day sail each week when the wind and tide are favourable. Typically we meet at 10am to get away by 10.30 sail, chat, lunch and back for 3.30pm ish. All welcome – just tell Judith if you want to become a Midweeker so you can be kept informed by email- *see later for information on weekend social sailing*

### ***Rigging Out Supper – Open Regatta – Push the Boat Out open afternoon. (PTBO)***

All have been successful events so far this season, especially in respect of the generosity of members who make/donate food to share.

The Open Regatta at the end of April was indeed a weekend of sparkling sailing. It was an ideal start to the season and coupled with a Pork and Ale festival at the pub. The weather was breezy and bright and all the competitors had some truly memorable sailing.



Open regatta.

PTBO is the RYA's nationwide event to promote sailing to encourage and help more people get into sailing. We had a really good open afternoon on 21 May with lots of members staying on after racing for the lunch and to take visitors out in their boats. We had 25 visitors – lots of them families and a good bit of interest in membership of the club. We are following up on these contacts and thanks to all who were involved.

### ***Try/Start Sailing***

Once again we are running Thursday evening sessions and have 20 people signed up. A few are members who joined who are novice sailors but most are this year's Introductory members. Thanks to all members and their boats for being available to sail for these evenings. There are 3 each in June and July. Sessions this month are 8<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Special thanks to Ian Shepherd who again has organised the course and to Ian Barker for running the classroom sessions.

### ***Hardley Mill Cruise***

This has been organised for 1<sup>st</sup> July. You will have had an invitation by email from Debbie and you need to book and pay by 22<sup>nd</sup> June. This event has been arranged in the middle of the Try/Start Sailing Thursday evening sessions and people who are new to the club especially those doing the Try Sailing are encouraged to come along and join in with or without your own boat. Low tide at Hardley Mill will be about 12pm, so tide should be with us most of the way there and back. A nice day and a sensible wind will of course make this popular event all the more enjoyable. There should be plenty of spare seats available in various boats, although six in a Topper may be pushing your luck.

If there is anyone who would prefer to come on foot, there is a lovely riverside walk from Hardley Dyke, where there is plenty of free parking. There is no general access by road to the Mill for vehicles but if there is any one with mobility challenges it can be specially arranged

### ***Sunday Morning Racing and Officer of the Day Duties (OOD)***

This is all going very well. Last Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June we had 4 classic cruisers, 1 production cruiser and 7 'allcomers' on the water (a few less than normally, but some regulars were on holiday). There are still a few slots in the sailing programme for members to fill to help out with OOD duties- start box and safety boat. If you are new to the club and would like to see what it entails, get in contact with Ben Adams, Race Officer or come on a Sunday at 9.30 am and ask to help. It is vital that we have volunteers as the racing cannot be held without them.

### ***RYA Charter and Racing Rules***

Most of our races are incident free with participants being conversant with and observing the Racing Rules. Now and again tempers can get frayed, especially on a crowded start line or at a mark. Some would say it is just part of the 'cut and thrust' of sailboat racing. However members should be aware of the overarching RYA Charter on fair sailing as well as the racing rules and Club Sailing Instructions.

Ben Adams, Race Officer, comments;

As a new member to the club I am not used to such competitive sailing in such a confined stretch of water. This I find great fun and exciting but at all times we must be mindful of the dangers of accidental collisions and respect for other boats. During my brief time with the club I have witnessed and heard of numerous incidents which could be avoided. We all need to have upper most in our mind the need to take care and account of variable wind conditions when manoeuvring and jostling for position on the water. I am aware that a number of members are avoiding competitive racing all together or have even left the club due to accidents and damage caused from collisions while racing. This is a great shame and counter to our aim to encourage people to join the club and be involved in sailing and racing within our club.

I would also like to encourage you to come forward either formally with a protest or informally with some advice so that we can all take note of all incidents and consider any action required to try and minimise or avoid this happening in the future.

## ***Weekend Social Sailing Dates.***

One of the joys of Coldham Hall, is to come along potter about in a boat. Many members prefer that and do not feel they have the competitive urge or skill to take part in the Sunday racing. That's fine, but does it mean we need to do a bit more for those members in the way of social sailing at weekends?

With this in mind here are some dates over the next two months when there will be social sailing afternoons. There is no particular format. It could include getting out on the water, improving boat skills, trying out other boats, getting the barbecue out and so on. If this type of activity appeals to you please let the Commodore, Jonathan Bolton, know by email so we can gauge interest.

At the moment the proposed social sailing afternoons are;

Sunday 11 June, Sunday 18 June, Sunday 25 June, Saturday 8 July and Saturday 29 July

Further dates can be added if there is sufficient interest.

## ***Other Future Events:***

Our own annual Club Regatta all day on 16 July.

It is always a great day and there will be novice race as well as all the usual classes. Watch out for further details later.

Beccles Open Regatta 7- 9 August – organised by the Beccles Amateur Sailing Club with races for all sorts including Wayfarers, Norfolks and single handers; a great event with lots of social events as well and camping available.

YNR (Yare Navigation Race) for classic Broads Cruisers to Breydon and back is hosted by us Saturday 16 September. Last year was a very fast race with good winds and it was good to 'take part' by timing boats in and out at Reedham. New and old members are needed to help.

Buckenham Sailing Club is running their passage race on Saturday 30 September. The Triple B which is open to dinghies and days boats as well as cruisers. Some of our club members will be competing and Mill Chic will be defending her Day Boat title.

At Coldham Hall on Saturday 14 October, we are hosting the Norfolk and Suffolk Boating Association (NSBA) interclub championship. Teams from clubs across the Boards will compete for the Ramuz trophy in Yeomans. It promises to be a busy and exciting day.

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Anyone reading this, who is not a member, but would like to join as a sailing or social member, or if you want further information then please visit the website [www.coldhamhallsailingclub.co.uk](http://www.coldhamhallsailingclub.co.uk), or contact our Secretary: