



## BABBACOMBE CORINTHIAN SAILING CLUB COMMODORES NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2019



Well its been a while since the last Newsletter back in May so for those of you who have joined since then thank you and welcome to BCSC. I started to write this last week sitting in the Top Club whilst the exterior was being partly re painted and the gent's urinals were replaced (I actually suspect only half of you are really interested in the latter piece of work!), more of that below.

### **Annual General Meeting and next year's Officers and Committee**

It's our AGM on 20<sup>th</sup> October at 2 p.m. (a date for your diary) at which we elect the Club Officers and General Committee members. Many of your Officers are standing again but we do have a couple of vacancies in particular a BCSC Secretary, working with the Commodore. If anyone would like to help the Club by standing for officer roles or just as a Committee member please let me know and don't be shy!

Please look out for the formal notification of the AGM in the next few weeks or so.

### **Membership**

We are nearly up to our target of 300 members this year so please continue to bring your friends in for up to three times to try us out. Remember membership gives you discounted drinks and ticket prices as well as a concession on the Cliff Railway. So, with all the events coming up its still good value for money even at the halfway point of the membership year.

### **Regatta Part II aka Silver Dinghy Pursuit Race and Sailing Matters**

You may remember that we had to curtail our Regatta in June due to the conditions, so Part II happens next Sunday morning, 8<sup>th</sup> September. It's a Pursuit Race so depending on your dinghy and handicap you start at different times and in theory everyone should all finish at the same time! The Sailing Instructions and Notice of Race are available in the website so get your entries in and grab one of cash prizes on offer – courtesy of our Sponsors Moatt Sails.

As well as congratulations to all our newly qualified sailors this season, adults and juniors, its belated congratulations to Steve Norman and John Bush who have successfully completed their Dinghy Instructor course and they are now supporting Guy and the other Instructors with our training activities.

Our weekend sailing sessions are continuing through to end of October, conditions permitting, however, our evening sailing sessions are coming to an end with Fridays now finished on 30<sup>th</sup> August and our Tuesday evening sails complete with a Twilight Trophy Race, tomorrow on 3<sup>rd</sup> September. We've brought this forward by a week as it's getting too dark to sail.

We have also been offering some additional training/ improvement sessions which have seen a great take up from some of you.

Don't forget its Prize Giving on 12<sup>th</sup> October so come along and help all our sailors and helpers celebrate their achievements and successes.

Guy has recently started a pilot of the RYA Essential Navigation and Seamanship course. There are nine of us on the course and if this is successful, he can run this and other theory courses if we have the demand. Look out for announcements and opportunities in due course.

We have also seen a few of our sailors flying the BCSC flag at various Regattas around the country. So, whilst it's after the event I'd like to give a special mention to Neil Spacagna and John Lawton with their respective crew members Steve Eustace and Andy Probert who braved some really testing conditions to take part in the Tasar World Championships at Hayling Island Sailing Club at the end of July. Just ask them if you want to know how they got on!

Lastly some of our members, encouraged I have to say by Jan and Guy, have chartered a couple of yachts in Greece towards the end of September so BCSC will have a European outpost this summer! I'm sure they'll happily regale you with their tales on the Med when they get back.

### **Top Club House and Social events**

As I mentioned at the beginning, we are having some work completed at the Top Club House and will continue this by refreshing both the ladies and gents toilets as well as looking at some of the more ageing bar equipment. Additionally, having replaced the big screen projector and TV receiver we are now looking at replacing some of the other audio equipment.

We seem to have had a couple of busy months for events, especially on some Saturdays, which included a packed-out Club for the film night Fisherman's Friends, where we had an order for 34 portions of fish and chips! We will be showing more films over the autumn months so keep an eye out and be ready to place your fish and chip order!

Our regular in-house food evenings are also proving as popular as ever and clearly thanks go to all the people who help on those evenings. They do involve a fair bit of preparation and work behind the scenes, not just the cooking, and we are obviously making good use of the new kitchen facilities.

As already publicised we will be showing all the England Rugby World Cup matches and Euro (football) qualifiers starting on 7<sup>th</sup> September with England's Euro game against Bulgaria whilst England's opening rugby world cup game against Tonga is on 22<sup>nd</sup> September

We've got a full programme of events at the Top Club House right up until Christmas so keep an eye out for the table fliers, posters, announcements in Ted's weekly update and come along have a great night out.

Also if you know of any group or organisation that need a club meeting place please let us know. The club is available most Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights as well as a few Saturdays and is free if you are a member and the bar is open. During the day the hire is £10 per hour. We do still have some December dates for all those Christmas parties!

Lastly, as already advised we have already settled on a date for our Annual Dinner and Dance and it's Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November. We are returning to the Golf Club for an evening of posh frocks and Dinner Jackets etc. We'll be publishing the menu choices shortly and taking reservations.

### **Beach Club House Regen**

Yes, we are still working on this, albeit very slowly. We've now had some reasonably detailed but informal costings, so we have an idea of the possible financial requirements. This allows us to start to have discussions with various people and organisations about grants and other help. If you know of any groups or bodies who can provide grants for sailing clubs who you think would help us, please let me know. It doesn't have to be a huge sum as every grant or donation will help.

Obviously, we've still got to obtain planning approval etc and that will require formal plans and structural reports so the work to date is helping us define an approach to the refurbishment and some of the possible design aspects. To that end we've now got an architect looking at our sketch ideas and will have something professional to take forward shortly. My thanks go to a Club member who "nominated" her father to undertake the work for us.

### **Fundraising**

Do you know there are two very easy ways you can help BCSC raise funds? Firstly, by using Easy Fundraising. It costs you nothing and when you shop on-line with loads of retailers, they will make a donation to us. Use this link and choose BCSC for your donations and just go shopping.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/babbacombebcsc/>

Torbay Lottery is another fund raiser for us, for your ticket you get a chance to win £25,000 and the Club gets half the ticket sales.

<https://www.torbaylottery.co.uk/>

There are relatively few members involved in both or either of these, yet we raise some £1200 each year so please do take the opportunity to help BCSC and let's double our fund raising from these two sources.

### **And Finally**

Well it wouldn't be a Newsletter without my regular plea for bar volunteers. It may just be the summer period, but we have been relying on a few core volunteers and actually had to shut on Saturday. Please if you can help or want to help (training is provided) "your club needs you"!

Thanks, and see you all soon

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