

Newsletter

June 2011

Hickling
Windsurfing Club



www.hicklingbroad.co.uk

Come and Try Day 18 June

One of the most popular events of the season, this is the day for family, friends, and the general public to sample the excitement of windsurfing and experience what the club has to offer.



- We provide training by our RYA qualified instructors and will have you windsurfing in 30 minutes.
- All equipment, wetsuits, boards, instruction, safety cover provided.
- Just bring your swim suit, towel and an old pair of trainers.

Why Members like the Club!

Applications for new or renewed membership for 2011 included a set of questions, asking what it is about the club which influenced the decision to join or rejoin.

Half the members responded, and here is what you said:

- 9 out of 10 (91%) said the **location** was the main influence. (Yes! The location is a bonus!)
- Half (48%) were influenced by the **facilities**
- Just under half (43%) thought **price** was a strong factor
- 1 in 5 (18%) liked the **loan equipment***
- And 13% liked the **Buddy System***
- (* both Loan Equipment and Buddy System were favoured more by new members)

Specific comments also included:

- “Welcoming approach of members, whatever your level”
- “Good reputation as friendly club”
- “Good friendly advice from members”
- “Safe sailing”
- “Social Scene at the Club”
- “Excellent value!”
- “Friendly, detailed and prompt response to membership enquiry”
- “Sailing with friends” *Pic: Path to the beach*



- and there were NO negative comments! One member wanted “free membership for the over 60’s.....” Dream on!

The committee always welcomes feedback from members, so do talk to us when you are down at the beach.
W4CR – Dave White below.



For the latest news, views, pictures and information go to: hicklingbroad.co.uk

Buoyant Membership

We now have over 140 members with several new memberships already this year, with a number of further enquiries in the pipeline. Our new members are a mix of family and individual memberships, with several younger people coming into the sport. Many are taking advantage of the new club kit, and are applying what they have learnt at Whitlingham.

Of all our members, just under half (44%) are family memberships, so, on average, there are well over 200 actively involved in windsurfing at Hickling. Committee members and others take time to show new members the facilities at Hickling, explain how the club works, answer questions and resolve any uncertainties.

Philip Peaston, Membership Secretary

1 May - W4CR and Training Day

Judging by the overflowing car park then by all accounts this was probably the most successful and popular day at the club ever!



Just a few of the members who enjoyed the F6 winds and solid sunshine. Included is Mike Myhill who came all the way from New Zealand!

Also attending was Dave White (UK Male Speed champion) and the crew from Quayside. Dave started off at sunrise on the south coast, then to Rutland Water, Hickling and then Lowestoft at sunset. See link to Dave's site from our web-site.

I think we made quite an impression on Dave as he soon picked up the HWC gybe technique completing the exit in our usual style.

.....see pic top right !



Give Way !

With the sailing and windsurfing season in full swing, do be careful out there on the Broad. At closing speeds of up to 50mph then we do need to keep wide of other traffic. Have a look on the website for safety information. Remember you only have right of way if your right hand is nearest to your mast (starboard tack). However, it's best to keep a wide berth to avoid the risk altogether.



Buddy Scheme proves Popular

Buddies have been busy supporting both new and some existing members. This support has included advice on rigging up, running through the RYA Start Windsurfing course, and providing advice and guidance to get safely and confidently on the water. Feedback from members is very positive, and if you would like a spot of Buddying, see the website pages "Beginners Information".

Pic: W4CR, Easterly F6, sunny, and having fun.



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