

Newsletter



**Hickling
Windsurfing Club**
(1984-2016)

June 2016



<http://www.hicklingbroad.co.uk>

Forthcoming events:

As you know it's a very busy time at the Club, so firstly here is a quick summary so that you don't miss out. Full details are on the Website and Club facebook pages.

9th July - Club Summer BBQ

From 6pm at the Pleasure Boat Inn. The PB have previously done a great job in looking after us and serving tasty food. We have brought it forward to July to give us more daylight, and hopefully a little more warmth. Lots going on with VIPs attending too. **Please do email me in advance for tickets so we know how much food to prepare.**



It's ridiculously cheap at just £5 per person, payable on the night. martinHWC@btinternet.com.

6th August - Intermediate/Advanced clinic.



We are very lucky that Simon Bornhoft has offered to run a course at the Club for a special member rate of £89 per person. Simon is one of the leading windsurfing technique experts on the planet and will help you get to the next level and enjoy your windsurfing more. You need to be using the harness and footstaps to get the most of this course. Course is limited to 10 spaces so it's advisable to book early.

7th August - Free SUP taster sessions



SUP taster....

7th August, 10am to 1pm on our beach. SUPing is all about getting on the water when it's not windy enough for windsurfing. Come and see Steve from the Norfolk Paddle Co, no need to book.

13 & 14 August – Hickling Regatta.

For me one of the highlights from last year was being part of this lovely event and socialising at the Pleasure Boat Inn. More of us from the club are getting involved this year. Burning off the sailors is always good fun. For more info see our web site, and facebook page.

Safety alert !

There have been several incidents this year with sails getting out of control when being rigged or stored on the beach. When the wind is up it can get very busy and congested on the beach, so the chances are that any sail going out of control is very likely to hit someone. This is exactly what happened the other day resulting in a nasty injury just above the eye for one of our members.



- Please can everyone therefore take extra care and if it's windy get help from others to secure the rig.
- If you are downwind during rigging then consider moving somewhere safer.
- Ensure your rig is attached to a board up wind with the board face down, as per pic above.
- Carry sails mast into wind.

It's also a good time to remind everyone to ensure their insurance cover is up to-date. It's a condition of membership with those with their own kit, and just like car insurance, it will save an awful lot of hassle and avoid you selling your house to pay for any claims if an accident does occur.

Finally, please remember that all members have an obligation to put the safety of others first.

Come and Try day 2016.



We have had a small but steady decline in membership numbers the last couple of years so this year decided to put more effort into the day and make more of a splash. This was probably our most popular open day, and by all accounts we achieved our aim:

- 41 trained on the water.
- 100 turned up on the day.
- 11 new memberships, (=30 new people at the Club)
- 11 taking up places on our first Club training courses.
- Write up in the EDP (60,000 copies).
- Town and Country (Free Norfolk Paper) 30,000 copies.
- Fees generated an additional £1,500 for our Club coffers.

First Club Beginner Course – Day 1



Faced with declining membership numbers we decided to offer beginner training courses to help new members accelerate their windsurf learning/enjoyment and hope they are therefore more likely to rejoin in future years. With this in mind the instructors have renewed their RYA instructor certificates and 1st Aid training.

Duty instructors Martin and John (Christie) were very impressed with the standard and amount of windsurfing achieved on the first day (12 June) despite thunder, lightning, torrential rain, equipment problems, and the fact that it was the first time the Club has run a full course.

Despite a forecast of rain all day, we had a dry warm day, with ideal light winds. Result!

The Club collaborated with the RYA as part of the nationwide 'push the boat out' initiative that saw thousands trying sailing and windsurfing for the first time. The RYA arranged for North Norfolk MP, Norman Lamb to visit the Club – see pic above.

As usual the support from members was just amazing with 20 helping out on the day. It's worth pointing out that about another 20 days effort was involved pre and post event with marketing, PR, logistics, baking, booking sessions, getting wetsuits from three different locations (thanks to Whitlingham OEC, Sea Scouts, and UEA), washing / returning wet suits, and post event promotions and administration. So that's about 40 days in total of member's time given to the Club for free. Amazing ..thank you guys.

The picture shows Maggie, Sam, Adam and Rory windsurfing in style after just 30 mins of being on the water.

Would you benefit from training?

Please let us know if you are interested in training to give your windsurfing a boost.