

Hickling Windsurfing Club Newsletter July 2017

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



Summer's Arrived!

We've been pretty lucky these last few weeks. Summer wetsuits have been the order of the day, and we've also had some decent summer breezes, although oddly for quite a few days the prevailing south-westerly direction has been replaced by a slightly cooler north-westerly. We even had the bizarre situation at the recent beginners' course (of which more next month) of the wind apparently blowing in about four different directions at the same time! I kid you not!

Anyway, apart from lots of decent sailing conditions, what else has been happening on the club front?

Safe sailing

With warmer conditions comes accelerated plant (weed!?) growth in the Broad. This year, as last, we've seen more growth than usual. This does mean that if you break some kit or otherwise have to walk back across the Broad, it is a somewhat harder walk than usual due to the weed snagging around your feet. If you're struggling in this situation, the best advice is to ditch your rig and just stay with your board- the rig can always be recovered by boat later.

Darren and Paul have recently made some improvements to the boat launching "trolley". This means that, should it be needed in a hurry, the boat can be launched much more quickly. We are also establishing better communications with the Sailing Club's rescue boats so that we can readily call on their assistance should we need it whilst they are on the water.

(As an aside, it's worth remembering that everything that happens at the club happens because volunteers give up a lot of time. Additional thanks are due this month to Darren and others who have just repaired the quay heading by placing 50 sandbags to control damage and erosion).

One final word of advice- after many years of an unblemished safety record, a second club member has experienced a foot injury in almost as many

months. In this case, one of our new Junior members fell off his board in shallow water just off the beach, and landed heavily injuring his foot/ankle. The key lesson from this is pretty simple- please ensure that you are in a decent depth of water before attempting to up-haul your rig.

It's also worth pointing out that the review we undertook into the incident identified that a lot of things worked really well in terms of how members responded and assisted after the incident. Thank you to everybody who helped. I'm also pleased to report that our injured sailor is making a very good recovery, and expects to be back on the water over the summer holidays.

Dave Black- a celebration of his life

Last month I reported the sad news of the passing of our former Chairman, Dave Black. You will recall that Dave's wishes were for a private cremation, followed by a later celebration of his life for family and friends.

The celebration has been arranged for **14 July 2017, at 2.00pm, at Park Farm Hotel, Hethersett**. If you would like to attend please will you advise Judith, Dave's wife, as soon as possible. If you contact me, I will provide Judith's email address. The afternoon will include an opportunity for anybody who wishes to share a memory about Dave to say a few words.

Can I also remind you that, in memory of Dave, his family has set up a Just Giving page for donations to the Outward Bound Trust. This is an educational charity that uses the outdoors to help develop young people, from all walks of life, to face the challenges at every stage of their education and transition into employment. If you wish to make a donation, please go to www.justgiving.com/fundraising/windsurfingdave



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Future Events



Back by popular demand! Simon Bornhoft, the UK's leading windsurfing coach. Last year's Windwise training event got rave reviews! For full details go to our website or Facebook page. Places are limited, so book early. Discount for members.

Ladies day: 29 July, 10.30 am

Wendy & Ros would like to let you know about a special windsurfing/ social event for female club members.

On Saturday 29th July lady and girl members are invited to meet at Hickling around 10.30 a.m. for a sail, and then we to head to the pub for drinks/ lunch.

This is an opportunity for all our women members, even those who do not sail very often, to get together, support each other and have a fun day. Of course children and partners are welcome on the day but we would really like to see as many ladies as possible and hope this will be the first of many such events.

Please respond to the email you will have received from Wendy to let her and Ros know if you are interested and whether you would like any help with anything on the day.

When we first advertised this event a couple of newsletters back, I included a picture of GB Olympic windsurfing medallist Bryony Shaw, and mentioned that she was still paddleboarding whilst 7 months pregnant with her first child. I'm pleased to report that Bryony and her partner Brad are now the proud parents of baby Jaddek. Many congratulations!



THE Social event of the year: Club Barbeque 8 July, 7.00pm

The time has come to take your wetsuit off and dig out your best bib and tucker, because the HWC BBQ is this coming Saturday at 7pm!

Pleasure Boat Inn, Hickling Staithe.

New Kitchen and chefs this year, so we expect it to be tip top!

Entertainment – Live music (Muddy Broad blues Band), raffle, and quiz

Weather – currently looks warm, sunny and dry

BBQ (all the usual plus veggie option)- prices start from £4

Please RSVP (or pose any questions) to Keith (keithpmiller958@gmail.com), so that we don't run out of burgers!

For any special food requirements, please call the pub.

Once again, space has beaten me. Next month I'll report on the recent beginners' course, the trip around the Broad by the Committee as guests of the Norfolk Wildlife Trust, plus much more!

See you on the water!

Richard editorhwc@gmail.com