# Newsletter March 2011





#### Welcome to HWC 2011

Firstly welcome to all new and existing club members. For some hardy sailors the windsurfing season has already kicked off in style (see article), but for the rest of us we are still waiting for warmer weather and for the water to rise a few degrees.

For the benefit of those who may not have caught up with club news then it's worth noting there have been some big changes in the last year, namely:



- Fanatic Vipers great beginner boards/sails
- New Website with more information
- Six new RYA qualified club instructors
- New club boat.

Membership costs have stayed the same for yet another year, less than the cost of a tank of fuel!

#### **Newsletter and Editor**

As you can see we also have a new newsletter, and I'm the new editor. My family and I have a long involvement with the club and I have helped with the new Web site – which I hope is stored in your favorites. Many thanks to Graham Ives for entertaining us for the last few years. I've looked forward to Graham's newsletters and I'll do my best to update you with gossip, news, views, and what's going to be happening at the club this year. Be sure to make a note of the key club events and please send any news you may have to me at martinbh@hicklingbroad.co.uk.

Happy 2011 windsurfing, Martin

For the latest news and information do check out the club website and catch-up via the forums.

So that you can recognize Graham, the retiring editor, here he is in action.



## **New Gate Code**

This is the Web Edition Newsletter. The code is provided to current members only.

# W4CR - Sunday 1st of May

Short for 'Windsurfing for Cancer Research'. Last year the club raised almost £2,000. This charity was started by a UK windsurfer, who sadly lost their battle with cancer last year.

It's a good opportunity to dust off your kit, and make new friends down at the club. We had great fun last year raising money. Joining in is simple, google **W4CR** and register, you can send your sponsorship by cheque or do it on-line. Ignore what the site says about sunrise to sunset – you set your own targets. For more details please contact John Tuddenham and Darren Knights.

Continued over.

# Training Day - Sun 1st May



We are hoping to have a good turnout for the W4CR day and have decided to double up and hold the training day at the same time.

This is the same format at last year. Just turn up and we will tailor the day to suit whatever you want help with, beginner through to expert catered for.

# Come and Try Day in June

This day is for the public, family and friends to try windsurfing will be in June. Date to be confirmed, but likely to be 18th or 25<sup>th</sup>.

# Your safety – would you know what to do in an emergency?

You have told us through the club membership survey that you consider Hickling a relatively safe place to learn and sail. We have carried out a full risk assessment of the club which can be found on our web-site and club notice board.

- Please check-out the latest safety advice for the benefit of your safety and the safety of other water users.
- Enjoying windsurfing and keeping safe is a club priority so being safety conscious is now a condition of membership – please therefore check out your responsibilities at the web site.
- First Aid kits are stored in the boat and in the men's changing rooms.

## A windy start 'Epic days'

The winter was not just about catching up on jobs and getting the club ready for the next season, it was also about taking advantage of three super windy 'warmish' days in early February. While people were losing shed roofs and fences there was a good turnout of club members ripping it up on sub 4.0m sails and low volume wave boards.



The wind was mainly coming from the South West meaning you could blast (or hang on for dear life) the full length of the broad with your little sail and the brutal 50 mph plus gusts of wind! Nice start to the year let's hope it continues!

Report by Big G, Picture by Claire.

#### **AGM** update

Being the 25<sup>th</sup> Club anniversary it was a very special meeting and a key landmark in the Club's history. Three Club officers have played key roles and without them we would probably not have a club. As I'm sure you appreciate the HWC is a real treasure, and probably the most successful independent Windsurfing Club in the UK. In recognition of their outstanding contribution they were voted in as Honorary members. We are of course referring to:



Tony Myhill, who has expert local knowledge and strong relationships across local, government and other water user groups. (Good luck with the bionic knee, hope to see you on the water soon).



Pat Fenn, another Club cornerstone providing sound leadership and down to earth business advice.

Some say ...he is the real Stig.



Peter Coates, our treasurer who manages our finances and a major influence on the strong financial stability of the Club. Another petrol head, who drives his Elan all over the world.