



Pin Mill Sailing Club



March 2008 Newsletter

For all the very latest information, visit the website at www.pmsc.org.uk

Commodore's Corner

We have been so lucky with a half term break of bright blue skies and cold frosty nights. Not quite the weather for fitting out, but of course it is only February, although I have seen some very eager people beavering away on their boats.

The Club has been quite social, the quiz night was quite well attended and Fred Everitt, our Quizmaster, was in good form, as ever. The "Bar Flies" walked away with the winnings and the delightful sandwiches were courtesy of Janet Ackland.

Burns Night was a very good fun affair with the Haggis duly addressed, polished off with "taters and neeps" and a drop of whiskey, followed by Scottish Dancing by the energetic ones until the early hours.

The talk by Judith and Mark Grimwade on the pleasures of Brittany was also well attended and they guided us through that part of France with a lovely selection of photos, information and happy tales.

We savoured Thai food on our theme evening and the numbers reflected a full house, it was obviously a popular choice. With Jackie Harding giving Jackie and Jo a helping hand in the evening, we enjoyed our supper immensely and give our ladies many thanks for all their efforts. We have John Goode giving a talk on the 8th March, which, I am sure, will prove very entertaining.

It is time to ask you all to look again at the fire and safety page supplied. It is important that this information is refreshed by all members.

Easter is early this year, so all those who haven't given up chocolate for Lent will be very welcome to come and wear off that extra pound on our Good Friday working party and afternoon Grindle Dig, we even supply a bacon roll and beer – good for the workers if not for the waistline! There will be a selection of Keith Waite's cartoons to view on the New Members Evening, so do join us to welcome our new members.

Diary



Saturday 8th March

Visiting Speaker
John Goode
20.00 in the Clubhouse

Good Friday 21st March

Club Working Party and
Grindle dig.

Easter Sunday 23rd March

Bike ride 11 am from the
Venture/Red Lion

Saturday April 5th

New member's evening
Including an exhibition of
cartoons by Keith Waite

Saturday April 19th

Fitting Out Supper
See Tear-off slip with
this newsletter

Saturday May 10th

3 Clubs River Series
Race 1

Saturday May 24th

Bank Holiday Cruise

The next Newsletter will be
in May. Contributions
please by 24th April to:
circular@pmsc.org.uk

Or by post to: 14 The
Chestnuts, Wrentham, Beccles,
Suffolk NR3

One of these excellent cartoons has been given to us to raffle and we will share the proceeds with the RNLI.

The Fitting Out Supper return slip is attached. No doubt this will be another excellent supper that Jackie and Jo always cook for us.

Looking forward to seeing you at the clubhouse soon.

**Dilly Ridge
Commodore**

Welcome Aboard

The Club is pleased to welcome new members:

Tim Hempstead of Chelmodiston,
Kerry Gibbings also of Chelmondiston,
Rupert and Helena Negus of Pin Mill with their
RHOD 'Ariel'
Jonathan Brundle of Chelmondiston

Sailing in 2008

Racing

We have now completed the sailing programme for 2008 and the details are printed at the back of this newsletter. After our success last year in the Three Clubs Series we hope for a really good turnout this year, and, to spur you on, we will be presenting one of our magnificent silver trophies to the first Pin Mill boat (corrected time), in each race. Don't be surprised if you spot an interloper or two as Shotley Sailing Club have been invited to join in. Our Club will be holding the prize giving for this event which will include a sumptuous BBQ. Entry forms will be available shortly on the website (paper copies available on request).

The June and Ward Cup for A and B Class yachts will take place as usual as will the Annual Barge match. And for the third year there will be a Smack, Working boat and Classic

yacht race. It is proposed once again to charter the Colchester Smack 'Pioneer' for this race, so if you are interested in a place, talk to Jon Humby.

We hope to make more of the Dinghy Regatta this year, with the accent on 'family'. I would welcome ideas and assistance with planning this event. The main Regatta takes place in September, followed by the RNLI Race the next day.

Cruising

The first cruising event will be a late May Bank Holiday Cruise, the destination of which will be announced nearer the time, together with the name of the host boat. We then repeat our successful lunchtime BBQ at Ewarton Ness, and remember this is ideal for dinghies and cruisers alike. If you think it's a bit far for your dinghy you can always get a tow back.

The summer cruise this year will begin at Ramsgate and proceed over to the French Coast, with the intention of visiting the old fortified town of Gravelines. If you haven't sailed in France before, or not for a while, then check the RYA website for requirements for boat and crew.

The last event will be the August Bank Holiday Mystery Cruise which, for the time being, remains a mystery! We are hoping to use the 'Pin Mill Cruising' site more this year for updating information and generally keeping in touch, so if you haven't signed up yet it might be worth your while. Details of how to do that can be found on the website.

Competitions

Don't forget the Cruising Log competition and miss out on having one of our fine trophies on you mantelpiece. This year I would also like entries for a Junior Log competition for which a special prize will be given. It does not have to be a long cruise, but just a day or even a few hours, with a description of what you did and what you enjoyed, (or didn't enjoy).

The Rivers Rally will once again be organised by Jon Humby. This is where you have to provide photographic proof that you were at designated locations, for which you attract points – and what do points mean? The Rivers Rally pack should be available from Jon from about May.

Help!

Race officers and assistants are needed for the June and Ward Cup and the RNLI Race. They are both Club starts so no boat necessary. Full instruction and support will be given if needed, and we'd be ever so grateful.

If I can help with any further information, or if you want to discuss anything I can be contacted via the website, or at the 'phone number in the Almanac.

Val Stone
Hon. Sailing Secretary

Exhibition of Keith Waite's Cartoons

An exhibition of Keith Waite's cartoons will be shown at the Club on 5th April, 2008 - New Members' Evening. Keith has been a member for over forty years, and joined the Club as an out of port member in 1967, when he sailed from Burnham on Crouch.

Keith has produced many drawings for P.M.S.C over the years, including menu cards, barge programmes and gifts for other clubs. One or two of his framed cartoons are displayed in the Clubhouse.

But perhaps not many people have seen the original artwork of published cartoons. Those to be exhibited date from the 1960s through to the 1980s and most are examples of Keith's work published in the Daily Mirror, (which was a rather different newspaper in those days), with a

few from the Times City Diary, Daily Sketch and Punch.

Whilst sorting these cartoons into categories, my daughter and I had many chuckles at the varied subjects, some very topical today. Keith agreed that these should be shared once again with a wider audience.

Although a published newspaper cartoon was relatively small, the artwork to be shown is large and incredibly detailed and was produced on a daily basis. It might seem a heavy workload, but for years Keith produced three cartoons a day.

The exhibition will remain on display for the Sunday 6th April lunchtime opening and we hope many members will be able to enjoy this selection of the work of a talented but very modest artist.

A framed cartoon will be raffled and the lucky number will be drawn at 2.30 pm on Sunday.

Renee Waite

Volunteers please!

Good Friday morning (21 March 2008) is the opportunity for all members to earn a few brownie points (not to mention a free drink and a bacon butty!) by turning up at the club to help with our long list of cleaning, painting, gardening, maintenance and repair jobs. So break out that boiler suit or gardening gloves and roll up, roll up your sleeves for an hour or three and help save the club some money. It would be very helpful if volunteers would either email me (property-secretary@pmsc.org.uk) or add their name to the list on the club notice board.

Rick Kirkup
Hon. Property Sec

The Name 'Pin Mill'

From time to time the origin of the name 'Pin Mill' has been attributed to the manufacture of trenails or pins used to secure components in wooden boat building. There is however an alternative explanation and that is suggested by a reference in Sylvia Laverton's book on the Shotley Peninsula. Here she refers to a fulling mill at Pin Mill in the late 1700s. This was a device that beat woollen cloth to increase its density. It could have consisted of a water wheel with pins that operated on a trip hammer, so taking much of the effort out of the operation that would have been very tiring if done by hand. There is some evidence on the ground for such an installation. If you follow the stream that flows past Webb's boat yard up into the first field there is a dip which fills up to become a pond when there is heavy rain. Although much broken down this looks, on close examination, like a reservoir for water that filled from the stream and was then released to work the water wheel further down towards the shore.

Which brings me to the subject of Sylvia Laverton's book on the Shotley Peninsula, which has vanished from the library. Please can you check your shelves for it.

Tony Cowley
Librarian

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Peninsular

Order from Angela at the bar or
Contact Bookline Tel/Fax 01473328227

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Web – www.bookline.info

Westerly Ocean Honours for PMSC Members

Some of you may remember one of last year's talks about the 36' sloop Tamarisk and her year long cruise across the Atlantic and around the Caribbean. Well, the Westerly Owners' Association – the biggest association of its sort in Britain, with over 5,000 members – has awarded its most prestigious prize to PMSC members Tim Fenton and Penny Jones and their children Anna and Eddie.

The Rayner Challenge Plate is awarded for the cruise that most impressively 'pushes the boundaries'. The Fenton-Jones family won it for their 2005-6 North Atlantic Circuit on board their Westerly Corsair, Tamarisk."

Congratulations!

RNLI Safety Checks

Did you know that it costs three thousand pounds every time a Lifeboat is launched, and that over half of the 8000 call-outs a year are to leisure craft? For this reason the RNLI are offering free safety checks in the hope that simple safety precautions may reduce the number of incidents.

They will arrange for someone to visit you wherever you are, ashore or afloat. All they ask is that you have on board (not in the attic at home) all your usual sailing kit. They claim that every check so far carried out has been found useful by the owner. Contact RNLI Sea Safety Officer **Terry Corner**, by phone (0771 157 6843) or e-mail (corner.pt@tiscali.co.uk). More information can be found in the 'SEA SAFETY' booklet in the magazine section of our Library.

Easter Sunday Bike Ride

Get some fresh air into those lungs and join the Easter Sunday bike ride. Meet up at the Venture/Red Lion at 11 am and choose from

two different routes, one of which will be suitable for children. Doubtless some refreshments will be taken along the way!

Fire Safety Reminder

Members are reminded that we all have a responsibility to be aware of the Club's Fire Safety Reminders, a copy of which is appended to this newsletter. Please do be vigilant and careful in your use of the Clubhouse and it's equipment and ensure that you and your guests comply with our fire precautions - simple things like ensuring that chairs and tables are not left where they could impede access to fire exits and extinguishers could make all the difference in an emergency. If you see anything which seems to pose an unacceptable fire risk please refer it without delay to a member of the General Committee. Thankyou."

Rick Kirkup
Hon. Property Sec

Hon Bar Secretary's Report 2007

As always, the first part of my report must extend the biggest possible thank you to Jackie, Jo, and Angela for all their dedication and support over the past year. This year, I feel a special thank you must go to Jackie, who has continued with her hard work here (cooking suppers, working the bar et al.) whilst beginning a new career and caring for her family and husband, Julian, with his on-going illness. I must also say a big thank you to the erstwhile helpers; Bob & Pauline Emmett, Tim & Sue Grove, Rick Kirkup, Lee & Elaine, and Dilly, all of whom have stepped in to help out when needs must. This help has never been asked, just offered. For that, I am deeply grateful.

As Tim has mentioned already, the bar has taken as much of a battering as the rest of us during

this 'non-too-good' summer. Takings were down, costs up, and we didn't hold as many functions or theme nights this year. Also there has been a noticeable drop-off in private bookings for the Club house: We need more of you to have weddings, notable birthdays (40th's, 50th's, retirements etc.), or just a reasonable excuse to throw a party. Where else can you get a venue with an outlook like this!

We have absorbed suppliers price increases for longer than the treasurer would like. This has effected the bar figures, but, *hopefully*, kept you boozy lot happy. The beer prices have had to go up a bit, and in the new-year I need to review the spirit prices, but, as usual, any walletary upset will be kept to a minimum.

The new cellar racking and cooling system has proved its worth this summer. Wastage is down, and I hope that you will have noticed an improvement in the beer quality, and consistency.

The guest beers have been a bit more limited this year. The tastes of the membership have now made them selves a bit more clear-cut, so less diverse (or even experimental) ales have been offered. I must, at this juncture, thank Alan Frith for my introduction to Martin Kemp, an old colleague who has is now in the brewing business. The London Beer Co.'s organic Pitfields 'East Kent Goldings' (available now at the bar) has proved a very popular and tasty tittle. So much so that I don't mind driving over to the brewery to get the stuff, albeit foreign Essex territory! Having been weaned on Dons home brew, it's nice to find a beer with a list of ingredients which runs as far as Hops, Malt, Yeast, & Water. Just how it should be!

In summary, I would like thank all those of you who have supported the bar (weather, and sailing permitting) this year. To keep the standards of beer up, all you need to do is make sure that we get through the barrels at a steady pace, so please keep the pints flowing.

Simon Everitt.
Hon. Bar Secretary.

Racing					Cruising	
May	10	10.00	Clubs River Series Race 1	(RHYC)	24	Bank Holiday Cruise (Contact Val)
					31	Lunchtime BBQ Ewarton Ness
June	14	10.00	June and Ward Cup			
	21	10.00	3 Clubs River Series Race 2	(OYC)		
July	5		Barge Match			
	12	10.00	Smack and Working Boat Race (Contact Jon)			
					19	Annual Cruise Ramsgate and French Coast
August	9		Dinghy Regatta			
					23	Bank Holiday Mystery Cruise
Sept	6	10.00	Regatta			
	7	10.00	RNLI Race			
	20	10.00	3 Clubs River Series Race 3 (PMSC)			



Fitting Out Supper

Saturday April 19th

19.30 for 20.00

£11.50 per head

Menu:

Homemade Pate with Brandy and truffle oil

Chicken, Lemon and Olive Casserole

Chocolate and Banana Pancake Torte

Coffee and Mints

Name.....

Please Reserve..... places for The Fitting Out Supper

I enclose a Cheque for..... payable to PMSC

Tick here if Vegetarian option required

Return by April 11th to:

**Jackie & Jo, Pin Mill Sailing Club, The Clubhouse, Pin Mill,
Ipswich, Suffolk, IP9 1JP. Telephone enquiries to PMSC only
01473 780271**

Fire Safety Reminders - for all members, hirers, and other users of the club

PMSC General Committee seeks to promote the safety of members and other persons visiting the clubs premises by taking all reasonable steps to identify and assess risks and by adopting appropriate policies and rules aimed at minimizing them.

In accepting membership of the club, or when hiring the club, members and hirers are deemed to have accepted that they have a personal responsibility for ensuring that they and their guests are familiar with and comply with the club's fire safety rules as outlined in these reminders, posted as notices within the Clubhouse and/or communicated from time to time by circulars, in the almanac, or hiring documents.

Cooking, heating and other electrical appliances are potential fire risks – especially if misused – if you are not familiar with any of the clubs systems or equipment do not use them without first seeking advice from a competent person.

Do not cover heaters or place combustible materials on or in contact with them. Ensure that all heaters (except storage heaters) and other appliances are switched off after use.

Smoking poses significant fire risks – you must comply with all 'no smoking' notices and if you do smoke within a designated smoking area in the vicinity of the club you must ensure that all matches and smoking materials are fully extinguished after use.

All members, hirers and other users of the club should familiarize themselves with the escape routes from the premises in the event of fire and ensure that access to them is not blocked by tables, chairs, equipment or personal belongings.

The two 'push bar' escape doors (at the rear of the bar area and at the river end of the games room) must remain unlocked at all times when there are people in the premises.

Fire extinguishers are situated at key locations within the premises – all users of the club must ensure that access to them is not blocked by tables, chairs, equipment or personal belongings.

Anyone discovering a fire should – without risking their own safety - sound the alarm by breaking the glass on one of the red painted fire 'call points' situated by the main entrance and at each of the escape doors, and immediately call the Fire Service.

The assembly point in case of the need to evacuate the building is Pin Mill Common, by the picnic tables. Do not leave the area until your safe escape has been noted.

Do not re-enter the premises after an incident requiring evacuation until it has been declared safe to do so – either by the Fire Service or other responsible person.

PMSC General Committee, 18 January 2007