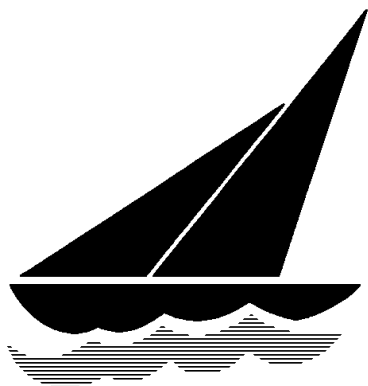


NLSA Newsletter – August 2008



Summer is well under way, the wind has blown fresh for much of the last few months and many of you have enjoyed some good sailing at the Reservoir.

There are various activities coming up for those who fancy something a little more adventurous than sailing on the Reservoir on Sunday morning / Tuesday evening. Why not put a weekend at Brightlingsea in your diaries? Alternatively, we are proposing a cruising weekend in October. And of course there is September racing to come. For details of all of these, read on.

But before that, a reminder that if you still have not renewed your membership, then this is your last newsletters until you do. Membership forms are available on our website at www.northlondonsailing.org

DATES FOR THE DIARY

We are keen to make sure that we organise the right balance of events for all members, both on and off the water. If you have any suggestions for future social events, whether nautically themed or otherwise, please e-mail Caroline.

Brightlingsea

As anyone who has been before knows, a weekend at Brightlingsea is a fantastic opportunity to meet other members and go on short voyages rather than just tacking back and forth across the same stretch of reservoir for a couple of hours! There is always a rescue boat to supervise everyone and an experienced sailor in each Wayfarer. There are a couple of great pubs very close to The Old Custom House to try out at the end of the day.

It's great value too. Ordinary weekends cost £50 per member (£70 for non-members) including all accommodation and also Saturday and Sunday meals.

The remaining dates this year are 12-14 Sept and 17-19 Oct.

If you would like to attend one of these weekends, please send an application form and cheque to Christine Williams (forms available from the Reservoir on Sunday mornings or from the website). Alternatively call her for further information.

Racing (7 and 21 September) and BBQ (7 September)

The September Race Series takes place on 7 and 21 September. Racing on 7 September will be followed by a BBQ at the reservoir and everyone is welcome, whether racing, supporting or just hungry! Please remember that it's bring-your-own!

Racing is as ever a fun and sociable way to test your ability and to hone your sailing skills. Whilst everyone will be trying to do their best, there is no doubt that the taking part is at least as important as the results.

In short there is no need to have previous racing experience, so why not put the dates in your diary. And if you are still not confident about taking part then why not contact Kevin Foley or James Falle to see if there is someone you can team up with for the day?

Shoreditch Festival: 16 August

As last year, the NLSA is exhibiting at the Shoreditch Festival. This is an opportunity to introduce people to the NLSA and what we have to offer. Several members have already volunteered to help but if you have a spare few hours, please contact Kevin Foley.

Cruising weekend: 3-5 October

Whether you are an avid cruiser-sailor or want to try something a bit bigger than a Sport 14, here's your chance!

We are proposing a cruising weekend in October for any members and friends of the NLSA. The idea is that an experienced member will skipper and that everyone will have chance to fully participate in the weekend's sailing.

Exact details will depend on numbers, but the idea is to charter one or two boats on the East Coast or Solent – either area offers fantastic sailing.

The cost will depend on numbers but is expected to be about £130 - £150 per members including all food aboard, marinas and fuel. If you need to hire foul weather gear and boots, this will be about a further £10. If you are interested, please email or call James Falle.

RECENT EVENTS

Brightlingsea Family Weekend

The first family weekend at Brightlingsea took place in June. This was a great opportunity for some of the younger members of the Association to discover the delights of Brightlingsea in a weekend aimed specifically at them and their parents.

The weekend was a great success under the experienced guidance of Stewart who ensured the safety of all concerned whilst allowing the younger family members to take out a Wayfarer unencumbered by their parents! The editor has not been able to ascertain whether the parents managed to beat their off-spring back to Brightlingsea, but it was certainly a weekend to remember for those involved. The junior members' report is on the back page of this newsletter.

The aim is to repeat the trip next year, so if you have family and would like to bring them along next year (Ed: *that sounds like a long way away!*) then watch out for details.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM took place on 26 March. Official business saw the new Committee elected (details below) and prize-giving for the various race series held over the course of the year.

We were privileged to have a talk from Trevor Lewis who is Chairman of the RYA Race Rules Committee. Although a small gathering, everyone present agreed that this was a great success – those who missed out will find the rule book being quoted at them with more confidence at the next race series! Thanks to everyone who attended.

OTHER MATTERS

Website

You may have noticed that we now have a new web address that is more user-friendly. It is simply www.northlondonsailing.org. At the moment, this simply

links to the existing website. This will be an improvement for anyone trying to find the website in a hurry.

Steve Sharples is eager to add to the collection of photos on our website. If you have some good shots, why don't you email them to him. If you have any other comments then he would be glad to hear from you.

Damage to boats

You may have noticed that the Centre has been working on bringing many of the boats back up to standard – a never ending task. The Topazes have new sails and there are now enough rudders to go around! There have also been improvements to the Sport 14s and Lasers.

So this is a timely moment to remind all members that we need to help the Centre keep the boats in good order. If you spot any damage (whether you caused it or it is existing damage) please report it to the SI on duty. The SI will add it to the Fault Log. If no one reports the damage then it won't get fixed!

Your Committee

Chair	Emma Adebayo
Vice-Chair	Tim Webb
Hon. Secretary	Mary Leaming
Hon. Treasurer	Brian Williams
Membership Secretary	Tim Webb
Social Secretary	Liz Robson
Publicity Officer / Newsletter Editor	James Falle
Racing Secretary	Kevin Foley
Cruising Secretary	Kevin Foley
Domestic Coordinator, Brightlingsea	Christine Williams
Lettings Coordinator, Brightlingsea	Christine Williams
Maintenance Coordinator, Brightlingsea	Brian Williams
Youth Representative	vacant
Adult Rep & Website Manager	Steve Sharples
Adult Rep	Caroline Brown
SNWRC ex officio	Steve Ells

Steve Sharples and Tim Webb are the committee members nominated to represent the interests of windsurfers and members with disabilities respectively.

Liz Robson has been co-opted to the committee.

The President, Rod Carr, and the current Vice-Presidents (members recognised for their long service to the Association), were all re-elected.

Becky's Brightlingsea report from the family weekend

Grace, Alex and I joined seven adults at Brightlingsea for an exciting change to sailing the little dinghies on the duck pond.



Racing the parents home!

The estuary with its wind and tides certainly wasn't a duck pond, and it was a very different experience getting the boat onto the pontoon at Brightlingsea as it includes wading waist deep (for me) and neck deep (for Grace) into gloopy mud and water.

Highlights:

- Clacton beach
- Alex offering to carry Grace from the rescue boat to the beach so she keeps dry, but 'accidentally' dropping her on the way

- Sailing back from Clacton by ourselves with our own personal rescue boat
- Leaving Alex stranded in the middle of the ocean after pushing him off the side of the Wayfarer
- Dinner time-sharing our stories and mishaps
- Exploring the house tower
- Attempting to keep the boat up by trapezing, and almost failing to do so a couple of times
- Playing in the mud
- Crabbing with Alex and Grace using our homemade crab line (Paul's stocking (don't ask), ham and a rope)
- Joking with everyone
- A joyride in the motor boat, at high speed

We had a fab time and thoroughly recommend other junior members to go too.

Thanks to Stewart, Paul, Kevin and Chris for making this such a fun weekend.

Becky. xxx



Trapezing on dry land!