



MNSC *roundup*

RYA

Newsletter of Middle Nene Sailing Club

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March 2015

A message from the bridge



Hi All

What a lovely winter we've had. Lots of people have been busy maintaining the club and the land and doing a fantastic job. Also to all of those that have cooked for the work parties a massive thank you, having cooked for you this weekend, I appreciate the effort you go to. I've just about recovered but my car is still covered in parsnip soup! This was down to the state of the road to the club and my erratic driving after realising I was a bit late. Talking about the road we've had some productive discussions with the Town Council about helping us to maintain the road and putting signs up at the skate park about parking sensibly.

Hooray, the sailing season is upon us and I hope to see you all at the club sailing and enjoying our wonderful facilities. The General Committee working with all of the other committees now have a draft development plan in place, and is based on all of your input from the membership survey. This document will be key for the club to help us prioritise our activities, apply for grant funding and to help encourage more people to sail and race. I will put a copy in the club for people to comment on and send a link out via dutyman. Please talk to me or any committee members if you have any thoughts and ideas about the club and the plan.

I've missed the sailing season and will look forward to seeing you all at the club over the next few weeks. Remember to tell all your friends what a great place MNSC is, invite them down and get them sailing!

A very happy commodore!

Julia

Membership fees frozen on 2013 level, fees for junior members slashed

Families get an extra welcome

In a drive to encourage young members to join the sailing club the General Committee has introduced a considerable reduction in fees for young family members. Those older than 12 and under 18 years of age will now only have to pay an annual membership fee only £10 per person if they are part of a family group, reduced from previously £36. Children under 12 can join free as family members. Furthermore, the Committee has also decided to keep all other membership fees at the 2013 level for the forthcoming season.

This year's important dates

Sun. 15th March

Sunday Series / season start

Sat. 11th/Sun 12th April

Enterprise Open Meeting and Fitting out meal (on the 11th)

Thurs. 16th April

Thursday Series Starts

Sat. 18th April

Anglian Water Series Youth Regatta

Sun. 26th April

Sunday Sprint Series

Mon. 4th May

Open Day

Sat. 16th May

New Members Briefing

Mon. 25th May

Camp week fun

Sat. 20th June

MNSC Outing

Sat. 18th July

Sail for fun day

Sat. 18th July

Picnic in the Park

Sun. 27th September

AGM

Sat. 3rd/Sun. 4th October

Flying 15 Open Meeting
Autumn Dinner (on the 3rd)

Sat. 7th November

Bonfire Party

Sat. 5th December

Children's Christmas Party

Sat. 12th December

Extravaganza

Sun 20th December

Past Sailor's Punch Party

Sat. 23rd January 2016

Prize Giving Dinner

Some of these events may change - please check for announcements closer to the dates

2014 Prize-Giving and Dinner



Following a most enjoyable dinner, which had been prepared by Ann and Steve Yallop together with their enthusiastic galley team, the prizes for 2014 were handed to the worthy winners on January 24th, 2015. As in previous

years, the results showed the wide range of activities that are happening at our club, not only on a local level but also in terms of Open Meetings and championships. 2014 was a very good year for Middle Nene SC and let's

hope that 2015 will be even better! Many thanks to our Vice Commodore Matt for putting all the results together in an interesting, fast-moving presentation, and also to our Commodore Julia for handing out the prizes.



The trophies awaiting their collection



Lovingly decorated tables and a delicious dinner were prepared by the galley team.

Last Year's Winners

Tuesday Fast Series

1st Paul Anstee
2nd Gary Curtis
3rd Jonathan Gee

Thursday Fast Series

1st Matt Yallop
2nd Mike and Matt Moore
3rd Simon and Kato

Saturday series

1st Mike Moore

Menagerie Handicap Series

1st Ian Burns
2nd Jack and Jenny Mead
3rd Dick and Rosemary Clark

Menagerie Series 2nd Race

1st Ian Burns
2nd Jack and Jenny Mead
3rd Roger Lewis

RS 200 Class Series

1st Ray and Jess
2nd Kato and Mel
3rd Mark and Rob

Flying Fifteen Class Series

1st Mark and Jim
2nd Neil and Emma
3rd John and Dennis

Sprint Series

1st Roo and John (Flying Fifteen)
2nd Ian Burns (Solo)
3rd Mark and Jim (Flying Fifteen)

Frostbite Series

1st Ian Burns (Solo)
2nd Kato and Mel (RS200)
3rd Mark and Toby/Rob (RS200)

Crew Cup

Gemma Long

Most improved adult (Endeavour Trophy)

Jonathan Gee

Mary Perkins Trophy

Elliott Anstee

Most Helpful Member

Blatherwycke Trophy
Mike Seville

Club Sailor of the Year

The Chamberlain Cup
Ant Jessup

Ed the Duck

Matt and Dave

Sail Away Successes

Joe Anstee

NSSCA Anglian Aater – overall 9th place
1st at MNSC and Cransley SC
18th overall Topper National Silver Fleet

Marcus Tressler

420 Inland Championship winners
10th at National Championship

Matt Yallop

RS Vaneo National Champion 2014

Neil Bartholomey and Emma Brown

Inland & Southern Travellers Classic FF
Champions 2014

Ed and Phoebe Connellan

Ed - Tiger Trophy winner
22nd in World Championship
4th National Championship
Phoebe – Hayling Island Grand Prix 1st Girl
and 7th Overall

Impressions from the Prize-Giving evening



What a productive winter...

With the sailing season's start just around the corner, the club is well prepared to swing into action. From last autumn, work has gone on regularly, ranging from tree felling to re-painting the Beaver (with an extra bit of reinforced foreshore thrown in). The committee boat has been overhauled, mooring buoys have been scrubbed, a new training container installed and benches painted. And those who remember last year's storms, including the subsequent turmoil in the boat park, will appreciate the new tie-down lines which now help to keep all the dinghies firmly in place. Countless other things around the club have also been repaired, improved or cleaned up.

Many thanks to all who helped, and to all those who are still looking for a challenge and want to help - don't worry, there's still a lot to do! Just ask Matt Yallop.

In the wake of laying the tie-down lines, boats had to be moved around the compound and are now in a more logical order in terms of frequency of sailing and launching convenience.

Another boat which is undergoing a major refurbishment in the 'Giraffe House' is Lindy - the poor girl had quite a few soft spots near or even below the water line, and Andrew Bottley, under the watchful eye of Mike Seville, has been busy removing rotten wood and sometimes even replacing entire planks.



One of the biggest projects this winter was the re-painting of the Beaver. For this it had to be lifted by a crane which meant reinforcing the foreshore, so the crane can move easier. All is hunky-dory now thanks to Chris Redden and his merry band, with the Beaver safely back in the water.



Lindy - not a happy bunny at the end of the season, but soon she will be back to full glory!



The tie-down lines are fixed to steel brackets which are set in concrete, so they won't ever blow away!



Pumping the barge out is not an easy job in lousy weather...



...nor is steam-cleaning the rescue boats. But all this work is essential to keep our equipment in good working order



Clearing the woodland around the lake is a never-ending challenge.

Important notice:

Always moor the rescue boats bows to the window!

Waves and windy weather as well as the wash of passing motor boats can cause the rescue boats to be filled with water while being moored in the boathouse, despite the plastic curtain giving some protection. The result is that the boats might just not be available when they're needed in a hurry. Would all users of the rescue boats (ribs in particular) please make sure that the boats are facing outwards when they're being packed away in the evening. Of course caution is essential not to damage the expensive and quite delicate engines by bumping into the berthing surrounds in the process.

That way the boats cannot be washed full of water and are always ready to go.



The addition of the 'Silver' class greatly increases the number of boats which can be raced in the Flying 15 fleet.

Flying 15 fleet to accept a wider range of boats Welcome to the 'Silver' class

In a major move agreed between the fleet members and confirmed by the Sailing Committee, MNSC will now accept Flying 15 boats up to and including sail number 3400. This means that our club is open to the 'Classic' and 'Silver' fleets of the class. It was decided not to allow the 'Gold' fleet (sail no. 3401 and above) due to substantial changes in boat design which have taken place in recent years and would disturb the balance within the fleet.

This decision reflects the fact that good, sailable 'Classic' boats are increasingly difficult to find at a reasonable price, and that well-maintained or refurbished 'Classics' often cost more than some of their younger equivalents in the 'Silver' category. There are two immediate benefits: our sailors in the Flying 15 fleet now have a much wider choice of boat on the market, and MNSC membership is now available to owners of 'Silver' boats in the region who previously would not have been allowed to join. This can help to increase the active fleet and enhance the level of racing on our lake.

Try out a club boat!

There are many reasons for members wanting to try out a boat - newcomers might want to find out what suits them best, existing boat owners might want to see how another boat of their own class handles, or they might be looking for a completely different type of boat altogether. This is where MNSC can help with its fleet of club-owned boats which are available to members. Currently, the fleet consists of:

- 1 Flying 15**
- 1 Wayfarer**
- 1 Solo**
- 1 GP14**
- 1 Laser**
- 2 420s**
- 4 Toppers**

The boats can be booked for anything from half a day or a weekend to a race series, depending on availability, all on a first-come-first-served basis. There is no cost for one-off borrowing, but you may be invited to contribute to the running

expenses for longer-term use. This offer is mainly aimed at new members in their first year (and they will be given priority), but even if you've been a member for much longer and would like to get a 'feel' for another boat, just put your name down and have a go!

To find out what's available, simply contact the Training Secretary Dave Boyers (training@middlenenesc.co.uk) and he will help you find the right boat.

roundup is the newsletter of Middle Nene SC and complements all our other communications, including the club's website www.middlenenesc.co.uk, the Facebook Group and the regular e-mail bulletins. **roundup** brings a review of what has happened in the club, and of what might have passed you by in the day-to-day events. So please send in your news, letters, comments, adverts, holiday experiences and anything else you want to let other members know. Contact me at prsecretary@middlenenesc.co.uk or tel. 01536 484 905, or just see me at the club (you can usually find me in, under or near my FF2213). I look forward to hearing from you! *Wilf*

Another way to keep in touch: Don't forget that we have our own (closed) Facebook Group, join the group and you have instant access to the latest news about the social life in the club. And if you have your own news or a question - just post it!

Forthcoming racing events

Enterprise Open, Javelin Open and Anglian Water Series

In addition to the normal club racing programme which will be published soon, there are three racing events which will be making headlines this spring.

Enterprise Open - 11th/12th April

By now a 'traditional' meeting is part of the Midlands Area Championships. Weather permitting we hope to repeat or even exceed last year's success of 22 boats from 19 different clubs. Part of the weekend will again be the Fitting Out Meal, which is a splendid start into the season and a nice welcome to our visitors.



Close racing is almost guaranteed in the highly competitive Enterprise class.



Photo by G.Weber - German Javelin Association)



Javelin specs:

Crew	2
Trapeze	single
LOA	5.36 m (17 ft 7 in)
Beam	1.68 m (5 ft 6 in)
Draft	1.3 m (4 ft 3 in)
Hull weight	118 kg (250 lbs)
Main & jib	15.79 m ² (170 ft ²)
Spinnaker	15.79 m ² (170 ft ²)
RYA PN	926
Year	1968
Designer	Peter Milne

Visiting yachts

The Javelin is a Flying 15-size single trapeze dinghy with a Europe-wide following, and MNSC has been set as venue for the first Open Meeting

of this class in 2015. The Meeting will be held on Spring Bank Holiday Saturday and Sunday (2nd/3rd May), fitting around normal club racing.

This is the first time that the Javelin fleet has called in at MNSC and we are pleased to welcome these enthusiastic sailors to our club.

Anglian Water Series AWS

Once again MNSC is one of the five venues for this popular event organised by the Northamptonshire Schools Sailing and Canoeing Association NSSCA.

Sail any class of dinghy on handicap (in fact you can sail a different type of boat or sail, for the Lasers, at each of the five different events if you want to, but you must stay with your choice for the whole day of competition) e.g. Optimists, Toppers, Laser 4.7, Radial or full rig, Picos, Teras, Fevas, Mirrors etc. Members of our Youth Squad traditionally do well at these events and we look forward to cheering them on!



The AWS is held from April to September 2015 at MNSC, Cransley SC, Hollowell SC, Banbury SC and Northampton SC



Our club pennant is a distant relative of the American flag

All about Stars and Stripes

It was a member of the Washington family that lived in Thrapston's Chancery Lane where the solicitor currently is (Montague House).

They came to UK from Brittany in about 1068 and had land up in Tyneside, taking the name Washington as a derivative of their Norman title. The family spread round England and Ireland over the years, always keeping the family crest, a carving of which can still be seen to the left of the entrance in St. James' Parish Church in Thrapston.



The arms of Sir John Washington who is said to have held one of the Thrapston Manors in the 17th century.

Some members of the Washington family emigrated to America in the late 1600s or early 1700s, keeping the stars and stripes on their family crest. And so it happened that Sir John Washington of Thrapston



The Thrapston Badge comprises the Washington Arms (three white, five-pointed stars on a blue field with three horizontal bars of an alternate white and red in the centre). They are complemented by two rampant ponies separated by a wavy line which is said to represent the River Nene. Gold and green are the town colours of Thrapston, and the Latin motto below the shield is "Oppido Servire" i.e. 'to serve the town'.

Source: Thrapston Town Council.

was a great-great-great-uncle to the first American President, George Washington, and it is assumed that the stars and stripes in the USA national flag were inspired by this family crest.

The distinctive features of the Washington's coat of arms is also reflected in Thrapston's civic badge, the town flag and, of course, the MNSC pennant.

Thanks go to Mike Moore who inspired this article.

Prepare for the Open Day!

Spring Bank Holiday (May 4th, 11 am to 5 pm) is our big annual membership drive, designed to introduce newcomers to our sport and to entice non-active sailors back on to the water.

Last year was a great success and we were able to welcome 28 new sailors, including several families who have now become valuable members of MNSC.

So let's build on this success and please help to promote the day amongst your friends and family. This is the perfect opportunity to show them around the club, go for a ride in the motor boat or take them out for a trial sail.

Weather permitting, this might also be a splendid opportunity for a family picnic, and of course our galley and bar will be open.



Why not print out the promotional poster on the next page and pin it on your school's notice board (ask for permission).

But first and foremost - please mark the day in your calendar and come to the club on Spring Bank Holiday: enjoy the day, go sailing and show our visitors what an active, versatile and friendly club we are.

We are currently working on the detailed plans for the day and you will receive an e-mail update in good time.

Middle Nene Sailing Club



OPEN DAY

4th MAY 11am - 5pm

(Spring Bank Holiday)

**A really family-friendly club which
has so much to offer for all ages!**

**Dinghy racing • Casual sailing • Introduction to
sailing • RYA sail training for adults and children •
Family Days • Great social events throughout the year •
Sailing and social membership**



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