

**NORFOLK ONE DESIGN DINGHY CLASS  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 12 OCTOBER 2018  
CLASS CAPTAIN'S REPORT**

**New owners to the Class**

We welcome some new members to the Class namely Steven Ford who purchased B73 Condor from Malcolm Hale and Lucy Truman who purchased B83 Sarah Elizabeth from John Reid. I should have mentioned last year that at Beccles B75 Bungle was purchased by David Elliott. The boat was owned for a short time by Darryl Morgan. So welcome to the new owners and we hope that you have many years of good sailing in Norfolks.

Norfolk dinghy sailing has carried on in the usual manner at various locations on the broads as follows:-

**Coldham Hall**

Coldham Hall Sailing Club's Regatta held on 5th & 6 May attracted just four Norfolks over a very pleasant weekend. The usual competitors included David Mackley, John Ellis and myself but also Stephen Ellingham sailing B30 Willa.

**Horning Sailing Club – Three Rivers Race**

This event took place on the weekend of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of June and the only Norfolk Dinghy which again took part was B19 Minnie sailed by Kevin Edwards. Unusually this year the winds were very light and a lot of boats had to retire including Kevin.

**Beccles**

The Open for Norfolks at Beccles was held on 13<sup>th</sup> May this year and attended by 6 boats, all from Beccles, there were no visitors. The event was won by Glen Curtis in Penelope Jane. Kevin Edwards was runner up and Rory Kelsey third sailing Tankard B21.

Beccles Regatta held in August was a great success once again. A recent record 11 Norfolks took part including Paul Armitage and myself as visitors. The main trophy for Norfolks was the Jubilee and was won by Kevin Edwards in Minnie, Kevin incidentally won all five races, the runner up was Rory Kelsey in Tankard and third was George Cutis sailing Penelope Jane.

The Helene James Trophy for Norfolks is sailed by ladies and/or crews and this year was won by Tamsin Highfield in Dodman and crewed by me!

**Norfolk Broads Yacht Club**

We held the Annual Championships at NBYC on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> September this year. There was a cock up on my part resulting in a sudden change to the dates for this event. In spite of this however 10 Norfolks turned out for a very enjoyable weekend. On Saturday I won the practice race which was the main reason for having it, apart from giving visitors the opportunity of finding out where the buoys are! The first race proper was then won by Rory Kelsey which gained him the Perci Memorial Tankard. On Sunday Rory then went on to win the 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Challenge Cup for the overall event achieving another first place and a third on the basis of best three races out of four. Runner up and winner of the Jimmy Turner Trophy was Richard Kinder in B43 Otter and third was Ray Johnson sailing Coogle. The Novices Trophy was awarded to Pat Woodcock and the Veterans to Geoff Coulthard.

We continue to be very grateful to NBYC for putting on events for Norfolks earlier in the year including the Marks Cup in May, the Open Weekend in June and of course Wroxham Week.

## **Waveney & Oulton Broad Yacht Club**

WOBYC again put on some races for Norfolks during the first three days of Oulton Week. Five boats attended, Stephen Ellingham and Karen in B30 Willa, myself and Julia Deary in B50 Dodman, Mike Collins and family in B52 Periwinkle, Paul and Karen Armitage in B60 Jane and Tim Haycock and Jul in B67 Ratty. The overall winner was Mike Collis who took home the Tideway Tankard.

## **Norwich Frostbite Sailing Club**

That brings us to Frostbites, the home of Norfolk Dinghies in the winter. Their season starts on Sunday and as you know this evening is their rigging out party to which we are all kindly invited.

I mentioned the improvement work which started this time last year and it is finished so do have a look round and see what has been done if you have not already seen it.

## **Future of the Class**

At last year's AGM it was suggested that a report be drawn up based on concerns about the dropping off of numbers attending various Class events and Norfolk Dinghy sailing in general and to call a special meeting to decide upon a way forward. I have not prepared the report but having discussed the matter with some members of the committee it is clear that dinghy sailing in general is less popular than it was; the Norfolk Dinghy has suffered particularly due to people hanging on to their boats for many years because after all, they are nice things to own, but perhaps due to having other interests, the high cost of maintenance, unsuitability for transporting on potholed roads, lack of interest by other members of the family and many other reasons owners are not so keen in attending events. It is difficult to know what we can do – any suggestions would be welcome. Happily the various sailing clubs continue to offer events for the Class and maybe we should organise more but in the end it is down to the owners to do what they want with their boats and all we can do as a Class is to provide encouragement and keep them informed. We could do more – set up the website for example would be great – any volunteers?

## **Other matters of interest**

I will just mention a few things which came to my attention during the year:-

B1 Windy which has been owned by the Percival family since 1936 has been sitting down here at Frostbites for some years and not used. Her condition was a concern but in fact she appears to be sound. Anyway the family have decided to loan the boat to the Museum of the Broads out at Stalham for a period of time. It is a pity she is not being sailed but better to be used in this way and it will give some publicity to the Class. Although B1 it was in fact B2 Teal which was the original prototype.

B17 Chuph was spotted by Philip Evans, a former owner of B37 Harnser, down at Beccles with her rear end sitting in a puddle of muddy water. She was in a sorry state. After making contact with the owners the boat was transported to a barn on Philip's premises so at least she is now undercover. The owners are intending to renovate her. Steve Evans is going to have a look at her.

B29 Beagle has an interesting story which needs to be told, not here I might add but just briefly, this boat is owned by Tim Haycock who sails regularly at Beccles in his other Norfolk B67 Ratty. After spending a small fortune on a lengthy course at the boatbuilding college he set about renovating Beagle at the college and has done good work and employed some interesting techniques. I am hoping that he will one day tell the full story.

B30 Willa has been owned by Stephen Ellingham for around two years now and in addition to attending events at NBYC, Oulton and of course sailing at Frostbites, Stephen was the

only one to take his Norfolk to the Aldeburgh Classics Weekend in June of this year which he enjoyed very much. Last year believe it or not he took Willa to Southwold and back from Lowestoft by sea! Another good story!

B61 Echo has been repaired and renovated by Pat Woodcock and is now down here for the Frostbites season. Pat also owns B77 Whereabout and has been sailing her down here for a few years and it's time for some tlc for her. The boat I mean.

I am not sure of progress on the topic of bamboo spars but a year ago or so a quantity of bamboo was imported by Robert Paul and I understand that Maynard Watson a local boatbuilder has confirmed that the suitability of the bamboo for Norfolk Dinghies is good.

Finally thanks go once again to Frostbites for allowing us to use this clubhouse for our AGM and I would also like to thank the committee for their support during the year.

That concludes my report.

**David Yapp**  
Class Captain  
12 October 2018