

Memories of Raymond Jeckells

Last November I received the news that Raymond had passed away with much sadness. His friend Martin Broom had just died and it seemed that there was nothing but bad news.

Raymond was a great sailor, a successful sailmaker, a much loved family man and a cheerful, jolly, likeable personality.

My first recollection of him was at the Norwich Frostbite Sailing Club on the River Yare at Thorpe where on Sunday mornings he was usually to be found in his Norfolk dinghy 'Cockle' up at the front of the fleet. He served the Club well and led it for a year as its Commodore. In the summer he sailed all over the Broads but was mainly to be found at the Norfolk Broads Yacht Club on Wroxham Broad racing his Yare and Bure 'Silver Skipper'. Crewed by his wife Gillian he won many races, particularly winning the prestigious Gold Cup three times, first in 1963 and again in 1978 and 1979. I remember the 1979 race well as he beat me into second place having overtaken me on the final leg of the course. In 1975 supported by Gillian he was a popular Commodore of NBYC.

As Managing Director of Jeckells Sailmakers he was a successful businessman, building the company and steering it through many changes including the switch from cotton to terylene sails. I thank him for making the sails which enabled me to win several national championships. The company is now run by his son Christopher whilst his other son Stephen navigates the world's oceans as Captain of a large merchant ship.

Raymond was one of the great characters of Broadland and is irreplaceable.

Mike Evans
08/02/2014



Norfolk and Suffolk Boating Association

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2014



THE TIM WHELPTON TROPHY

The Tim Whelpton Trophy is presented to 'encourage young sailors and commemorate the life of an outstanding yachtsman'. It is with great pleasure that the NSBA announce the 2013 winner of the Tim Whelpton Trophy is **Bryony Bennett-Lloyd**.

Having come 23rd at the Ladies World Championships in 2012, Hickling Broad Sailing Club

Championships!

The year began with a 7th at the 420 Inlands and 17th at the French Autumn Nationals in Bordeaux (a Tailored Support Squad international event). By the End of Seasons, their hard work over the previous few months showed through and they won the event outright. Following on from this at the beginning of December they won the Imperia Winter regatta, defeating the reigning ISAF Youth World Champions from Italy! This was where their pro-



member, Bryony Bennett-Lloyd and her helm, Anabel Cattermole from St Albans, have had an incredible year, improving rapidly to make their mark on the International 420 circuit, dominating the UK fleet and going on to take Gold at the 2013 World

gression to the top of the 420 fleet really kicked off. Other competitions namely the highly challenging Tiger Trophy at Rutland, where they finished 8th overall and 1st Ladies, followed by the 420 Winter Championships at Weymouth, finishing 5th and again 1st Ladies.

PHOTO: courtesy Philip & Clare Bennett-Lloyd
Ladies 420 World Champion crewing in 470

After spending a good number of hours on the water preparing, the girls were ready to compete at the RYA Volvo Youth National Championships in Largs in order to earn a place as the one girl 420 to represent Great Britain at the 2013 ISAF Youth World Championships in Cyprus where they finished 3rd overall and 1st girls. A few weeks later they competed at the 420 Spring Championships in Pwllheli, the final selector event for the 420 World and Junior European Championship teams. Having not managed to beat the boys at the Youths, they came back determined to do so at this event. This focus and determination again paid off and they left the entire fleet in their wake!

he hard work really began again, after being selected for the ISAFs, Ladies Worlds and Junior Europeans, as they were aiming to medal at least one of these major competitions.

The regatta at Kiel Week served as good preparation for the main summer competitions. Against a strong international fleet, they finished a very respectable 3rd Ladies.

At the ISAF Youth World Championships Bryony was to be a part of a GBR team of sailors from all international youth classes. The week-long competition proved tricky to have under control being the first major event of the season, sailing in supplied boats and with an unfamiliar coach. The girls were slightly disappointed with a result of 12th but they made sure they took forward a lot of learning points from the regatta in order to improve at the International 420 World Championships in Valencia less than a week later.

Nothing was left to chance in Valencia with a bigger and stronger fleet than in Cyprus. Throughout the

week the girls gave consistent results in all conditions and kept moving up the rankings. They lead the fleet into the final 2 days of the regatta and by the final race just had to finish in the top 10 to claim the title which was duly done!

But there was no rest after taking the Gold at the 420 Worlds. Only one day later, a last minute addition to Bryony's full calendar was the 470 Ladies World Championships at La Rochelle. She was asked by the National Coach to crew for Anna Burnet, a Great Britain Podium Potential Squad sailor, since her usual crew, Flora Stewart had unfortunately broken her elbow falling off her bike just before the event. Bryony had never sailed a 470 before so she was thrown in at the deep end but she took it in her stride and learnt the ropes quickly to finish 12th in Silver Fleet, competing in fairly breezy conditions against all the top Olympic 470 Women from around the world.

Then, having had only a few days' rest, Bryony headed over to Pwllheli for her last 420 competition, the Junior Europeans. This event was light winds most days, meaning that a record number of girls were in the top positions of the mixed fleet giving Annabel and Bryony some tight competition. They didn't quite manage to catch the girls in front to get on the podium, but still finished as 4th ladies having sailed a good regatta!

Having won the World Championships in one of the toughest international fleets, Bryony has now been invited to join the Great Britain Podium Potential squad, in the International 470 class which will offer an exciting road ahead, with sights now focussed on an Olympic campaign – and studying medicine!

We wish her every success for the future.

Preventing craft running aground at Pleasure Island, Barton Broad

Following reports from a number of members, NSBA has raised concerns with the BA about craft going aground in the buoyed area at the west end of Pleasure Island. The BA is going to investigate what can be done to alleviate the problem. A series of stakes or withies inside the buoys was suggested to be helpful, although it was noted that it is very hard ground so alternatives will be investigated. The BA already has work planned for January 2015 for dredging and channel markers, and it was stated that additional aspects to deal with the problem could be included then.

Broads Authority 24-hour mooring/demasting provision

Securing an increase in the number of 24-hour moorings is one of the NSBA's priorities. As forecast in the last *Newsletter*, a new BA 24-hour mooring has been developed at Hardley Cross on the Yare. The mooring is 120 metres in length. It will be open for use by the end of March. This is the good news. The bad news is that the planned 24-hour mooring at Dove House Farm on the Lower Bure now seems unlikely to proceed following failure by the landowner to achieve agreement with the BA. The BA is pursuing alternative options on the Lower Bure, and the NSBA will continue to encourage them in their efforts.

The BA has agreed a form of words proposed by the NSBA for the notices at BA 24-hour double mooring sites to make clear that the rule (as agreed last year) is that mooring alongside requires the consent of the craft to be moored to. These words will replace existing wording. This change to the signage is to be actioned in time for the 2014 season.

The running of engines at BA 24-hour moorings is a perennial concern. The BA has accepted an NSBA proposal for additional signage at these moorings to the effect that this practice is anti-social, harmful and a byelaw offence. There may, however, be a problem in finding space for the additional signage on the 24-hour mooring notices. The BA is to undertake an audit of the moorings to see where capacity exists on the notices.

A location on the Haddiscoe side upstream of St Olaves bridge has been identified as the site of the St Olaves demasting mooring reported in the last *Newsletter*. It is hoped to install the pontoons (already on order) this financial year. The next demasting mooring prioritised between the BA and NSBA is at Acle bridge.

Reduced subscription to *Anglia Afloat*

The NSBA has negotiated a reduced subscription rate to *Anglia Afloat* for NSBA members. The cover price of *Anglia Afloat* for each of its eight issues a year is £3.99. The normal online subscription rate is £18.00. The online rate offered by *Anglia Afloat* to NSBA members is £15.00. In order to take advantage of this offer, please contact the Hon Administrator, Julia Bower,

(julia.bower1@btinternet.com; other contact de-

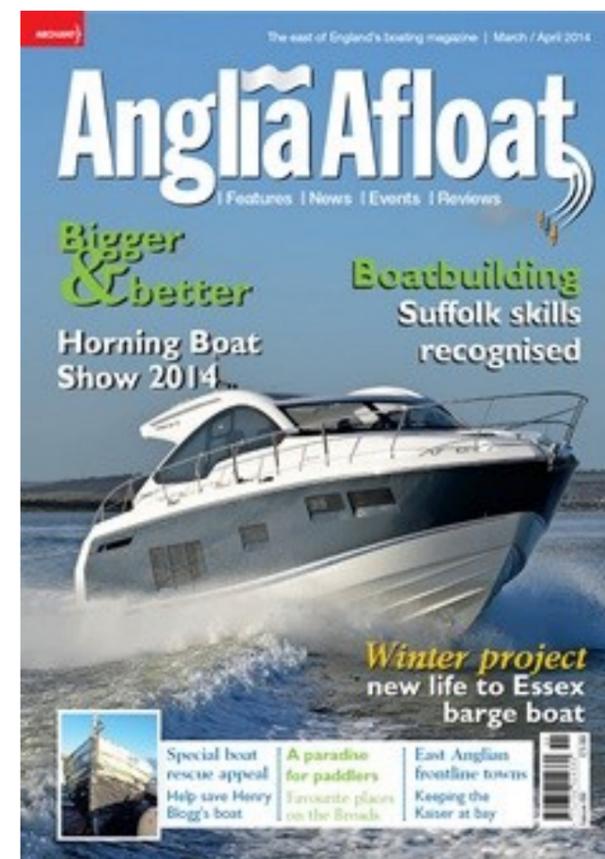
tails in *The Green Book*) for your password.

Tolls

A new tolls structure for 2014-15 proposed by the NSBA and the Broads Hire Boat Federation was agreed by the BA at its meeting in late November. This is the first time that a stakeholder proposed structure has been adopted by the Authority. The new structure goes some way to restoring the differentials which existed between different sizes of craft up to the 2013-14 tolls year, but smaller craft continue to receive preferential treatment with lower percentage rises over the two-year period and reductions of nearly 5% in the case of the smallest craft. The details are shown on the NSBA website: Latest News page.

Annual statement of expenditure of tolls/navigation income on BA central costs

Following on from the recent correspondence in the *EDP* over the correct figures for the amount of navigation income spent on central costs, the BA is going to liaise with the NSBA in a review of the format of an annual statement on navigation expenditure and compatibility across years. Clarification in this important area will be welcome.



Martin Broom Memorial Trophy for Outstanding Contribution to Broads Boating

After consultation with Martin Broom's widow, Jennifer, the NSBA General Purposes Committee has decided that each year the NSBA should offer to award a trophy in Martin's name for an outstanding contribution to Broads' boating. For this purpose, 'outstanding contribution to Broads' boating' is not limited to any particular context or to an individual contribution. It could, for example, be awarded on the basis of work behind the scenes, contribution in the commercial boating sector, contribution to training, or a combination of these things. The Trophy will be presented at the NSBA's Annual General Meeting. Decisions as to the award of the trophy will be made by the judges on behalf of the Association. The judges may decide not to award the Trophy in any particular year. The judges are the President, Chairman and Vice Chairman of the NSBA. They are entitled to take advice from such members of the General Purposes Committee of the NSBA as they think fit.

Rules: the award of the Trophy will be governed by the following rules:

- 1 The Trophy is only awarded for outstanding contribution to Broads' boating. 'Outstanding contribution to Broads' boating' refers to such a contribution whatever the context.
- 2 The Trophy may be awarded to an individual, a group of individuals or an organisation.
- 3 A member of the General Purposes Committee of the NSBA is not eligible for the award of the Trophy on an individual basis. The Trophy may be awarded to a group of individuals or an organisation of which a

member of the General Purposes Committee is a member.

- 4 Nominations must be made either by an affiliated club or organisation of the NSBA or by two individual members of the NSBA.
- 5 The nomination must be in writing. It must state why the nomination is being made and include factual information in support.
- 6 The closing date for nominations is 30 September in any year. The nomination must reach the Hon Administrator (contact details in the Green Book) by 1159 hrs on that day. No extensions of time will be granted and no late nominations will be considered.
- 7 The Trophy may not be awarded to the same individual, group of individuals or organisation for the same or a similar contribution within five years of its previous award to that individual, group of individuals or organisation.
- 8 The holder of the Trophy must return it to the Hon Administrator of the NSBA on or before 1 November in the year following its award.



Keep the NSBA informed



Members of the NSBA Committee continue to take up successfully boating-related issues, eg bankside trees and hazards to navigation, raised by individual clubs and individual members. We can only take up issues if we are kept informed. So please do so, via the Hon Administrator (julia.bower1@btinternet.com; other contact details in *The Green Book*). Often the information received from an individual can be very useful in contributing to an overall picture.

After the MPs got involved

If you read the NSBA newsletter that emerged before last year's AGM, you will be aware that the local MPs have become interested in the governance of the Broads Authority and have advocated change.

At the end of November 2013 a meeting was held between the Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of the Broads Authority (BA) and the Navigation Committee (Nav Com), the BA Chief Executive and one further member of the Nav Com. The meeting was held to consider the matters raised by some Nav Com members at the meeting held with local MPs in Westminster at the beginning of September and to agree actions that could be taken to address those issues. Two of the people present at the meeting were NSBA members.

It was agreed that there was a need to improve consultation between the Authority, its officers and the Nav Com; to involve the Nav Com earlier in policy development; to consider altering the structure of Nav Com meetings to concentrate on strategy and to streamline officer attendance at Nav Com meetings (there have been times when officers outnumbered members).

It was also agreed to review the BA Communications Policy, which currently appears to prevent Nav Com members from speaking publicly on navi-

gation issues without prior approval from BA officers; to require prior consultation with BA and Nav Com Lead Members on media releases relevant to their areas of responsibility and to accept and define the role of Nav Com Chairman and Vice Chairman in explaining publicly the work of the committee.

On matters of finance and governance, the group agreed to identify and use opportunities to reconsider the governance arrangements of the BA including the representation of tollpayers; to recommend that the Nav Com Chairman should become an ex officio member of the BA Financial Scrutiny and Audit Committee (FSAC); to provide training for BA and Nav Com members on the BA budget structures and accounting formats; to involve the Nav Com chairman in the induction process for new BA members; to brief new Nav Com members on decisions and processes currently under way and to review the selection and appointment of "Lead Members" on both the BA and Nav Com.

At its meeting on January 17th the BA agreed to appoint the Nav Com chairman as an ex-officio member of the FSAC.

The NSBA believes that things are moving slowly in the right direction but intends to keep the pressure on.

Horsey Regatta

There was a successful, if windy, resurrection of the regatta on the beautiful Horsey Mere in 2013. This year the regatta is to take place under the flag of Martham Boating Association on the 10th and 11th of May.

There will be racing on both the Saturday and Sunday and events for all classes of sailing yachts and dinghies. Regatta entry includes the cost of overnight mooring in Horsey Dyke.

For further information please contact David Church on 01493 740335.



Norfolk Constabulary Broadsbeat

The Norfolk Constabulary Broadsbeat brings together the experience and skill of Norfolk Constabulary's patrol officers with the additional skills and expertise of working across the County's Broads and waterways. The team consists of a full time Police Constable and additional Constables, Police Community Support Officers and Special Constables overseen by a Sergeant. They work with partners such as the Broads Authority, Local Councils and the Environment Agency to prevent crime and disorder, investigate offences and assist with water safety and education.

Norfolk is one of the safest counties in the country and crime on the waterways is particularly low. However, much of the Broadland area is inaccessible or difficult to reach by land and therefore the team are able to use the waterways to ensure that no area is inaccessible to the police. The team has two boats, an off-road vehicle and a range of technology available to aid them in their role.

Broadsbeat is one of the country's longest running, corporately sponsored policing teams. Through

sponsorship by agencies and local businesses the team maintains and purchases equipment and receives training to ensure that it is able to deal with whatever issues it faces.

Broadsbeat believe strongly that prevention is better than cure and is able to provide advice to boat owners, property owners and businesses about the best ways to reduce their risks of becoming victims of crime. If you would like crime prevention advice from the team please call Norfolk Police on 101 or visit our website www.norfolk.police.uk/broadsbeat. You can also follow us on twitter @broadsbeat.



A Notice from your Administrator

Some gentle reminders.

- ◆ All NSBA subscriptions are due on 1 January although Standing Orders are effective from 1 February. It would be much appreciated if you could make your payment as soon as possible.
- ◆ In order to save on admin costs we will no longer be sending a written reminder to those members who pay by cheque so kindly put the date in your diaries!
- ◆ The subscription fee increased to £10 per member per annum in 2012 but we still have some members who have not adjusted their Standing Order. Please make the necessary adjustment.
- ◆ When paying your subscription please make sure that you are clearly identifiable. Your surname is not enough as we have several members with similar surnames. Your initials will help and perhaps use your post code.
- ◆ If you do not pay by Standing Order, may I urge you to do so as it greatly facilitates our administration. Contact me for details.
- ◆ If you cease to be a member for any reason please let me know.

Many thanks.

Julia Bower

julia.bower1@btinternet.com



Broads Authority Private Boaters Survey

Last autumn the BA, led by Adrian Clarke, invited a small group to work with them on a survey of private boats. The group included representation from hire fleets, ecology interests as well as Phil Ollier and David Talbot from NSBA. At a meeting on 25th November a draft questionnaire was discussed as well as how to deal with issues such as multiple boat ownership.

Early intentions were that a sample of boat owners would be asked to complete the survey, but it was soon amended to a wide reaching "census" sent to all tollpayers. It was agreed that advice should be taken from professional market research companies and a draft brief has recently been circulated.

It has been recognised that the BA already has details of over 16,000 boats on its database and part of the research can be carried out by "data mining" of this database. Other information will need to be obtained by asking boat owners directly and may be directed to areas such as:

What are the costs and benefits of keeping a boat on the Broads? This will help manage future tolls by indicating the relative importance of tolls in overall costs and also

comparing with other waterways.

What do owners know about the toll setting calculations and how the tolls raised are spent? Tolls vary according to boat type and size with a multiplier for hire boats. Owners may also have different views about where expenditure is allocated. Answers in this area may shape a different toll structure and help decide on future expenditure plans.

How much use do private boat owners make of the facilities provided and how satisfied are they? This will include attitudes towards tourism which will help develop medium term strategies.

There has also been discussion about asking for boat owners views on the "National Park Family" status. This could have relevance in the BA's duty to balance navigation interests with conservation and enjoyment by the public.

It is likely that the research will be carried out between April and June 2014, with a further survey of hire boats later in the year. If you are asked to contribute, please ensure you answer the questions fairly. In this way we can continue to protect the interests of private boaters.

Text messaging service for Breydon/Breydon Water

As reported in the BA's *Broad Sheet* a text message trial is to be piloted by the BA in May/ June. The will provide information about predicted low slack water times at Great Yarmouth Yacht Station and time of sunset for the day of the request and the following day.. The information can be requested by text message (cost 6p plus the user's standard message rate). Text the word 'Tide' to 60777. The BA would like the NSBA to provide feedback in order to determine whether the service is useful. Please send feedback to the Hon Administrator, Julia Bower (julia.bower1@btinternet.com; other contact details in *The Green Book*).

