



# POOLE SAILABILITY NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2008



## CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Welcome to the 2008 Sailing Season which promises to bring some exciting changes and, given good weather, a brilliant summer of sailing. We ended last season with an extended autumn programme, which culminated with our famous BBQ on the beach on a gloriously sunny afternoon. With a strong new committee who are enthusiastically working on your behalf I hope that Poole Sailability will go forward and build on its success of recent years to enable even more people with disabilities to sail with us. This year we are promising more sailing, more training, and thanks to a grant, a new safety boat for the club. Our maintenance crew have worked incredibly hard in the cold and wet on the boats all winter to ensure that all will be ready for our Spring start. Improvements include new roller reefing systems and sails on all three keelboats. Stampede is looking particularly smart with a new hatchway and flooring. So it's time to practise your knots, dig out your sailing gear and get ready for fun.

The committee for 2008 are

**Chair:** Chris Thomas

**Vice Chair:** Anna Moreland

**Treasurer:** Terry Finn

**Secretary:** Sara Holloway

**Sailing Captain:** Christopher Harvey

**Members:** Adrian Crew, Tim Worner, Mike Bartlett, and Christina Phillipo

## FUND RAISING



Thanks to so many of you helping out, we raised over £1800 at the following events BBQ, Gaz's famous Inter Yacht Club Quiz Night, Autumn Curry Night and Prize giving, Ceildh, Spring Curry and Rhythm and Blues Night, and auction of donated sailing gear. In addition to this we have had corporate support from J P Morgan and grants from other bodies. As we continue to expand, we will obviously need more funds, so if anyone has any good ideas please get in touch with Fund Raising Officer Mike Bartlett.

## SAILING DATES AND BOOKING SYSTEM



Thanks to Tim Worner who manned the phone line, last year's telephone booking system

worked well. We plan to continue with the same system this year, and a reminder of the hot line booking number is included on the attached sailing programme sheet. This year we intend to sail an average of 6 sessions per month, with longer times on the water. In addition there will also be extra sessions on Saturdays specifically for groups. We are hoping that this will free up more spaces for the Wednesday and Sunday sessions. Helpers' training sessions will also run throughout the season.

Thanks to the enthusiasm of our new sailing captain, Christopher Harvey, we have the most ambitious sailing programme ever, and he assures me that his wife has given written permission for him to spend every spare moment sailing. (Editor's comment - WOW!!).

## **BIG BOAT SAILING AT PARKSTONE YACHT CLUB**




Last season Poole Sailability members responded enthusiastically to an invitation from Parkstone Yacht Club (PYC) to experience sailing on larger yachts. It was essential that all disabled sailors were accompanied by an able bodied 'helper' enabling those with a wide range of disabilities to take part.

We have had 6 successful events when PYC members volunteered their boats and expertise enabling 7 Poole Sailability disabled sailors to participate in big boat sailing. Each event has included a sail outside the harbour (sometimes in quite lively conditions), a novel and exciting experience for many of our members. A set of steps are now available to aid boarding, but it should be noted that all disabled sailors need to have sufficient mobility to enable them to board a boat with their helper's aid.



Paul Cripwell helming close hauled

We have been made very welcome at Parkstone and are very appreciative. All our sailors, both able-bodied and disabled greatly enjoyed their time out on the water. If you would like further details, please contact Christina on 01202 699075.

**WOT'S ON** Flex your muscles, it's skittles time.  Everyone enjoys this event, which will take place on Tuesday 15 April at the usual venue, The Clay Pipe Inn at Sandford. Arrive anytime from 6pm and you will be placed in a team of four to battle it out for the coveted mystery prize.

Admission is just £3. Bar meals will also be available. All friends and family welcome.

**MEMBERSHIP FEES** Once again we have managed to keep the cost of membership down to just £10 per year. Please help by filling in the attached renewal form and sending it with your cheque made out to Poole Sailability to our secretary Sara Holloway, 139 Ripon Road, Bournemouth, BH9 1RB. Sara will be at the skittles night and if you wish you can hand it to her then. We have many people waiting to join our club and it is important that you renew before the first sailing session to ensure your continued membership.



**BILLY BLUEBEARD'S BRAIN BUSTERS** The first person to contact The Editor by email or phone with the correct answers to these two riddles will receive public acclaim and an old chocolate egg left over from Easter

1. A yacht has 12 metal steps fixed to its side, spaced 1 foot apart. At noon the water reaches the third step from the bottom. If the water is rising 1 foot per hour, at what time will it reach the third step from the top?
2. A schooner is sailing in the South Seas when crewmen spot a sailor on a tiny island waving frantically. They send a lifeboat and bring him back to the ship. He says his small sailboat had capsized in a storm, his father drowned, and he was washed up on the island. The Captain rushes down from the bridge, sees the sailor, and shouts, "My son, you have rescued my son!" How is this possible?

**NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS AND ANY COMMENTS TO  
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