

Diary dates

Issue 9

April 2010

- **10 April** Fitting out supper at the clubhouse. Pizza and a quiz. £5.
- **18 April** Trent Tripartite at Trent Valley sailing club Race starts 11am.
- **24 April 10.30am—4.30pm** Race training at Attenborough. Practical session to boost your starts and top tips for the first beat.
- **2 May. 1.45pm** Charity pursuit race in aid of Mencap at Attenborough Sailing Club.
- **29 May—Away** weekend to Rutland
- **26 June—weekend** to Plas Menai

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Come on down we're back in business

Welcome back to the 2010 sailing season! We've another fun packed year ahead—whether it's social events, training days or even sailing you're after, there's something for everyone in this year's calendar.

All members should have received their handbooks containing details of the events, members' contact details and the club rules and important stuff. Please take the time to have a look through it so you don't miss anything.

March and April see the start of Sunday and Wednesday night racing as well as Friday night informal cruising. The 10 April is the [Fitting out supper](#)—where members can pop along to the clubhouse for pizza and a drink or two to get to know fellow members and take part in a quiz. Those who were at the laying up supper will be pleased to hear that Roger will not be repeating his quiz, which over-rated the knowledge of participants somewhat. This time we are targeting our audience better and going for something a little more quirky. We hope you enjoy it!

A week or so later on 18 April we will be racing against Trent Valley and Nottingham sailing clubs at Trent Valley in the [Trent Tripartite](#). We won the trophy last year and are keen to hang onto it so please do come along (whatever your level) and enjoy a sail on the river.

If over the next few weeks you realise you need a top up of training on your [racing skills](#)—look no further than 24 April. A day long course will give you top tips on getting a good racing start and keeping that lead during the first beat leg.

On 2 May, you can put your new found skills to good use in our [charity pursuit](#) race in aid of Mencap. Look out for posters for more details or check out the website at www.attenboroughsc.org.uk/latest_events.htm

The last couple of dates for the diary (for now!) are a weekend in [Plas Menai](#) in Wales for a spot of sea sailing on 26 June and, closer to home, a trip to [Rutland water](#) the second May bank holiday. More details will be available shortly but in the meantime, if you are interested, please contact Mike Pritchard and remember to save the dates in your diary!

PS—A big thank you to everyone who helped in the working parties. Thanks to their hard work the club has new pontoons and walkways; a new slipway, new changing room roof and boat storage among others. The site has also had a clear up of clutter and brambles—but you probably won't spot this until the flood alleviation work has finished and been cleared away. Remember your wellies if it's wet—you'll need them!

Where are they now?

Max Swaps Surf for Snow

Exchanging the classroom for the kitchen, the surf for the snowy slopes of Val D'isere, France, Max (18) is currently enjoying a winter placement working with holiday company Mark Warner.

Spending mornings in the kitchen and afternoons snowboarding on the pistes until the snows melt in late April, Max is planning on returning to Dinghy Instructing in Kos after a short 'holiday' at home.



Left: Max teaches sailing in Kos and (right) takes to the slopes with dad Keith in Val d'Isère.

From Topper to Skipper

Congratulations to ex- club member Emma Clayton who has passed her Yachtmaster and is well on her way to Oceanmaster. After a stressful run up to the exam, she passed with an almost perfect Man Over Board drill under sail.

Emma came down to earth with a bump after this with a course on long range communications but had three weeks on a Challenge yacht to look forward to. From Gibraltar she sailed to Porto Santo, a little island off Madeira, to Vigo in northern Spain and back to Cowes. Attenborough won't quite be the same I'm sure.

Emma pictured right in the yellow suit (will have a few words to say to me when she knows I've shared this photo!)



New club boats for younger members

A successful application to Sport England led to the club receiving a grant for £9000.

The money has been used to purchase two Laser Bug and two RS Feva boats aimed at the younger members of the club. This will allow us to provide youth training under the Training Centre umbrella.

As the weather warms up, we encourage younger members to come along and use the boats. Guidelines of how to rig the boats have been put together and are available in the clubhouse or ask a committee member who will be happy to help (to be honest, as the boats are new, some members of the committee will be more use to you than others on this matter!)

Nature reserve clean up

The annual clean up took place in November. There was a good turn out of volunteers from Coca-Cola, McDonalds, Cemex and Roger Day represented the club. The clean up concentrated in two areas. The major amount of time was spent off the river side path and behind the cottages with just an hour or so spent cleaning up alongside the main path from the visitor centre to the river.

The accumulation of rubbish included a significant heap of car wheels and tyres, four or five gas bottles, wooden pallets, a child's sandpit, two inflatable boats and bags and bags of general rubbish e.g. glass and plastic bottles and sweet wrappers.

Chandlery

With the loss of Starboard there is a vacuum in the area for the purchase of dinghy parts. Millar Marine based in Shardlow has started to stock a few items. Norman, who owns the outlet, is not too familiar with dinghies having specialised in canal craft, caravans and offshore boat parts. He will listen and if he can help then he will. For those who do not use the highest quality racing ropes I do know that Millar Marine is competitive on price. Contact telephone number is 01332 793358 or web site is www.millarmarine.com

Wot rules??

The rules evening and rules guru session attracted much interest and we hope they were enjoyable events to improve members' racing skills.

There's a write up of the events and links to useful rules sites and quizzes at www.attenboroughsc.org.uk/latest.htm

Hi Ho, Hi Ho, it's off to work we go.....



What do you mean, we're out of coffee?



Taking a breather from the brambles

Your efforts are making a huge difference to the club—just take a look at the history file in the clubhouse to see what we've achieved in the last few years.



How many men does it take to look in a hole?



The new pontoons have been extensively tested

Thank you to everyone who lent a hand over the last few months. There continues to be some tweaking and tinkering at the club and we hope you'll forgive us the tail end jobs of a huge list.

One of the bigger jobs on the list for next year's working parties is to give the clubhouse some TLC.

If you have any suggestions for improvements please let the committee know and we'll add it to the list to consider when the time comes.