



# Telltales

January 2008

A very Happy New Year to all ASC members. Let us hope that 2008 will bring some better weather than last year.

## End of year sailing

We ended the year with the Cold Turkey race on Boxing day in some light airs but, for the time of the year warm weather. This year the race took the form of a standard handicap with 11 boats taking to the water. Richard Wood undertook the OOD duties and chose to start the fleet from the bank and with the first leg almost on a run. Very interesting and resulting in a bunched fleet for some time. Before too long three boats broke away and built up quite a lead. Roger Day and Kevin Milton had some close racing throughout but their battle allowed Mike Pritchard to stay close enough to win on corrected time. Roger eventually managing to get in front of Kevin and took second place with Kevin third.

On 16th December we held the Christmas Handicap. 11 boats took part in some good weather. Roger Day managed to break away from the main fleet and although was chased hard by Kevin Milton, now sailing a Phantom, he managed to hang on to win the race. Kevin was second and Alan Tussler in third place.

The race was followed by the annual prize giving. Mike Pritchard walked away having won most of the series he was able to enter. Those series not won by Mike were not dominated by any one person and quite a number of members shared the honours. The results are not replicated here as they are available on the club web site at [www.attenboroughsc.org.uk](http://www.attenboroughsc.org.uk).

Gillian Day had slaved by a hot oven for a couple of hours or so to prepare a buffet which was swilled down with Brian Dennis's mulled wine. Thanks to both for their efforts.

## Subscriptions

Thanks to all who have paid their subscriptions. Doing so early not only provides you with a discount but allows the Committee to plan the OOD duties and get the handbook to the printers earlier with fewer errors.

For those of you who have yet to pay then please ensure that your payment is for 100% of the fees, the discount period finished at the end of 2007.

If paying by electronic banking methods please let Malcolm have the paperwork with your up to date contact details. E-mail addresses do help in the distribution of Telltales saving us both time and money plus giving you a colour version

### Subscriptions

**Please note that if you have yet to pay your 2008 subscriptions the discount period has expired. If for some reason you will not be joining the club this year let us know.**

### Working Parties

**Starting Saturday 5th January your help will be most welcome to accomplish a number of clean up and maintenance jobs. Our Bosun, Steve Coupe will be on hand to direct and help find the right job for you**

# Working Parties

Most of you will have received a number of e-mails advising of the Saturday morning working parties which will take place between now and the start of sailing in March. The list of jobs is quite extensive as usual but we shall do all we can to complete the list. It is recognised that some of you are unable to make it Saturdays but please do not let that stop you helping if you have time. Give Steve Coupe a call and he will be pleased to discuss with you jobs that need doing and will suite your talents.



## Sailing School

At the first committee meeting of the year Richard Wood stood down as Principal of the Sailing School. This position is to act as the contact for the RYA and to help with the administration. The position has been taken by Roger Day.

A meeting of the Senior Instructors, Principal and Hon. Secretary was held just before Christmas and a programme of courses discussed. As the club has trained eight new instructors and Brian Dennis has achieved SI status it was agreed to run three level 1 and 2 courses. In addition we shall be running a level 2 power boat course and a safety boat course. Dates have not been set for the latter two courses as we have to bring Instructors in. We have a waiting list for some of these courses but if you are interested please keep an eye on the web site for dates and application forms.

Mainly as a means for the club Instructors to stay current with the necessary first aid qualifications we shall be running suitable courses before the sailing season starts. If you are interested in undertaking a first aid course which meets the RYA requirement then please let Roger Day know (telephone 0115 9175671 or rogersday@sky.com) We shall do what we can to accommodate everyone interested. There will be a charge and I will try to provide a cost in the next newsletter.

The cost of undertaking level 1 and 2 courses is being increased from £95 to £150 this year to help make the Sailing School more self sufficient. This may seem a large increase but we have not changed our charges for some time and have not been charging anything like other clubs in the area. It was difficult to justify a significant increase when the boats we used took longer to keep afloat than the time spent actually sailing but now with a reasonable fleet of RS Visions and Toppers it was thought the time was right to become more commercial.

We have not run any of the specialist courses in the past but if you are interested in completing a Spinnaker handling or Start Racing for example (see RYA web site for more information) let RogerDay know and if there is sufficient requirement we shall see what can be accommodated in what is becoming a busy diary.



## What do our members want from the club?

This is often asked during committee meetings when we discuss churn and why there are so few active families. To partially answer this question and to also try and find out if there is interest in running RYA

Youth Training Mike Pritchard or possibly another Committee member will be phoning around. We hope this does not cause offence.

## **Trailers**

The trailer park has been emptied and it is quite clear that a significant number of trailers will never see a road again. We have the dilemma whether to skip or not to skip as the equipment does not belong to the club. This newsletter has asked you on two occasions recently to ensure any trailer is clearly marked and yet we found very few marked up with either a name or an owner or a boat.

PLEASE try to get down to the club and mark any trailer you want us to keep otherwise if it looks as if it is unroadworthy we will probably put it in a skip and get rid.

## **Dinghy show - March 2008**

If you are interested in a bus trip to Alexander Palace to attend the RYA Dinghy Show in March please contact Jon Paton or Jon Adams. If there are sufficient members and their friends showing positive interest we will put arrange a suitable sized bus at a proportioned cost.