

## Killingworth MYC Commodores report 2017 - 18

Once again our sailing season, at least late spring, all of summer and autumn have been dominated by weed. The council are not intending to use dye on our lake, we could use a cutter, but it would be very hard to do physically and is a very short term solution, even if it works at all. So we just have to stop sailing when it's weedy unless we also adopt a class that can sail through the weed if we want a longer sailing season. (Weed busing boats are still on the horizon). But once again, thanks to Herrington for stepping to welcome those who can make it south of the Tyne. A big thanks, they are very sociable, and have sailing rules that make even us look like law abiding sailors.

**Thanks:** As before, I have been lucky enough to carry out my duties with great support from everyone, and specifically from our Secretary, Maurice, our Treasurer Roy and our Sailing Secretary Sid (plus assistant John – some might say like Arkwright and Granville from “open all hours”). They all spend much more time than you might imagine, and often it is a thankless task. Roy for example has hardly sailed this year yet is still conscientiously keeping control over our finances. A very reliable pair of hands, I am very grateful. Maurice is a pivotal person, being the “go to” person for all outside access to the club. He also regularly shoots up to the club to open up, check all is OK, goes to meetings etc. Thanks. Then there is Sid, our retiring Sailing Secretary. What can one say. “Shy and retiring, never shouts ...” are not exactly the words that come to mind when you think of him. But good hearted, always willing to help others, and he has made every effort to set courses that are challenging yet keep us from hitting each other (we do our best to still hit each other) and we much has the most attractive buoys anywhere. (give Sid cup, point out it suits the boss of the “Derwent Mafia and was from my new boat).

**The lake modifications** to prevent floods are now under way, you will already have seen some activity. Hopefully it will improve the lake, it will certainly make the clubhouse less likely to flood, but it will also mean that the water level will be an average of 100 mm lower, it usually is already.

**My Open Day** was a washout, none planned for this coming year. It would be nice to run a “popup” Open Meeting (like normal sailing really with more visitors), there are quite a few people from other clubs who say they want to come.

Killingworth club entered into the **Jubilee Trophy** this year (5 events, team of 3), and were a very respectable 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 5, and but for Roger's keel breaking he would probably have been 2<sup>nd</sup> individual in the event, and with a touch more luck we could have won the team event. Brian W was our team manager – he is so good at organizing things, one more big thanks. Several of the travelers did well at open meetings, several picking up bottles of wine and / or cups. Our standard of sailing is pretty good, better than our rule observation.

**Privacy and data storage:** the laws have changed on data storage, and it has some effect on our club. In reality if we did nothing it would probably not matter, but to be on the safe side we now have a privacy policy for the data we store, and we do really need you all to fill in emergency contact forms. I have some with me, and I also have a form for you to sign to say you agree to the terms of our data policy and are happy with how we store the data and what we use it for.

**New members:** We could do with more.

**Finally,** I would like to say how much I always value the advice and support I get from our more experienced sailors Blyth Brian, Derek G, Joe to name but a few. And when there is a work party it is amazing what a good turnout we get. Well done all of you, but we really do need members to take over some of the officer's roles at the end of the next year, its time for a changing of the guard.

Simon Robinson 1/12/18