

Good afternoon

By now if you have been reading your e mails you will know that I am retiring from my post as your sail capt, please do not cheer all at once as I am easily offended.

I have now been in this post 4 years and must say with the help of Garvin and lately John have enjoyed it. But it is now time to hand over the reins to Garvin who has kindly offered to take over, with John staying on to assist, an injection of new ideas is good for the club, i think that if I had stayed any longer I may have overstayed my welcome!!!

I would like to thank all my fellow committee members for there advice and help they have given to me over the past 4 years and offer my sympathy to our Commodore who has to serve another year he thinks. Also thanks to Brian and Maurice for their assistance in starting and recording on race days it is much appreciated, I am in doubt if John H would totally agree.

Racing this year at Killingworth has again been affected by weed this started i believe June and got steadily worse by mid-July when a to decision was made to decamp to Herrington by kind invitation from Brian ,some members decided to keep sailing at Killingworth the word masochist springs to mind. Whilst at Herrington my granddaughter Emily decided she would like to sail her namesake, which she did and only returned it to me for a couple of races, she is quite a strong willed person.!!! She sailed quite well apart from tacking which she complained I had not explained it well enough to her, by this time I think Simon offered her some quite advice as my patience was I think running out.

We returned to sail at Killingworth mid October when the weed was dispersing somewhat, and it was good to join up with the rest of the club sailors. This year 5 new boats joined the fleet, so I expect the competition will be really hotting up when these members get them tuned up. The standard of racing to me seems to have improved somewhat not so many false starts, less barging on the line and, giving water when asked, the problem is that when the adrenaline starts running members sometimes turn a blind eye to the rules.

This year no one has had the misfortune to check the water temp of the lake long may it last. A decision was taken when we moved to Herrington not to collect any moneys for the Summer series and when we moved back to Killingworth for the Autumn series. This is a decision to put to the members for the start of the Winter series

The Winter series and Spring series moneys collected totaled £60 of which £30 I have shared out to the winners and the other £30 to club funds .

Good luck GARVIN AND JOHN, and as they used to say in in that well known TV series IM FREE.

SID.