



## Dylan and Nick Take Podium Position!

Hello NSC!

I thought you might like a bit of an update on myself and Nick Hollis.

One of the major sailing events of the year for us was the RYA National Youth Championships. These have just taken place in Largs in Scotland. This event was really important for us as we really needed a finish in one of the top three 29er Championship places, and to show that we had been able to get there without any extra training that two of the other GBR team boats receive. They have been in the squad much longer than us.

During the week in Largs, HRH Princess Anne, who is president of the RYA, came to visit us at the event and had a walk around the boat park, stopping to talk to us and then going out on a motor yacht to watch the racing.

It was a really windy week, but in the end we were able to stand on the Championship Podium in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. This means we were once again selected for the GBR Team and also to represent the UK at the 29er World Championships in San Francisco in July.

Best regards

*Dylan Fletcher*

29er RYA National Youth Squad

*See back page for  
Dylan's race report*



### Vice Commodore On Tour 2005

Having replaced my Phantom 1084 with 1100, known as *Austin*, I am still "learning the ropes". The best way to do this is: (1) to sail as often as possible and (2) to sail with the same boats. So I decided to do a couple of Open Meetings before they all come to Northampton.

Here's what happened....

Haversham, very light winds, patchy and variable, 29 boats on a short start line. We did four races, 2 before lunch and 2 after. First race was OKish but I got lost up the beat and stuck on the run with no wind, while others sailed by. Must remember to stay away from that tree! Placed 5th. Second race was a disaster - got stuck on the start line going backwards, with 5 seconds to go. The rest was a procession, although I did climb from 25th round the first windward mark. Placed 12th.

After a light lunch (pasty and coke!) we set off for race 3. Plan was to start well, keep in the windy bits and keep concentrating. The reverse happened - got buried, sailed like a pr\*t, finished 15th. Race 4 couldn't get worse, could it? Remembering what happened earlier I decided to time my run at the start and hit the line moving. Plan

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### Dates for the Diary

**Mon 2nd May** - Club Open Day

**Tues 3rd May** - Start of Tuesday racing - Personal Handicap

**Sat 7th May** - Phantom Open

**Sat 21st May** - Supernova Open

**Tues 24th to Thurs 26th May** - Martin 16 National Champs

**Sat 28th & Sun 29th May** - Laser 2000 Open Meeting

**Sat 7th June** - New members' evening

**Sat 25th & Sun 26th June** - National 12 Inland Champs

**Sat 2nd July** - Laser and Solo Open Meeting

**Sat 9th & Sun 10th July** - Club Champs

**Sat 23rd July** - Summer Bash

**25th to 29th July** - Summer Camp

See *'What's On'* for more details:

- on display in the Clubhouse
- by e-mail from Carol Travers
- downloadable from our web-site

Have you tried out the new picnic benches on the terrace? Eight of them were purchased by 'Friends of NSC'. The other two were kindly donated by Eric Edmonds and his wife Anne. Eric was Club Commodore from 1996 - 97. Many thanks to Eric and Anne.

## Colin Thomas

It is with great sadness that I am writing to inform you of the sudden passing of Colin. He was a great character, always laughing and joking, and will be sorely missed by us all.

I recall when he rejoined the Club some year ago. Pam and I used to race on Saturdays. Colin turned up with a friend and a new GP14. After a couple of laps, he sailed up behind us, calling for water at the gybe mark. I let him through but tightened him up a bit so that when he gybed we were able to nip through on the inside. After the race he bought the tea's saying "I thought as I was a new boy you would let me win".

On another occasion we swapped crews and Colin crewed for me. As we started off he said "Do you mind if I have a Woodbine down the reaches?" Later on, when I had my fruit shop, he would pop in for an orange and a chat. I could go on but I'm sure most of you who knew him will have similar memories.

Last week, as Alan Bax took away Colin's Flying Fifteen, Pam said as it went by "Goodbye Colin".

On behalf of all the members of NSC our thoughts and prayers go out to Denise, Jo, Steph and families. God Bless.

*Mick York*

*Continued from Page 1* looked good but the gap on the line didn't appear... so a poor start, but up the first beat we had a lucky shift, Austin got a pat on the back and we tacked onto port going round the top mark in 7th, the rest again was a bit processional, but managed to claw one more place back, finished 6th. Overall came 9th, so I did get a top ten placing, but I also learnt some hard lessons. Staunton Harald, 10mph wind, very flukey coming off the club house, 21 boats on the start line. 2 races before lunch 1 after. I had a chat with Austin about starting technique and we hit the line moving at speed. Individual recall flag went up, I looked to leeward and saw two bows and no outer limit. Not sure if they went back but I was looking good, boat was on the limit of having to "de-power" but carried on hiking hard, picked the shifts and found myself first round the top mark. Followed the lead boat round the first lap, lead boat pulled off..... Trying to remember a sequence of numbers, because that's how the marks are labelled, is not easy but I coped and managed to stay in the lead. On passing the finish line, No Beep! Checked with the team and confirmed I was one of the boats OCS. No comment! Race 2 was a replica of race one except I wasn't OCS, the smile was now back on my face..... After lunch race 3 was started and once again I was "right up there" - 2nd place and good boat speed. The leading boat was working hard and 3rd place was pushing - if I could keep him behind I would be OK. The three of us raced around and up to "mark No. 4", when the leader, another non-local, pointed out we should be going to "mark No. 5". With a quick tack all three of us headed back to the fleet, I rounded in 7th, finished 6th. Overall came 5th.

So Austin and I are still learning: (1) Sail the right course, (2) Start on the move and (3) Stay in the boat.

Next event is Northampton Open on May 7th, so no travelling and you can all come and cheer Austin and me on. *John - Phantom 1100 - Vice Commodore*



**Welcome** to the second edition of the new-style NSC newsletter.

By the time many members receive the printed copy of this edition, our annual Open Day will have taken place. With all of the considerable effort put in by Carol, Ian, John and many other members of the Club it was certain to be a successful day.

You can keep up to date with the latest NSC news by checking out our web-site - [www.northamptonsailingclub.org](http://www.northamptonsailingclub.org) - which is updated daily. Set a bookmark and visit the site regularly to find information about events and results, read the latest 'What's On' and NSC News, study the Handbook for Race Officers, look at photos and follow links to the many classes of boats sailed at Pitsford.

If you have ideas for articles for publication in NSC News or on the web-site, your contributions would be most welcome. Please send them by e-mail or pass them to me at the Club.

*Many thanks.*

*Rob Jackson, Solo 4267*

## Northampton Sailability

Well, most of the boats have been power hosed and wiped down for the start of the Season, which in our case happened on Monday 4th April for individual members. It was great to see some of the old hands braving the cool temperatures, but even more pleasing to see two new members, both of them young men. Group sailing starts at the beginning of May.

We are extending our sailing days to include the first Saturday in each month and the four Rotary clubs in Northampton are providing helpers to enable us to achieve this. A series of training sessions on rigging boats, hoisting sailors into and out of the boats, and admin work is being undertaken over the coming few weeks.

The Rotaract Club of Rushden has chosen us as their charity of the year and their support comes in the form of a Recipe book, containing 50 recipes, some donated by celebrities. Thanks very much to Rotaract and all our other supporters!

Do you know anyone with a disability? If so, please refer them to our prize-winning website [www.northamptonailability.org.uk](http://www.northamptonailability.org.uk) where they will find details of our activities and programme for the year, or have them give us a ring on 07952 579 380. We'd love to hear from them.

We shall be running a book stall and plant stall at the club Open Day on May 2nd, so do come and say hello, clutching money of course.

*Harry Cockburn, Chairman*

**Special offer!** from MST Direct (via Y&Y magazine) for travel to European events. If you and your fleet, class or association are looking to travel to Europe why not contact MST with the details of dates and times of travel, the route you need, how many are going and in what types of vehicle, and then we will offer you all the available fares, or arrange special group discounts. The same applies for all flights, long or short haul, car hire and hotels. MST can be contacted through on +44(0)1295 278748.

Further to discussion at the AGM in December 2004, the General Committee would like to invite members to give us their thoughts or ideas on the membership structure of the Club. Please send any comments to Carol Travers (Commodore) - [carol@shr50.demon.co.uk](mailto:carol@shr50.demon.co.uk) - or write to her via the Club.



## Solo Fleet

The Solo Spring Trophy took place on Sunday 24th April, with 7 boats rigged but only five making the start line. Close racing in a brisk wind saw Richard Butterfield and Graham Wilson sharing the lead after two races. In a hard fought battle between the two of them in the third race Graham eventually took the lead, winning the race and overall honours. In third place was Dave Mabbutt, with Bruce Merry fourth and Rob Jackson coming home fifth.

*David Mabbutt, Fleet Captain.*

## Thursday Evening Racing

Well, Thursday nights got underway with a "Bang!" on 21st April. Great course set by our CRO team of Neil and Tom Barford. Reasonable wind for the first half of the race. The start line was busy with 28 boats out, all having a go.

Afterwards Elaine in the Galley was busy serving 40 meals (£3 for main course - bargain!) for the hungry sailors and Vicky managed to quench our thirst from behind the bar.

We finally left the club just after 10:30, a great evening sailing and chatting with friends.

So now you know what you have missed - where were you?

Thursday evening sailing is a great way to break up your week You don't have to give up your weekend and the racing is really close.

Come and get some "Stress relief" - you know it makes sense!

*John - Phantom 1100*

## Personal Handicap Racing

Tuesday 3rd May 2005 will be an important day in the history of NSC - it is the first time we have planned a series of races where you can get your own personal handicap. This will give everyone an opportunity to win some prizes. Racing starts at 7pm, The Bar will be open and the Galley will be serving evening meals.

### Bar and Galley opening times

#### Galley

*Sunday* 10:00 - 16:00 March to December

*Tuesday* 19:00 - 21:00 May to August

*Thursday* 19:00 - 21:00 April to

September

*During Open Meetings:* Saturdays 10:00 - 16:00 and earlier on Sunday for Breakfast

#### Bar

*Sunday* 16:00 - 21:00\*, March to December

*Tuesday* 18:00 - 21:00\*, May to August

*Thursday* 18:00 - 21:00\*, April to

September

*During Open Meetings:* Saturdays 12:00 till Late and Sunday 12:00 - 21:00\*

*\* or later if you are still buying!*

The Bar may be open at other times if a Committee member is on site and enough people want a drink or two.

Please call me if you have particular requirements.

*Vicky Young, NSC Bar Manager*

Boats and equipment are often advertised for sale on the Club notice board. If you wish to advertise there, please make sure your ad is signed by a Club Officer.

## Update - RYA Youth Nationals 2005 - Dylan and Nick

Between the 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> April we were up in Larg's, Scotland, competing in the RYA Youth Nationals. We went up a week early to get some practice in, get used to the conditions and to see any trends in the wind or tide. This went really well and by the end of the week we were going quickly and were used to the chop.

On Monday, the first day of racing, we didn't have a very good day. There were several reasons behind this, including being over the line in race one. Then we pitchpoled going round the windward mark in race two and finally in race three our kicker, then Cunningham, fell off. In race 4, when we were in second place the race was abandoned because of a squall. We got our worst results on the day with a 3<sup>rd</sup>, a 5<sup>th</sup> and an 8<sup>th</sup>. Despite all this we were going very quickly and we were in the top three in all races before things went wrong.

'Tuesday is a new day', we thought to ourselves and we put the first day's results behind us. In the first race we came 2<sup>nd</sup> and had more good results with a 3<sup>rd</sup>, a 3<sup>rd</sup> and a 1<sup>st</sup>. We had now pulled up to 3<sup>rd</sup> overall.

We started Wednesday with a bullet, which set us up for the day with a 3<sup>rd</sup> then a 2<sup>nd</sup>. All the boats in the top 3 got a 1, 2 or 3 so none of us gained or lost any points against each other. Also by this time the boat in 4<sup>th</sup> was 15 points behind us.

Thursday was very windy and we only managed to get one race in, with the breeze gusting over 30 knots. We were winning this race but on the last run we got pushed out to the layline by another boat who over took us just before the finish. We lapped all the boats in this race apart from the top four!

On the last day we only did one race due to the temperature and wind strength, but we came 3<sup>rd</sup> in this race.

Overall in all the races apart from the 2 on the first day we finished in the top 3. Although it is a 'what if', if what went wrong on the first day didn't happen we could have won the championship. In the end we came 3<sup>rd</sup> so were in the championship places and up on the podium - we were very pleased! We are now looking forward to the San Francisco Worlds in July...

### Brief update from our leading windsurfer, Xavier Ferlet

Results so far this season:

**January** London Boat Show - Indoor slalom 9th/28

**March** Marazion Formula Course racing - 3rd/47

**April** Clacton Slalom - 2nd/20

**April** French Nationals Formula - 11th/62

**Next event:** Pwllheli (North Wales) Formula Windsurfing Apr 30-May 2  
Cheers, Xav.

*(Ed. ... and first in NSC race, Thursday 28th April!)*

See NSC web-site for photos of Xavier, Dylan and Nick



*Now the mowing season is here, please don't leave masts, bricks, ropes etc hidden in the long grass!*

### Children's Sailing Camp

Monday 25th to Friday 29th July inclusive. For further information, please contact Phil Kenny via NSC..

### For Sale

**Enterprise mast**, new, plus lots of other Ent bits. Keith Hellewell, keith@southcrest.plus.com

**Topper sport 14**, £2995, vgc, trailer & trolley. Doug Cook, 07990 550815

**GP14**, £2,950, excellent cond, Dave Mabbutt, 01604 880308

## Do you want to learn to sail?

**Contact Northampton Watersports Centre for all your training needs!**

Isolda Marroquin, Centre Manager, Tel: 01604 880248, e-mail: info@northamptonwatersports.com

**Articles and ideas for the Newsletter are welcome. Deadline for next issue - 15th June**  
**Please send to Rob Jackson at NSC or e-mail to nscnews@dsl.pipex.com**