



ANTRIM BOAT CLUB

News Sheet (No. 8)

WINTER 2006

Message from the Commodore

I am honoured to have been elected Commodore of the Antrim Boat Club for the next year. Thank you for your trust and I will endeavour to represent the interests of all our members to the best of my ability. The new committee is listed below and I want to thank those of the last committee for their sterling service to the Club, to give a special welcome to our new member, Mervyn Holden, and to welcome back Aubrey Kincaid, and ex-commodore Stephen Downes as our new honorary secretary.



The AGM having been postponed until late November, this season's events were well underway before this first News Sheet could be produced. Part 1 of the Winter Series finished with *Fait Accompli* narrowly ahead of *Quickflash* after a most enjoyable series of races in a mix of all weathers from frustrating calms to near tempest conditions. Eight of the 10 races were completed, together with a final pursuit race on 18 December, won by *Jamie Jess*, and with *Eroica* bringing Santa Claus in for the children's party. We were delighted also to have 2 visiting crews from Strangford (the *Sonata*, *Bach Lash*, and another *Starflash*, *Starflash*), making a total fleet of 12 boats. These have certainly livened up the competition, with *Bach Lash* in particular gaining one first and two second places.

We are planning some exciting new events both on the water and socially and I look forward to your support and to meeting as many of you as possible over the next couple of years. Happy boating and very best wishes for 2006!

Alan Reilly

EVENTS DIARY

Winter Series: (Part 2):	10 races	Sundays, 8 January – 11 March
Prize Night:	Winter Series	<u>Saturday</u> 11 March.
ABC Lifeboat Race:		Sunday 19 March.
Summer Series:	8 races	Thursdays, 27 April – 15 June.
Lurgan Regatta:		Saturday 10 June.
Cats Cradle:	Lurgan to Antrim	Sunday 11 June.
ABC Regatta:		Saturday 17 June.
Country Fair Event:	Shane's Castle	Sunday 18 June.
Prize Night:	Summer Series & ABC Regatta	Saturday 17 June.
RB&LN Association Rally:	Ballyronan to Battery	Sat-Sun 29-30 July (<u>Provisional</u>).

WEBCAM

You will have seen from our website [<http://www.antrimboatclub.co.uk>] that our webcam is now operational giving a view of the mouth of the river. We trust you will find this useful before planning your day's racing or boating in general, and we are indebted to Keith McCracken for setting up this facility.

OVERHEARD IN THE BAR

"On Sunday it's better to be out on the Lough thinking about God than in Church thinking about sailing."

Message from the Sailing Secretary

Dinghy racing: To encourage wider participation and to provide some sailing training for beginners (and others!) I propose running a series of Tuesday evening dinghy races after Easter. We now have at least 4 members with GP14s and more will be welcome. If you are interested please contact me at one of the numbers below or by email.

Alfie Mayrs

Messages from the Jetty Master

We are developing several new jetties at the mouth of the river, and have already sunk the piles for these. To help us complete this project I would welcome as many volunteers as possible on a Saturday morning to assist with the platforms. If you would be available, please contact me ASAP at one of the numbers below or by email.

I'm afraid I have to repeat my request that you make sure that your trailer is clearly marked with both your boat's name and your telephone contact number.

Joe Allen

Messages from the Membership Secretary

Prompt payment of membership subscriptions is always a great help, and much appreciated, and I thank all of you who have done so. Those who have *not* yet done so should please contact me ASAP to let me know your intentions for this season.

I must repeat that, in the interests of security, the committee has agreed that the duplication of keys for the gate or any of our premises is not permissible under any circumstances.

William Surgenor

Bridge Club

The Bridge Club meets in the Club House on Monday evenings in the winter months. Please contact Margaret Moore (on 028 9447 2255) or Molly Mayrs (on 028 9446 4310) if you would be interested in joining. We would like to thank them most heartily for this year's very generous Christmas contribution to our Club funds.

Notice to Jetskiers

We are still waiting for a representative to be co-opted to the General Committee.

NEW MARINA NEWS

The plans for this are well under way. Antrim Borough Council has lodged a planning application with the Planning Office, County Hall, Ballymena, and the necessary Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has been commissioned. Funding has been identified and it is expected that, subject to the above approvals, the rock armour will be in place by September 2007. We have also set up our own sub-committee to examine the best options for improvement to our own facilities.

OFFICERS and COMMITTEE (2005-2006)

		Telephone	Mobile	e-mail
Commodore:	Alan Reilly	9445 3840	[079 6898 1238]	alreil@aol.com
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Hon Secretary:	Stephen Downes	9446 2210	[077 4972 1902]	stephen@stephendownes.wanadoo.co.uk
Hon Treasurer:	Colin Grattan	9083 9740		colingrattan@msn.com
Sailing Secretary:	Alfie Mayrs	9446 4310	[077 1434 5222]	mayrs@freuk.com
Membership Sec:	William Surgenor	9084 8553		wsurge@hotmail.com
Jetty Master:	Joe Allen	9446 7726	[078 1345 4878]	joeallen@ntlworld.com
General Committee:	Dave Collier	9332 4326		boatallday@hotmail.com
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