

## ANTRIM BOAT CLUB

[www.antrimboatclub.co.uk/](http://www.antrimboatclub.co.uk/)



News Sheet (No. 20)

SUMMER 2009

### **Message from the Commodore**

This is the time for our annual pause in scheduled activities and to summarise our events since the end of the last Winter Series. The **Hop-On-Board** workshops were well supported and created a demand for more formal training in sailing by a growing number of young members, which is a very welcome development. Unfortunately our Regatta was not so well supported but it was nevertheless a thoroughly enjoyable and closely fought series of three races in brisk and variable conditions. Two boats finished with 7 and two with 8 points, with *Eroica* (David King) the proud winner overall, having achieved a first place in the second race. Six of the 7 races in the Summer Series were sailed with *Silver Girl* (Tony Brady) the overall winner and *Eroica* once again picking up the Helmsman's trophy. The Cat's Cradle race was postponed because of lack of wind and will now be sailed in conjunction with the Loughfest Lap-the-Lough race from Kinnego on 22 August. As you know we will be having our Annual Dinner and Prize Night on Saturday 12 September. Further information and tickets will be available at the end of August.



Our social programme has also been very successful and the "Children's Fun Day" (Friday 3 – Saturday 4 July) was particularly enjoyable as evidenced by one of the participants, Laura Crozier, who wrote: ***"---Camping at the Boat Club was one of the best experiences ever! We made new friends and we toasted marshmallows over a campfire, which felt so American and we stayed up so late. The next day we did windsurfing, banana boating, Atlantic Challenge and the Bernies Burgers were delicious. It was my first ever experience camping and the best too, so thank you to Catherine and everyone else who made it all happen!--"***

Our youngsters, although occasionally unruly, continue to make us proud of them. At the beginning of April, 12 year old James Maxwell in his 10 foot boat "*Too Peachy*" with its 8 hp outboard very efficiently and successfully rescued "*Knot Guilty*", a 25 foot cruiser international 224, from a near disastrous encounter with the rocks on the public side of the entrance to the Six Mile Water.

We are now preparing for the prestigious Atlantic Challenge weekend (30 July-2 August) when we expect about 100 guests, including several from Russia, Finland and Canada, and 5 visiting boats. I hope we will all make them feel welcome and do what we can to help Charlie McAllister and Alistair Begg and their team who have put an enormous amount of work into preparing for this event. In particular, I would like as many members as possible to turn up at 10.00 am on Saturday the 25 July to help with a Clean Up day. All members will also be welcome at the social events on the evenings of Friday (31 July) and Saturday (1 August).

Finally we will be having our annual Loughfest Open Day a month later on Saturday 29 August. Who will ever forget the storms that greeted last year's event? Hopefully the fates will be kinder this year and I look forward to as much support from members as possible, since everyone has something to offer either by skippering or crewing a boat, helping with administration or catering or even simply moving furniture or tidying up the jetties.

Thank you all who continue to work so hard to keep our Club vibrant, friendly and good fun.

**David King**

## EVENTS DIARY

● Home Counties Regatta:	Atlantic Challenge	Thursday 30 July – Sunday 2 August.
● RB&LN Assoc. Bann Rally:		Friday 31 July – Saturday 1 August.
● Cat's Cradle (postponed date):		Saturday 22 August.
● Loughfest "Lap-the-Lough" race (LNSC):		Saturday 22 August.
● Loughfest ABC "Open Day":		Saturday 29 August.
● Annual Dinner & Prize Night:		Saturday 12 September.
● Hallowe'en Party:		Saturday 31 October.
● Christmas Dinner:		Saturday 19 December.
● Children's Christmas Party:		Sunday 20 December.

## Message from the Bar Convenor

### Temporary paid bar staff required.

Volunteers are always welcome to do a session at the bar, particularly during the Atlantic Challenge event from Wednesday night (29 July) to Sunday (2 August). A small remuneration will be available for those helping me over those 5 days. Please contact me ASAP. Thank you.

Alan Reilly

## OVERHEARD IN THE BAR

"The phantom sign fiend has struck again (car park)."

## CLEAN UP DAY

### Tasks for Saturday 25 July

1. Litter lifted around the skip and both boat parks.
2. Beach cleared of driftwood and litter.
3. Beach slipway cleared.
4. BBQ area cleaned - including BBQ's and cobwebs etc cleaned from under deck.
5. Jetties - grass strimmed and litter removed.
6. Both slipways cleared of debris.
7. Grass cut at front and around camping area.
8. Windows of clubhouse cleaned - inside and out.
9. Burgers cooked.

***If you can help with any of these, please report to Catherine Millar at 10.00 am. A free "Pint 'n Burger" will be provided for all helpers. Thank you!***

## Current Work in Progress

You will have noticed that tremendous progress is being made with the final repairs to the jetties and the safety boat slipway. The barrier has, unfortunately, been vandalised yet again. A new gate is being made, which we hope to provide with a new locking system, but is unlikely to be in place before September. In the meantime it is more important than ever to take personal responsibility for the security of your boat and any valuable items.

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