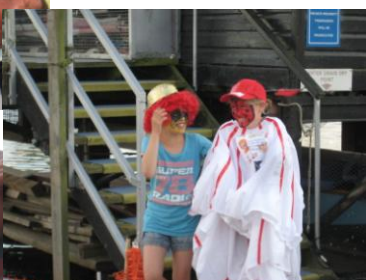


This seems to have been one of the best summers for sailing that I can remember, with good winds, not too many northerlies, and fair weather even if not hot.

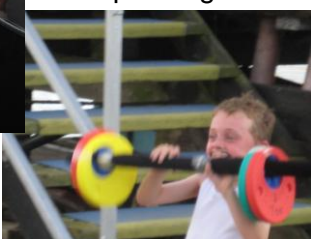
Weed has been a problem over the past few weeks but hopefully this is starting to diminish as the water temperature drops.

A quick look back on some of the recent events we have enjoyed at the club.

The Regatta was well attended with fine weather and a great hog roast in the evening. We also saw the X1 dinghy and some of the youngsters certainly enjoyed their sail on it. Did you see the videos on our website?



We had a good parade of Circus characters by the younger members of the club and thanks to George, Chris & Karen Bell for organising the face painting.



The Senior Sail, a new organiser this year Tony Stride having stepped down after many years of doing an excellent job. Roger Ward, taking the helm this year, organised a good day despite the rain and power cuts.



Quiz Night many thanks to Sonja and Alan Henderson for a super quiz, also to Mary and Malcolm for the hot dogs. A really well attended event and enjoyed by everyone who was there.

Chichester Rally a brilliant sail across the harbour with representatives from each class turning out for the day. A good number of club members met up with the sailors in the Coal Barge for lunch and we had a good turnout for the traditional tea in the car park at Itchenor after the sailing.



The Magpie Race had favourable conditions which enabled the majority of boats taking part, to sail up to the Magpie where the winner, Phil Dalby, had a valiant try to down the yard of ale.

The GP Open was a very breezy day which saw a number of capsizes and some great spectator sport. Many of the spectators on both banks were there to see David Walliams pass as part of his sponsored "Swim the Thames", but I am sure they enjoyed watching the sailing whilst waiting.



The Enterprise Open saw another fine day although with much lighter winds than for the GP Open, 12 boats taking part in an enjoyable days racing.



The Ladies and Youth Regatta a total of 6 boats took part on a beautiful late summer's day. The weather was certainly kind to us as we had yet another sunny day, with a barbecue afterwards.



Noah Shankster receiving his prize

The Merlin Vintage Open had seventeen boats taking part in what was to be a great day's sailing with a fair wind in the afternoon after a considerable postponement before the first race. A curry evening followed which was much enjoyed by all who were there.



The Merlin Open, the morning started with bacon butties, a great start to the day. With 28 boats the racing had to be sailed in flights, always interesting for the duty officer, in this case me, especially as the first start had to be postponed through lack of wind. Fortunately the wind did come up in the afternoon and six starts were fitted in.



The Opening of the Club Lawn followed on from the Long Distance race and was a very well attended occasion with glasses of bubbly enjoyed by all. Thanks to those that helped prepare the lawn for the opening.

Ella Heath did us the honour of cutting the ribbon at the official opening of the club lawn.



Congratulations to our two teams who took part in the **Great River Race**, a cold wet and windy day, so well done for raising over £1000 for the **Shooting Star Chase** charity. Also well done to the "waitresses" who served tea, on the 9th October, in aid of the **Macmillan** charity, they raised over £150 and gave those that were there a real treat.

Just a quick reminder, if you are coming to the Laying Up Dinner Dance and haven't already done so, please return your acceptance, with cheque, to Maureen.

We are having two working parties on 4th/5th November to prepare the site and to extend the jetty on the Club Lawn. We could do with as much help as possible, talk to me or Steve Harridge if you can assist.

Looking further ahead, we do need members to commit to attending the winter working parties, it is important for the health of the club that we get good turnouts.

I hope that you have found the newsletters of interest and that you have had the opportunity to see some of the photos that have recently been put on our website. www.hamptonsailingclub.com

We are fast approaching the end of our two years of office and cannot believe how quickly the time has passed. We thank everyone for their support for without this the club would not be as strong as it is.

Here's looking forward to an enjoyable "Frostbite" series.

Derek & Mary