

County Antrim Yacht Club

Newsletter



Commodore's Night – Saturday 16 February

Dates for your Diary

COMMODORE'S NIGHT
Saturday 16 February

BIG SCREEN
6 NATIONS RUGBY
Check schedule for times

St Patrick's Night
Saturday 15 March

ICEBREAKER SERIES
Starts - Sunday 16 March

Cycle to Glenarm
Saturday 29 March

OPENING DAY
Saturday 26 April

FLYING 15 EVENT
Saturday 31 May

PICNIC SAIL PORTMUCK
Saturday 7 June

MIDSUMMER BBQ
Saturday 21 June

JUNIOR REGATTA DAY
Saturday 28 June

RESCUE SERVICES
RAFT RACE
Saturday 2 August

REGATTA DAY
Saturday 9 August

RAMBLING SECTION

The latest walk was along the Lagan Tow Path from Lisburn City Council offices to the Stranmillis Embankment finishing at Cutters Wharf. 21 keen walkers took part on a glorious day in January. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves and the next walk is provisionally planned for **Saturday 12 April**. Keep a close watch on the Club Notice Board or contact Lennie Entwistle.

JUNIOR SAILING

Robbie Nixon and Robbie Coburn have been training with the NI Topper Squad throughout the winter months. Reports on their progress have been very encouraging. Well done guys.

Last year we ran a Saturday morning race training session for 10 weeks which proved to be extremely successful and enjoyable. Rory, Sheela, Gavin and John will be organising this again this year. The start date will be **Saturday 5 April** and we would expect those who were involved last year and some who have now completed Stage 3 or have the vast majority of Stage 2 completed to participate. The Race Coaches will provide further detail on this soon.

TABLE QUIZ

Just a reminder that the Quiz will be held on the 3rd Friday of every month. During the winter months

this is a very enjoyable evening, made even more comfortable by the heating system (just in case you had forgotten since last winter). In addition to this, a Whitehead Primary School PTA Quiz is provisionally organised in the Club for **Saturday 8 March**.

DUCK DERBY FUNDRAISING

The Duck Derby on Sunday 30 December was definitely something different. What a sight!!! All 1000 yellow plastic ducks were released and all returned 'unharmd'. Thank you to the big crowd who came to watch and to everyone for joining in the fun and buying ducks. Also, many thanks to all who provided prizes.

Congratulations to Mary Stanbridge who had the winning duck, but who very kindly donated her £100 winnings back into the funds raised. Amazingly she also had the 5th placed duck as well. Any odds on that??? Thank you also to David Jamison who delivered the 'contestants' back to their 'home' in Dublin.

We managed to make approx. £2,100 towards the fund raising total of £5,000 which we committed to this year. The intention is to run additional events to make up the difference. This will be through a Wine Tasting Night (provisionally April), Mid Summer BBQ, SeaFood Night and an Entertainment Quiz. Of course any other good suggestions will be promoted.

BUILDING SPORT UPDATE

As you all may know by now there was a Special General Meeting of the Club in January to accept the award from Sport NI. A presentation of the progress to date, costs, risks, benefits etc. was provided along with details of the proposed design. The General Room was full and after a very useful and positive session there was a unanimous vote by the Membership to accept the Award of £421,500 and move towards a formal Planning submission.

We are approx. £75k short at the moment, but as indicated at the SGM additional grant funding is being sought. We also hope to raise funds through contact with local businesses. Carrick Borough Council has been advised of the situation with letters sent to the Mayor and Local Councillors for the area.

Our local MP, Sammy Wilson has been informed and he subsequently replied within a few days congratulating the Club and confirming his support. A letter has also been sent to HRH, The Duke of York inviting him to re-open the Clubhouse when completed in June 2009 if everything goes to plan. This would tie in with the Centenary of the current clubhouse which was officially opened on 5 June 1909.

Detailed plans have been finalised and a meeting is scheduled to be held with Sport NI on 12 February to confirm their agreement before submission to the Planning Service. The intention is to try and commence building in September/October, if possible, to allow the work to be completed over the winter. It will take approx. 9 months to complete everything and the Club will be closed during this period.

Other grant applications have been submitted, but we are not always successful. The grant application to

'The Foundation for Sport and the Arts' for £8,000 was unsuccessful. This would have gone specifically towards a new Safety Boat. The plan is to submit a further grant application to 'Awards for All' in August as we must wait 12 months since our last application which was successful for £10,000. We will keep you updated. The battle continues!!!!

GOLF SOCIETY

At last we have managed to defeat the Larne 'Brigade' at the annual Christmas golf outing to Larne Golf Club. This year we had a number of new faces and the day was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Well done to John Phillips for winning overall.

The 'Handicap Committee' is of course reviewing all scores for the next 'bash'. Thank you to all concerned for supporting the day and there is now definitely talk of forming a Golf Society to add yet another sporting activity to our extensive list. (There is talk of a Motor Bike Section being formally set up. No shortage of Members for that one. Where will all this end???)

SAILING PREPARATION

The Ice Breaker Series commences on **Sunday 16 March** so not long to go. We have already been actively sourcing sponsors for the 2008 season. Almost £5,000 has been raised which is fantastic news. To date we have the following on board and possibly more in the pipeline:

Isherwood & Ellis
HG Canning & Co Ltd
AES Kilroot
James Macaulay (Solicitors)
Cable Service Station
Tweed Fuels
Balmoral Estates
Allianz Insurance
Eurotech Fire & Safety

NK Fencing
Regatta Day

SUBWAY have very kindly agreed to sponsor the event which is a tremendous boost to the Club. A big thankyou to Paul Hayes as this is much appreciated.

A full compliment of Sponsors is very important to maintain the events that we host. If anyone is aware of additional sponsors please speak to Stephen Foster.

CYCLING SECTION

As part of the requirement to encourage fitness and adhere to our Sports Development Plan which we must meet to retain the funding from Sport NI, there will be a cycle to Glenarm on **Saturday 29 March** leaving the Club at 10.00am. No sponsorship required this time!!

On **Sunday 21 September** the intention is to participate in the Madigan Cycle charity event starting from Ballygally. You can do 20 miles to Carnlough and back or 50 miles to Cushendun and back. Normal entry fee is £10/£15. Last year there were just over 200 cyclists so a good challenge to look forward to. Please let John Lewis know if you are willing to do either or both of these events, but we are now being monitored by Sport NI for the next 5 years so we need your participation.

KAYAK/CANOE SECTION

Watch the notice board in the Club for latest information, or contact Jim Bothwell, Raymond Patton or David Jamison as they will be able to keep you updated on planned activities.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Membership Fees are now due. Many Members now pay by Direct Debit which is a superb way of reducing

administration. Any queries, please contact Gary Stanbridge.



Please send us an email and we will keep you informed about the Club on a regular basis. Send us your mobile no. for text alerts on various events.

<mailto:sail@cayc.freeserve.co.uk>

Web : www.cayc.freeserve.co.uk

That's all the news for now!!!!