



East Antrim Boat Club

# Main Sheet

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## THE COMMODORES SUMMER COMMENTS.....

Oh the summer time is leaving, or left, or did it even arrive, but we soldiered on and made the best of a bad thing. The Tuesday / Thursday night series had its usual lots of wind, no wind, and some wind dying later, with in between some tight racing. Tom Jobling flew the flag around the Belfast Lough regattas, Alan Knox won at County Antrim's Regatta, 2 flying fifteens went to both the Northern and Eastern championships with William and Hammie also going to Dun Laoghaire (least said.....) Our juniors had a whale of a time, according to their parents' empty pockets, with Katie, Gary, and Andrew doing fantastic at the World Championships. Well done guys. Mike Chapman went off on what seems to becoming his annual round Ireland cruise while we thought the Rainey's had moved to Scotland they were over there so often.

The Regatta was a great week-end with the weather God's smiling on us and some great racing. Once again we had great comments from our visitors who had a great time and are once again looking forward to returning next year.

Our long term cruisers on "Baloo" are enjoying themselves around the Med (and who wouldn't) and hopefully we will see them at Christmas if not before.

Before then, how-ever, we have lots to be getting on with. The R.Y.A. Volvo Championships are nearly upon us followed quickly by the Flying Fifteen Western Championships (yes I know we are on the East coast but this IS Ireland after all!!!) and not forgetting our annual Prize Giving. I would like to ask all our members to try to attend the prize giving as this is an important date in any sailing clubs calendar and a chance for members to catch up with each

other. So go on, put the date in your diary, come along and enjoy yourselves and make use of YOUR club. Pat.

## Yard Notice

All members are requested to clean-up the area surrounding your boat. Unused and unwanted items should be disposed off. Members who have items stored around the winch house door are requested to remove these urgently to accommodate Club development plans. Please remove these items otherwise they may be removed by the yard committee.

Space is at a premium all around the Club including the dinghy park. The General Committee would appreciate if Club Members would voluntarily remove seldom used dinghies and trailers from the dinghy park to free-up much needed space.

## Club Security Gate

Members are requested to refrain from putting obstacles in front of the sensor at the Clubs gate to keep the gate open as **this is causing damage to the mechanism** of the gate and may compromise Club security. A sign has been placed on the gate to instruct members and visitors to phone into the Club to gain access. The Committee are investigating ways of leaving the gate open for prolonged periods during special events etc. which will not harm the gate mechanisms.

## Visitors

Members are reminded that all visitors are to be signed in by a member. The visitors book can be found in the main hall at the entrance to the bar area.

## Just a Wee Thought

*Its human nature to be suspicious about the validity of the various offers and coupons which it seems now daily thrust themselves through our letter boxes however sometimes real discounting can occur.*

*Such is the case with the current Indespension offer the detail of which is/was posted on the Club notice board...*

*... I have been dithering for some time now on whether or not to fit a tow-bar, change the car, or continue to do nothing except moan about the cost of things.*

*However I finally decided to – well revisit – reopen negotiations; firstly an internet search just left even more undecided so then in a decisive frame one Thursday in June and in between the ‘summer’ showers I made a dash for Mallusk to extract a fresh round of quotes – expecting the worst.*

*The worst however never came because not only had the price over the counter reduced significantly – austere times can also be positive times – but the extra 10% discount available to ‘Boat Club members made the final decision easy.*

*How does it work? Well first of all it is definitely a real offer but you [probably] need to be a bit careful on how you play your coupon card.*

*Here’s my tip: On what ever you’re intent on purchasing from Indespension make sure that you have pre-priced a similar piece of equipment from an alternative supplier whether that be from the internet, eBay (adding on delivery) or indeed a stockist addressed locally (add in the costs of fuel if you are happy to drive long distances.) and confirm that it is in stock.*

*Only when you receive your [Indespension] quote do you produce your valid membership card*

*together with a copy of the company’s authorising letter (available from Hon Sec.) asking “Is this scheme still valid?” Showing your membership card too early will only allow the sales person the opportunity to mark up by 10% prior to discounting.*

*It worked for me, and Robert Adams and a number of other sailors around the Province, so it can work for you too...*

*Of course any 10% offer will only return a significant saving on ‘big number items’ remembering that for example that such a saving on say a £30 item is only £3... What’s the price of a litre of fuel these days?*

*It also begs the question; Here’s one scheme initiated commercially so one therefore must assume that being a member of a club is commercially attractive - why then don’t we (EABC) via our General Committee approach local businesses in the same vein, but with the initiative very much, member focused?*

*Just a wee thought  
Tom Jobling*

## Rib Challenge

***The 2011 Northern Ireland Honda RYA Youth Rib Championship, age group 13 – 16 years was won by EABC’s Gary Fekkes on 2<sup>nd</sup> July at Quoile Yacht Club. Well done to Gary!***

***Gary now goes forward to represent Northern Ireland and EABC at the UK finals to be held at Southampton Boat Show on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2011. We wish Gary good luck and fortune in his endeavours in Southampton,***

## Juniors

Two very successful week long Junior Sailing Courses and a Junior “Sunday Morning” set of lessons were held over the summer encouraging many young sailors onto the water. A big thank you to all concerned, particularly the organisers and instructors.

This summer saw the successful running of a Junior Regatta on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August which attracted 18 entries which included visiting boats

from Whitehead and Holywood. Again a big thank you to all concerned and a special thank you to our sponsor Mark Wilson.

## Winter Bar Hours

Wed 8.00pm – 11.00pm  
Fri 6.00pm – 11.00pm  
Sat 4.00pm- 10.00pm  
Sun 12.30pm – 6.30pm

## Entertainments Committee News and Update

We sincerely hope the members of EABC have enjoyed the events over the past months. The first function the newly formed entertainment committee ran was the tapas evening in March, 96 members attended this event and made it a most successful and enjoyable evening. Some members arrived in the most inventive of costumes and strutted their 'stuff' on the dance floor.

The month of April was the Royal Wedding so we decided to run a ladies afternoon with champagne and canapés. This was very well attended by the most impeccably dressed ladies.

It was decided that we would run a wine and cheese party for the May ball. Many members attended this successful evening and brought guests to enjoy the entertainment late into the evening.

During Regatta weekend in July we organised some Irish music in the bar area on the Saturday afternoon and then had a wonderful lively band in for entertainment in the evening.

Sadly the laying up dinner had to be cancelled as the date clashed with various sailing events, plus many members were unavailable due to last minute holiday reservations.

We feel it has been a very successful year of good quality, all round entertainment. Suggestions or comments welcomed and ideas will be taken on board for possible future events.

### Reminder of forthcoming dates for your diary

October 22<sup>nd</sup>- A night at the races.  
November 12<sup>th</sup>-Annual dinner dance with live music.  
December 4<sup>th</sup>- Islandmagee Cruising Club, Christmas Dinner.

December 11<sup>th</sup>- EABC Christmas dinner.  
Menu to follow. (Book early)

December 18<sup>th</sup>- Children's party.

December 24<sup>th</sup>- Commodores Christmas Eve reception. Start Christmas with drinks and nibbles at the boat club.

December 27<sup>th</sup>- Christmas Dinghy Regatta with prize giving and sit down dinner.  
Menu to follow. (Book early)

December 31<sup>st</sup>- New Years Eve family night,  
Music , food arrangements to follow.

Sunday lunches will resume soon, please watch the notice board for dates and menus.

Many thanks from all on the entertainment committee for your past and continued support, only you, the members, can make these functions successful by your attendance.

**Friday night teas have started again in the Club at 6.30pm**

***Soup and Sandwiches every Sunday from 12.30pm at the Bar.***

**The Clubs Annual Prize giving will be held in the Clubhouse on Sat 8<sup>th</sup> October. Please remember to return trophies to Richard Doig or leave behind the bar all beautifully cleaned (please)!**

## Sailing Update

The 2011 main series began with a slow start due to the precipitous nature of April and May but the number of boats picked up throughout June, July and August with mostly good sailing conditions throughout.

In June we ran the Maidens race with eight boats taking part on what turned out to be a very pleasant sunny afternoon with moderate breeze.

The Kitson cup was also held in June with a reasonable turnout.

July consisted of our Regatta and the Doig cup/Adams trophy.

The Regatta consisted of two Olympic style races on Saturday and two back to back on the Sunday. Turnout was good with visitors attending from Belfast Lough with excellent brisk sailing conditions this event went down very well with locals and visitors alike.

The Doig cup/Adams trophy consisted of three Olympic races on the Saturday followed by a long round the cans race on the Sunday. Again this was well supported with good brisk sailing conditions.

The Crews and RNLI races along with the junior Regatta took place in August and were all well supported.

The Ashton trophy for FF's was unfortunately cancelled due to severe conditions and it has been decided for this year to award this trophy to the best placed EABC boat at the Halloween Regatta on Sun 30<sup>th</sup> October.

Upcoming events for your diary include –

*Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> Sept*  
***RYA Volvo Youth Championships***

*Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> & Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October*  
***Flying Fifteen Westerns***

*Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> Oct*  
***EABC Prize Giving***

*Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> Oct*  
***Halloween Regatta***

*Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> Nov – Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec*  
***EABC Winter Series***

*Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Dec*  
***Christmas Regatta and Prize Giving***

The Sailing committee would like to express its sincere thanks and gratitude to all who helped out with events and especially to Mr William Rollins for his expert boat handling abilities, patience and sense of humour whilst performing rescue and water taxi services.

## **TOPPER WORLDS IN IRELAND**

Last, but not least, a big well done to the three EABC sailors who took part in the Topper World Championships which took place this year at the National Yacht Club in Dun Laoghaire on 14<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> August.

After two days qualifying, the 175 entries were divided into Bronze, Silver and Gold fleets. All three sailors made it into the Gold Fleet from which a World Champion is selected. After a further three days racing and 14 races in mixed weather our three sailors finished in the top thirty five in the Gold Fleet with the following overall positions by the final day

24<sup>th</sup> – Katie Kane

25<sup>th</sup> – Andrew Penney

32<sup>nd</sup> – Gary Fekkes

Well done guys !!



L to R: Andrew, Katie and Gary

*Any member who would like an article put into the Mainsheet please email your document to [mainsheet@eabc.org](mailto:mainsheet@eabc.org)*