

PSC Newsletter Dec 09

Hello Everyone,

As your new Commodore I couldn't resist the opportunity to write a few words. Yes, it is that time of year again. Enclosed you will find your annual club membership renewal form for 2010. Subscriptions have gone up a little compared to 2009 levels to take into account increases in fuel, rates, rents and insurance. **Please note the discount if you submit your renewal application before the end of January.**

There has been quite a change in the membership of the **General Committee** for next year with a good representation now of the younger element in the club. We will endeavour to make improvements wherever we can so that the club continues to flourish. One of the key areas for improvement is **communications**, particularly in getting information out to club members. We will continue with newsletters sent through the post two or three times a year, but rely more on putting out information of immediate impact on the internet, using Emails for announcements, reminders etc and the club website for results, rotas, minutes, reports etc. So be sure to check your Emails and the club website at least weekly.

Another activity we are keen to promote is **training** because it brings in revenue and new members and raises skill levels. We now have a training Co-ordinator (Paul Johnson) on the committee in addition to the Chief Instructor (Graham Slater) so that the year's training is prioritised, publicised and administered to the greatest effect.

The Council's proposed plans for the redevelopment of the harbourside and the relocation of the club to **Broadsands** is a constant talking point. The Broadsands project as outlined to the General Committee by the Torbay Development Agency and to the AGM by Roger Gater is an ambitious one. The large building would not only house the sailing club but also facilities for other maritime sports such as canoeing, wind-surfing, rowing, community sail training for young people, and so on. Meetings with the TDA so far, though useful, have not given the club much of an indication on what the terms for any move would be, what help would be available or when work on the project would start. Our best guess is that we will not be looking at making the move for another 5 years. A timescale of only 3 years has been mooted but this does not seem likely.

At the AGM, after Roger's briefing, those present were in favour that PSC should continue to be associated with the project and accept an offer by the TDA to have a place on their project board when set up. The club will also set up a small steering group to ensure the best interests of the club are served. Any decision to move to Broadsands will have to be taken by all the members at a special AGM and only after all the factors, plus and minus, have been taken into account. Potentially the project could be a massive boost for the club, but in the meantime, despite the uncertainty, we still have a club to run. We must not allow it to stagnate. So it will be business as usual and our resolve to have fun and make improvements year on year will continue.

Have a great Christmas and New Year
John Maynard