

The Latest Chapter

News from the National Twelve Owners Association

APRIL 2010

The Latest Chapter is a new monthly electronic newsletter to those on the N12 e-mail list which is run by the National Twelve Owners Association. Membership of the NTOA is £17.50 a year. NTOA membership offers great benefits including having the right to vote on the Class Rules, obtain generous insurance discounts as well as discounted entry to our principal events.

Burton Week 2010 – just 55 days to go!

The 54 Burton Week entries received on 1 March went into the hat and Tom Stewart pulled out Caroline Martin as the winner of the raffle for a new P&B jib.

There is still time to enter before the late entry deadline of 1 May. Details, including the Notice of Race, Entry Form and a current list of entrants can be found on www.burtonweek.org Get your entries in now!

We are fortunate to have a number of sponsors already committed to Burton Week 2010 including:

[P&B](#), [GILL](#), [Aardspars](#), [Fuller's Brewery](#), [Designs 42](#)

Need Burton Week Accommodation?

There is one bed left in the girls dorm at Boscawen House, just a short walk from WPNSA. All you need to do is to call Tim Gatti on 07790 615800 to reserve it. Click [here](#) for another link to other accommodation options.

Burton Week – Safety Boats

We will be hiring our Safety Boat ribs from the WPNSA - some of the Crews will be provided locally but if you are going to be at the event and think you can help in this area we'd be pleased to hear from you. If you haven't already volunteered your services as a driver or crew and would like to do so, then please contact me as soon as possible by via email or phone. Drivers will need a current RYA Powerboat Level 2 qualification. There is no formal qualification requirement for crews.

Burton Week Facebook / Twitter

For those of you on Facebook there is a Burton Week page. Become a fan [here](#)!

Twitter users can follow Burton Week too on @BurtonWeek and we will use Twitter to provide instant news to the friends and family that you leave at home to come to Burton Week.

Handicap Sailors

The RYA have recently announced that the N12 Portsmouth Yardstick (PY) is now 1089, having previously been 1092. This improvement equates to approximately 11 seconds in 60 minutes, an improvement of 0.3%. For those members sailing older boats remember that the NTOA publishes some suggested age adjusted handicaps in the Annual Booklet. You may wish to take these to your club handicapper. Note that these are based on the performance of the boat at the time it was built – to the extent that your boat has been subsequently pimped – be it mylar sails, down the mast jib stick, carbon rudder they may not be entirely appropriate.

The RYA expect to adjust PY ratings more frequently in future based on returns from your club. If you don't like the outcome that you are getting then make sure that your club is providing a return. You could even volunteer to do the job yourself!

Extra Midland Area Event

North Staff SC are hosting an extra event on Saturday 10th April. More details [here](#)

NTOA General Committee 2010/2011

The AGM of the NTOA will be held during Burton Week. The Class is run by volunteers. This year's AGM will witness the coronation of Howard Chadwick as Chairman. If you would like to be involved then please get in touch with Tim Gatti on 07790 615800

Open Meeting Reports

Please send your open meeting reports to Graham Camm on webmaster@national12.org so that they can be published. Send them direct to mark@yachtsandyachting.com to get them published in Y&Y. Send photos to both of these addresses too!

All reports provide us with good publicity. Please send something in!

New Boat News

New National 12s are emerging all across the country

- N3525 Dead Cat Bounce – Michael Airey
- N3526 Dead Cat Bounce – Tom Stewart
- N3527 Dead Cat Bounce – Kevin Iles
- N3528 Dead Cat Bounce – Jon Ibbotson
- N3529 Dead Cat Bounce – Andy Mckee
- N3530 Dead Cat Bounce – Graham Camm
- N3531 ??? – ???
- N3532 Curiosity – Gavin Willis

No numbers yet for the Paradigm 2s...

Secondhand Boat News

On the second hand list right now... Feeling Foolish, Big Issue 2, Final Chapter, Design 8, Baggy Trousers, Cheshire Cat, Tigress, Smuggler, Mark 9, Mark 8, Holt 500. Click [here](#) to make your purchase! Search further and find bits for sale. There is a carbon mast on offer if you want to upgrade to one.

Annandale Date Confusion

An error on the N12 photo Calendar shows an event at Annandale on 1& 2 May as well as the correct dates of 17 & 18 April. Apologies for any confusion caused.

GILL SERIES

Round one was at Burghfield SC – Click [here](#) for a report.

Current Leaders:

Overall	Tom Stewart & Elisabeth Ross
Admirals Cup	Tom White & Maria Gidley
Youth	Arthur & Mandy Henderson
Family	Mike & Alex Storey

You would never have guessed it!

Whilst much of the N12 world has gone new boat crazy with multiple launches of Dead Cat Bounces, Paradigms and Gavin Willis also in build mode, Steve Norbury and Andy Hill have been putting funny rudders on the back of their Feeling Foolish. Results to date have been very impressive, winning a race at the Hamble Warming Pan ahead of Jo Richards and Sophie Mackley and also winning a race at the Burghfield GILL Series meeting ahead of Tom Stewart and Graham Camm. Very interesting! The rudder was supplied by Composite Craft.

RYA Dinghy Show

The RYA Dinghy Show at Alexandra Palace feature three Twelves including the unveiling of the Composite Craft and P&B versions of the Dead Cat Bounce. Accompanying the Composite Craft boat was Tim Gatti's 74 year old Uffa King "Mat". There was certainly something for everyone.

Thanks to Chris Day and Sophie Richards for running the show, and to Tom Stewart, Michael Airey and Tim for making their boats the stars of the show.

N12 Merchandise

GILL Burton Week 2010 Rash Vests. From XS to XL, £25. Kids sizes to order

National 12 burgees – various colours, £7.50 – stocks are running low!

The National Twelve Handbook 1936 – 2010, £15

For more details, please email Katy Meadowcroft on merchandise@national12.org

75 Years Old – Vintage Wing Survey

2011 represents 75 years of National 12 sailing and we will be seeking to commemorate this with some excellent racing and social events during the year.

In order to support our activities Ken Goddard is surveying all Vintage Twelves. Ken writes...

Some months ago, while thinking about the 75th Anniversary of the class next year, it occurred to me that alongside the main celebrations, we ought to highlight the significant number of old Twelves which still exist, which illustrate how attractive and durable our boats are and provide a visible heritage of the class. The Vintage Wing, which represents the oldest boats, encompasses all wooden, clinker-built craft and I discussed this with Howard Chadwick, current Vintage Wing Chairman; he supported this suggestion.

Members may remember that I undertook such a survey for four or five years in the middle of the last decade and published the results in 2007. These showed that about 320 vintage boats were considered to be around and this included a guess of another 20 – 30 boats which simply had not been seen over the study period. In fact, since that survey I have recorded another 20 or so boats, of whose continued existence I was unaware.

For this new survey, which will last about a year, I have wiped the slate clean of all the previously recorded boats. I am now asking **all** members (including good friends in the existing Vintage Wing Series events, whose boats I know well), who own vintage Twelves, or know of any boats lying forlornly in dinghy parks etc, to send to me an email giving the following information,

Sail Number(s)

Owner's name

Location (ie, home, club, or elsewhere – I don't need full addresses)

A few words to summarise the condition of the boat, eg, "seaworthy/ in racing condition/under restoration/abandoned", or whatever.

Please address your email to goddards.peartreehouse@btinternet.com or write to me at my address in the Annual Booklet.

Ken Goddard (N.2300 *Duodecimal*)

Accidents... Good News this month

Derek Davies, recently injured whilst skiing is now out of his back brace and was spotted at the Gill Series meeting at Burghfield. The learning point from the accident is to look at what is on the other side of the ridge that you are about to go over before going over it...

Do your kids want to go sailing on their own?

We are working with the Cadet Class to give children who are graduating from Cadets the opportunity to try a National 12. On the other hand, your kids may want to go sailing on their own right now. The Cadets are keen to recruit them! Dave Croft has sailed 12s since the year dot and his

daughters Abigail and Caroline have sailed Cadets for the last few years. Dave will be at Burton Week as we are sharing WPNSA with the Cadet Class. We will be seeking to get as many Cadet Sailors on the water in 12s during Burton Week as we can.

Dave has put the following article together for us.

There are many options open to parents who want to introduce their children to our great sport. My experience as youngster many years ago was that many of my peers were put off by being forced to crew dad in an adult class. Rosemary and I decided to get our children their own boat and we found ourselves involved in Cadets after a chance meeting with Will and Mandy Henderson (who should need no introduction to 12 sailors) at Tamesis some years ago. This has turned out to be a great experience for our children. The class is very friendly and the children are a very nice bunch. The racing is competitive but clean and fun, just like the 12's in fact!

About the Cadet

The Cadet is a junior class of boat, which, like the 12 is sailed by a crew of two. Currently it is the only purpose-made two-handed boat among the RYA junior classes and almost certainly the most competitive. The boat was designed by Jack Holt some sixty odd years ago specifically so that adults would not be able to fit in! The boats are one-design but there is some scope for tiny changes within the build tolerances and over the years boats from various builders have subtle differences, happily this has not resulted in performance differences! The rig is also one-design but allows for sails from any sailmaker and for different makes of spar to be used. In more recent years the class has enforced builders of only the Mk 4 version which is a GRP boat but last year wooden boats have been allowed once more. The wooden boats are popular in the UK, Belgium and the Netherlands, with GRP being more common in other countries. The wooden boats look beautiful and are treasured by their owners. The GRP boats have a more open cockpit design and are probably a little easier to sail; they come up almost dry from a capsize and so are best for the novices. The boats are easy to sail but are sensitive, they require experience and good handling to get the best out of them.

Starting off.

Most children start sailing Cadets as a crew under the guidance of an older and more experienced helm. The helms will often have a great deal of experience and knowledge which they can then pass down to the new crews and therefore ensure rapid progress for the beginners. The Cadet provides a three sail experience where the helm and the crew must work together as a team to obtain the best results. Typically crews will start at 8 or 9 years of age and then begin to helm at 12 or 13 but this is largely dependant on size and ability. The class finishes for children in their 17th year.

Racing and Training

As with most classes racing begins at club level usually in conjunction with on and off the water training. When the children are comfortable with the basic skills of sailing, they will try the odd open meeting or attend one of the many open training sessions run at Cadet clubs around the country. For the more experienced, focus is put on the "indicator" events which will result in a national ranking. Zone championships are held at the end of each season, these will be the gateway into RYA Zone squads which are heavily sponsored and provide excellent training through the winter months. The Zone squads are aimed at the younger sailors (12/13's). The National Junior Squad (NJS) is more intensive and takes the top 8 under 15's (as in the national ranking) with a view to raising their game, getting into the world squad (top 7 Cadets) and (if you follow the RYA pathway) to transition to the youth classes. There is a Cadet National Squad (run by the class association - UKNCCA) for the top, older sailors who may be over the age for NJS. These squads and the training they provide are

superb and is part of the reason why GBR has had so much success in dinghy racing on the world scene in recent years.

At the National Championships over 100 cadets will gather to compete for the many trophies and prizes. These events provide a fantastic opportunity to children to meet new friends and enjoy the various social activities.

Internationally

The Cadet Class is not just restricted to the UK, and each year a team is selected following a series of Indicator events to compete in the World Championships. These championships have taken place in Australia, Argentina, India and various European countries. Many UK Cadet sailors travel to Belgium and Holland, the Flanders Youth Regatta in early July is a great event and very popular (especially as it means a few days off school!).,

In Summary

The Cadet Class has provided both my children with some excellent training and racing but perhaps most importantly they have developed a love for dinghy racing and have made many good friends in the both the UK and in other countries. I am sure a lot of these friendships will be life-long. Last year we travelled to Belgium and to Argentina to compete which in turn has been a great experience. My youngest daughter Abigail was crewed by Mathew Shorrock, they were a great team and qualified to go the World championships in Argentina. Many 12 sailors will remember Matt's dad Andy for winning the Burton when he was 16! Also in Argentina was Arthur Henderson (Will's son) who is the current Cadet National Champion and also his sister Mary who entered the promotional regatta.

I know the children will look back on their years in the Cadet with many fond memories. The parents we have met have been great too and we have made new friends and also renewed many old friendships and acquaintances. It has been a fantastic experience for us all and one I would strongly recommend.

Dave Croft N2935, Close To the Edge

2010 Fixtures

The **2010 Fixture List** has been published on the website, click [here](#) to link to it. A reminder of the seven remaining GILL Series dates below:

1 – 3 May	Salcombe YC
29 May – 1 June	Weymouth & Portland NSA– This is also Burton Week
26 – 27 June	Hykeham SC – This is also the Summer Event
28 – 29 August	Solway YC – This is also the Scottish Championships
18 – 19 September	Grafham Water SC – This is also the Inland Championships
Saturday 2 October	Ripon SC
6 – 7 November	Northampton SC

Family sailing weeks – Popular links:

Salcombe YC Regatta Week [here](#)

North West Norfolk Week [here](#) – The entry form is now on the website

Welcome to new members of the NTOA

Paul Berry, West Mersea, Essex, N3179 – A welcome return

Tim Platt, Marlow, Buckinghamshire, N3171

Neil Clark, Billericay, Essex, N3445

Ian Harris, Axbridge, Somerset, N3231

Philip Honeysett, Exeter, Devon, N2340

Duncan McKay, West Drayton, Middlesex, N3330

Sophie Richards, Manchester, Associate member

Ian Foxwell, Rochester, Kent, N3162

Nicholas O'Callen Smith, Salisbury, Wiltshire, N2844

Anonymous contribution

Why sailing is better than s*x:

- You don't have to hide your collection of sailing magazines.
- It's perfectly acceptable to pay a professional to sail with you once in a while.
- The 10 Commandments don't say anything about sailing.
- If your partner takes pictures or videos of you sailing you don't have to worry about them showing up on the internet if you become famous.

Vintage Guess Who

3 well know National 12 sailors are pictured [here](#). Who are they? and which one features twice?

Forthcoming Events

April

10 North Staffs SC – An additional Midland Area meeting at North Staffs, home of Eric Haselden has been mooted. See details [here](#)

11 Up River YC, Open Meeting – Classic estuary racing on the East Coast. Two races back to back. More details [here](#). There is also the opportunity to make a weekend of it and sail on the Saturday. Social on the Saturday night with food and camping available. Always good fun. Penny Yarwood is the contact.

17-18 Annandale SC, Open Meeting – Just 3.5 miles from the M74 at Lockerbie. Racing takes place on the picturesque one mile long Castle Loch, near the historic town of Lochmaben. The timetable for five or six races allows travelling time for visitors. Record floods in late November washed through the Clubhouse waist deep, and the ground floor had to be gutted. Rebuilding is now

nearing completion, and the club will be ready to offer its usual warm welcome and renowned hospitality. Details [here](#). www.annansail.co.uk – for more information contact John Hugo 01576 470282, e-mail john@jhugo.orangehome.co.uk

24 Spinnaker Club, Coaching – For more info contact Bryn Phillips on preservewildlifepickleasquirrel@hotmail.co.uk The local oldies will be in a local pub on the Saturday night and there will be a separate social for those competing in the Youth / Junior meeting on the Sunday. Note the Coaching is open to all ages and experience.

25 Spinnaker Club, Youth/Junior Open Meeting – 3 races from 11.00, with a briefing at 10.00. More details from Bryn on the excellent email address above!

May

1-3 GILL SERIES 2 at Salcombe YC. The usual spring format of one race on Saturday, two on Sunday, and one on Monday morning. The Friday night social on arrival at the Yacht Club can take until Tuesday to recover from. For those that can recover quickly there are socials on Saturday and Sunday too! <http://www.salcombeyc.org.uk/>

9 Trent Valley. Racing on the River Trent at Long Eaton. Always a good fleet. More details [here](#). Paul Turner is the contact. <http://trentvalleysc.org/>

15 Ripon Vintage Meeting. This is a vintage handicap event. More details from Howard Chadwick. <http://www.ripon-sc.org.uk/>

15 Desborough. Racing on the River Thames at Shepperton. Usual format is 3 races first race at 11.00. The best tea on the N12 circuit. Get points for the Thames Area Series. Chris Gorham is the contact. <http://www.desboroughsc.org/>

16 Yorkshire Dales. A large piece of water for inland sailing. Neil McInnes is the contact. <http://www.yorkshiredales.sc/>

29 May – 1 June – BURTON WEEK!

John Meadowcroft

N3523 Email: latestchapter@national12.org