

The Latest Chapter

News from the National Twelve Owners Association

JANUARY 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.

End of a decade

Let me take you back to Christmas 1999... In N12 sailing, it was the early days of double bottomed boats and carbon masts. It was the Foolishes against the Chapters; The Numinous had yet to be hatched. Tom Edom had yet to try one of his winged rudders, and frankly Gavin Willis and Jo Richards were two old guys who had once been very good and had disappeared. At the 1999 Pevensey Bay Burton Week, Tom Stewart and Liz Ross had won their first Burton Week; a young man by the name of Richard Williams was the leading junior; and Dare Barry had won the Burton Brick for launching his boat having failed to cut a slot in his new centreboard gasket... Graham Camm had not won anything since the Midland Junior Trophy in 1990 – but he had established our presence on the internet and launched our first videos. So many things have changed. In terms of who won what, the Foolish and Numinous comprehensively saw off the Chapter. Sails got bigger and bigger as new materials allowed stiffening to be used more effectively. Brown mainsails turned to grey. More than seventy new boats have been built in the period and the battle is now the Dead Cat Bounce and Paradigm.

The Vintage side of the Class has had a remarkable resurgence with an excellent turnout at Burton Week in 2009 and a promise to return again in 2010. The GILL Series has arrived and week long summer events at Norfolk and Salcombe continue to thrive.

Burton Week 2010

Weymouth – from Saturday 29 May to Tuesday 1 June.

The Notice of Race is now in the post on its way to you.

Jeremy Carey has developed an excellent event website on www.burtonweek.org

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](#)

P&B have agreed to provide a new jib to one lucky entrant whose entry has been received before the end of February 2010. Get that cheque book out and enter now.

And whilst you have got the cheque book out...

... NTOA subscriptions for 2010 are due on 1 January 2010. If you don't have a standing order in place then click [here](#) to find a link to the form.

Alverbanks Sails

Kevan Bloor has run Alverbanks Sails has since the early 1970's and following an illness has decided to retire. Kevan retires at the top with Jo Richards having used Alverbanks power to win Burton Week in 2009. Stuart Hopson has been working with Kevan since 2008 and he has now set up as Alverbanks Sails in new premises near to J15 of the M1. Stuart has inherited Kevan's designs and Kevan will remain available on a part time basis. More details on www.alverbanks.co.uk

2010 Fixtures

The **2010 Fixture List** has been published on the website, click [here](#) to link to it. A printed copy is on its way to you.

The **2010 GILL Series dates** are as follows:

Saturday 27 March	Burghfield SC
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 – The most popular weeks for 12s are likely to be:

Salcombe YC Regatta Week starts on Sunday 1 August 2010, with afternoon racing running for 6 days. 12s have their own class start. Entry forms etc tend to come out late, what is important to do is to book the accommodation now. Salcombe Holiday Homes and Coast and Country Cottages are the largest agents. Camping is also available but not within the town – Higher Rew or Alston Farm – there have been a number of 12 sailors on Higher Rew in recent years. You choose whether to sail from the boat park (concrete slip) on the Salcombe side or from Mill Bay beach on the East Portlemouth side of the river. The week after is Salcombe Town Regatta. The sailing is Monday to

Friday and 12s are welcome in a morning handicap fleet. This is a less popular week for racing. Salcombe YC website is [here](#)

North West Norfolk Week runs from 24 to 30 July. Racing starts on Saturday 24 July at Hunstanton SC. Run by the North West Norfolk Sailing Association this regatta is at a different venue and at a different time every day. The 12s are the largest class and we have our own class start. The entry forms come out in the spring. Last year there was a small fuss regarding entry as the first weekend at Hunstanton is popular with people who do not want to do the whole week. An entry limit will be put in place with priority for those booked in for the week, so a similar entry fuss may happen again. Like Salcombe, it is best to book accommodation early – Brancaster, Brancaster Staithe, Burnham Market and Wells are popular locations for 12 sailors. The Jolly Sailor pub in Brancaster Staithe is a particularly popular meeting place... The preliminary programme is as follows:

- Saturday 24 & Sunday 25 July 2009 – Hunstanton – 2 races pm
- Monday 26 – Brancaster Staithe – 1 race early am
- Tuesday 27 – Wells – 1 race early am
- Wednesday 28 – Blakeney – 1 race early am
- Thursday 29 – Kings Lynn – 1 race early am
- Friday 30 – Snettisham – last 2 races of the NWNW am – early am

For those who want to stay on a little longer, Snettisham Beach SC will be running their usual Regatta on Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th August – this will not be part of NWNW.

In addition there is the Jenny Lee Trophy at Burnham Overy Staithe on the evening of Monday 26 July. This is a must do race.

More details of the programme [here](#)

Cadet World Championships

The children of current and former N12 sailors are currently competing at the Cadet World Championships in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Leading the six boat British team is Arthur Henderson (son of Will and Mandy and multiple Burton Week winners). Arthur is the current UK National Champion. Additionally Abigail Croft (daughter of Dave and Rose Croft) has teamed up with Matthew Shorrocks (son of Andy Shorrocks a multiple Burton Cup winner of the 1980s). There is a promotional regatta going alongside the main event, and here you will find Mary Henderson being crewed by Ben Shorrocks. The event website is <http://www.cadet2009.yca.org.ar/> and the first series race is on Tuesday 29 December after two days of measurement. Don't tell Jon Brown...

Arthur is already an accomplished N12 sailor and we have a great opportunity to get more Cadet sailors acquainted with the 12 this summer as we will be sharing the facilities at Weymouth with them during Burton Week. If you would like to offer your boat to a Cadet sailor for a fun sail during Burton Week then drop me an email. This is an opportunity to enable someone to make a really good decision about what boat they choose to sail next. My boat will be available.

Second hand boat list

Did you not get what you wanted in your stocking? How about the secondhand list [here](#).
Choose from Final Chapter, Feeling Foolish, Design 8, Big Issue, Baggy Trousers, Crusader, Cheshire Cat, Mark 8 or Holt 500

Welcome to new members of the NTOA

Paul Blyth, Colchester, Essex, N3214

Tom Hill, Twickenham, Middlesex, N3070

Forthcoming Events

January

9th Queen Mary SC, Bloody Mary Pursuit Race – 12s got 2,3,4 in 2009. Time to go one better! Graham Camm has penned a “How to win the Bloody Mary” article for a recent Yachts & Yachting. Expect the competition to be better than ever!

30th Northampton SC, Steve Nicholson Memorial Race – Steve ran the Chandlery at P&B until January 2000 when he died much too young from an Asthma attack. It does not seem like 10 years ago either. All proceeds go to Asthma Research. You get two races with lunch in between. Large handicap fleet with a good N12 fleet assured.

February

14th Ranelagh SC, Royal Thames YC Trophy – and Thames Area Lunch and Prizegiving. Persuade the crew to drive and enjoy some Fuller’s beers before Burton Week...

And finally...

I Hope that you had a Merry Christmas and may I wish a Happy New Year to you all. Our house now has a guitar and a trainee operative, so we are particularly pleased parents.

John Meadowcroft

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