



# YRISC Newsletter

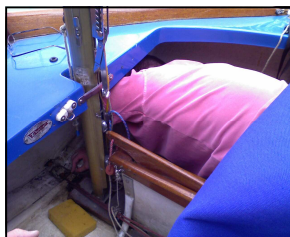
Summer 2009



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Pete Craggs Mending  
The Club GP14



*Becalmed on the Ouse, 8th July, Photo by Michael Bradshaw of Narrowboat Bromwyn*

## Race Fees and Club Boats

### Free sailing for the rest of the year!

At its July meeting your committee agreed to scrap race fees for the rest of this year - and maybe for ever, depending on the results of a discussion on the topic at next year's AGM. So come down to the river and race as often as you can, no fees!

### Club boats

With a sudden influx of new members without boats of their own, we need to make sure our fleet of club boats are all fit to sail. We have two GP14s, one RS200 and one Topper. All are sailable, but all of them require some work to smarten them up a bit. So we will be spending some money on items like new kickers, maybe a thwart or two, a few miscellaneous fittings, and—who knows - maybe even a sail or two. Anyone got any old GP14 sails for sale?

We are also on the lookout for an extra club boat, and hope to be able to increase the size of the fleet in the near future.

For the rest of this year we will not charge for use of the club boats (just as there will be no racing fees) - but we will probably reintroduce a nominal charge for use of the club boats in 2010. If we have a small income relating directly to the club boats, we can invest it in keeping them in good working order.

Hugh, Pete and James spent over an hour working on one of the club GP14s which now has a repaired bow fitting, and is back in service (see the photo above).

## New Members

We're delighted to welcome some new members to the club:

- Reuben Barrett
- Dorothea Debus
- Charlie, Margaret and Charlotte Hodge
- Andrew (Bone) Jones
- Antonio Sanso
- Adam Smith
- David Mazza

Also, a welcome to some newly born members:

- Eleanor Napier
- Nathaniel Graham
- Megan Skelton

Finally a welcome back to [Pete Huxford](#) who has just returned from 6 months abroad!

### Your Articles and Photos

Do you have any ideas for a newsletter article? Or a great club photo? If so, please let James know.

(E-mail: [james@jgj.org.uk](mailto:james@jgj.org.uk))



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## Annual Regatta

**Sunday 6th September 2009**  
The Annual Regatta of YRIS and Yorkshire Ouse Sailing Club

The first Sunday in September is **Regatta Day**. This is an annual event, held jointly with our friends at Yorkshire Ouse Sailing Club. We take it in turns to host the regatta, and this year it is our turn. The start time is 11.00. We aim to have as many of our own boats as possible on the water, as well as a substantial turnout from YOSC. There will be approximately three races, using some form of personal handicap, with a barbecue at some point during the proceedings and prizes awarded at the end of the day. And it's all **JUST FOR FUN!** In other words, all members are welcome, regardless of level of sailing skill and experience.

If you would like to attend, there will shortly be a sign-up sheet on the noticeboard in the club house. Please indicate whether you are able to attend, and whether you want to sail. We will also be **looking for volunteers** for rescue-boat duty, race officers, barbecue minders and cooks - and for a **working party on Saturday 5 September**, when we will have to clean and tidy the place in preparation for the big event. Please tick the relevant box (es) on the notice. Alternatively, email [yrisc@hotmail.com](mailto:yrisc@hotmail.com) and let us know your plans.

### First Aid Course Saturday 26th September

Please use sign up sheet in the club house ASAP if you want to attend.

### Powerboat Training Wed. 2nd September

Learn how to operate the rescue boats. See the sign up sheet in the club house.

### Vandalism

Sadly the club has suffered some vandalism recently including some damage to boats, fencing, a smashed jetty and a broken window.

Apart from the window, all is repaired. We are looking at security precautions. Initially - some more prickly hedge is on order.

### Yellow Boats On Tour

*GP14 National Championships, Llandudno, 3-5 July 2009*

'Well, at least we beat the yellow boat,' someone was overheard to remark at the end of this year's GP14 National Championships. Clearly, the yellow YRISC boats are now a force to be reckoned with on the national stage - or at least a prominent marker towards the back of the fleet! Once again, Steve Parry (crewed by Phil Green) and Hugh Brazier (crewed by Dave Stinson) were sailing the only two yellow boats in a largely white fleet.

This year's national championships were held over three days, from Friday to Sunday, with a total of seven races scheduled for the fleet of 53 boats. The racing was in Llandudno Bay, up to a mile or so from the beach. Nice and handy - as was the B&B we were staying in, which turned out to be on the sea front, just across the road from where we parked our boats and only a few yards from the slipway.

Friday started off with drizzle, but it soon cleared, and the wind freshened just as the practice race was due to start - to be followed by the first two points races. Steve and Phil completed all these, but Hugh and Dave decided it was too windy, and too lumpy, and the water was too littered with capsized GP14s, and so retired ashore after starting the practice race.

On Saturday there was less wind - but no less tide, and most of the fleet found themselves swept inexorably towards Ireland as they were trying to make it out to the start line. Eventually a race was started, and we all made it to the finish, but not before spending half an hour becalmed on the final leg of the course. A lunch break afloat was followed by three attempts to get another race started, but each time the race was abandoned with seconds to go, and the constant wind shifts eventually got the better of the race committee, so we headed back to the beach after nearly seven hours afloat.

Racing was started an hour early on Sunday, with an extra race scheduled to make up for those abandoned the previous day. In spite of yet more frustrating wind shifts and re-laying of courses, the hoped-for three races were all held, and we enjoyed some exciting close racing - especially at times between the two yellow boats. You travel all the way to North Wales to compete in a large fleet, and find yourself neck-and-neck with the very person you race against week in, week out, on the River Ouse...

In the end, it wasn't a great triumph for the two YRISC boats. But neither of us came last, and it's the taking part that counts, isn't it? Yes, it really is. Taking part in a big event such as this is enormous fun, both for the sailing and for the social side. Sailing on the sea, over a big course in a big fleet, with a gate start - it's all very different from the river, a great way to improve your sailing skills. Above all, it's very enjoyable.

If you want to know more (such as who won the championship), visit the GP14 website ([www.gp14.org](http://www.gp14.org)), where you will find the full results at [www.gp14.org/news/news\\_article.php?article\\_id=368](http://www.gp14.org/news/news_article.php?article_id=368) and the official report of the event at [www.gp14.org/news/news\\_article.php?article\\_id=370](http://www.gp14.org/news/news_article.php?article_id=370).

*Hugh Brazier*