



# THE BRYC NEWS

ISSUE 1 06/01/2012

This is the first of a 'new-look' newsletter which will take the place of the 'bulletins' you have received from time to time in the past. The function of these newsletters is exactly the same, I just fancied a change of format. I think the first thing is to wish you all a very happy and healthy New Year and lots of fun and good sailing at our club and elsewhere.

The Race Programme for 2012 has been published and a copy of it is associated with this newsletter. The format of the programme is as agreed at our AGM last September with the bulk of sailing given over to the IOM class and racing for RMs, R6Ms and RAs proportional to the interest in them. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you all that support for these minority classes is essential if they are not to disappear completely from our programme. Also please don't forget the various open meetings run by other clubs, especially the Eastern District Championship series for IOMs. This is a series of 6 events; 1 at Chelmsford, 1 at Lee Valley, 1 at Brentwood, 1 at Dovercourt, 1 at Coal House Fort and 1 at the Broads from which a district champion is chosen with the 4 best results counting.

The short session that we had on the Racing Rules of Sailing at the prize giving evening was well received by those present and I will try to see if we can do something similar again within the next 3 months or so.

A list of members names together with their telephone numbers and e-mail addresses is associated with this newsletter and you will see from it that our membership has held up very well indeed from last year and we have lost only two members; Bob Leighton whose health is very poor and Graham Chilvers who I know has a lot of work and family commitments which make it difficult for him to fit in much radio sailing. We welcome back Harry Redfern after a year away and this means that we are currently only one member down on last year.

Also associated is a document which gives some advice and tips for getting a long and trouble free life from rechargeable NiCad and NiMH batteries and I hope that some of you find it helpful.

Some of you will have heard that there is now another mast available for the IOM class; if I understand things correctly it is imported from France and it is claimed that it is 'aircraft' quality alloy. A 2 metre length is 11 grams lighter than the more commonly available tubing, it is also much harder and as a consequence it is much more difficult to put prebend in it. I have tried this tubing on my IOM and found that it is considerably less stiff than the usual tubing which makes getting sufficient tension in the rig very difficult, especially as it is so difficult to prebend it. I measured the stiffness compared to the usual tubing by simply clamping 2 identical lengths to a bench and then hanging an identical weight on the end of each and measuring the deflection. I know that at least one top skipper is using this material to very good effect and apparently without any problems but if you are considering it for yourself I would suggest that you consider very carefully if it is worth the extra expense ( a number 1 mast and if you will be happy with a more flexible, albeit lighter mast. It does however make terrific main booms and jib booms, especially if like me you prefer a round boom, however the number 1 rig jib boom of this material is slightly heavier than the usual lightweight boom.

**The Filby Bridge Restaurant is closed for the annual holiday from 15<sup>th</sup> January to the 5<sup>th</sup> February but we can continue to sail as usual during this time provided we keep the main gate shut whilst we are there and close it after the last person has left at the end of sailing.** Obviously there are no toilets available and no drinks either during this time.

This coming Sunday - 8<sup>th</sup> January - is IOM points morning only at Filby and is also the Oliver Lee Trophy meeting for IOMs at Chelmsford.

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> is also scheduled for IOMs at Filby and I see from the programme it is due to be an all day meeting - I hope it is a nice day!

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January is another morning only IOM points meeting at Filby and also the first of the 2012 Eastern District Championship Series meetings for IOMs staged by the Chelmsford club and I hope that several Broads members will support this event.

Don't forget that all Club IOM events are RYGGED start but all open meetings are scratch starts.

Practice sailing will continue as usual every Wednesday and I hope to see many of you enjoying this facility.

Happy New Year, fairwinds and good sailing to you all.

Peter Sutton. Secretary/Treasurer.

