

# Newsletter

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## Hickling Windsurfing Club

(1984-2016)



### August 2016

**Coming up very soon:**

#### **Club Fun Day 20<sup>th</sup> August**

All members of all abilities are welcome for a fun day of light-hearted competition and splendid catering. Previous events have included a themed element such as Wimbledon or the Olympic Games. Last year was brilliant- warm, sunny and a nice breeze. We can't guarantee the weather, but the banter and food have been booked for your enjoyment. Admission is free and please arrive by 10.30am.



Above: Action shot of the 'swim round the turn buoy' from 2015.

### **Action since the June newsletter:**

#### **Club Barbecue 9<sup>th</sup> July**



<http://www.hicklingbroad.co.uk>

Over 80 guests enjoyed the warmest evening of the year. Loads of raffle prizes and a windsurfing quiz too. It is social events such as this that keep our great club spirit alive.

#### **Intermediate Clinic 6<sup>th</sup> August**



It isn't often we have a world class windsurfing Pro at the Broad. Here is the Class of 2016, looking confident and preparing for the 100th gybe/helli tack/fast tack of the day. Whether the wind is strong or light he can help you improve your skills. We will definitely be inviting Simon Bornhoft back next year! Make sure you don't miss out if you want to keep up with this lot...

#### **SUP Taster Session 7th August- now 15<sup>th</sup> October**

The free SUP taster planned on the 7th August had to be cancelled due to high winds. Many members were looking forward to trying a light-wind alternative, but we enjoyed a fine sail in the sunshine and warm breeze instead. Steve from the Norfolk Paddle Board Co has just confirmed a new date of **15<sup>th</sup> October**.



## **Membership**

The latest news from our Membership Secretary is that for 2016 so far we have as many members as by the end of 2015, which is excellent, considering numbers had fallen slightly over the past couple of years. It is great to see so many new faces and the club kit being put to good use. This has been largely due to the huge efforts put in by members to publicise and run events, so thanks very much guys! The Come and Try Day and the Beginner Courses in particular took a lot of time and work (and those cakes didn't bake themselves either). With four months of the year remaining we may see a few more join, or some return to our great sport after a few years' hibernation.

## **Safety advice**

With the summer well underway and beginners developing their skills, then it's particularly important that everyone and particularly beginners remember all the main safety factors when deciding if it's safe for them to sail. The use of the Club's buoyancy aids particularly for beginners is recommended. Full information can be found on the web site, but if in doubt then please ask, or don't sail.

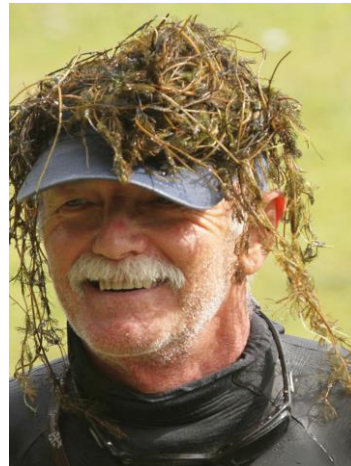
Please note a cut down version of the safety advice is now printed by the gate leading to the Boat.

## **Our facilities**

The upkeep of the premises is performed by volunteers, so please feel free to offer assistance at the Work Party, which is usually in March. An amazing amount of work goes into managing and maintaining the club every year, and we always appreciate any help no matter how small. Anyone who would like to help in the future should please make themselves known to the Chairman ([martinhwc@btinternet.com](mailto:martinhwc@btinternet.com)). Brushing, raking and cleaning skills, however modest, are always in demand. It has been pleasing to note that members are heeding the housekeeping advice in the changing rooms and I have, on several occasions, caught gentlemen sweeping the floor when they thought no-one was looking! Thank you.

The sand on the beach is wearing thin, and as it is not naturally formed, will need topping up. At some point contractors will need access to the beach with a dumper truck. We will notify you when this will happen as it probably won't be a good idea to leave your prized kit lying around.

The last few mild winters have led to the weed in the broad growing at its highest rate this summer for a decade and weed fin sales have rocketed as a result. This has not only boosted takings at windsurfing shops, but also led to recent sightings of this character again:



Fear not, there is still plenty of water to sail in.

## **Remaining Events for 2016**

### **Club AGM November (date TBC)**

The grand finale event of the year is the Club Annual General Meeting. The date and venue are yet to be confirmed but rest assured there will be chairs and a bar- the committee are experts at findings these places. Not only is this an opportunity to catch up with friends and have a drink before the Officers' Reports, and maybe another afterwards, but it is a chance for you to have your say in how the club is run.

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